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Arbiter, January 24

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

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Boise State University

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January 24, 2002

News Bucket

By Mary Margaret Rice & Arbiter Staff

COMEDIAN TINY GLOVER TO PERFORM AT BSU

Boise State University invites you to enjoy two hours of high-energy, interactive entertainment with comedian Tiny Glover at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at the Jordan D Ballroom in the Student Union. The performance is rated PG-13. Tickets are \$3 for general admission at the door and free to Boise State students, faculty and staff.

Glover is known for his lightning wit, improvisational shows, spontaneous routines and his genuine desire to connect with his audience. A decade veteran of clubs and college campuses, Glover's interest in comedy began in college, where he worked with the theater department. Since then, he has traveled across the country arousing laughter from audiences at colleges, universities and comedy clubs.

The event is sponsored by Boise State Student Programs Board. For more information call 426-1223.

AMES PIANO QUARTET TO PERFORM AT CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES CONCERT FEB. 1

The Ames Piano Quartet will perform as part of the 2001-02 Boise Chamber Music Series at 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 1, in the Morrison Center Recital Hall. Tickets for the concert are \$15 regular admission and \$10 for students and seniors, available by calling 426-1216. The ensemble will also conduct a chamber music master class at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 2, also in the Recital Hall. The class is free and open to everyone.

Established in 1976, the Ames Piano Quartet is a permanent piano quartet, one of only a handful in the chamber music field. In residence at Iowa State University, members of the Ames Piano Quartet include Mahlon Darlington, violinist; Jonathan Sturm, violist; George Work, cellist; and William David, pianist.

The quartet has toured throughout the United States and in Canada, Mexico, the Far East and Austria, and in March 2001 it became the first American chamber music group to perform in Cuba in almost 50 years.

The Ames Piano Quartet has been awarded numerous grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. The group has released seven compact discs, and its most recent CD features two rarely-heard Russian piano quartets by Paul Juon and Sergei Taneyev. Fanfare magazine hailed its CD of the Dvorak quartets as "one of the best chamber music recordings of the century."

The concert is presented by the Boise Chamber Music Society and the Boise State music department. For additional information call 426-1216.

Student leaders want Ruch fired

A Petition may circulate calling for President's dismissal

By Andy Benson
The Arbiter

Rumors are swirling that a petition may be in the works to ask Charles Ruch to resign his position as president of Boise State.

Such a petition would come at a bad time for Ruch as he is still facing criticism for BSU's \$85,000 logo, is enmeshed in the budget process for fiscal year 2003, and may need to ask for a 12 percent student fee increase for next year.

Nate Peterson, ASBSU President, has been vocal in his

criticism of Ruch and the administration's handling of the budget crunch, but he would not confirm whether he was aware of a petition or if he would author such a petition. "There are rumors of a petition and people have talked to me about it and I have heard rumors too," Peterson said.

However, Peterson said he was approached by several people during the alumni kick-off dinner for the legislature this week and was urged to tone down his criticism of Ruch, as this is a sensitive time for the university.

"People were walking up to us and telling us not to criticize the administration," Peterson said, referring to Imran Ali, ASBSU Chief of Staff, who attended the dinner with Peterson.

"People were walking up to us and telling us not to criticize the administration,"

Nate Peterson ASBSU President

during the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee preliminary hearings earlier this week.

At Tuesday's ASBSU Senate meeting, Peterson announced to the Senate he would hold a State of the Student address this Tuesday and encouraged all members of the campus community to attend, hinting that an announcement might be made at that time regarding the petition.



President Ruch

Ruch makes preliminary reports to Legislature, Board of Ed this week

By Matt Neznanski
The Arbiter

Boise State President Charles Ruch is hitting the ground running this semester, meeting with the Joint Finance committee for the Idaho Legislature and the Board of Education this week.

Ruch said he will report on the status of the University to the committee as it prepares to make decisions regarding budget appropriations.

This year's budget faces reductions recommended by the governor.

"Our budget will be smaller for next year, and we will be less able to provide the kind of services we would like," Ruch said.

He said the details won't be worked out until the legislature makes its final decisions sometime in April.

"The impact won't be known until the Fall," Ruch said.

BSU Administrators are working to lessen the impact on quality caused by financial reductions, but access to the university will suffer first, Ruch said.

"It is the most aggravating aspect of the situation," he said.

As enrollment continues to increase, administrators are focused on minimizing the impact on the campus.

According to Ruch, vacant positions within departments will be written out of the budget, allowing the university to retain the faculty it has, but hindering its ability to offer more sections of necessary classes.

He said classes offered by particular faculty members may only be scheduled once per year instead of twice, forcing students to put classes off until the cycle repeats.

"Somebody is going to have to wait their turn," he said.

Ruch said the majority of the frustration surrounding deep cuts in funding comes from the desire to escape repercussions unscathed.

"We'd like it to not affect us, but it will," he said.

Some problems in finding ways to save money come from a large

number of fixed costs that must be met in order to keep the campus going.

"You either have phones or you don't; you have the lights on or you don't, and those costs go up every year as well," Ruch said.

Ruch said he has gone through the downsizing process before.

He said this situation is similar to previous experiences, except this one happened much more quickly.

"Things were so good a short time ago, and the bottom just dropped out," he said.

Ruch said the upside is that all of the cuts will only affect half of the university's total budget.

The state funds some programs and salaries, while others are covered by the auxiliary budget,

made up of grants and BSU Foundation money.

The university has some ability to alter which budget funds programs, and creates a bit of room to move, said Ruch.

"It is entirely possible we will have fewer functions paid for by the state allocations," he said.

At the same time, some funding is fixed to certain programs specified by the donor.

The same type of re-allocation of resources and money that is relatively easy for a manufacturing corporation, is made difficult for the university because of the wide range of specialization it includes, he said.

"We have very few interchangeable parts," he said.

Ruch said in a manufacturing

setting, groups of people can be moved from one project to the next with little problem, since they are familiar with the basics of the products.

This is not possible in the university, he said.

"We can't ask an astrology professor to go over and teach a history class, it just doesn't work that way," he said.

Ruch plans to have 90 percent of the budget done by March to send it to the Board of Education in April.

"We just need to get through February and hope for an early spring," Ruch said.

Human Rights March

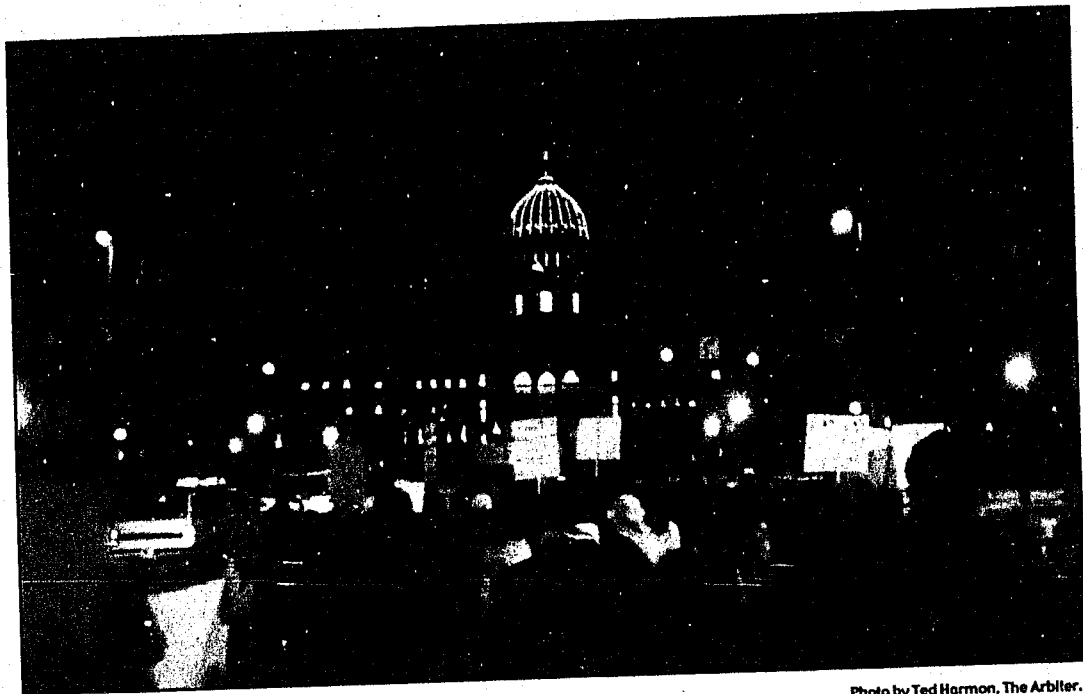


Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

Capitol Boulevard echoed with the chants of those marching to the Idaho Statehouse Monday, see page 3.

BSU braces for 10.1% cut

By Andy Benson
The Arbiter

The Executive Budget Committee, which is responsible for charting Boise State's course through the budget crunch, met last Thursday to determine how the university will deal with a projected \$9.2 million shortfall.

