

3-14-2002

Arbiter, March 14

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

Boise State University

www.arbiteronline.com

March 14, 2002

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Ruch formally asked to resign

By Andy Benson
The Arbiter

Boise State President Charles Ruch officially received a resolution from the ASBSU Senate last week calling for his resignation after a petition critical of Ruch collected 1,129 student signatures. The resolution accused Ruch of showing a history of financial irrespon-

sibility, a lack of leadership and a disregard for the students of Boise State.

ASBSU president Nate Peterson started the petition last January calling for Ruch to step down as university president.

Peterson cited Ruch's response to the budget crisis, the \$85,000 logo and PeopleSoft software cost overruns as examples of an administration out of

touch with students.

The resolution stated that upon the receipt of 1,000 signatures on the ASBSU sponsored petition, Ruch would be asked to resign.

The petition reached the 1,000-signature mark on Feb. 5, but the resolution wasn't sent to the President's office until March 4.

Dr. Ruch refused to comment on the

resolution. His office referred the Arbiter to previous comments Ruch has made about the petition.

Last January, Ruch said he was the right person for the job and would not resign.

"I'm disappointed they felt I'm the single and sole reason for their frustration," Ruch said when the petition drive was announced. "I am not going to

resign."

Brooke Baldwin, ASBSU Senate pro tem, said she was disappointed with Ruch's refusal to acknowledge the Senate's resolution.

"I think he is blatantly ignoring ASBSU," Baldwin said. "He has to prove to me why he doesn't need to change or how he has changed."

Graduates face tough economy, competition

By Mary Margaret Rice
The Arbiter

Soon-to-be college graduates must dig their heels in and stand firm as they prepare to enter into today's economic turmoil.

According to the United States Department of Labor, total employment is expected to increase by 14 percent from 141 million in 1998 to 161 million in 2008.

However, the 20 million jobs to be added by 2008 will not be evenly distributed in the major industrial and occupational groups.

The constant structural changes in the U.S. economy will be caused by consumer demand changes, technology, and a faltering economy aggravated by Sept. 11.

Occupations topping the list as expected to grow most between 1998 and 2008 are: registered nurses, computer systems analysts, counselors, college and university faculty, and physicians.

The projected fastest growing occupations between 1998 and 2008 are: computer support specialists, computer engineers, speech/language pathologists and audiologists, biological scientists and veterinarians.

The U.S. Department of Labor's National Data Book says the largest and fastest growing occupation with the highest pay is computer systems analyst, with a projected 1.19 million job openings.

Job growth is expected reach an all-time-high of 4.6 million retail sales jobs and 3.9 million general manager/top executive positions.

Farmers and sewing machine operators will have the hardest time finding jobs in the coming years.

Service jobs will have the most job openings, mostly because of their inherent replacement needs.

Two years ago the Bureau of Labor Statistics analysis indicated future good news.

They predicted 1998-2008 degreed job openings would almost equal the number of college graduates entering the labor force.

Dick Rapp, Career Center director said, "Most graduates will find jobs, it will just take a little longer now to find them."

Rapp says the job market is very competitive in today's economy, and estimates two to five months of

hunting before landing a job.

The Occupational Outlook Quarterly optimistically reports more education gives individuals an opportunity for higher earnings.

It says employers think educated employees are more organized and learn more easily.

At the same time, graduates should consider moving to where the money is.

"As the job market tightens more graduates will look at relocation even though previous statistics show 85 percent have taken jobs in the valley," Rapp said.

A better job market might be found in a state with a higher total personal income.

Idaho does not have a high total personal income, standing at \$31 billion with a .4 percent distribution. California has the nation's highest income at \$1.09 trillion with a 13.1 distribution rate.

Students might think twice before moving to Wyoming; at \$13.4 billion and a .2 distribution, it has the lowest total income of all the states.

