

12-6-2001

Arbiter, December 6

Students of Boise State University

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Skyler Pierce lives in tent on campus - pg. 8

Boise State University

Thursday December 6, 2001

The Arbiter

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News Bucket

BSU Graphic Design students present 'Open Container' show

Boise State senior-level graphic design and illustration students are holding their semiannual portfolio show in the back of a large semi-trailer. They are calling the show "Open Container." About 13 students will have their portfolios available for viewing from 6-9 p.m. today at the corner of Ninth and River streets in Boise.

The show is free and open to everyone. For more information, call the Boise State art department at 426-1230.

Adolescent AIDS prevention expert to speak at BSU

John Chittick, an expert on adolescent AIDS prevention, will speak in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom from noon to 1 p.m. Friday. The event is free and open to the public. Guests are encouraged to bring a lunch.

Executive director of the nonprofit TeenAIDS:Peer Corps, Chittick announced he is launching a global walk to 45 countries to promote AIDS awareness and prevention. Boise is the first stop on his itinerary.

Chittick will speak primarily at high schools, universities and youth centers.

"My research shows that HIV is traveling with young people whenever and wherever they interact with peers in other countries," he said. "HIV is often transmitted as a result of ignorance. By training youth in the medically accurate facts, they are the most convincing peer teachers to stop or modify high risk behaviors that lead to HIV/AIDS."

Student Union and Activities and the Student Programs Board sponsor the event. Free parking is available in the Student Union visitor lot.

Business seminar offers tips for surviving in a down economy

A four-hour workshop titled "Keeping Up in a Down Economy" will be presented by the Idaho Small Business Development center from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Dec. 10, in the Student Union Lookout Room. Free parking will be available in the Student Union parking lot. While economists disagree about the length and severity of the current economic downturn, small business owners who educate themselves on recession-proofing strategies and begin following a disciplined course of action will be better insulated against the twists and turns of a volatile economy. This free workshop features a comprehensive overview of recession-related small business strategies. Instead of "gloom and doom" lectures it offers helpful, easy-to-implement ideas to help businesses thrive in any economy.

The seminar features a keynote address by U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson, followed by several half-hour sessions.

To register, call the ISBDC office at Boise State University at (208) 426-1839.

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University to walk fine line

Budget cuts can influence accreditation if creative solution not used

By Laura Wylde
The Arbiter

A worst case scenario of the impending budget cuts would be the loss of 88 first and second year faculty, according to Darryl Jones, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Though the university has been attempting to create a full-time staff, the line between decreased funds and accreditation for the university remains thin.

"Over-reliance on part-time faculty can jeopardize accreditation," Jones said. "While we have been gradually reducing our reliance on part-time faculty in recent years, budget reductions will slow this process."

Jones said the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges' Commission on Colleges accredits BSU. This accrediting association is one of six recognized by the State Board of Education.

BSU underwent a review for accreditation a couple of years ago, according to Stacy Pearson, Associate Vice President of Finance and Administration.

Jones said that the university undergoes an accreditation evaluation every 10 years. Every five years the university is subject to an interim review and site visit. Jones also said that BSU files annual reports with the Commission, which monitors all aspects of university programs and operations.

Pearson said the accreditation review always makes suggestions on areas to improve. BSU was given the advice to rely less on adjunct faculty, but this is not something seriously threatening BSU's accreditation position.

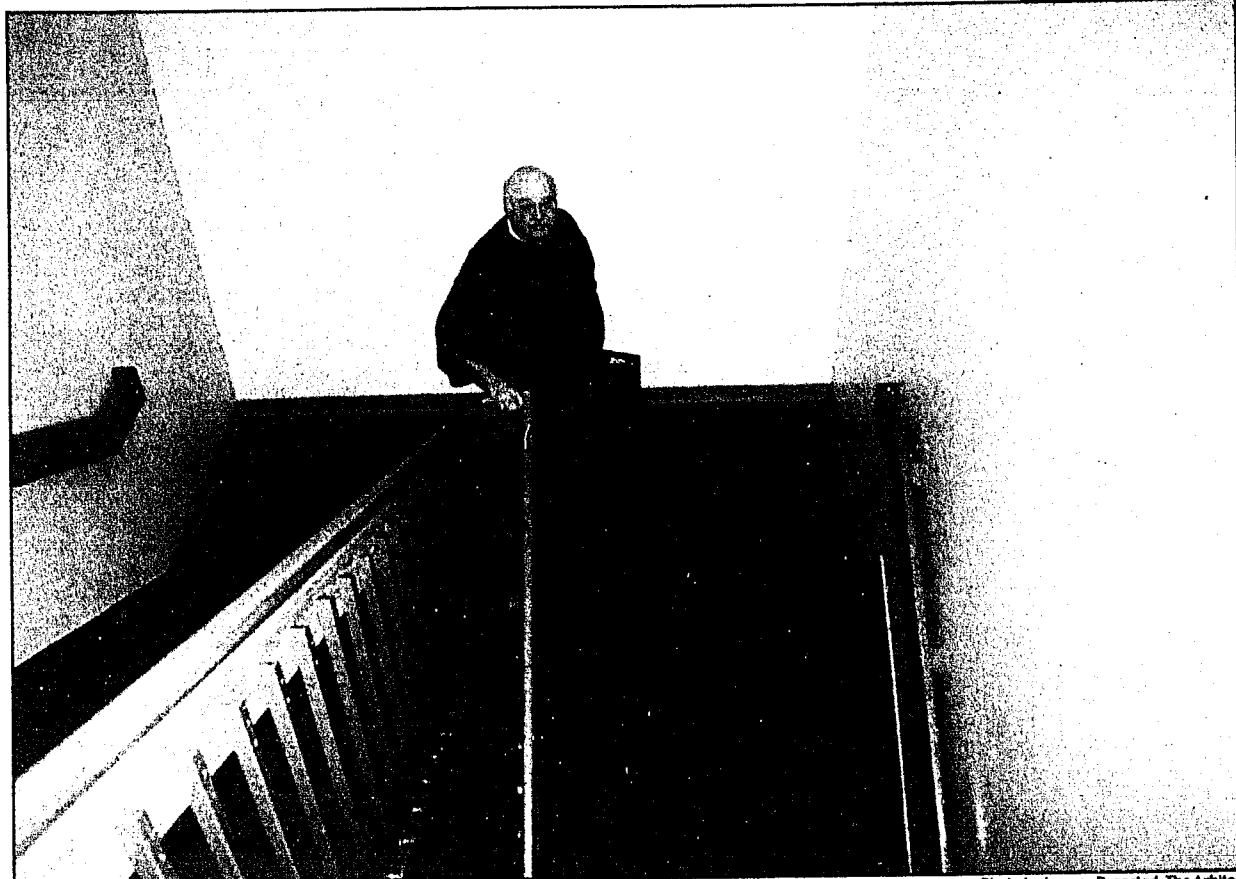


Photo by Jeremy Branstad, The Arbiter

The first round of cutbacks has begun. As a consequence of BSU's slim budget, adjunct Professor of Mathematics Karl Weathers is one of many teachers being laid off this spring.

"In four or five years, if the Board came back to see we have doubled our reliance on adjunct professors, they would probably say something," she said.

Jones said BSU does not "intend to increase reliance on part-time or adjunct faculty, since we are already too dependent on part-time faculty in certain departments."

Buster Neel, Vice President of Finance and Administration said Boise State depends on part-time faculty in math and English areas.

"We have to manage the numbers of adjunct faculty," said Neel.

Pearson said the university will hire part-time instructors for a while to fill the core classes.

"With the current budget level we are anticipating, it will be difficult to hire many more new faculty," Pearson said.

Pearson also mentioned a time where part-time instructors are preferred over a full-time professors.

"It depends on the position," she said.

She said if a member of the community were more knowledgeable to teach a specialty course than an existing full-time faculty member the university would capitalize on that resource.

She also said, "if a faculty member vacates his or her position, with the current budget situation, we will hold that position open," not filling it with a part-time instructor.

Jones said, "We are determined...not to exacerbate our reliance on part-time

see ACCREDITATION on pg. 10

Human Resources to require direct deposit

Students will be asked to choose bank account by July

By Sean C. Hayes
The Arbiter

BSU will require all new employees to designate a banking institution for the direct deposit of their payroll checks, beginning Jan. 1, 2002.

The following July, all current employees will be required to participate in direct deposit.

Cost-cutting measures by the University have led to the changes in pay structure, according to Jane Buser, executive director of Human Resource Services, who spoke before the ASBSU Senate about the changes last month.

"Basically, what we're looking at is a way to cut costs," Buser said.

She told student leaders that over 3,000 checks are dispensed each payday. Most faculty members already have direct

deposit, but only about a quarter of student employees have designated a banking institution to the department for pay-check deposit.

With regard to student employees, ASBSU members offered immediate concerns about potential drawbacks to the new plan.

Senator Brooke Baldwin asked about those students who did not have bank accounts, or those who are unable to receive accounts due to credit card or bank debt.

Senator Lee VanderBoegh inquired about the potential huge lines at ATMs, or machines running out of money due to mass numbers of students withdrawing cash at once.

Executive Assistant Tara Lenz was concerned about ATM fees charged at some campus ATMs.

Buser said that an account could be set up with no fee at Capital Educator's, a bank that offers an ATM in the Student Union.

Kristi Covington, payroll manager, said that an absolute

requirement of direct deposit is not completely necessary if a student cannot acquire a bank account.

"Of course, we're probably going to have to make exceptions," Covington said. "If you absolutely cannot get any kind of account, we will still get you a check."

Buser said that after the first pay cycle, Human Resources could view the demographics of ATM usage on campus, to alleviate any issues that might occur with ATMs. She said that signs could be put on ATMs advising students if they charge a fee.

ATMs for most major banks are available at BSU, including a Wells Fargo ATM located in the Science and Nursing wing of the Education Building.

Buser says that costs saved by requiring direct deposit come mainly in the form of printing. She said it costs over \$18,000 a year to print envelopes, checks and pay stubs. Eighty percent of paid student employees, she said, make less than \$300 a pay period.

Budget cuts to effect programs

By Ashley Gettings
The Arbiter

As Boise State looks at saving money and decreasing expenses, many students wonder what opportunities may be sacrificed.

More than a hundred clubs funded by ASBSU, as well as the Cultural and Women's Center fear budget cuts could result in losses for their organizations. Imran Ali of ASBSU said:

"We are trying to find activities to invest our money in that can actually create revenue for us, rather than merely costing us money."

— Melissa Wintrow,
director of the Women's Center

students should not worry because no changes will be made to the amount of money currently budgeted for the various student organizations.

"The 2002 budget stands and it will not be altered, all of the allocated money will

still be used for the different clubs and activities as planned," he said.

Ali also said some administrative costs such as the expenses for traveling

and office supplies will have to be reduced, and by cutting these costs, ASBSU will be able to continue providing the same amount of support to the student organizations.

Yet, on the other hand, resources such as the Women's Center and the Multicultural Center will be facing the direct results of the budget cuts.