The committee, which is comprised of BSU vice presidents, faculty, employees, and students, was briefed on the likely 10.1 percent revenue shortfall facing the university for fiscal year 2003 by Daryl Jones, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and chair of the budget committee.

As a result of the meeting, a memo will be sent to all departments instructing them to prepare a plan detailing how they can sustain a 6 percent budget cut from last year.

However, Jones said departments, on average, would only experience a cut of 4.6 percent. By providing a budget cut plan, departments will have the opportunity to prioritize cuts rather than facing unilateral cuts by the administration.

Administrators will have the flexibility to plan cuts strategically by having all department heads prepare for a 6 percent cut. As a result, some departments will receive cuts less than the 4.6 percent average, while others may face cuts of up to 6 percent, depending on university needs and the stated goal of preserving quality.

Jones said administrators are considering cutting vacant positions in order to preserve existing faculty. However, vacancy cuts would not be used universally as they would disproportionately impact a department with a higher

ratio of empty positions.

In addition to planning for a 6 percent budget cut, department heads will also be asked to itemize the proposed cuts, such as personnel, salaries, and benefits, and prepare an impact statement for each one.

Also, in an interesting twist, departments will have the opportunity to detail potential areas in other departments that they see as possible cuts. They will also be asked to provide impact statements for any cuts they recommend for other departments, though Jones acknowledged that department heads would not fully understand the impact of a proposed budget cut to another department.

The anticipated budget cut of \$9,164,056 is comprised of three separate factors that combine to create the total shortfall. BSU is expecting a cut in appropriated funds of

10.1 percent from last year, which totals \$8,191,513. In addition, fixed costs such as electricity are expected to rise by \$600,643 for fiscal year 2003. Lastly, Boise State will lose its share of state land endowment funds this year, which would otherwise provide \$371,900.

In addition to cutting all departments, administrators will also seek a 12 percent student fee increase for next year. The fee increase is projected to create \$4,342,101 in additional revenue for the university, which will make up 47 percent of the budget shortfall.

Administrative cuts will comprise the remaining 53 percent. The student fee increase was adopted by the Executive Budget Committee last December and was intended to cover 50 percent of the loss in state appropriated funds.

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News



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Greater enrollment meets smaller budgets head-on Access will be affected; attempts made to maintain quality

By Matt Neznanski
The Arbiter

Boise State enrollment continues to break records for state institutions, even as the Idaho legislature prepares to comply with the governor's budget reductions of up to 10 percent.

The combination of high numbers and low funding puts an enormous strain on the system, said Peg Blake, vice-president of Student Affairs, and could affect class availability for students.

BSU President Charles Ruch said even an increase of 12 percent in student fees doesn't cover the cuts.

According to Blake, Boise State will be less well positioned to meet the demands of southwestern Idaho.

"For every position we have to cut back less seats are available to students, and will directly impact the courses available," said Blake.

Blake said enrollment increased 6 percent this semester but expects those numbers to peak this semester.

Tim Ebner, BSU registrar, said

enrollment numbers were up 1,000 students over Spring 2001.

"Generally, institutions will go down from Fall to Spring, but it looks like we'll be right up there," he said.

The number of students enrolled in the university is directly related to the number of seats available in classes.

This represents what Blake sees as a natural cap on student numbers as faculty positions decrease.

Blake said traditionally lower division classes are the most full, leaving room available for upper division and graduate students.

The nature of the enrollment increase may not allow for this, however.

"As more people are laid-off, they seek education in another field, finish a degree, or get one they didn't have," Blake said.

This shift puts pressure on the upper-division and graduate classes.

As students get closer to graduation, the university is pressured to offer required classes and allow students to graduate in a timely

way, she said. With a hiring freeze in place, retiring professors cannot be replaced - possibly creating a dilemma for students.

Ruch said what the best administrators will be able to do is lessen the impact for affected students.

"Do we not allow students to take the class and (thus) not graduate?" Blake said.

Ruch said the motivation is to not have fewer classes, though he said such a situation was likely.

"Instead of three sections of an important class, we might have two and maybe have a little larger class size," he said.

Ebner said students should be prudent about planning their schedules early and do more advanced planning in order to avoid being shut out of classes.

He said current technology allows students to check class availability much more easily than previous years.

"When seats are at a premium, you can check every day instead of actually having to come down and stand in line," said Ebner.

Traditional students attending college right out of high school face difficulty in getting the classes they need to begin their education as well, Blake said.

"We face a PR nightmare since we are supposed to be meeting the needs of all of southeastern Idaho," she said.

While more people seek education in a downward economy, funding makes the move in the opposite direction, Blake said.

"Nowhere, I've been, has experienced a cut of this magnitude," Blake said.

Ruch has dealt with budget cuts in the past. He said he is consulting his notes from those previous situations.

He said the speed at which the bottom dropped out of the economy, aggravated by terrorist actions, makes this situation different from others.

"When we opened school, we had a great budget, we were doing a good job," Ruch said.

This type of cut creates a need for changes (in order) to deal with all the variables, said Blake.

She said committees are con-

sidering registration changes, including priority registration and how registration is conducted.

"People think a bureaucracy of this magnitude can't change, but we actually change all the time," she said.

According to Blake, program directors have already been planning for 6, 8, and ten percent cuts in preparation for presenting their final numbers.

"We already are pretty 'bare-bones', so you end up cutting from 'bare-bones'," she said.

Blake said she has encountered some staff members who are panicked about their job, but have no reason to be fearful.

She has also dealt with people who are confident in their positions that could, in actuality, be in jeopardy.

"It is difficult, especially since we are talking about people's livelihoods," said Ruch.

Ruch said, the impression, that the university wants to randomly downsize, is incorrect.

"We have to balance the budget," he said.

Meningitis can kill students

By Amy Wegner
The Arbiter

Most college students are not aware of the dangerous disease called meningococcal meningitis. Many are also not aware that young adults under the age of twenty-five are at high risk for this disease.

Particularly, freshmen living on campus in dorms are six times more likely to contract meningitis than their peers who live off campus.

Director of Student Housing, John Ringle, said, "If I'm not mistaken, there was one case at BYU-Idaho at the end of last semester. I believe that case resulted in a fatal-

ity." Bacterial meningitis is not very common, yet it is extremely serious. One out of 10 cases is fatal, while one in seven results in a serious disability, such as deafness, brain damage, or limb amputation.

Outbreaks of this disease usually occur in late winter or early spring, when college students are usually attending classes. Certain lifestyles are linked to the disease, suggesting that people could be at higher risk by having poor and irregular sleep patterns, going to bars, smoking, and communal living.

Assistant Director of Student Housing, Dana Kelly said, "It is a

growing concern around the country. It is not greater here [at Boise State] than any other place."

This disease strikes 3,000 Americans a year, with 300 deaths occur every year on college campuses, and 5-15 students die as a result of it.

Meningitis is defined as an inflammation of the tissues surrounding the brain and covering the spinal cord. The bacterial is carried at the back of a person's throat; a person can carry the disease without becoming infected himself. Yet, when the bacteria overcomes the immune system, passing through the lining in the nose or throat and entering the

blood stream, it results in Meningococcal meningitis. The disease is transmitted through the air and by direct contact with an infected person.

Symptoms resemble the flu, which makes diagnosing the infection difficult. An infected person might have aching or pain in the joints, high fever, headache, stiff neck, confusion, nausea, vomiting, exhaustion, sensitivity to light, seizures, or even a rash. Within hours of the first symptoms, the disease can rapidly progress.

Students living in the dorms should be aware of this disease, and have been given information, according to Ringle.

"We passed out an information sheet at check in when students arrived at the dorms. Or we referred them to a web site."

The American Academy of Pediatrics urges doctors to give information to college students and their parents about the dangerous possibility of meningococcal meningitis and the existence of a vaccine which is 85-100 percent effective in preventing the disease. This vaccine costs between \$55-75. Last November, the Health and Wellness Center and Boise State University's student housing offered vaccinations.

"Two hundred students took advantage of the vaccination," Ringle said.

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Produced by Bravo Entertainment www.bravosp.com

First annual Book Swap provides Bookstore alternative

By Amy Wegner
The Arbiter

This semester, Boise State students had another option for buying and selling their books.

ASBSU's first Book Swap aimed to enable students to ask their own prices for textbooks, saving other students money, as well as earning more for their books than the Bookstore would pay.

Erin Anderson, ASBSU Book Swap coordinator, said the recent Book Swap was successful. In the one week that the Book Swap was open last semester, from Dec. 17-20, students were able to utilize the new service, finding out exactly how much the Bookstore would pay for their book, and then setting their own

prices. During that week, Anderson estimates students saved \$883, and those selling books made \$510 more than if they had sold them back to the Bookstore.

"The Book Swap wasn't as busy last month, a lot of students weren't ready to buy books at the end of the semester. There were only around 350 books there," Anderson said.

Only 78 books were sold in December, but on the first day the Book Swap opened this spring semester, over 500 books were sold, making between \$1,000 - \$1,500 as many students browsed for and purchased used books.

Many students, however, did not utilize the Book Swap. CIS major Mike Glidden said he didn't hear

enough about the event to make an informed decision.

"There wasn't enough information out there informing students about the Book Swap, if there was, it wasn't well presented."

He added that the confusion of a new service made him sell his books at the Bookstore.

"I was afraid if I waited to see if I could sell my books through the Book Swap that I would miss my chance of the Bookstore buying them," Glidden said.

ASBSU allocated a budget of \$3,500 for the Book Swap. Included in this budget are wages, including Anderson's salary, supplies, and advertising.

Volunteers from other student organizations work

the Book Swap, and their wages were matched by the ASBSU to earn money for their organizations.

Anderson said, "The money spent was well worth it. One student pays a fraction of a cent for this service, which allows another student to save \$80."

ASBSU set a year goal of selling \$2,500 worth of books. They exceeded that goal last December, selling \$2,938. Anderson fully believes that last week's Book Swap will be even more successful.

"It was hard to keep books in stock yesterday. As people stood in line to fill out the paperwork, they would end up selling them to each other in line."

The fact that the students were cutting out the Book

Swap middle man didn't bother Anderson, who said that she was glad that the students were able to save money and it was the purpose of the Book Swap to simply help students out.

The process of selling a book in this alternative method is not an easy one. A student must first determine if the book in question is being used in a class next semester, and then whether or not the Bookstore is buying them, and for how much. By splitting the difference between how much the Bookstore would pay for a book and then how much they would sell it back for, the students are able to set a price that would both help them and the buyer.

After fixing the price, the student has to fill out

numerous forms, and sign a waiver that the ASBSU is not responsible for lost or stolen books. Students are offered additional insurance that they can purchase, which is a percentage of the selling price. However, not one book last semester was lost or stolen from the Book Swap room.

Also, once the book has been processed, there is no guarantee that the book will sell.

Whether or not ASBSU will hold the Book Swap again next fall is up to the new ASBSU president. Anderson said that this semester's success is laying a framework for future years, and because of the growing number of students attending, she wouldn't be surprised if the Book Swap continues on.

Hundreds march for human rights to Idaho Statehouse for MLK

Event part of week long human rights celebration

By Sean C. Hayes
The Arbiter

Despite record snowfall and chilly evening temperatures, hundreds marched from Boise State's Student Union Building to the Idaho Statehouse, in the 13th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Celebration, which runs through today with an address by Rubjn "Hurricane" Carter.

The crowd included representatives of local activist groups, Boise State and area high school students. Many carried signs urging peace

and an end to racism.

The events of Sept. 11 changed the tone of the march from previous years. Many marchers chanted antiwar slogans, and the speakers this year included Muslim Americans.

Two Boise State University students spoke at the rally with issues spanning to the importance of recognizing America's role on the world stage to appreciating the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Ali Ishaq, an ASBSU senator, told the crowd that beyond King's commitment to ending racism in America, his visions spanned to humanitarian messages worldwide.

"In light of the Sept. 11 attacks, I think we really

need to take a second look at the worldwide message that (King) had. It gives new relevance to what he said: 'Injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere,'" said Ishaq.

BSU Junior Faida Muzaliwa offered a compelling take on global issues, featuring quotes by King, illustrating what she feels is the "economic imperialism" western nations exert over the rest of the world.

Muzaliwa said that each day, Americans come in unknowing contact with the world at large - from the products we use, the stocks we purchase or the companies we do business with.

"Why is it that famine and hunger are more rampant in Africa than any of the rest of the world? Because the best lands in Africa are owned by western corporations and countries," she said, citing the example of Firestone tire corporation's holdings of a vast percentage of arable land to mine for rubber.

"We as citizens of a global society should make an effort to learn more about our global society. At whose expense are we prospering," Muzaliwa said.

Speakers also addressed issues of tolerance toward Muslim Americans, and celebrated the success of previous years' goals to enact a minimum wage for farm

workers.

Earlier that day, Governor Dirk Kempthorne spoke at an official dedication ceremony for the Martin Luther King, Jr./Idaho Human Rights Holiday. The governor addressed Idaho's national perceptions regarding race issues, and highlighted recent successes against hate groups in Idaho.

"There are still incorrect perceptions of Idaho...of who we are and what we represent. We see them occasionally in commentaries and dialogues on television and in the media," the governor told a crowd of about 300.

"It is frustrating...it is unfair...but we must rise above it. We must not react in anger or frustration. We must not dwell on the negative perceptions. Instead, we must highlight the positive steps forward that we have taken. We must let our light shine."

The theme of this year's march, as chosen by the Boise State MLK committee was: "Racism: Understand it - Accept it - Defeat it."

The march is part of the annual weeklong human rights celebration, continuing through today, and culminating with Carter's address at 7 p.m. that was relocated to the Pavilion following overwhelming demand.



Photos by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter

Above: Coyote Short (foreground), a geology major at BSU, has been participating in the march to the Capitol for 10 years now. "When liberty becomes unpopular I'll still be out there..." she said, "Liberty is a very dear thing."

Left: Memori Manning helps prepare banners in the Jordan Ballroom prior to the march to the Capitol.



187 students face cheating charges at Georgia Tech

By Tony Kluemper
The Technique (Georgia Tech)

(U-WIRE) ATLANTA — When Georgia Tech students received their final grades online over the winter break, most assumed the fall semester was over and behind them. However, for almost 200 Tech students now under investigation by the Dean of Students office, this is not the case.

On Jan. 15, the Dean of Students office reported that 187

individuals were under investigation for honor code violations.

According to Associate Dean Karen Boyd, the students have been accused of cheating on projects in two introductory computer science classes, Introduction to Computing (CS 1321) and Object-Oriented Programming (CS 1322).

The issue was brought forward after programs developed by Tech CS professors to detect cheating found many similarities among the works completed by

different students.

Boyd told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution that this is strictly prohibited under the Tech Honor Code.

"If you look in the code of conduct, it says unauthorized collaboration is prohibited," said Boyd.

The College of Computing makes it clear that students must work individually on all pro-

gramming projects or homework assignments.

Collaboration among students is taken seriously in the Computer Science department, because, according to Boyd, the professors need to be able to use homework assignments to gauge how well an individual student understands the material.

The students who are being investigated will now have to

meet with members of Tech staff as well as with members of the Dean's Office to explain their side of the story. Boyd and her staff will then make the decision as to whether each individual student should be charged. If students are formally charged, they will present their cases to a review panel made up of both faculty members and students who will

make a decision as to the students' guilt.

If the students are found guilty they could receive a failing grade in the class and be placed on disciplinary probation. Although suspension has not been ruled out as a possible punishment, Boyd said that Tech does not usually suspend students for first offenses.

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Food Special: Salmon Night - Choose an entree from our Special Salmon Sheet for \$9.99. 4-10pm

Wednesday
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Food Special: All you can eat ribs. \$11.99. 4-11pm

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Job market jolts college grads

By J. Lynn Allen
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — When Loyola University senior Lacey Donovan was a freshman, she wanted to major in marketing but decided to change to information technology in part because she felt sure she would end up with a high-paying job.

Oops. Now Donovan, 21, of Neola, Iowa, is hoping an internship she lined up for next semester with a small web development company in Wicker Park, Ill., might end in a job offer, though she's been told there are no guarantees. She's thinking about graduate school as an alternative.

"The jokes with the top students around here used to be about signing bonuses, but now nobody is talking about a signing bonus — it's just, get the job," she said.

Donovan is typical of this year's seniors in many fields, who are coping with a drastic contraction in the entry-level job market, hiring freezes in some areas and heavy competition from laid-off workers and last year's seniors who are still looking.

Members of the Class of 2002 have lowered salary and bonus expectations for the jobs that do exist. That can be a big problem, because many will face paying for student loans and credit-card debts.

"Seniors are starting to be in a panic," said John Bradarich, director of Loyola's internship and career center. "They've heard from the last graduating class, who had offers postponed and some taken away altogether."

A survey by the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at

Michigan State University reported that the number of graduates hired right out of college has fallen drastically in the last two years.

Much of the contraction occurred last spring as employers began to feel the effects of the flagging economy, according to institute director Philip Gardner.

Companies "hired in the fall (of 2000), then really had to step back when things started contracting in January, with the dot coms and consulting and manufacturing continued to slow," Gardner said. "Then there was Sept. 11, and consumer spending, transportation, tourism, food and lodging were hit."

The biggest losers will be engineers, computer science and business graduates, Gardner said. They will still have opportunities but should not expect the multiple offers or special incentives of the late 1990s, he added.

To be sure, hiring has not stopped dead and many students will still get jobs, but the squeeze extends over a wide range of fields and affects even graduates of top programs.