"Because our funding comes from state appropriated funds, we will be expected to

see BUDGET CUTS on pg. 10

Cultural Center hosts 'Holidays Around the World'

By Andy Benson
The Arbiter

This is the 2nd year the Cultural Center has hosted "Holidays Around the World."

Leah Taala, BSU Cultural Center special assistant, said the event is designed to educate attendees on the various holidays celebrated by other cultures during our holiday season.

"It's an idea to help teach children about other cultural

celebrations," Taala said, "to let them know that not everyone celebrates Christmas, and to let them know that other cultures celebrate different holidays."

Tam Dihn, Cultural Center coordinator, said the event helps children of various ethnic backgrounds see their cultural holidays celebrated publicly.

"We have a lot of kids from different ethnic backgrounds and I thought it was very important that we made

these type of events mainstream so the kids can recognize their culture as something more prominent," said Dihn. "Not something they celebrate only at home."

Resident advisors from the dormitories and volunteers from student organizations will be available to guide children around the various booths and events.

Several holidays will be highlighted at the event, including the Vietnamese and Chinese New Year, Dia de los Reyes, King Kamehameha Day and Kwanzaa.

The event last year drew a crowd of 250 attendees. The event is geared towards non-traditional students with families and there will be many activities available to children.

The Vietnamese and Chinese New Year will be celebrated on Dec. 12 and 13.



Photo by Kim Kim Foster, The Arbiter

The gingerbread man is one of many ways that various cultures throughout the world celebrate the holiday season.

If You Go ...

The Boise State Cultural Center will host "Holidays Around the World" this Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom.

The event will highlight the winter celebrations of various cultures. There is no charge for admission and free parking will be available.



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News

Attorneys counsel students

By Matt Neznanski
The Arbiter

Legal troubles can cause major stress and hassle for students who are stumped by legalese and procedure. ASBSU retains the services of Schroeder & Lezamiz, a local law firm, to supply students with legal advice. "It is a service that students are paying for, it is not for faculty or anyone else," said Margaret Lezamiz, a partner in the firm.

The three attorneys provide service in a wide range of areas, but the majority of consultations cover similar areas: creditor's rights, bankruptcy and domestic law including divorce and post-divorce issues.

Post-divorce concerns child custody, child support, insurance, and

day-care.

"People are able to modify their divorce if the situation changes," Lezamiz said.

In the case of dealing with angry creditors, Lezamiz said most students don't realize that open communication between themselves and the creditor usually helps matters.

"Communication and good intentions allow us to sometimes knock off a lot of the fees that have accrued," she said.

They are also able to work with both parties to agree on a payment plan for especially debilitating debt.

She said recently there have been a number of immigration issues, not an area in which the attorneys specialize right now.

"I will have to work to change, be

more knowledgeable," said Lezamiz.

According to Lezamiz, the concerns are raised as more immigrants come to America and go to school. They ask about what affects visas and how to become citizens.

"Sometimes they need help with reading the citizenship document itself," she said.

A disadvantage of the service is the attorneys are not able to act as lawyers for students.

"We can't represent 17,000 students," said Lezamiz.

Instead, the service concentrates on helping students effectively defend themselves in court.

Students can make an appointment even if they aren't sure if they have a specifically legal question.

Consultations are scheduled in half-

hour increments.

"The funniest thing is when people tell me they only have a five-minute question - I know it will be longer than that," said Lezamiz.

Discussions of child custody matters, for example, can last for hours beyond the simple question that comes first, she said.

Lezamiz considers the increase in non-traditional students to be the source of some of the caseload.

"The median age is much more than 18, as a consequence, people are carrying on a life: buying houses, having kids," she said.

The service is available to all full and part-time students.

Call ASBSU at 426-1440 to make an appointment.

• Boise State's Winter Formal will be held Friday at the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. The time and ticket information will be announced. The Boise State Resident Hall Association presents the event. Call 426-4636 for more information.

• The Student Union and Activities presents "Walk for OUR Lives" from 12 to 1 p.m. Friday at the Student Union Jordan A Ballroom. John B. Chittick, an expert in adolescent AIDS prevention, is on a mission to walk across 45 countries stopping along the way to educate young people about AIDS and empower them to educate each other. Bring your lunch and come ready to participate in the discussion. Call 426-1223 for more information. Cost is free.

• Student Programs Board brings the Holiday Gala to BSU. Area youngsters 6-16 years old who have auditioned for positions will perform in the Gala to benefit the Idaho Children's Arts Network (I-CAN). The event shows at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday at the Special Events Center. Cost is \$3 for BSU students, faculty, staff and children 12 and younger. General tickets cost \$5. For more information, call 426-1237.

Conservative publication arrives

By Allisha Hill
Special to the Arbiter

Watch out for a new publication out on campus set to run the first week of December called the Boise State Free Press. The publication is an open forum to express conservative ideology.

Laura Tannini, China Veldhouse, and Melissa Simpson, are members of the College Republicans, and in coalition with them have submitted articles for this first edition of the Boise State Free Press. Simpson is editor in chief, and along with Tannini, started the concept of a conservative forum here on campus.

"A main focus of ours is to highlight the ways that the conservative and liberal ideologies relate to one another," said Tannini.

The Boise State Free Press, an independent student-run newspaper that does not receive funding from the University, according to

Simpson, "promotes truth on the campus of Boise State University."

The ideal for this forum originally came from the Young America's Foundation conference offered by the collegiate network, a division of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute. They provide training for college students to begin conservative newspapers, offering seminars on reporting and writing skills.

The purpose of The Boise State Free Press, according to the founders, is to bring students a different perspective than what has readily been available in the past.

"There is a part of the student body that has not been satisfied with the Arbiter, some because it has a liberal slant, while others perceive it to be nothing more than a mouthpiece for the Boise State Administration," said Simpson. Their motto is "A free press inspires a free people."

It is interesting to note that to date, no other university

campus in Idaho distributes a conservative publication, yet Idaho is generally known as a dominantly conservative State. When assessing the need for a conservative publication at BSU, Laura Tannini said,

"There is a liberal bias here at BSU that is reflected in the distinguished lecture series, as well as in other aspect of the University. This conservative forum will help to bring diversity to our campus."

Simpson, Tannini, and Veldhouse, who was unavailable for comment, hope this will be a continuous endeavor for years to come. They have set the paper up to be ongoing by having sophomores on the editing staff. Funding for the publication will be provided by the Collegiate Network for the first publication. Following publications will be funded by donation and subscription from alumni, and advertising.

All are welcome to submit articles for publication. This can be done by emailing the

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- Melissa Simpson,
editor in chief, Boise
State Free Press

editors at boisstaterfreepress@hotmail.com.

A website is currently under construction. They also have a P.O. box that correspondence can be received at which is P.O. Box 665 Boise, ID 83701-0665.

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Opinion

U.S. supports and trains terrorists

By Nate Williams
The Arbiter

Last week when President Bush addressed our troops in Fort Campbell Kentucky, he had some strong words reserved for nations that support terrorists.

He said, "America has a message for the nations of the world: If you harbor terrorists, you are terrorists. If you train or arm a terrorist, you are a terrorist. If you feed a terrorist or fund a terrorist, you're a terrorist, and you will be held accountable by the United States and our friends."

My question is: Who's going to hold the United States and its friends accountable?

Particularly salient is the glaring hypocrisy of the U.S. military's Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC) in Fort Benning, GA. Formerly known as the U.S. Army School of the Americas (SOA), its sardonic presence caught the attention of international media last month in a story entitled, "The U.S. has been training terrorists at a camp in Georgia for years-and its still at it" (UK, the *Guardian Newspaper*).

The "camp" they're referring to is

the SOA-WHISC. Despite the recent name change (an effort to evade cut-backs in funding), the goals and program of the school have remained the same—it exists to train terrorists.

Officially, SOA-WHISC is a U.S. military program responsible for training Latin American soldiers in combat, counter-insurgency, and counter-narcotics techniques. In reality, it has represented a Ph.D. program for aspiring terrorists.

It has a long list of infamous alumni best known for their expediency in utilizing torture, rape, disappearances, mass murder, and other terrorist means to achieve their goals.

Among those included on the list are Panama's former dictator Manuel Noriega, and Leopoldo Fortunado Galtieri, a key player in a 1970s conflict in Argentina that resulted in the "disappearance" of thousands of young people. Other graduates have been connected to the assassination of Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Romero, the murder of six Jesuit priests and a Roman Catholic Archbishop, as well as a massacre of over 900 civilians at El Mozote in El Salvador.

These incidents are not limited to some benevolent misunderstanding in

U.S. history, they continue today. Colonel Byron Lima Estrada, an SOA graduate, was recently convicted for the 1998 murder of Guatemalan Bishop Juan Gerardi. Another SOA graduate was convicted earlier this year of complicity in the torture and killing of 30 Colombian peasants. These atrocities represent a continuing pattern of U.S. involvement in global terrorism.

We also support terrorism through massive funding, sometimes mockingly given under the guise of "humanitarian aid." In the 1980s the U.S. waged an illegal war against the democratically elected government of Nicaragua.

Years later when the U.S. was convicted by the internationally recognized World Court for its terrorist activities and ordered to pay millions of dollars in reparations, it simply dismissed the court as invalid and continued on its merry way. That was one reason why when terrorists attacked the U.S. we couldn't pursue justice through lawful, non-military means—we've disregarded the authority of those institutions designed to deal with such atrocities by spurning them ourselves.

Other acts of historical U.S. state

terrorism abound. Keeping to more recent examples, we are currently employing a creative form of biological terrorist warfare against both Cuba and Iraq by supporting embargoes that prevent life-saving pharmaceuticals and/or food from entering those countries.

The number one country receiving military aid right now is Colombia. Since the 1990s Colombia has developed the worst human rights record by far in the Western Hemisphere. The military and paramilitary forces that the U.S. is funding are involved in almost daily massacres of peasants among other atrocities. These facts are known and ignored by the U.S. government.

And what about those "friends" Bush was talking about? The majority of members in our anti-terrorism coalition have their own flagrant histories of supporting terrorist atrocities as well. Take Russia for example. It's currently waging a war in Chechnya that has numerous times been condemned by Human Rights Watch because of the massive human toll being taken there. Who's going to hold them accountable?

Or Turkey; Turkey preceded Colombia as the leader in receiving US

military aid. Aid became especially pronounced in the 1980s; the same year that Turkey launched a massive internal genocidal war against—the Kurds. Our support for that action continued into the late '90s until the goals of massive exile and extermination were finally completed.

As long as President Bush continues to ignore the U.S.'s role in global terrorism there is little hope that terrorism will stop.

Nice speeches and pithy PR plays mean absolutely nothing in the real lives of people who are suffering at the hands of U.S. foreign policy across the globe (including the millions of starving people in Afghanistan).

As long as the American people continue to believe that their government is a defender of freedom and democracy, rather than recognizing it as the terrorist supporter it is, atrocious terrorist tragedies will continue.

Putting a US flag on your car or buying lots of stuff this holiday season isn't going to change global equity or safety. Genuine democracy demands citizen action and governmental accountability; only in the presence of these two variables will justice be served.