Hiring freeze
Lauren Arestie, a mid-year graduate from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, said she interviewed with recruiters from several newspapers during the fall but was told they had hiring freezes and could only take interns.

"I heard in the past students coming out of Medill could have any jobs they wanted, that papers were begging and pleading with them to come, but nobody is begging and pleading any-

more," she said.

Arestie, 21, from Austin, Texas, said she is hoping to be hired by a paper where she had interned, but an exception would have to be made due to a hiring freeze.

"I'm worried, because I don't want to be at home and be a sponge, sitting on the couch all day," she said.

Arestie has more than \$10,000 in student loans, and like many in her position she's considering going to graduate school.

"I'm willing to stay out (of the job market) for a year or two, if I can't find a job or only a low-paying one. I'll go back to school, not have to pay off my loans, and accumulate more debt," she said with a rueful chuckle.

Managing debt
Debt was on the minds of students from schools all over Illinois who recently attended a meeting of the student advisory commission of the state Board of Higher Education, said Katie Cox, 21, an Eastern Illinois University senior from Lovington in central Illinois.

"Some fear after they graduate in May they'll be making less than \$30,000 a year. With student loans increasing, it's difficult to get on our feet," said Cox. She's a political science major interested in public policy.

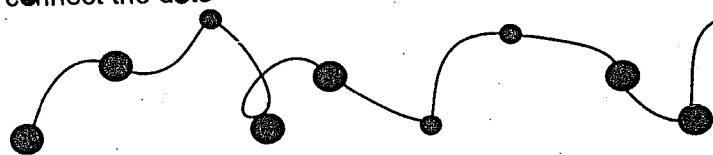
Nationally, 60 percent of bachelor's degree recipients graduate with student loan debt reaching a median of \$15,375 at public institutions and \$17,250 at private schools, according to the American Council on Education.



Photograph by Gayle Shomer/The Charlotte Observer

Demetrius Noble scored an 85 on a written test which allowed him to continue a half-day of testing and interviews at the Disability Development Services center in Raleigh, North Carolina. Noble, who graduate from UNCC, is looking for his first job.

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Opinion

What's good for the Party is good for you

By Nate Williams
The Arbiter

Here's one for the history books. The story goes like this: a one-party puppet "democracy" recently crushed a popular citizen-led attempt to limit the life-long duration of Party members' "terms." The final blow to the citizen-initiated effort at expanding democratic participation occurred behind closed doors in a private meeting of Party officials.

Party members emerged from the room confident of political victory, and smug in their assurance of continued sovereignty. With the self-righteous arrogance of one drunk on his own ideology, a prominent party member declared, "You can defend democracy; I'll defend the Republic."

Editorials in the local newspaper, a key branch of the Party's propaganda machine, chastised voters for trying to take democracy into their own

hands and wondered out loud who would tell the ignorant people that they were wrong.

The situation became tenser as Party officials at the city level moved to implement a new "anti-terrorist" police force whose main purpose seems to be crushing citizen dissent in public places. Justification for the new force arose not out of concern for citizen safety, but from government's disapproval of non-violent citizen disobedience surrounding earlier issues of injustice and corruption within the politico-economic system.

Leaders in all branches of the Party's regime have expressed their approval of the recent crackdown on democracy. Even Party economic planners, commonly called "business leaders" and represented by the "Chamber of Commerce," declared their support for the recent crackdown, announcing that changes in the political wing would dislodge "experienced" Party members whom

economic planners have come to know and trust (not to mention bribe).

Citizens in the region are furious. Those who bravely oppose the oppressive regime have pointed out that Party members are smothering democracy and stripping citizens of their civil rights. The most critical opponents of the regime denounce it as a fascist dictatorship that has lost touch with "the people," and is now solely working to enrich economic managers and political planners. These critics point out that the regime meets all requisites for being labeled fascist:

-The government is a centralized authority controlled by a dictator—in this case a one Party group dictatorship.

-The government has imposed stringent socioeconomic controls, including harsh anti-worker laws euphemistically known as "right to work" measures, and a social safety net system that is ranked last in the

nation on measures of effectiveness in getting people back on their feet.

-The government suppresses opposition through terror and censorship. The new police force is one example. Government also imposes controls on public television media, and attacks academics at the university level who oppose their oppressive system. Also, after years of frustration with the university's student newspaper, which refuses to become even more biased along Party lines, Party members finally organized and funded their own student newspaper ironically entitled, The Boise State "Free" Press.

-The government exhibits belligerent nationalism and racism, for example, resisting laws that pay minorities in the region even a bare minimum wage and refusing to rename historical locations that reflect the imperialist and racist nature of the area's founding.

Long time dissident observers of the region's political scene are not surprised by the recent anti-democracy developments. They note that one-party rule was built into the entity's founding documents. It was these documents, specifically a document known as Federalist #10, that the Party member quoted above was referring to when he mentioned defending the Republic.

In Federalist #10 one of the entity's founders, James Madison, outlines the advantages of a republic over a democracy. First on his list of advantages is a republic's superior ability to "preserve the spirit and form of popular government" without actually creating one. That is, a republic appears to be citizen self-rule through democracy, but really it's not. He thought that this was an advantage because it helped guard against the influence of evil "factions."

The "factions" to which he

was referring were groups of ordinary people—people who, according to him, were (and are) unfit to rule themselves—but who might get the idea in their head to try. If ever such a tragedy occurred, that is, if "the people" ever actually tried to rule themselves, a republic form of government would be able to effectively dispel and/or crush any such action—as our beloved Republican congressmen are about to demonstrate.

This story is, of course, alluding to our own beloved State and its one party rule. By voting to strike down a voter passed initiative that expands democracy, Idaho State legislators are demonstrating, in shockingly bold form, their contempt for the people over whom they rule. If anybody has a problem with that—watch out! The new terrorist police might start spying on you!

We, too, follow Jared: BSU students on forced Subway diet

By Sean C. Hayes
The Arbiter

I never intended to enter into a weight loss program, particularly not of the shady variety concocted to sell hoagies. However, round about lunchtime daily I find myself in line at one of our four or so campus food options, the Subway.

Interestingly, the lack of food

options on campus has led even the wifish likes of me to an unintentional diet.

I've never been one to be won over by the relatively unattractive personality-minus type such as Jared, a man who though ads claim, is active, is almost never seen in motion.

Jared's friends seem to come from all walks of life, from Venice Beach bodybuilders to innocuous

looking brunettes and a certain fireman — Clay Henry, who though he just purged an entire "Ally McBeal" cast member, seems terribly stern and unhappy even as his coworkers literally sing his praises.

We see these people play ball, cavort on beaches, or slide down poles, but Jared through it all seems completely stationary, leading me to suspect that there's some kind of Paula Abdul music video slimming lens effect going on.

Whether or not Jared's metamorphosis from 400-lb. loser to

wildly popular all-around stud (he recently married his college sweetheart, and I'm sure he had some explaining to do about why he's still lunching with all these brunettes), is believably transferable to reality, I don't see a similar transformation occurring with my fellow Subway-lunchers.

Day after day, students dump on cheese, oil and that flavored lard known as mayonnaise, which is poured on as though there's some kind of national surplus that these Subway "sandwich artists" are trying to get rid of.

These toppings totally negate any benefit that could come of the so-called six grams of fat per sandwich Subway diet.

However, aside from the dictatorial nature of approved dietary toppings, it turns out that the Subway diet is indeed effective.

Renee Curran, a nutritionist at the University of Michigan, says that any time fewer calories are consumed than are worked off, weight loss does occur. Therefore, it doesn't matter what Jared is eating, as long as he can manage to work off the amount

of calories he consumes.

That's the kicker. Students leave Subway and take the elevator in the Education Building to their class on the second floor.

Obesity has now become an equal cause of preventable death as smoking. Interesting, you can buy a Milky Way bar at a vending machine, but not a pack of cigarettes.

So, until our food options on campus increase, we students can just keep on walking and eating our healthy Subway sandwiches, until one day maybe we too can dine with Jared.

Street Wise

By Daniel Wolf

How do you plan on improving your study skills for this semester?



Casey Cogen — freshmen

"First of all, I plan to do my work, and turn it in on time so I do well in my classes. And I plan to be real social and make friends."

"I didn't go to the bar Thursday night, just so that I could study when everybody else went out."



Brook Green — junior

"Definitely party less."



Seth Brounds — sophomore

Compulsive liars fall victim to their own deceptions

I don't believe I've ever mentioned in my previous articles any details about my life.

For starters, actor Matt Damon and I are best friends and my father is the director of the CIA. I believe I also failed to mention that I am fluent in seven languages including Farsi, Polish, Cantonese, and Welsh.

What do each of these statements have in common? They are all total b/s to the point of laughter. Deception is that special little sin of ours that we all so much love to indulge in. Humans enjoy embellishing who they really are because it gives us a pay off of some sort. There are different kinds of lies.