Free speech should be protected in newspapers

By Imran Ali

What is freedom of speech? This question has perplexed me over time, but more importantly has driven me to write an opinion discussing the recent events regarding the Arbiters' right to print opinions by columnist Jerel Thomas.

For those of you who don't know who Jerel Thomas is, I suggest you watch the "700 Club." Mr. Thomas opinions for the past two and a-half years have been directed toward minimizing every racial, cultural, and geographic group within the world.

Once or twice, Mr. Thomas has even degraded women, by implying that rape statistics are false. His articles are filled with bad grammar, childish vocabulary, and facts that have no claim or warrant. His article themes resemble those of Mr. Pat Buchanan's campaign issues. Even though I do not agree with anything that comes out of Mr. Thomas's mouth, I respect him for being able to speak his mind freely.

Mr. Thomas has been under attack by certain individuals because of his racist rhetoric and inflammatory statements. These people claim that the Arbiter must stop printing his stories because they are grossly inaccurate and insensitive. After hearing these allegations, it has opened my eyes to issues regarding freedom of speech.

Mr. Thomas, although a meathead, has the right to present his side of his views. The beauty of our constitution is to protect people for freedom of speech and to make sure that each citizen has an equal right to convey his or her opinions. Whether it be from the right field or from the left field, it is imperative that the person be given an equal chance to represent their views.

I feel the people attacking Jerel are first, insensitive to the constitution and are plagued with the veil of ignorance. These people claim that he should not have the right to speak his mind, because they

do not agree with his positions.

But when they want their positions to be represented they use the freedom of speech to do so.

Even more disgusting to me is how this attack

has been framed. The timing of this makes me understand how selfish people are. Mr. Thomas has been dehumanizing racial groups for more than two years. I feel that certain people feel threatened when they are the ones being attacked. Where were these people when he was printing gross lies about Martin Luther King? Where were they when he was attacking the Muslim religion? Oh that's right, they were not responding because it did not hit them at home.

These people who attack Mr. Thomas, must not just pick their battles when it is most convenient to them, but rather when any attack is being made against any group. Instead of asking him to leave, write a letter to the editor and convey your thoughts feelings and opposition to him. It's not hard to attack Mr. Thomas.

Being a person of color makes it even harder for me to defend some of Jerel's racist comments. Moreover, it is even harder to be in opposition of groups that have been under represented over time and continue to. But it is important that we uphold the freedom of speech. It is important for everyone to have and posses.

Even though we might not agree with Mr. Falwell...oh sorry excuse Mr. Thomas, it is important to understand that his right to speak his mind is a right that is granted to him by the constitution. Instead of bickering and fighting, take your thoughts and opinions and put them to use. Educate Boise State on your views. That way you might even be able to change a persons mind that was confused before.

- Imran Ali serves as chief of staff for ASBSU.

Don't tread on student dollars

Don't tread upon me is more than just words on the New Hampshire flag. They signal a non-commitment to allowing rights to be trampled upon by undemocratic authority.

Unfortunately for BSU students, our rights were tread

upon last Friday as the Executive Budget Committee voted nearly unanimously to recommend a 12 percent fee increase for next year.

The dissenting party of two, which included myself and ASBSU Chief of Staff Imran Ali, stand today graciously rejecting the committee's recommendation.

My fellow students, for good reason I plea to you to reject it as well, because it represents unbridled and inhibiting control of student financial rights.

I offer facts to a candid community of students, faculty, staff, and administrators at BSU, as well as to Idaho taxpayers, legislators, and other community members in the great state of Idaho.

The Executive Budget

Committee's agenda Friday included only issues involving increased student fees for the preservation of the university. Basically, we were the only ones at the table making a future financial commitment to the university's health.

Prior to the discussion on fees, I motioned that the collection of a student fee for the Student Union Building expansion be suspended and re-allocated towards the matriculation fee.

The committee a g r e e d wholeheartedly and the vote was unanimous.

Shortly afterwards, the discussion of a 12 percent student fee increase ensued. Having supported the State Board of Education lifting the 10 percent cap, so that we would have every option open in the spring to preserve faculty, I was ready and willing to support a 12 percent fee increase.

The entire discussion occurred in the context of a perceived future budget hold-back equivalent to 10 percent. Under that assumption, Ali motioned that we approve a 12 percent fee increase for next year contingent upon a 10 per-

cent budget cut from the state.

I seconded the motion, but the motion was denied and we returned to the motion presented by another committee member that we move, "to increase student fees by 12 percent next year."

Ali and I argued that the budget cuts were only hypothetical and a worst case scenario. Essentially, we may have a cut of less than 10 percent, which would demand a review of the fee increase.

Moreover, we argued that there were no other commitments from the university. A budget shortfall of 10 percent represents \$7.9 million, half of which (\$4.5 million) have been committed to by students to handle the cut.

In addition to the technicalities of the motion, we argued that discussions involving salary and administrative cuts must take place.

The Committee disregarded our arguments and chose to break two precedents that day, each with its own dangerous implication and new precedent.

First, the Executive Budget Committee passed a student fee without unanimous consent, as it had prior. Second, by not delineating the special circumstances for going beyond the 10 percent rule, the committee passed a broad,

blanket, and empty mandate for student fees to rise regardless of changing circumstances.

Daryl Jones refers to the decision as having been made by a majority, to which I answer, by what virtue does that majority have legitimacy?

Students were the only ones incurring costs at that committee meeting. Neither faculty, staff, nor administrators had a proposal to incur a cost upon themselves.

Taxation without representation are not empty words, as they led to the revolutionary war and great republic we call home.

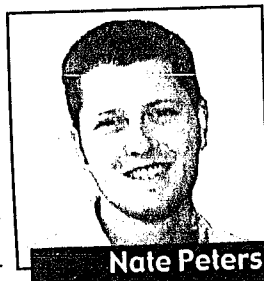
It is self-evident that students are the poorest members of the Boise State University. That alone, I am perplexed by why the administration has not pursued other avenues of increasing revenue to maintain quality and access for Idaho citizens.

Again, I offer candid facts to a campus community and greater community that includes all of Idaho.

First, the ratio of students to faculty ('95 - '02) has grown, while the ratio of students to non-instructional ('95-'02) support has fallen.

Secondly, total employment growth as a percent of

see PETERSON on pg. 10



Nate Peterson

Frat members sue for free speech

By Danielle Wright
The Famuan (Florida A&M)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Blackface started as an attempt at entertainment by a struggling actor in the 1820's. Apparently it is still viewed as such, a form of entertainment.

Fifteen students of Auburn University, members of Delta Sigma Phi and Beta Theta Pi, donned blackface at a Halloween party.

The fact that this happened in 2001 is appalling enough, even if it is in the South. But add to it that these students wore Omega Psi Phi t-shirts and others wore white t-shirts with FUBU handwritten on them.

One frat member even wore a noose around his neck while a student dressed as a Klu Klux Klan member pointed a gun at his head in front of a Confederate flag.

Matt Furin, president of Delta Sigma Phi, apologized

for the acts at a Black Student Union meeting. However, Beta Theta Pi, did not apologize.

No apology was given because they felt none was deserved. But they did feel that they deserved \$300 million in compensatory and punitive damages. On Nov. 21, the Delta Zeta chapter of Beta Theta Pi filed suit against Auburn University, several administrators and the national office of Beta Theta Pi.

The Betas sued for compensatory and punitive damages on the basis that Auburn officials and the national office of the fraternity violated the students' constitutional and civil rights, including freedom of speech and association, and protection granted by the Fourteenth Amendment.

The students also claim that they were defamed and falsely portrayed as racists.

Unfortunately, some of

what they're saying probably will hold up in a court of law.

One major drawback from having the freedom of speech and association, is that people will gather together and commit negative acts. It isn't a crime, they have the right to do it. As long as they don't cross a certain line, then they have a right to flaunt their racism.

However, they are pushing it with the rest of their accusations. Everyone is entitled to privacy, but that right is waived by posting the pictures of a "private party" on the Internet. In order to post these pictures, they must have been proud of what they portrayed.

To allay any confusion, these pictures portrayed racism. Pure and simple. They were shocking, intimidating and threatening. Just imagine the feelings of African Americans on Auburn's campus.

But yet, the Betas have the

audacity to claim that suspensions of members of their chapter and of their chapter made them seem racist. They made themselves seem racist.

Whenever someone gets upset, inevitably a court case results. But the laws that our Founding Fathers struggled and fought to conceive, that our forefathers died and became martyrs for are being misconstrued everyday.

Words that should be dear to our hearts are twisted and used to defend acts of malice and ignorance.

Although Lloyd Jordan, a Washington-based private practice attorney, feels like a public apology is necessary, an apology is just that.

A string of words carefully strung together. It does not denote honesty; it denotes a mandate.

Nothing can mandate your true feelings. Nothing can make up for, justify or defend what happened at that Halloween party.

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Boomers fleece Gen X with Social Security

By Thomas A. Firey
Cato Institute

Generation Xers and Gen-Yers like me have a hard time showing interest in what goes on in Washington. But we had better end our apathy - and soon - or we'll spend the rest of our lives paying for it. Members of the generation that came before us - the Baby Boomers - are trying to pull a scam under the guise of "protecting" Social Security. If they succeed, we - and our children - will be the poorer for it.

Everyone knows Social Security is in trouble (and President Bush's Commission to Strengthen Social Security is due to announce reform measures before Christmas). But few people understand what that trouble is and whom it will affect. Understanding that is the key to understanding the scam.

Right now, Social Security is in great health. This year, like so many before, hundreds of billions of dollars will pour into it from FICA and payroll taxes, and only some will go back out as benefits to retirees. The rest will be exchanged for government bonds, which the federal government will pay back - with interest - to Social Security in the coming years.

But things will change in the next decade, when the Boomers will retire and start collecting benefits. By 2016, so many people will be drawing Social Security that the money needed to cover benefits will be more than what we Gen-X/Y workers will be paying in taxes. Fortunately, the program will be able to cash in the bonds that it's now buying, and will use the repaid principle and interest to keep up the benefits.

However, that can only support Social Security for a few more decades. The bonds will all be cashed in by 2038, just as we Gen-Xers (whose Social Security tax money will purchase many of those bonds and whose federal tax money will pay them off) approach retirement age. So, just as we're about to collect Social Security, there will be nothing left in the Social Security storehouse for us to collect.

Hence, the Social Security crisis does not involve today's seniors - Social Security will have plenty of money for the next 35 years. Instead, the cri-

sis concerns us Gen-X/Yers, who will pay in a lot and receive just a little.

Ever since we Gen-X/Yers began working, we've paid 12.4 percent of our earnings to Social Security - half taken through the "FICA" tax on our paycheck and half through the payroll tax. In the coming years, Congress likely will increase that rate to more than 17 percent to delay the 2038 catastrophe. What is more, the Medicare tax (which is now a mere 2.9 percent) will increase because that program faces an even worse crisis than Social Security.