We use terms such as "little white" ones or "whoppers." But I can't help but feel that deception is much more than giving false impressions to other people—it's something much deeper and psychosomatic than that. In a 1998 study titled, "Report Card on the Ethics of American Youth" conducted by the Josephson Institute as part of its

"Character Counts" campaign, 73 percent of 20, 829 students ranging from sixth to twelfth grade admitted to lying repeatedly.

The same study conducted in 2000 showed 92 percent of students admitted to lying to their parents in the past 12 months with 79 percent saying they did so two or more times and 78 percent saying they lied to a teacher. More than one in four said they would lie to get a job. The group conducting the study also tested the prevalence of stealing, drinking, cheating and propensity towards violence with similar results. Many might argue that lying doesn't hurt anybody—that it is a good thing because it can get you out of trouble and help you gain respect.

I'll admit that a little lying won't hurt but there is a huge difference between a slight embellishment and compulsively lying. It's not difficult to become a compulsive liar especially if you have a low self-image. Compulsive liars are similar to alcoholics in that what they do is fun and exciting at first. They then start to do it more and at higher levels and despite the fact that their

lives start to veritably fall apart, they still believe that they are still under control and continue to go feed their addiction.

A compulsive liar must have a good memory because if you tell someone your mother died in a horrible car crash you will have to remember that exact lie whenever you see that person. Eventually they do get caught and if this happens enough the individual hopefully will come to realize that something is indeed wrong with them, that they have internal issues that need to be addressed with the help of a professional.

They lie to fool others into thinking that they have this perfect life when in reality they are losing sense of who they really are. Lying about something you want is actually a good way to make yourself believe that it is true. Deception hurts those deceived and it is damaging to the deceiver even more so. It is a great way to make friends but it is an easier way to lose them. Politicians, husbands, lawyers and several other groups of people could benefit tremendously from just coming out with the truth and facing the music.

Fear is the only emotion in which lying seems to be rooted in—we lie to get out of sticky situations and sometimes it works but what happens when we get away with something?

We tend to do it again and again thus "compulsive" lying is an addiction.

There hasn't been any real proof that lying is physiologically damaging but it does have an effect on us. Polygraph machines (lie detectors) are used for measuring heart rate, respiration, and galvanic skin response which detect for signs of physiological stress; whether one is lying is an interpretation made by the polygraph examiner based on the data presented.

Lying is probably one of the most popular sins because it's the easiest one to do—it just requires an imagination, a mouth, and someone to tell it to. For those who do it for the rush it may be a good idea to stop now because eventually deception won't be as much fun. They'll move to stealing, cheating or drinking for an even better rush and before you know it they are serving 20 to life in prison. Everyone does it—lying has no language, it is ubiquitous despite any cultural or geographical region. We enjoy doing it because it adds a little spice to our social lives. But there is special beauty to being true to ourselves.

To be who we really are and to live by the words of John Keats, "Beauty is truth, truth beauty,—that is all ye know on Earth, and all ye need to know."

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

Bronco wrestlers dominate Portland

By Darrin Shindle
The Arbiter

The Boise State wrestling team won eight of 10 matches en route to an easy 32-7 win over the Portland State Vikings Saturday at Bronco Gym.

Boise State improved its Pac-10 Conference record to 3-1, and overall record to 5-3. After starting the season with three losses, the Broncos have now put together five straight dual wins.

The Vikings won the first match of the day, but the Broncos reeled off eight straight before losing again in the last match.

Junior Gabe Vigil, at 141 pounds, pinned the Vikings' Stuart Eggertson in 54 seconds to lead the way for the Broncos. Vigil, who is currently ranked 14th in the nation, improved his record to 17-9.

Heavyweight Boe Rushton and 125-pounder Ben Vombaur both posted major decisions in the Bronco win.

Defending Pac-10 champion, and fifth ranked Vombaur shut out the Vikings' Casey Kotter, improving his record to 15-3.

Rushton put up an 18-6 win over Portland State's Eric Mustoe and improved to 15-6 on the season. The Broncos now prepare to host the University of Wyoming at 7 p.m. Friday at Bronco Gym.

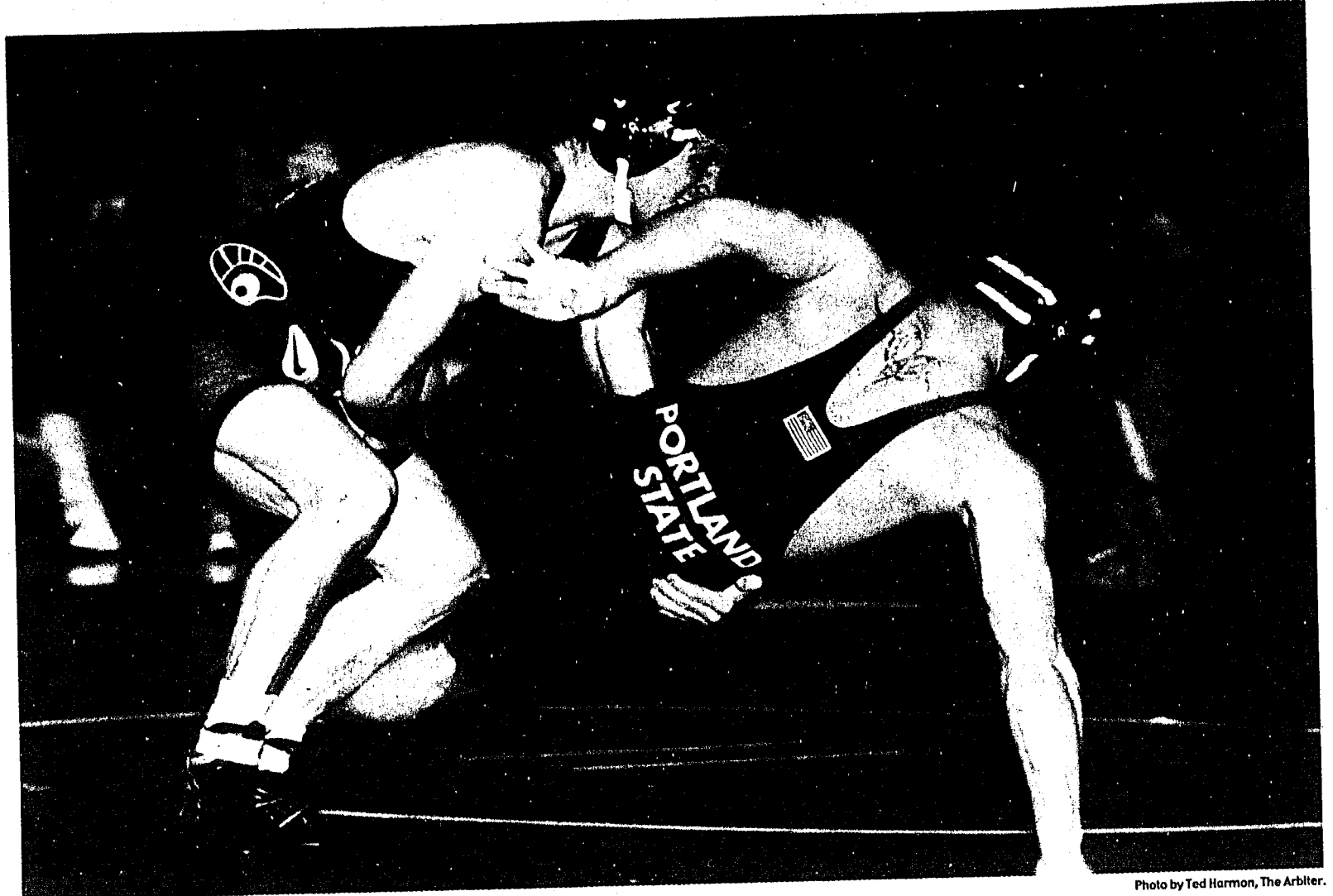


Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

Tyler Robertson goes for a single leg takedown against Ryan Thomas of Portland State

BSU men let game slip away

By Darrin Shindle
The Arbiter

Despite Abe Jackson's 27-point performance Saturday, the Boise State men's basketball team found a way to let Nevada come into the Pavilion and steal a road victory 73-64 in front of 4,810 fans.

It was a game that had 25 lead changes and six ties, but Boise State's meltdown in the last minutes of the game secured it for Nevada.

"We were up by five and we let

it slip through," said Jackson, who led the team with his 27 points.

Boise State (8-10 overall, 2-6 WAC) looked in control with 12:02 left and a five-point lead, but Nevada (11-6, 4-3) went on a 6-0 run to take the lead back. The lead changed six more times before Nevada finally took the lead for good.

Down the stretch Nevada took control of the game, but it was Boise State's lack of production that sealed the game. The Broncos didn't even attempt a single shot

in a three-minute span, and the Wolf Pack took advantage pushing their lead to nine points.