In contrast, the Boomers will get a bargain. When they entered the workforce in the late 1960s, they paid only 6.5 percent of their earnings to Social Security and nothing to Medicare. For about half of their working years, the Boomers paid 10 percent or less to Social Security and less than 1.25 percent to Medicare. Only from 1990 on, when the Boomers had earned paychecks for a quarter-century, did they start paying 12.4 percent to Social Security and 2.9 percent to Medicare - the same percentage we Gen-X/Yers have paid our whole lives.

That's the Boomers' bargain: They've paid less of their earnings into Social Security than we Gen-X/Yers, yet they'll receive more in benefits than we will and we'll pick up the tab. And when we retire, there will be no money saved in Social Security to pay for our retirement, unless we pull the same scam on our children that the Boomers are pulling on us.

The Boomers are working hard to protect their sweet deal. Many Boomer-elected politicians claim it's "too risky" to change Social Security and do away with the scam. One, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., even asserts that the program is in no trouble at all and should be left alone.

But we Gen-X/Yers are catching on; we're seeing through the phony claims and recognizing the generational cash-grab scam for what it is. And we are beginning to realize that we need to offer this warning: If the Boomers don't reform Social Security now, they'll have no right to complain when we do so in the future.

Anti-American statements treasonous

Nate Williams is completely off-base in attacking the nation he calls home and blaming the United States for the chaos in Afghanistan. The chaos has existed for many years, ever since the Soviets overthrew the Afghan king. It has only become worse in the last five years, due mostly to one of the worst droughts in recent memory and the Taliban's mixed-up priorities.

The United States did not cause the drought on Afghanistan. That is impossible to do. The Taliban demanded that farmers plant opium poppy instead of food crops, so the Taliban could make millions in the heroin trade. Sure, there are Americans who use heroin, but they are in the minority, and most importantly, in the wrong. Afghanistan was a catastrophe before the United States even considered bombing Taliban and Al-Qaeda forces.

Now, to the anti-American sentiment that is found in many people of our generation, including many at the Arbiter. Anything written or said attacking the war efforts must be considered at least sedition, if not treason. Our military is putting their lives on the line to secure the blessings of liberty for all of us. Osama bin Laden wants to kill every American and every Jew in the world. That includes peaceniks. Our President (like it or not), George W. Bush, has said many times that anybody who supports terrorists is a terrorist themselves. Chew on that piece of meat!

If the ever-sensible Jerel Thomas must be censored from this paper, then anti-American sentiments should be barred as well.

David Rose
Freshman

Back and forth between left and right tiresome

I would like to express my extreme disgust for this constant banter between the ignorant Jerel Thomas and those who allow themselves to be affected by him. Jerel will say whatever is on his mind and nothing can really stop him from doing it but what I have found interesting is how many people I have talked to that agree that it is getting really tiresome.

Despite all the notoriety Thomas receives I believe that your other columnist, Taylor Newbold, is a gem. He writes from all points of view and

letters to the editor

though I haven't agreed with all of his articles he actually makes strong arguments and is very influential.

He writes from the heart-things I can tell he really cares about. Things of interest instead of constantly attacking the left and defending the right. Thomas needs to get a life.

Thomas should be more like Newbold. Newbold isn't attention starved-something that Thomas seems to suffer from which could explain his inflammatory remarks.

Molly Brengle

Dump Jerel, not for views, but for poor quality

My letter is in response to the article, "Free Speech Lives at The Arbiter," appearing in The Arbiter's Nov. 29 edition. It was stated: "We will also not fail to run columns because they may be potentially offensive to certain groups of students." I applaud my university newspaper's decision to continue to run these kinds of articles. I am all for cutting against the grain and stirring up ideas and thoughts and generating dialogues. And I believe the university campus is the perfect place for this because it remains a modern day bastion of free speech.

However, nobody is trying to censor The Arbiter. I don't believe the idea of censorship of free speech is the issue at the heart of the Jerel Thomas debacle. It makes sense, to me, that the negative backlash from Jerel Thomas' articles is actually some kind of symptom that something may be wrong with either the articles or with the newspaper. In the business world, this kind of negative response is taken seriously. If an employer receives a number of complaints about an employee, the employee's behavior is eventually assessed, and disciplinary action is considered and then enforced (e.g. termination, demotion, suspension).

Let's face it - for a reader to ask if Jerel Thomas' opinions represent the entire Arbiter staff is ridiculous. We all know they don't serve that purpose. However, as it stands now, he has certainly grown to be an embarrassment to The Arbiter's staff and to the integrity of The Arbiter as a newspaper.

Regardless of whether or not I agree with what I read, I want to be able to find well-informed, articulate articles in my university newspaper, not articles based on ignorance and poor insight. My suggestion is this: Take a closer look at what (and how) Jerel Thomas is writing. If he strengthens your newspaper somehow, keep him. If he continues to be an embarrassment like he has been, replace him with somebody who can better articulate the right wing's views. It is up to The Arbiter's staff to find someone who does not distort and elude the facts and who can write without being brutally insensitive to a reader's heritage and family.

Russ Crawford
Graduate Student - English
Department

Jerel makes valid points, but in the wrong way

Hi Jerel, or do you prefer Mr. Thomas? Bah, I'll call you Jerel, because we're all friends here, right? I figured in response to all the latest controversy over your columns I should respond with my own voice. I don't think you are a racist, bigot or a nazi.

However, there are two things that have been bothering me about your article: #1: While I am not a left or a right wing person, I believe you have some valid points Jerel, but your delivering them all wrong. You are like the person who stands up screaming in a courtroom. You have many valuable facts and ideas, but you are expressing them in all the wrong ways.

When you write, you make your point very well, but at the expense of the thoughts of the opposition. #2: When you write on such a controversial subject as Native Americans, approach it with more caution. While you may have had valid points on the subject of Native Americans, it almost seemed like you were trying to make people upset.

And yes, while you did spark up the conversation of Native Americans around the campus, you also made yourself be an enemy of everyone who talked about it. I spoke to many of my co-students the

day the first article was published, and everyone who talked about the article said Jerel was a moron.

While I did not agree with them name calling you, I did see their point. I don't wish to have you fired, but have a more open mind to what is accepted as a controversial statement, and a blatant attempt to make people upset.

Corbin Greeff

Kara Janney courageous for expressing opinion

I am writing this in response to the guest opinion written by Kara Janney. I would like to take the time now to congratulate her. It takes a lot of courage to voice an unpopular idea. It takes a lot of courage to state an opinion that is contrary to what so many people believe. It takes a lot of courage to speak out on behalf of something that is offensive.

I believe that Kara did all of this.

I don't agree with Jerel Thomas, or with anything that he writes. I can't think of someone who manages to offend me on such a regular basis as Jerel Thomas. Anyone who knows me, in fact, knows that Jerel and I are polar opposites, but anyone who knows me also knows that I believe freedom of speech is the most fundamental right that any society can have. Without freedom of speech, all other rights are at risk, and when one person is denied his or her right to speak the way that he or she believe, all of our freedoms are at risk.

I believe that this is what Kara was standing up against. I don't believe that Kara endorses any or all of what Jerel preaches. Nor do I believe that Kara should have to defend herself. The fact is the first amendment is a hard thing to defend. The first amendment doesn't just apply when the vast majority agrees with an idea or a viewpoint. The first amendment doesn't just apply when someone is trying to change the world for the better. The first amendment protects the most offensive and base viewpoints. It protects hatred and intolerance. To really believe in the first amendment is to understand that people are going to disagree with you and people are going to say offensive things.

Brooke Baldwin
BSU Senior

Letters to the editor may be sent to letters@arbiteronline.com or dropped by our office in the SUB annex, preferably on disk. Please include your name with all submissions; you might also include class standing or names of offices or clubs you represent.

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Sports

Notre Dame has unrealistic standards

By Bill Lyon
Knight Ridder Newspapers

A coach who won 10 more games than he lost, and on whose watch the graduation rate of football laborers reached 100 percent, has been fired.

The charges against Bob Davie are that he failed to meet Notre Dame standards.

A winning record and a perfect graduation rate might suffice on other campuses, but not at South Bend, Ind.

Notre Dame's standards are ... what is the word? Ah, yes. "Lofty."

Those standards strike some as ... what is the word? Ah, yes. "Unrealistic."

It says here that if Notre Dame can find a coach who can produce a national championship, graduate every one of his players, and all the while not lower admission standards or water down that cruel schedule, and keep NCAA investigators off the doorstep, then he should not only be hired but immediately bronzed.

The man who fired Davie, the athletic director Kevin White, is also the same man who signed Davie to a five-year contract extension this time last year. So in just a year, Davie apparently went from someone you want to keep to someone you can't shed fast enough. That is the unfortunate nature of the business.

White noted that Notre Dame has won 11 national championships in football. True enough, but only one in the last 23 years, and that one was a dozen years ago.

There is a school of thought that White and Notre Dame live not so much in a fantasy world as in a time warp, that what worked before won't work now. Idealism has gone out of style.

Their argument is that it is not possible to keep pace with, oh, let's pick somebody at random here - Miami, say - and still maintain demanding

admission policies and stern academic requirements.

Whether they like it or not, goes the argument, there have to be some accommodations made, some adjustments for the times.

There has to be ... what's the word? Ah yes. "Compromise."

Let us hope with the most severe sort of passion that they are wrong in this contention, that this argument is misguided, boneheaded and just plain ... what's the word? Ah, yes. "Wrong."

Let us hope that someone will fight to keep the standards, not lower them, and resist retreat or surrender or alibi even if it is all dolled up and passed off as compromise, as though the word alone would excuse the sin.

The argument that admission standards are detrimental and discourage the prime beef from signing on is a lame one. The fact is, Notre Dame has a built-in recruiting advantage that far exceeds any disadvantage. For a long, long time, it was the automatic destination of Catholics with speed, size, strength, or, preferably, all three.

It can, in accomplished and energetic hands, be that again.

And Notre Dame is still a magic name, still a place of overpowering mystique.

And if that sounds hopelessly idealistic, well isn't that part of what the college experience is supposed to be about, fighting the good fight, immersing yourself in a cause in which you believe?

So now Notre Dame is in the market for a coach. This is not a job for the faint of heart. In fact, there is not a college-coaching job to equal it. It will burn you right down to the nubbin.

But for anyone with a coaching ego, it is intriguing, tempting, seductive.

The name most frequently bandied about is that of Jon

see SOUTH BEND on pg. 7

BSU women's basketball team defeated in Portland

Bronco Sports Information

The Portland Pilots defeated the Boise State Broncos by a score of 64-47 in women's basketball. The Broncos fall to 2-4 with the loss.

The Pilots never trailed throughout the game, but the Broncos tied the game on four different occasions, the last one coming at 18-18.

The second half was played evenly with the Pilots and Broncos trading baskets until the final four minutes. That's when the Pilots went on a 12-4 run to give them the largest

lead of the game, 23 points. The Broncos tried to play catch-up after that, but time was in the Pilots' favor.

Crista Peterson led the Broncos with 15 points and eight rebounds, while going 5-6 from the charity stripe. Guards Jenny Binford and Abby Vaughan both chipped in nine points for the Broncos. Portland guard Ashlee Giles led all scorers with 16 points. Giles also had five steals, five rebounds and four assists.

The Broncos return home to prepare for one more road game - Nov. 9 at San Diego.

Bronco Sports Information

Five Boise State football players, Brock Forsey, Matt Hill, Quintin Mikell, Jeb Putzier and Greg Sasser, have been named to the 2001 WAC All-Conference team.

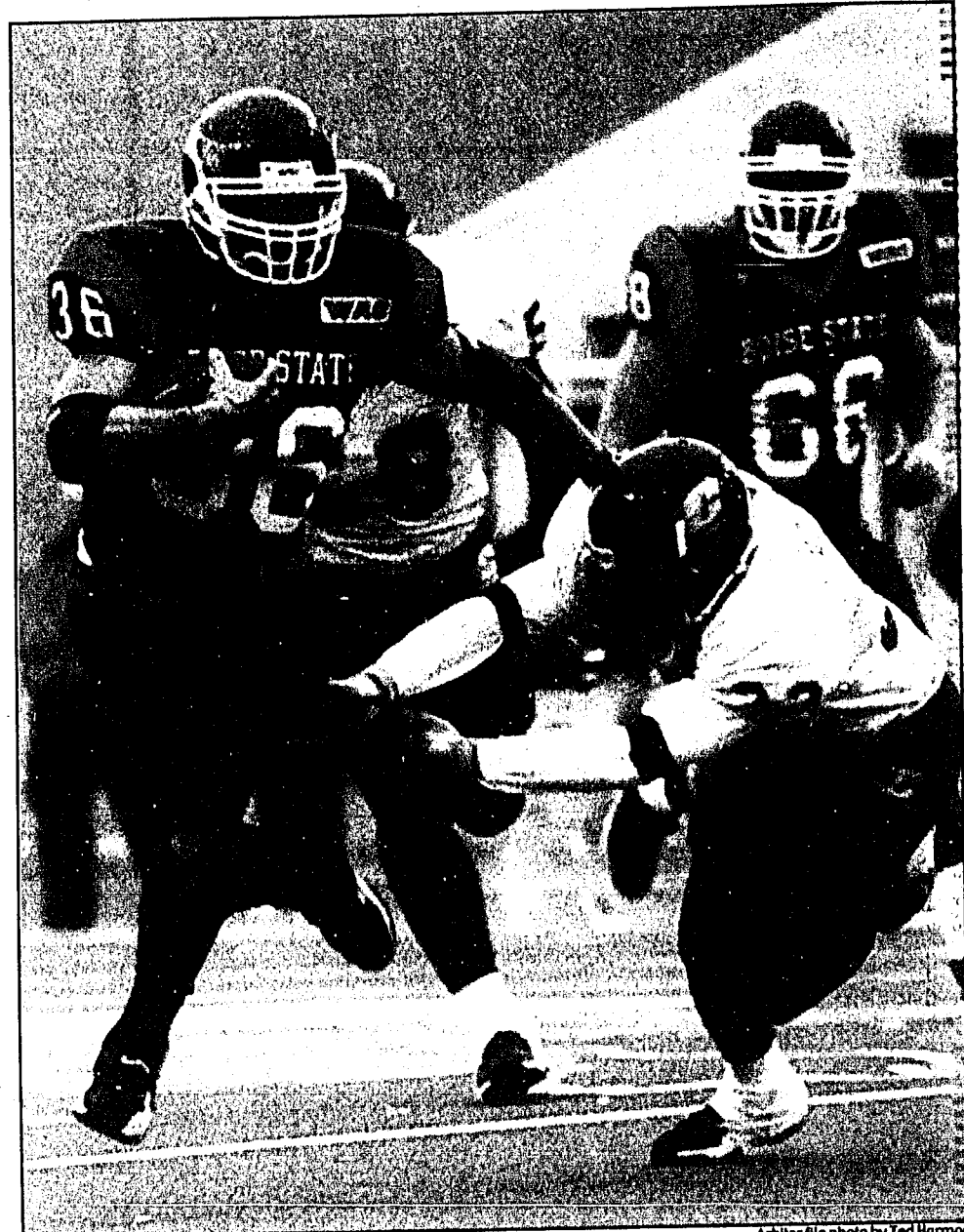
Forsey, Hill, Mikell and Putzier were named to the all-league first team, while Sasser was selected to the second team.

Forsey, a junior running back from Meridian, Idaho (Centennial HS), was second leading rusher in the WAC this year with 1,207 yards. He averaged 100.6 yards-per-game, 4.9 yards-per-carry and scored 13 rushing touchdowns. He also caught 35 passes for 369 yards and three touchdowns, and returned 17 kickoffs for 362 yards. In the final game of the 2001 season against Central Michigan, Forsey rushed for 212 yards on 32 carries and scored two touchdowns. His selection marks the first time Forsey has received a first team all-league award. Last year he was a second team all-league selection in the Big West Conference.

A senior offensive tackle from Grangeville, Idaho (Grangeville HS), Hill is enjoying a banner season in leading Boise State's offensive line. Hill has helped guide Boise State's offensive team into one of the nation's top units. The Broncos finished the 2001 regular season ranked 14th in the country for total yards with a 444.4 yards-per-game average, were sixth in passing efficiency with a 156.9 rating and 18th in scoring with a 34.2 points-per-game average. Hill has already been invited to play in the 2002 Senior Bowl and the 2002 East-West Shrine Game.

He was a second team All-Big West Conference selection following his junior season of 2000.

The first team selection of Mikell, a junior safety from Eugene, Oregon (Willamette HS), marks the second straight year he has been named to a league's first team. In 2000, when Boise State was a member of the Big West Conference, Mikell received first team honors and was also named the league's Defensive Player of the Year. Mikell was once again the Broncos' defensive leader in 2001 as he led the team in total tackles with



BSU's Brock Forsey keeps a Central Michigan player at arm's length. Forsey is one of the Broncos named to the 2001 WAC All-Conference football team.

87, 63 unassisted. He also intercepted two passes for 34 yards, returning one for a touchdown, forced three fumbles, recovered one fumble, broke up 10 passes, made seven tackles behind the line of scrimmage for a loss of 25 yards and made two quarterback sacks for a loss of 16 yards.

Putzier, a senior tight end from Eagle, Idaho (Eagle HS), finished the 2001 regular season with the most touchdowns and receiving yards of any tight end in I-A football. Putzier caught 44 passes for 824 yards and 12 touchdowns.

His 68.7 yards-per-catch average led Boise State. Putzier completed his four-year career at Boise State making 128 catches for 2,050 yards and 19 touchdowns. Putzier switched to tight end this season after receiving all-league honors from the Big West Conference the past two seasons. He received second team honors in 1999, and honorable mention honors in 2000.

A senior linebacker from Salem, Oregon (South Salem HS), the 2001 season marks the first time Sasser has received all-league honors. Sasser was third on the Bronco

team this past season for total tackles with 71. Among those tackles were two quarterback sacks for a loss of 10 yards, and a total of 10 tackles behind the line of scrimmage for a loss of 23 yards. He also recovered one fumble. Sasser was a defensive back for Boise State the past three years, before switching to linebacker for the 2001 season.

Boise State completed the 2001 regular season, and its first year as a member of the WAC, with an overall record of 8-4, and a league mark of 6-2.

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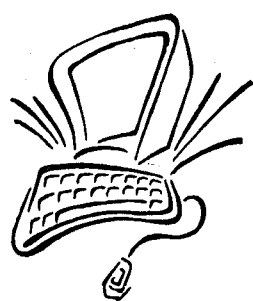
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Heisman timing critical

By Michael Rosenberg
Knight Ridder Newspapers

It's the most storied vote in sports, but there is no Election Day.

The Downtown Athletic Club mailed out Heisman Trophy ballots to 923 voters Nov. 7. Votes presumably have been trickling in ever since. That's one reason that the Heisman race is tougher to handicap than the 2003 Kentucky Derby.

Today, the favorite is probably Miami (Fla.) quarterback Ken Dorsey. But plenty of voters already have mailed in their ballots. The presentation will be Saturday night in New York.

Those who voted early probably went for Nebraska quarterback Eric Crouch. He was the best player on one of the nation's top two teams for much of the season.

Those who voted a week ago likely took a long look at Florida quarterback Rex Grossman. Crouch and Nebraska had fallen from No. 1, and Grossman's Gators have favored to play in the national championship game.

Many of those voting today are in Dorsey's camp. The Cornhuskers and Gators have both stumbled, but Dorsey has steered the Hurricanes to an 11-0 record and No. 1 ranking.

The Heisman is supposed to be rewarded to the nation's

outstanding college football player. In reality, it is rewarded to the nation's outstanding college football player whose team is nearly perfect, or whose statistics are outrageous, or ideally, both.

"As a quarterback, you have a huge impact on your team winning football games, and that has to be a consideration," Crouch told the Omaha World-Leader. "But the Heisman is an individual award. Where do you balance that out?"

Some years, you don't. If this is one of those years, Crouch will be in trouble. His team fell out of Big 12 title contention when its defense fell apart against Colorado. Somehow, Crouch's candidacy took a big hit on a day when he produced 360 yards of total offense against a Top-10 team.

This will be the 14th consecutive year in which the Heisman winner lost three or fewer games. The past four quarterbacks to win it each played for the national championship.

That pretty much eliminates Indiana quarterback Antwaan Randle El and Fresno State quarterback David Carr.

It doesn't eliminate Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington, but Harrington seems to be a long shot anyway. His candidacy appears limited to West Coasters and East Coast insomniacs. The last Pacific-10 confer-

ence player to win the award was Southern Cal tailback Marcus Allen in 1981.

Unlike most major athletic awards, a huge electorate determines the Heisman. Thirty reporters decide who wins baseball's MVP awards, and most other awards are determined by fewer than 100 people.

But with more than 900 voters - including all previous Heisman winners - the Heisman is more susceptible to hype. Most voters see each candidate only once or twice on television, and sometimes it seems as though they are comparing apples to oranges - or apples to carburetors, for that matter.

How does one compare a pocket quarterback like Dorsey, a scrambler like Randle El and a safety like Oklahoma's Roy Williams?

For a while, this looked like a year when a defensive player might break through. Williams was mentioned. North Carolina's Julius Peppers was a candidate, at least for a few days. But in the end, we're back to a group of quarterbacks, each of whom had his moments, none of who stole the spotlight for good.

Most elections come down to who gets people to vote. This one will come down to who gets people to vote at the right time.

SOUTH BEND from pg. 6

Gruden, once the offensive coordinator of the Eagles, and now the very successful head coach of the Oakland Raiders.

Gruden is young at 38 - and with that altar boy's face looks even younger - and is imaginative and boundlessly driven. It has been reported that Ohio State was set to bestow \$25 million on him.

But Gruden has a team that looks Super Bowl capable, and he won't be available for two more months at least. Such a tardy start in recruiting could put a serious crimp in Notre Dame's campaign to restore the glory.

The same applies to two other NFL names that have been included in the speculation: Steve Mariucci of the San Francisco 49ers, who are per-

forming beyond expectations, and Tom Coughlin of the Jacksonville Jaguars, who are in precipitous decline.