The Broncos lost despite holding Nevada's top two scorers to a combined seven points. Guards Terrance Green and Garry Thomas-Hill came into the game averaging 15.6 and 16.8 points per game respectively. Green didn't score while Thomas-Hill had just seven points.

Nevada did have four players in double figures. Freshman Kirk Snyder and sophomore Andre

Hazel both scored 17 points, while Corey Jackson added 12 points and Jerry Petty put up 10.

Bryan Defares had 11 points for Boise State and freshman Jason Ellis had seven points and a team high seven rebounds. Booker Nabors added six points and C.J. Williams and Kenney Gainous both chipped in with four.

Boise State heads back on the road on Saturday when they travel to UTEP. This starts a three-game road swing for the Broncos.

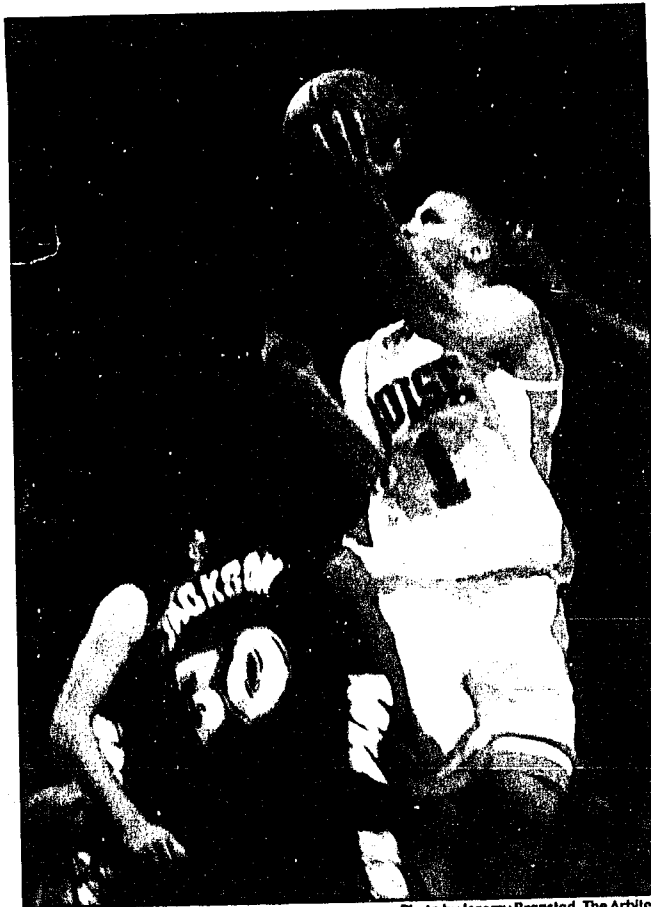


Photo by Jeremy Bronstad, The Arbiter.

The Bronco's Bryan Defares lays up a two-point shot up over Nevada during Saturday's game.

BSU struggles; drops pair of crucial conference games

By Steve Gowans
The Arbiter

The men's basketball team dug themselves into a hole last week as they looked to increase their standings in the league hosting a pair of conference games against WAC powerhouse Fresno State on Thursday and later Nevada on Saturday night.

Fresno State entered the season unanimously favored to walk away as WAC champs and had been nationally ranked in the top 25 in the country. Coached by the legendary Jerry Tarkanian, and led by senior center Melvin Ely who is also

favored to run away with league MVP, the Bulldogs entered the Pavilion a mere 6 point favorite and showed BSU fans that they were for real despite a poor shooting effort as they sealed a 72-56 victory.

"I just had the feeling the whole game that everyone was cold and heavy legged," said coach Tarkanian. "I don't know if it was the weather but we couldn't seem to heat up and hit our open shots."

One man who obviously wasn't affected by the temperature was Boise State forward Abe Jackson who finished the game with 30 points as he drained 10-of-19 shots,

including 8-of-14 from 3-point land. Jackson also received the greatest compliment a player could hope for as Coach Tarkanian called him "the greatest shooter in the league and one of the best he's seen in a very long time."

The remaining cast for the Broncos failed to show up as two starters failed to record a single point, and only five all together found their way into the scoring column. Everyone who played for Fresno registered at least one point.

Saturday told much of the same story for the Broncos as they frustratingly watched a crucial home game slip away in a match that featured 25

lead changes and 6 ties. Boise looked poised to take control after a pair of free-throws with 12 minutes left put them up by seven.

The Wolf Pack, however, silenced the Bronco offense as BSU struggled to even put shots up and never made another run as they fell 73-64. Abe Jackson finished with yet another stellar night as he poured in 27 points. Guard Bryan Defares also chipped in 11 points in the losing effort.

BSU now looks forward to a few days rest and will be set to travel to Texas to take on UTEP Saturday night.

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the

Bronco women collect first WAC win

Bronco Sports Information

FRESNO, Calif. — The Boise State women's basketball team defeated Fresno State 79-76, for the Broncos' first Western Athletic Conference win in history. Crista Peterson scored 26 points and grabbed nine rebounds. Mandy Welch added 24 points and kept the Bulldogs at bay with a three-pointer and two free throws down the stretch. Camille Woodfield dished a school-record breaking 12 assists. The previous school record was 11 set by Marj Connors in 1988.

"We played tough the entire game. We should be able to gain some confidence and build on this victory," head coach Trisha Stevens said.

The Nevada Wolf Pack defeated the Boise State Broncos in women's basketball Saturday night 64-53 in WAC action.

The Broncos seemed tired against Nevada, committing 26 turnovers, which the Pack converted into 29 points. Nevada on the other hand committed just 18 turnovers from which the Broncos picked up only nine points.

"We started off well but Nevada used its press to wear us down," Stevens said. "We looked dead tired."

The half-time score was in the Wolf Pack's favor, 27-24. Nevada was able to extend its lead in the second period.

Boise State was led by Crista Peterson who had 11 points and eight rebounds. Kate Smith led Nevada with 14 points and eight rebounds.

The Broncos welcome coming home to just one game this week - and that on Saturday against UTEP in the Pavilion.

Track teams have successful indoor season debut

Bronco Sports Information

POCATELLO, Idaho — Two school records, and two NCAA provisional qualifying marks highlighted Boise State's track and field debut for the 2002 indoor season at the annual Snake River Open on Saturday (Jan. 19).

Abbey Elsberry established a school record in the women's 20-pound weight throw with a mark of 59-7.75 to place second in the event. Her throw was also a NCAA provisional qualifying mark. Her previous best in the event was 51.8.25 set in 2000. Elberry breaks the previ-

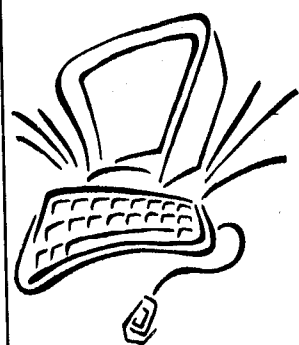
ous record of 59-5.75 set by Gloria Butler also during the 2000 indoor season.

Sadie Sweet set the other new Boise State record as she went 11-2 in the women's pole vault. She breaks Shay Neilson's previous record of 10-6 set in 1999. Overall in the event, Sweet finished 11th as Olympic Champion and World Record Stacy Dragila won with a vault of 15-0.

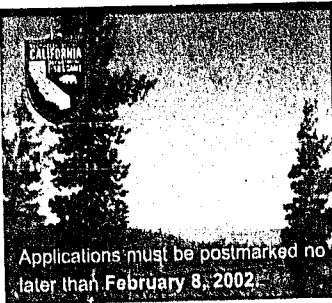
Two-time NCAA All-American Mark Hoxmeier posted the Broncos' other pro-

visional qualifying mark on Saturday with a winning throw of 61-3 in the men's shot put. Hoxmeier, who earned his All-America honors at the 2000 NCAA Outdoor National Championships in the shot put and discus, also posted the third best all-time indoor shot put mark in Boise State history. Jarred Rome holds the school record at 62-6.

Boise State had one other first place finish as KJ West won the men's 55-meter dash with a time of 6.42.



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

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Diversions

IDT heats up Special Events Center

Show features guest choreographer

By J. Patrick Kelly
 The Arbiter

Idaho Dance Theatre presented their winter performance, "Anything Goes," Friday and Saturday in Boise State's Special Events Center.

IDT incorporates the elements of dance, theatre and surrealism, and rolls them into a creative ball of energy for their innovative performances.

Marla Hansen, IDT's co-founder and Boise State dance professor, unveiled her most recent choreography, a romantic comedy, "Soiree." Performed to the lively music of Mozart, "Soiree," was chalked full of frisky playfulness and silly antics, which paired well with the mischievous Amadeus. The exaggerated 18th century-looking costumes and general feel of the piece resembled the film "Dangerous Liaisons," apart from the dancing.

Next on the program, Hansen, once again, choreographed her popular "Friends and Lovers." The resurrected piece was performed to Shakespeare sonnets, read by Boise State theatre arts professor Richard Klautsch and Carole Whiteleather. The piece was played out rhythmically to spokenword, using 12 different dance vignettes, where the performers wore stark, white costumes.