Another marquee name is Bob Stoops of Oklahoma, who already has produced the national championship for which Notre Dame so yearns.

The list of possibilities is lengthy. White says his list is short. What usually happens in these situations is that some coaches shamelessly try to float their possible availability in hopes of gaining enough leverage to elicit a pay raise to entice them to stay.

Somebody's misfortune always seems to end up being somebody else's fortune.

Davey was popular with his players, but not with the fans. From all reports, he is an

earnest fellow, well intended, but overmatched. He is not the first, nor will he be the last, to be overwhelmed by that job.

There was a time when no school roused emotions and stirred passion like Notre Dame, and especially its football team.

There was no middle ground - either you thought the program the essence of what college athletics should be, or you thought it hypocritical and fraudulent.

Lately, outside of disgruntled alumni, interest has waned and the response has been apathy. Those echoes of fable have fallen silent.

Notre Dame needs someone to shake down the thunder.

The Gridiron Gamble

Week 13

Last week
Overall

New Orleans vs Atlanta
Carolina vs Buffalo
Jacksonville vs Cincinnati
NY Giants vs Dallas
Chicago vs Green Bay
San Francisco vs St. Louis
Tennessee vs Minnesota
Cleveland vs New England
San Diego vs Philadelphia
Detroit vs Tampa Bay
Washington vs Arizona
NY Jets vs Pittsburgh
Kansas City vs Oakland
Seattle vs Denver
Indianapolis vs Miami

Steve

11-4
49-37

N.O.
Buff.
Jax.
NY
Chic.
S.F.
Tenn.
N.E.
Philly
T.B.
Wash.
Pitt.
Oak.
Sea.
Mia.

Darrin

10-5
49-37

N.O.
Car.
Jax.
NY
G.B.
St. L.
Tenn.
N.E.
Philly
T.B.
Wash.
Pitt.
Oak.
Den.
Mia.

Clint

12-3
56-30

N.O.
Buff.
Jax.
NY
G.B.
S.F.
Minn.
N.E.
Philly
T.B.
Wash.
Pitt.
Oak.
Den.
Mia.



Huskers still not out of Bowl Championship hole

By Jamie Suhr
Daily Nebraskan (U.
Nebraska)

LINCOLN, Neb. — Nebraska football players must have felt like gamblers with a hot hand at the craps table after watching Saturday's events unfold.

For a shot at the Rose Bowl — this year's jackpot — all the Cornhuskers needed was Florida to lose to Tennessee. The dice came up seven on that one. Then, they needed Oregon to struggle with Oregon State. Again, seven. Finally, NU needed Colorado to upset Texas. Seven.

About the only thing that went wrong was Virginia Tech wide receiver Ernest Wilford dropping a two-point conversion that would have tied the Hokies' game against No. 1 Miami.

If Wilford caught the pass, the Huskers might have skipped Las Vegas and had Lady Luck ride along to

Pasadena, the site of the Rose Bowl.

All the Huskers need now is for Louisiana State to knock off Tennessee in the SEC Conference championship game Saturday.

NU (11-1, 7-1 Big 12) could find itself in the national title game despite crapping out to the Buffaloes, 62-36.

"Of course we wanted to play in the Big 12 championship and we wanted to stay undefeated, but right now we're at that point if we make it to the Rose Bowl, it's not going to hurt my feelings to have another team lose," defensive tackle Jeremy Slechta said.

The mere fact that Nebraska has a chance to play in the Rose Bowl has brought plenty of criticism to the Bowl Championship Series standings, a formula devised to pit the nation's top two teams against each other in a national title game.

Nebraska coach Frank

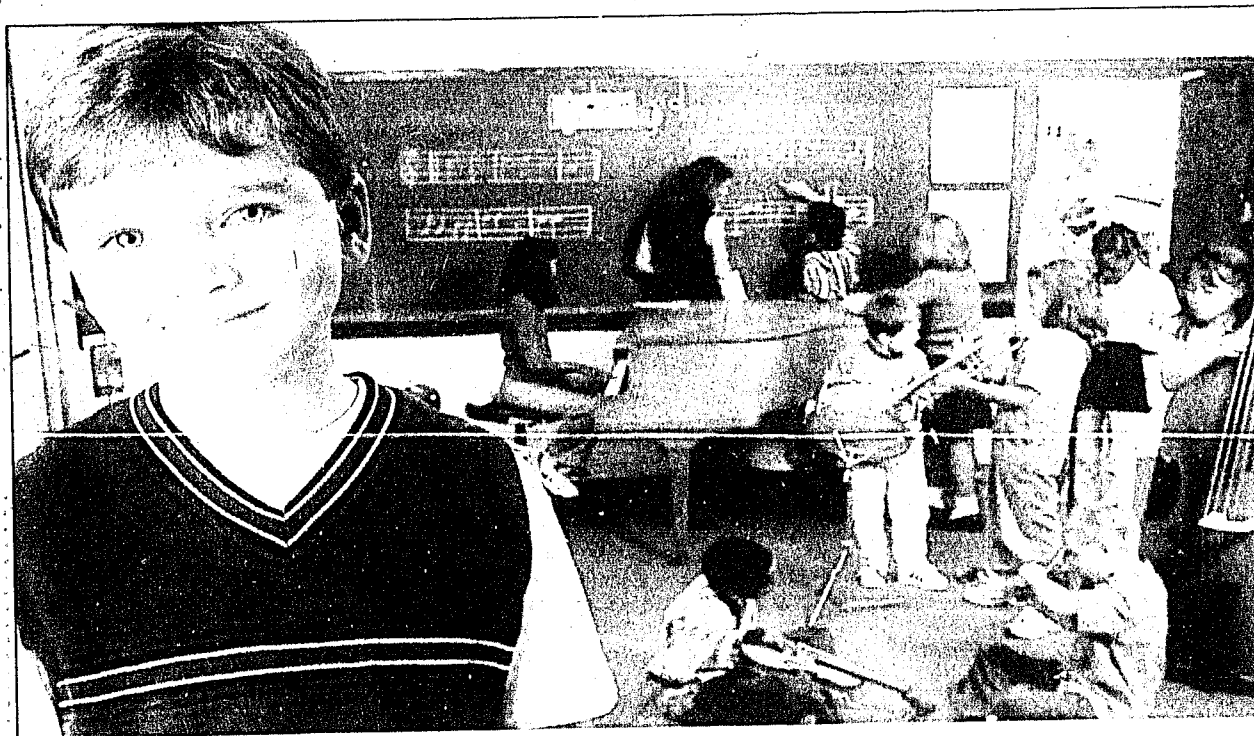
Solich, though, was quick to defend his team, saying NU was worthy of a Rose Bowl berth, providing the Volunteers fall to the LSU.

Although it was an embarrassing 26-point loss to the Buffaloes, Solich said too much was being made of the loss rather than NU's 11 wins, all by 10 points or more.

"It should be based on how a team plays through the course of a season," Solich said. "I think if you look at how our team has played throughout the course of the season, then I think we're deserving of being ranked where we're ranked."

As it stands, Nebraska trails Miami and Tennessee. The Hurricanes have locked up a berth to the Rose Bowl.

If the Volunteers beat the Tigers on Saturday, the Huskers will likely accept a bid to the Sugar Bowl, another BCS Bowl, to face Illinois.



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QA

What computer operating system did 2001's Arthur C. Clarke jest would have been the first thing HAL removed from his hard drive?

A: -Windows 95

Look for a new question in Monday's issue.

e-mail your answer to contest@arbiteronline.com
or submit an answer at the Bronco Shop for a chance to win a weekly prize, and to be entered into a Grand Prize drawing at the end of the semester for FREE textbooks.

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Diversions Editor
Patrick Kelly
Phone
435-326-1104
E-mail
diversions@arbiteronline.com

Diversions

Artist enthralled by pop culture

Pierce finds new home in circus tent

By J. Patrick Kelly
The Arbiter

People who know artist Skyler Pierce can attest to the fact he's a creative ball of energy, and he's not afraid to wear a bunny mask to class either.

Pierce, a senior art major at Boise State, has sequestered himself inside a mini circus tent in Gallery Two of the Hemingway Center. Pierce's mission is to paint non-stop until Dec. 10 for his ongoing installation, "Product, Production, Producer? Or Monkey Business," which is part of the Bachelor of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition.

An artist statement attempts to harness thoughts from his rapid mind, "I guess my work is in reference to who I am," he said. "Whether I am perpetuating this production of stuff through art or work, because I live in this culture I can not exist without doing it." He thinks for a moment and continues, "When I eat a chicken sandwich I know that the chicken I am eating was probably raised in some factory, malnourished among thousands of others, solely for the purpose of consumption and capital... but I still eat the sandwich. In fact it makes me hungry just talking about it."

In actuality, Pierce does not like to use words when describing his art. He is a firm believer in visual presentation, and his artistic concepts are heavily influenced by pop culture.

He realizes that art is more than just the act of production. In the tradition of artists like Salvador Dali and Andy Warhol, Pierce understands marketing is a major part of art as well.

Pierce is a brilliant self-pro-

moter of his art, but he warns against endless repetition, consumerism and waste in our society, and his installation encompasses these beliefs.

The circus tent depicts a surreal art factory with conveyor belts, but serves as a real-life art studio, where Pierce encourages people to stop by and view his brand of debauchery.

On opening night, Pierce's tent spewed out paintings on conveyor belts, continuing the cycle of waste and consumption.

He gave away almost all of his works at the exhibition. One belt spit out an accumulation of four years worth of his projects, which lay in an arranged heap on the floor, signifying ultimate waste. The other belt fed a commercial concept, where 48 brightly painted acrylic tiles of farm animals and children were neatly displayed, representing the slick packaging of American merchandizing. So it came as no surprise to him that most people gravitated towards the latter.

"What happens if I deny this cycle? I would become an outcast. I wouldn't be able to feed myself. It is also an acknowledgement that I am a monster, we are all the monsters. I am not going to change and neither is anyone else...and even if we tried it wouldn't make things any better. It's almost sorrowful...like cows to the slaughter."

Pierce said he purged himself of all his past works in an effort to free his mind for new projects in the future. He is the co-founder and vice president of the Northwestern Liberal Arts Association, which is currently working on "Project Lithium."

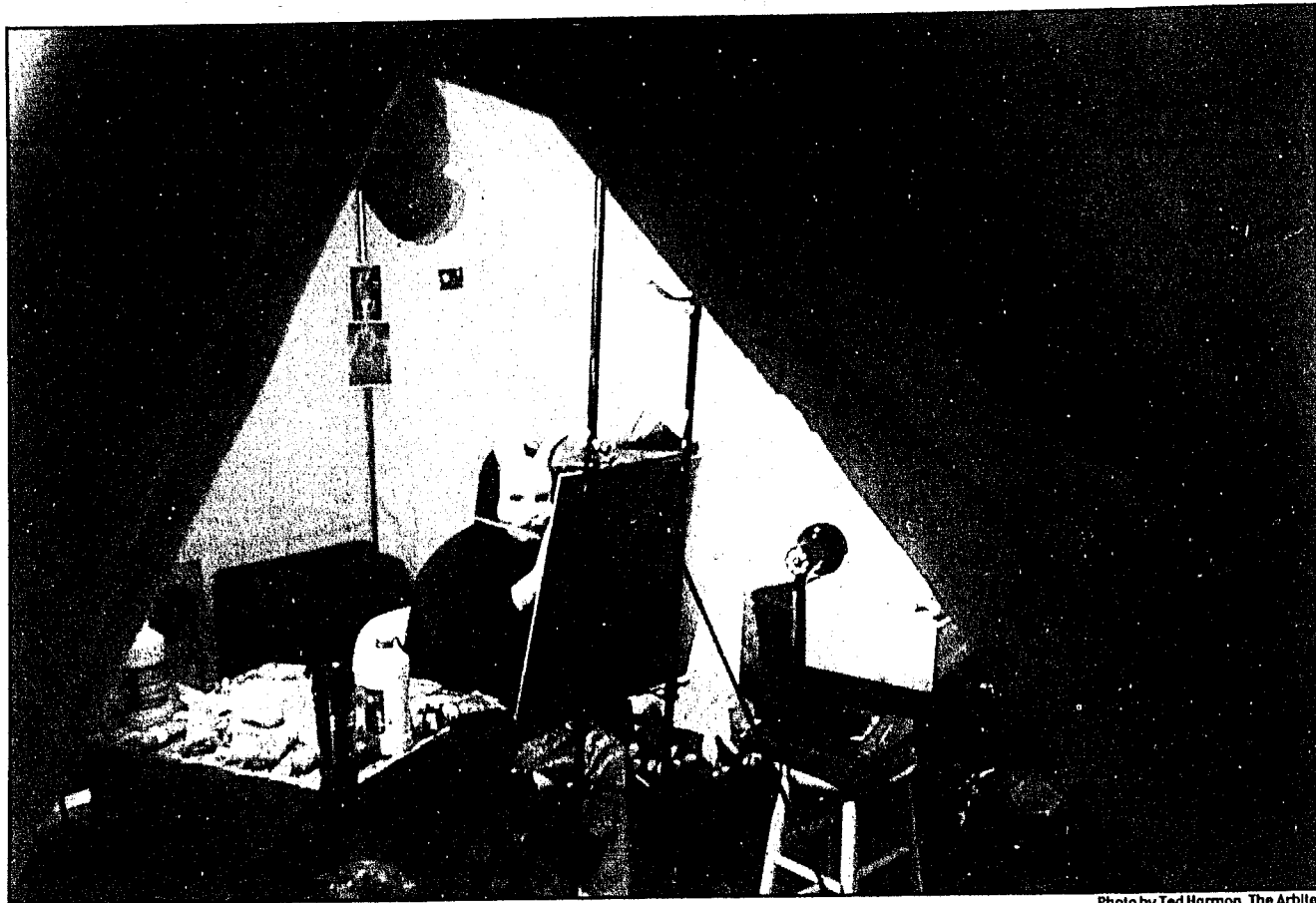


Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter



Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter

Artist Skyler Pierce is right at home in a makeshift circus tent, inside Gallery 2 of the Hemingway Center, where he's painting non-stop until Dec. 10 for his senior thesis project, "Product, Production, Producer? Or Monkey Business."

The Incognito Pierce gets comfortable with a few of his oversized paper maché heads, which he used for a flamboyant performance piece on opening night. Pierce's entourage wore his creations as a dysfunctional marching band blurted out warped versions of "Iron Man" and "Louie Louie."

Movie Review

'The Man Who Wasn't There' is here

By Mark Hiltz
The Arbiter

Joel and Ethan Coen take on the classic film noir with enthusiasm and their usual quirky brand of dramatic comedy in their new film, "The Man Who Wasn't There."

Ed Crane, played by Billy Bob Thornton ("Sling Blade"), is a barber, every man, no man. He is the man who isn't there. The man who must constantly remind people of his name, since everyone is so quick to forget it. Ed has an inadvertent talent for disappearing, for going unnoticed, and lives in

virtual anonymity. At the moment we meet him, Ed is without purpose, and knows no passion.

This is where the beauty and universality of the film lies—in Ed's attempt to find purpose. He simply happened upon his wife, and they were married as a matter of course. Along with the marriage came his trade—barbering for his wife's brother. He moves through life like a bowling ball on a lane lined with bumpers. He starts on one end, then rolls through his terribly mundane life, bouncing slowly from one side to the other towards the

inevitable end. But he begins to feel his aimlessness, and we meet him the moment he tries to jump out.

The result is a twisted mess. In the best sense. One complication leads to another, irony compounds on irony, and in the end, we're left with only a slight sense of resolution. The story is over, completed, the characters have met their respective fates, but the questions and images still hang. The film begs to be watched again.

The direction is smart (Joel Coen shared the Best Director award at Cannes with David Lynch for "Mulholland

Drive"), the production is virtually flawless, and the writing, aside from a few misplaced and awkward attempts at nifty dialogue, is great. Thornton and Francis McDormand ("Fargo"), who plays his wife, are top-notch, as always, James Gandolfini ("The Sopranos") turns in a solid supporting performance, and Tony Shalhoub ("Big Night") nearly steals the movie with his portrayal of Freddy Riedenschneider, the callous criminal lawyer.

Then there is the cinematography, which is; to use a word best saved for video-boxes, stunning. Literally. I

was taken aback by it, and I had even expected to see an attempt at perfecting the noir image.

I felt like I was watching a retrospective reel of the greatest film noir cinematography. The stark black and white of some scenes and the shades of gray in others are slick, alternately crisp and soft, and used unceasingly to create reflections of characters' states of mind and emotions and to intensify the tone of every scene. Of course, we can't forget the shadows. Where would film noir be without them? I don't care how stupid it might sound,

this movie has amazing shadows.

Given the constant play with light, it would be difficult not to notice that our hero Ed is smoking in nearly every second of screen time. Visually, the smoke is an ominous complement to the light and shadow in Ed's black and white world. But the Coen brothers are using this and other details to poke fun at the genre as well. They can afford to, because unlike some contemporary attempts, this movie lives up to its classic counterparts.

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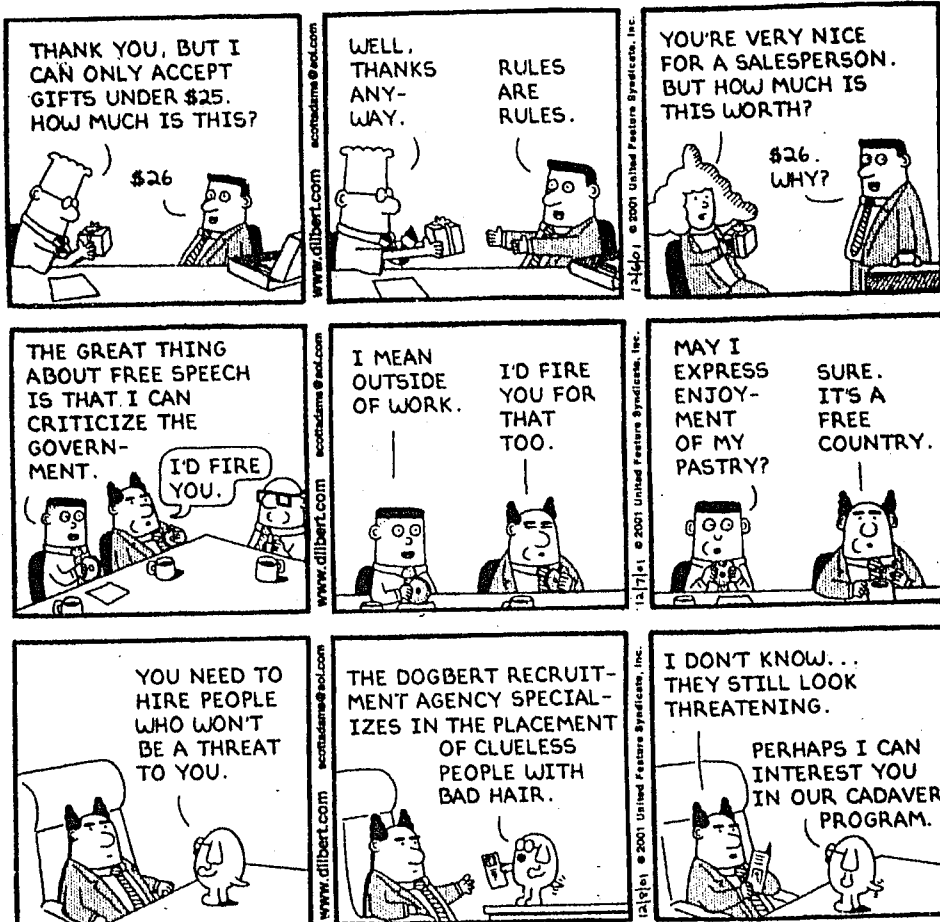
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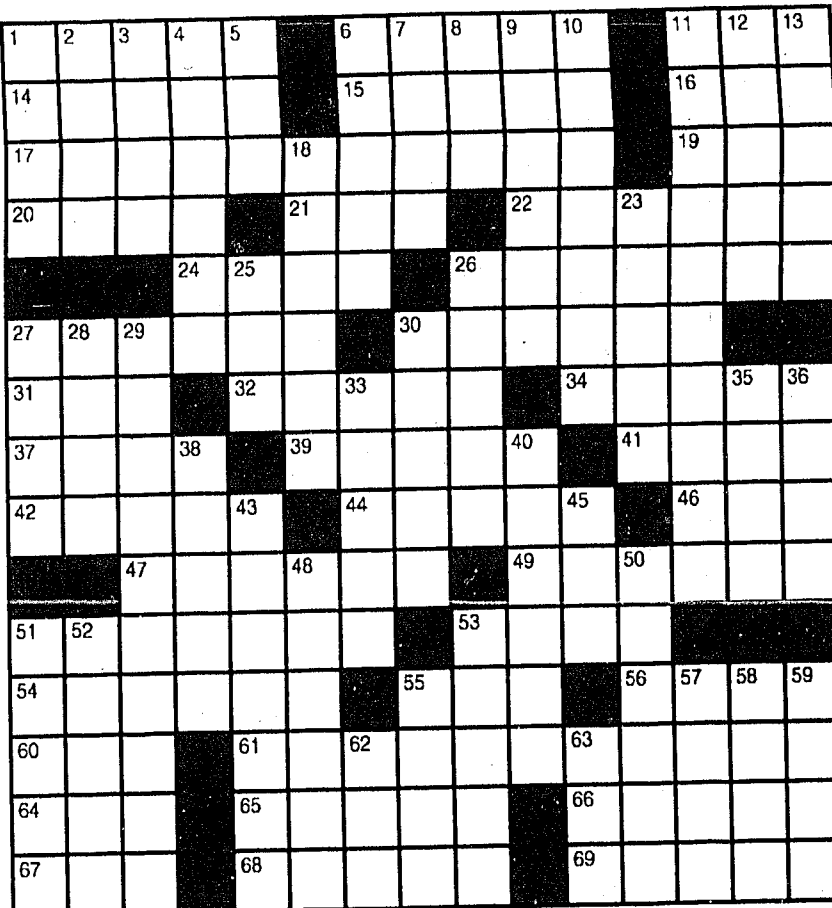
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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- operandi
 - Beds for babies
 - Casual agreement
 - Showplace
 - Like Cheerios
 - Ike's command
 - The first national park
 - Haggard novel
 - Han or Napoleon
 - Doctors' org.
 - Sonnet part
 - Dynamic lead-in?
 - Redcaps
 - Tom of talk shows
 - Narrow and elongated
 - Nice water?
 - Abate
 - Wood nymph
 - Semis
 - Potassium compound
 - Yukon or Guam: abbr.
 - Actress Claire
 - Earn
 - Grow mellow
 - Inclines
 - Peter of Peter, Paul and Mary
 - Steinbeck's birthplace
 - David Bowie hit
 - Barterer
 - Blue
 - First-rate
 - Auto gear
 - Student's inn, perhaps
 - Black cuckoo
 - Borden's cow
 - Ballots
 - School org.
 - Sweetie
 - Battery terminal