First time guest choreographer, Eloy Barragan, showcased his newest choreography, "Paisajes (landscapes)," to the music of composer Arturo Marquez. His textural construction was beautifully rendered to Marquez's emotive composition. The jewel-colored costumes added flair to the innovative piece. Barragan is a former principal dancer with Ballet Idaho.

In the end, company mainstay Carl Rowe premiered his latest choreography to an arrangement of Bach cello sonatas, performed by guest cellist Samuel Smith. Rowe's piece showed his ability to effectively intertwine human kinetics. Played out in seven parts, the appropriately named, "Connections," was like the game of Twister meets modern dance. The best part about the piece was Rowe's use of organized chaos to emphasize meaning.

The whole performance was vibrantly lit by lighting design guru Alfred Hansen.



Leif Hansen and Jennifer Freeman of Idaho Dance Theatre.

Photo by Chuck Scheer

Info:

IDT's spring performance is scheduled for one night only on April 13 in the Morrison Center. Tickets will be on sale in the near future at all Select-a-Seat locations, or can be purchased online at idahotickets.com. For more information call IDT at 331-9592.

AE Bonus

Smash Mouth is coming...
 Get the bubble gum out—Smash Mouth is coming to The Big Easy on Tuesday night. The alternative rockers from San Jose, Ca. bring with them a lively stage show and their quintessentially Cali-pop sound.

Smash Mouth is on tour promoting their latest self-titled album, featuring the hit singles, "Pacific Coast Party" and the Monkees classic, "I'm A Believer," which is on the soundtrack to one of last year's box office favorites, "Shrek."

Tickets can be purchased at all TicketWeb locations, or online at www.ticketweb.com, or by calling 1-800-965-4827. The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

Twisted ventriloquism

Comic/ventriloquist Jeff Dunham is coming to the Funny Bone this Thursday and Friday night. Dunham has appeared on numerous television shows, including "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno," "The Rosie O'Donnell Show" and "Entertainment Tonight."

Dunham's zany characters and interaction with his audience have made him one of America's top comedians. He is introducing his latest character, Super Guy, who will be joined by Peanut, the mischievous purple Wuzzle, Walter, the grumpy curmudgeon and Jose Jalapeno on a Stick.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the Funny Bone at 331-2663.

Boise Philharmonic

The Boise Philharmonic is trying something new for their January concert performance: They're responding to audience requests.

"Remember the old TV show from the '60s, 'You Asked For It?'" Well, here comes the Philharmonic's updated version of this classic idea," said Conductor and Artistic Director James Ogle.

They are performing seven distinct musical pieces found on nearly everyone's "Top 25" list. There are two shows: Friday at 8:00 p.m. in Nampa's Swayne Auditorium and Saturday at 8:15 p.m. in The Morrison Center. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Boise Philharmonic at 344-7849 or at the door the night of the show.

Project Lithium

The Northwestern Liberal Arts Association is presenting "Project Lithium" this Friday and Saturday night at the Rose Room (714 Idaho St.) in downtown Boise.

"Project Lithium" is a multi-media performance concept, featuring a whole lot of visual art, spokenword, film, live music and DJ's. Some of the local bands playing are Clock, Central Boise Library, Size of Alaska, Drawing Flies and G-America. Tickets are \$7 per night or \$9 for a two-night pass—available at all Moxie Java locations.

Starsailor rocks the boat

Band is totally Brit

By Matthew C. Borushko
 Michigan Daily (U. Michigan)

Starsailor are four chaps from Chorley, England, who've had two hit singles across the pond and who've toured to critical acclaim in London and Australia. These days, it's usually the Strokes to whom the title of Saviors of Rock and Roll is handed. But now many in this business want to give Starsailor a shot at the Strokes' crown. In Starsailor's case, the title should be amended to Saviors of Indie Rock in the Vein of Jeff Buckley.

These boys are unabashedly indebted to Buckley, even taking their name from a Buckley EP. Starsailor have prepared for the American release of the eleven-song Love is Here by making late-night stops on Letterman and Kilborn just last week to perform the unremarkable title track.

Frontman and guitarist James Walsh get most of the press. Walsh, the musical force behind the band, milks his untucked good looks into a persona best described as earnest, serious and charming. His voice gets the hype; it's acrobatic, endearing and reaches towards Thom Yorke before

stopping short somewhere between a sedated Robert Plant and a depressed Neil Young.

Not to be underestimated are keyboardist Barry Westhead, bassist James Stelfox and drummer Ben Byrne. The collective effort is a batch of melancholic modern rock - darker than successful and similarly instrumented Coldplay, but a blend of experimentation and classicism that yields promise.

A rock song can succeed without superior lyrics, but the reflective mood Starsailor seem to be aiming at probably requires something more than Walsh offers on Love is Here. Think of his two most apparent influences: Buckley and Young. At the very least, Walsh leaves me scratching my head as to whether he is mocking profound, or simply picking words that sound good in falsetto: "Don't you know you've got your daddy's eyes / Daddy was an alcoholic." What?

The musicianship on Love is Here is tight; the bass drives and the keys, whether piano or Hammond or synth, are pillowy and exquisite. Check out the lead keys on "Poor



Starsailor from left to right: James Walsh, Ben Byrne, and Barry Westhead.

Photo by Christophe Rihet

Misguided Fool," one of the album's better songs. The melodrama builds in the solid "Alcoholic," but lifts briefly for "Lullaby," Starsailor's best chance at a hit over here: a number seemingly lifted directly

from the 70s.

The melodies are vast and sweeping throughout Love is Here. The best songs — "Talk Her Down," "Good Souls," and "Coming Down" — emerge when Starsailor break what seems

to be a programmatic and confining song structure. Let's hope Walsh's lyrics mature and the quartet looks toward greater innovation for what will be an eagerly anticipated follow-up.

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MTV airs 'Real World 11'

By Dave Heaton
The Hoya (Georgetown U.)

Nothing can sell a show like a hot tub and a lesbian nudist — it's one great marketing campaign. To even the most casual MTV viewer, this year's real world cast has been painted as one of the horniest ever, with a barrage of ads featuring hookups of every sort.

Well, we're off — it has officially begun. A new group of seven has hit the airwaves, this time taking residence in the windy city of Chicago. The irony, of course, is that the cast has become so predictable that MTV's world is anything but real. It more resembles "The Truman Show" with its cookie-cutter cast than any random group of strangers. Perhaps the least predictable parts of this year's cast are that the black guy's name isn't David and the number of gay people has doubled.

Speaking of the cast, it's like they can't hire fat ugly people. Even this year's largest girl, Aneesa, (who, by the way, is not even fat) fits into the same typecast role as Sharon from London and Heather from New York one. It's like if there's going to be a non-stick-figured person, it has to be a black woman.

Aneesa, however, is not the only garden-variety Real World cast member. Let's talk about Theo, the resident black male. I'm not one to judge, but he seems to have the same chip on his shoulder, as did David from New Orleans. It's as if he's got something to prove. His anti-gay confrontation with Aneesa in the show's opening minutes and his subsequent defense of his position is fairly unbelievable. If gay people really bother him that much, why did he agree to do the show? Has he never seen a single episode before?

Four seasons ago, one of Georgetown's own appeared in Real World Seattle. Irene, the curly-haired brunette that got slapped, has even subsequently spoken on campus about her role on the Real World (BYU Julie from New Orleans will do the same next Wednesday).

But you won't find any curly-haired brunettes in this year's cast. Rather, you'll find three hot skinny blondes, one of whom is a self-described alcoholic. Don't get me wrong — I fully appreciate hot, skinny blonde girls. I only mean to say that the ratio of hot skinny blonde girls to non-hot skinny blond girls in Real World Chicago's cast is a little out of sync with

reality. It's just that there are so many hot skinny blonde girls on the cast, I can't even remember which one did or said what.

The remaining cast members are white males, one of whom — Chris — is gay and a recovering alcoholic. The other, Kyle, will likely be the easiest to hate.

At one point during the show, all seven cast members hop in the Jacuzzi to share what's so unique about themselves. As it turns out, Kyle is the "smart" one, having graduated from Princeton. After eleven seasons, it's become obvious that there's at least one person from a U.S. News & World Report top 25 school every year; that's the role he's supposed to fill.

Yet, he describes himself as the "typical American guy." Turns out, he played football, and apparently was pretty good at it. Good enough to play for a second rate program, at any rate. He later gave up football to "find himself" through theater.

Does anybody remember Oz from American Pie? Nice try, but that move's been tried before. After one episode, Kyle already has a crush on one of the hot skinny blonde girls, though I couldn't tell you which one. Then again, maybe it was all three.

The sauciest roommate dynamic exists between Theo and Aneesa. Despite their early rockiness, the two were practically making babies on the dance floor at the club.