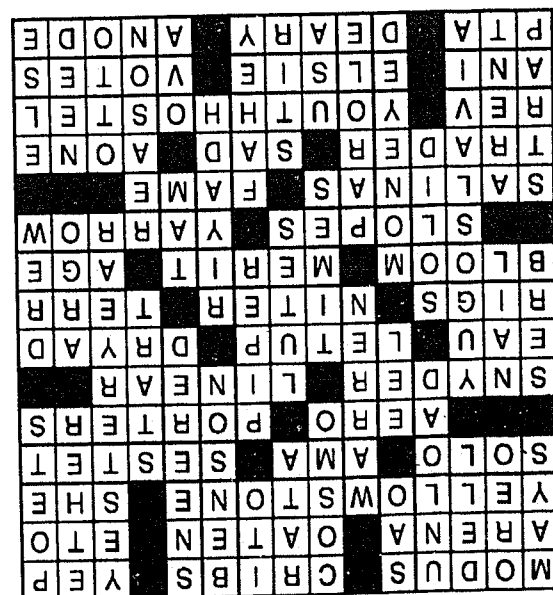
- DOWN**
- Say Hey Kid
 - Nabisco cookie
 - Compaq rival
 - Remove cargo
 - Paulo, Brazil
 - Kramer or Topper



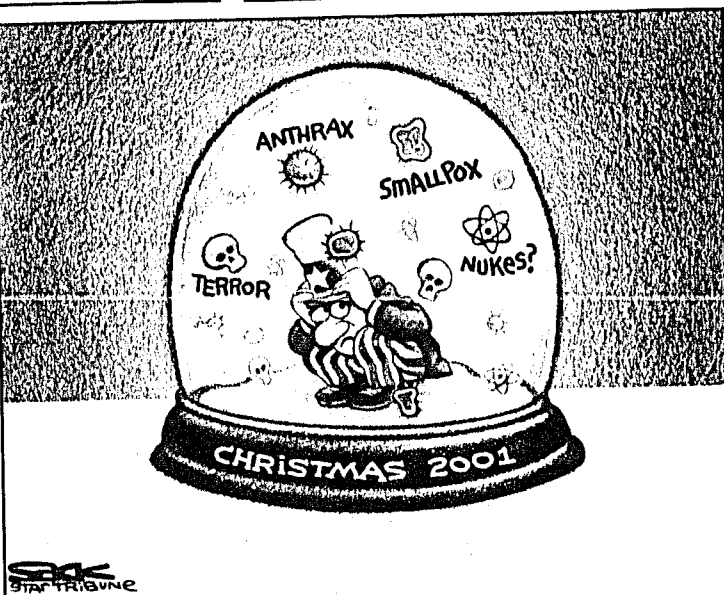
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11/28/01

Solutions



- 48 Conditional release
50 Explanation
51 Purse string?
52 we all?
53 Jeff of "The Lawnmower Man"
- 55 Ado
57 Eight: lt.
58 Require
59 Ultimatum word
62 Made in the
63 Eggs



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Read the Monday edition of The Arbiter & find the trivia question of the week, then submit your answer to contest@arbiteronline.com. The correct answer will be printed in the Thursday's edition. If you were right, you'll be rewarded with two entries for the weekly drawing—if you were wrong, your answer will be passed around the office and laughed at!

Contest rules:

All e-mails must include an answer (preferably a correct one), your name, address and a phone number—so we can hunt you down if you win.

Weekly winners will be announced in the following Monday edition. The Grand Prize winner will be announced in the Dec. 17th Finals Relief issue. Contest runs 08/27/01 though 12/14/01.

Okay, okay—if you were wrong, you can still send another e-mail to contest@arbiteronline.com with the correct answer, and you'll be rewarded with one entry for the weekly drawing just for being so persistent!

Congratulations Reme Maher
last weeks winner.

The Fine Print

All winners will be selected by a random drawing of eligible entries. Weekly winners will receive a prize donated by that week's sponsor. All entries containing the correct answer will be entered into a grand prize drawing, to be held at the end of the semester. No purchase necessary. All prizes will be awarded. Grand prize will be one semester of free books, to be provided by the BSU Bookstore. Used books will be provided where available. This offer is void where prohibited or restricted by federal, state, or local laws. Employees of The Arbiter, the BSU Student Union, their families and government employees are not eligible. Applicable taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.

PERSON
from pg. 1

al employment at BSU from 1994-2001 has faculty decreasing from 47 percent to 43 percent, while non-instructional support has increased from 53 percent to 57 percent. Overall, total faculty employment increased 13 percent, while non-instructional support increased by 35 percent.

Thirdly, as the total salary budget grew by 60 percent from 1995-2002, classified staff payroll increased by 21 percent, faculty payroll increased by 51 percent, executive payroll increased by 55 percent, and professional staff payroll increased by 155 percent.

Lastly, budget salary growth from 1995-2002 as a

percent of the total budget saw the classified employees percent of the total payroll decrease from 23 percent to 18 percent. As faculty payroll as a percent of the total decreased from 56 percent to 53 percent, professional and executive salaries combined as a percent of the total payroll increased from 20 percent to 28 percent.

If you take into consideration that employment for executives is fairly static and that new high level positions are only rarely created, we can safely assume that salary increases have been a significant contributor salary budget increases versus employment

increases.

This leaves me with one question? If the numbers are correct, then why is the burden of proof on ASBSU to show that BSU needs to cut administration and bureaucracy?

The answer is obvious. We don't need to convince the administration and bureaucracy to cut back, the administration and bureaucracy must convince us why they should not cut back.

I candidly offer this one warning, "Don't tread on me!"

-Nate Peterson is the student body president.

ACCREDITATION
from pg. 1

faculty or to take other steps which might endanger continued accreditation."

The budget reductions forecasted for the upcoming years pose a problem for accreditation.

"The big issue for us is that

our demand continues to rise," Neel said. "The problem is if we do not have the faculty to teach it limits enrollment. If we maintain to where we are now, enrollment will level off."

"Should budget cuts continue in future years, the universi-

ty would have no choice but to limit access," Jones said. "While every effort will be made to improve efficiency, education is a labor-intensive process. We cannot continue to educate increasing numbers of students if we lose faculty."

HOLIDAYS
from pg. 1

Chinese New Year will be highlighted by the Vietnamese Student Association and the Chinese Student Association. The two cultures celebrate the holiday similarly, as China historically exerted much influence on Vietnam.

The Vietnamese culture, however, also has some European influence on their celebration due to 100 years of colonization by France. Ballroom dancing has become a New Year tradition due to this influence.

Dia de los Reyes is celebrated 12 days after Christmas in Latin countries. The holiday commemorates the day three wise men visited the baby Jesus. In many countries, gifts are exchange on this day rather than Christmas morning. OELA

will be providing information on this holiday.

Hui-O-Aloha will present information on King Kamehameha Day. The holiday celebrates the life of King Kamehameha, Hawaii's greatest king. It is believed that his birth fulfilled the traditional Hawaiian prophecy of the birth of a male who would defeat all other chiefs and become the greatest king of Hawaii.

The Black Student Alliance will provide information on Kwanzaa. Kwanzaa is derived from the Swahili word Kwanza, which means "first" or "first fruit." The holiday is based on ancient African festivals that celebrate teamwork and accomplishment. The holiday was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga and starts

on Dec. 26. It pays tribute to the cultural roots of African Americans.

There will be appetizers from different cultures available, and videos will be shown highlighted the various holidays. There will also be exhibitions of African, Hawaiian, and Middle Eastern dancing.

The International Business Association will help children make Christmas tree bulbs with holiday greetings in various languages. The traditional Vietnamese dice game of bo cua tom ca will also be available for children to play.

BUDGET CUTS
from pg. 1

riencing many losses," said the director of the Women's Center Melissa Wintrow. "We could have as much as 10 percent of our total budget cut next year."

Wintrow is already preparing for the cut.

"We are trying to find activities to invest our money in that can actually create revenue for us, rather than merely costing us money," she said. "I'm already searching for some grants or fund raising ideas, we are just going to have to be creative and optimistic. This latest obstacle just means we will have to work a little harder in

order to keep providing help to all of those who need it."

Wintrow said some salaries at the Women's Center might be reduced, but staffing will not be affected.

She also said the amounts budgeted for the phone expenses and office supplies are going to be smaller than before, and they will just have to be more frugal all the way around.

The Cultural Center director Tam Dinh also expressed concerns as well regarding the loss of funding.

"Obviously, a 10 percent budget cut will have a huge effect on our programs, it

means we either have to cut a staff person and a half or lose many of the services we currently provide," Dinh said.

"We are growing each year and helping a larger number of ethnic students. There is a definite need on campus for our programs, but the budget problems just make it harder for us to grow and meet those needs," she said.

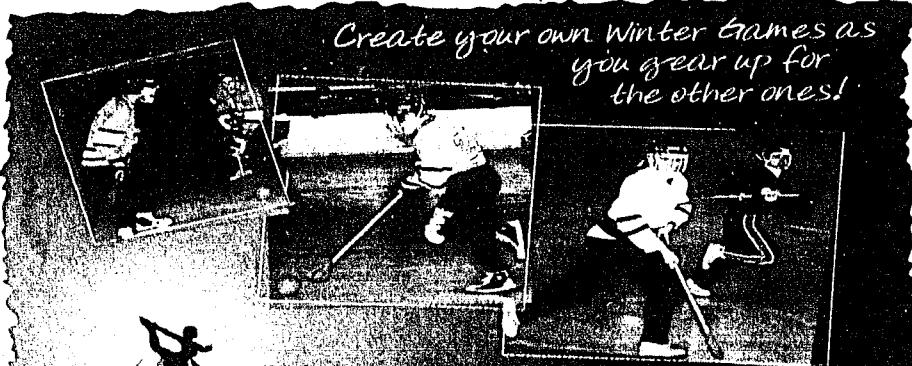
Although the funding issues will have a negative effect on some of the student resources at BSU, at this point none of them are going to be completely lost.

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