Perhaps that Theo led to believe he had a chance with Aneesa, since earlier she declared that maybe one day some guy could make her straight. After returning from the club, Theo is taking a shower in the dual-shower-head set-up, and Aneesa decides it's time for her shower as well. Thinking this is his chance; Theo seizes the opportunity and tries to get lucky.

"This is why I don't like men," she declares.

The episode ends with Theo writing her a love note and the two sleeping in the same bed — clothes nowhere to be found. Nothing happens.

I'll be honest: I'm rooting for Theo. I have a feeling that Aneesa has given up men for good, based on the fact that she and Chris share the feature in this month's Out Magazine. But she left that glimmer of hope, that window of opportunity for him. Four months is a long time.

"Nothing can sell a show like a hot tub and a lesbian nudist — it's one great marketing campaign."



Altman misses target with 'Gosford Park'

By Mark Hiltz
The Arbiter

It is 1932, and British aristocrat Sir William McCordle has invited his affluent friends and relatives, both male and female, to a shooting party (for pheasant) at his mansion. A servant accompanies each of them, and the mansion itself is also well staffed. Now the story divides into two-parts: the people at the top of the stairs—the rich, and the people at the bottom of the stairs—the servants. Then, after some obvious but nifty whodunit setup, there is a murder.

One of the guests at the mansion is Morris Weissman (Bob Balaban), a Hollywood producer who makes Charlie Chan movies that happen, on the surface, to mirror the events of "Gosford Park." In a twisted way, Robert Altman is paying homage to those films and to the mystery/thriller genre in general (Jeremy Northam plays Ivor Novello, another guest who also happens to be the star of Hitchcock's "The Lodger"). On top of the homage, Altman attempts to inject a new kind of emotional weight into the genre. I say "attempts" because he operates the syringe, but the solution is so diluted it can't take full effect.

To the film's credit, there are a number of touching moments, and the line between servant and master is explored thoroughly as it is crossed. Altman also finds some interesting twists on the formula. The focus is not on the murder but on the hidden lives of the servants and their masters, the usually intimidating, cunning detective character is a bumbling idiot who finds nothing, and at the end, the murderer is still undiscovered—only the audience and protagonist Mary (Kelly Macdonald) know the truth.

These strengths make the movie fun, but it falls short because its true heart is poorly developed. We receive it three-quarters of the way through, and only then can we relax from the fruitless work of keeping all the names and back stories straight in an attempt to follow the plot and settle into experiencing the movie. But it's almost too late because the essence is already irretrievably buried under details that command our attention but turn out to be insignificant. Too bad, because in hindsight, the underlying story of love and loss and revenge is potentially beautiful and moving. I walked away wishing Altman had simply told that story instead of inserting it into a thoughtful but convoluted twist on the ensemble murder mystery.

Playing at The Flicks.



The Dismemberment Plan: 'Change'

By Mark Hiltz
The Arbiter

They are giants on the East Coast. People flock from miles around to see their shows. Their music is hurricane-esque: dangerous and unpredictable throughout, yet calm at the eye. They are The Dismemberment Plan.

The name suggests a methodical, purposeful dissection. With their previous records, "!" and "The Dismemberment Plan Is Terrified" especially, the suggestion would most definitely apply to the music—sporadic, thoughtfully insane, deconstructed rock and roll with a droplet of pop. Their songs themselves are always unpredictable and they extend that tradition through their albums. On their last record, "Emergency and I," the musical schizophrenia stands behind the songs instead of in front of it, and "Change," their latest offering, is their most accessible record yet.

The Plan's sound on this album is built, as hundreds of bands' are, with various combinations of vocals, guitar, keyboard, bass and drums. But they use their instruments to bizarre effect and have a talent for knowing when to play and when not to. Here, silence—the oft-neglected instrument—is as important as any of the others. Full on explosions of sound is mixed with lulling periods of simple melody using one or two instruments. It's easy to get lost in the album because the energy level and tone is so variant that it doesn't try the attention span. Each track has its own personality.

In comparison to their earliest efforts, "Change" is a patient record. The songs take their time and each theme is thoroughly mined. One word I've heard associated with early Plan is "frustrating." Too much in too little time. This album is exactly the opposite. It is intricate, but requires little attention to enjoy.

That is the ultimate beauty of the album. It's musically complex, but deceptively so. For the musician or anyone interested in the building blocks and details of a song, a close listening reveals tense two-guitar play, peculiar polyrhythms and twisted drum tracks. But you can still sing along. The Plan seems to have done the impossible and created an album that can play any number of roles in your collection. It's the party record. It's the album you confide in when your life takes a turn for the worse. It's the CD you keep in constant rotation for weeks, discovering new things on each listen.

The Dismemberment Plan is playing at the NeuroLux on Thursday, Feb. 21.

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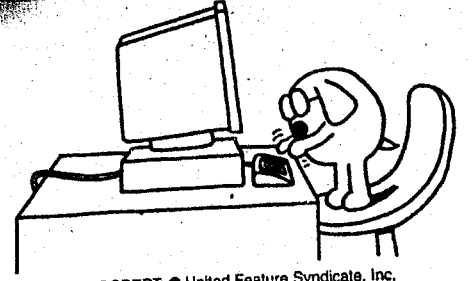


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BY SCOTT ADAMS

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 - maintain at least 8 credit hrs. throughout term
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Application Deadline February 15th by 5 p.m

Turn in all documents to: Bob Evancho, BSU News Service, E-724 (Education Bldg., 7th floor), 1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725



Weekly Horoscope

January 14-20, 2002 By Lasha Senluk

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (Jan. 24). You're confident, imaginative, spiritually advanced, creative and highly attractive. No wonder others are drawn to you. You may have been shy or preoccupied in the past. But this year, let yourself fall freely into love.

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 9 - All of a sudden you're the most popular kid in town. The whole gang recognizes your unique talents. They're all bugging you to help them with their homework. It's as if they never before realized how smart you are. It's about time!

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 5 - The money should start pouring in, but you may be too pooped to enjoy it. If you've truly won at this game, you've established a cash flow that comes in automatically. If you haven't won yet, keep at it.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - You'll emerge as the lucky winner. But it's not luck that's behind this success. It's your own perseverance. You may have had to do some jobs over two or three times to get them right. If you're not quite there yet, hurry!

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 5 - You can't afford to be worried now. Turn that anxiety into action. Do the research, make those phone calls, surf the Web - whatever it takes. Launch an investigation, learn what to do, and watch those old fears turn into new confidence.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is an 8 - All of a sudden the sun is shining brightly - in your heart, anyway. Most things will chug right along. There may be a few mechanical glitches, but that can't be helped. Mercury is still retrograde. Blame it on that.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 5 - Your boss or teacher seems to think you have supernatural powers. Every time he or she asks you to do something, you cheerfully say you will. You feel like you have no choice, but you do. You won't get fired or flunked if you tell the truth.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct 22) - Today is a 9 - You're off and running again. Everything's possible, and almost within reach. You're not alone, either. You have lots of great people giving you encouragement. Follow through on a dream you've had for ages. The time is right!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 5 - You may be worn out, but that's OK. It shouldn't take much energy to take the next step. The funding you've been waiting for is within reach. If the interest rate is too high, you can refinance later.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - New insights are popping into your head, and you're gaining new respect for a tough coach. You've kept the substantive part of your theories and discarded the chaff. Now, you're getting to the part where you can play.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - All that work you put off yesterday is waiting for you today. By now, you might almost be in the mood to do it. Once you get your routine down, you'll go through it quickly.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 10 - You're brilliant, compelling and very attractive. Your sweetheart will find you irresistible, and vice-versa. If you don't have a sweetheart yet, hang out with a likely prospect.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - You may have some good ideas about fixing up your home. Maybe that's what you've been thinking about for the past few days. Your creative genius has been at work. Now, start moving things around.

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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Like the sea
 - Oven setting
 - Yearn
 - In flames
 - Sign
 - Yummy
 - One's son's son's son
 - Dish using stock
 - Itemize
 - Readily available
 - rehearsal
 - Phonograph record
 - Zoo attraction
 - Lights out
 - Permit
 - Hive worker
 - Fort __, NJ
 - Disparaging remark
 - Combat between knights
 - Chap
 - Bond
 - May or June
 - Monterrey mister
 - Surround
 - Om, for one
 - Take on
 - Puget or Pamlico
 - Fight site
 - Thaw
 - Place one's stake
 - Tailor's requirement
 - Comfort
 - Gripping tool
 - In the company of
 - Tiny feathered friend
 - I second that!
 - Thick

- DOWN**
- Droops
 - Frizzy do
 - In __ of
 - Hatch
 - Still
 - Actor Karloff
 - Gather
 - English county
 - Finish
 - Horried

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01/18/02

Solutions

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- Lime tree
- Mixed breed
- Feel
- Ancient
- Once more
- Backdoor
- Cause bodily harm
- Sign gas
- Soaks up rays
- Rim
- Marie Saint
- Owned