According to Time magazine, students graduating see JOBS page 3

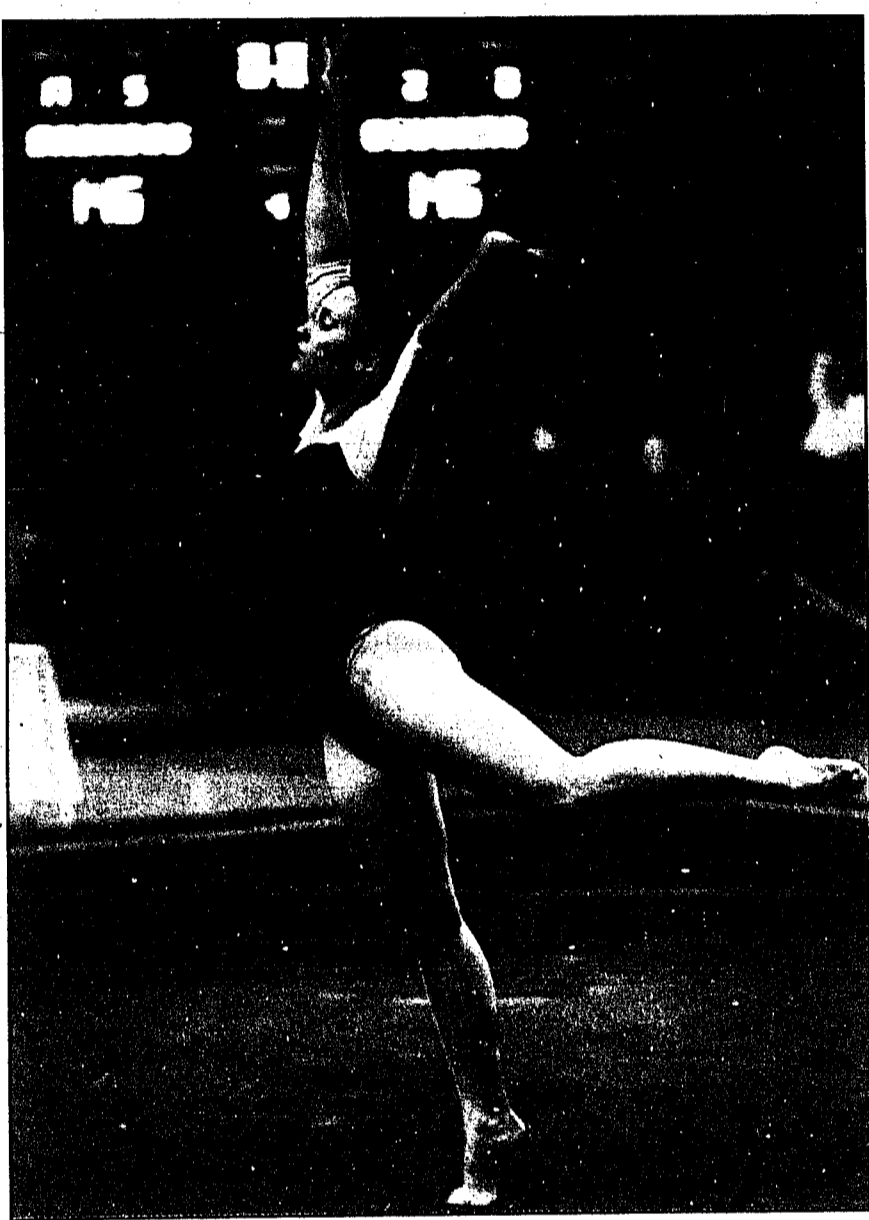


Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

Heather Ruiz shines during her floor routine on Monday. For more coverage of the meet turn to page 6.

Chi Alpha hosts God vs. science debate

National scholars to debate creationism vs. science

By Julie Underwood
Special to The Arbiter

Have you ever considered what the universe has to say about the existence of God?

Dr. Hugh Ross, astrophysicist, and Michael Shermer, professional skeptic, have, and will be sharing their conclusions in a debate entitled, "The Universe Speaks," sponsored by Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m. in the SUB Jordan Ballroom.

Nino Guarisco, Chi Alpha director, said the debate will focus on answering the question, "What can a rational person conclude about creation by scientifically looking at the cosmos?"

Ross, founder and president of "Reasons to Believe" and nationally known author and lecturer, will argue for creationism by asserting new scientific discoveries which he said, prove, "God's revelation of Himself in scripture and nature

do not, will not, and cannot contradict."

According to information on his web site, Ross' mission is to show how science and faith are allies, not enemies.

Ross said he started at religious "ground zero" and arrived at his current beliefs through science.

Shermer, founder of the Skeptic Society and "Skeptic Magazine" will confront creationism head-on.

"Creationists don't actually do science. What they do is rummage through scientific journals and books and try to find holes in theories or find what looks like corroborative evidence for creation," Shermer said.

Shermer is the author of, "Why People Believe Weird Things," and has been featured on Larry King Live and Oprah.

Shermer said, "The key to skepticism is to continually and vigorously apply the methods of science to navigate the teacher-

ous straits between 'know-nothing' skepticism and 'anything goes' credulity."

Guarisco said Chi Alpha has felt an event like this would greatly benefit the BSU community.

"Many students feel that belief in God is unscientific, so we felt it would be good to have two scholars debate the issue," he said.

After researching the best scholars to debate the issue, Chi Alpha had to overcome scheduling issues.

"It's not easy to get on the calendars of scholars like these," Guarisco said. "We had the idea two or two-and-a-half years ago, but we couldn't get the scheduling worked out until now."

He said the debate is expected to be lively but respectable.

The experience of the participants should lead to a great exchange of ideas, he said.

"We are hoping for a lot of participation from students and professors, especially during the question and answer segment which will follow the debate."

Program helps Japanese students fine-tune English

By Ted Harmon
The Arbiter

The 22 Japanese students visiting BSU from Tokyo will complete their studies in Boise next week after finishing an intensive program designed to sharpen their spoken English.

The Asia University Global Studies Program (AUGP) transplants students from Asia University in Tokyo to Boise State for an intense seven weeks of English conversation and listening comprehension study.

Students also spend time studying historical and contemporary aspects of American culture.

The Japanese education system mandates a minimum of six years of English classes to graduate high school, but those classes focus mainly on grammar and writing, not on conversation skills.

Many English classes in Japan meet just once a week, and are taught by teachers who have often never worked with native English speakers, said Eric White, coordinator of intensive English programs on campus.

"The pattern we tend to see with Japanese students is that their analytical skills are very strong you give them a multiple choice test and they can knock your socks off," White said.

However, the very same students have a difficult time verbalizing the language, White said, because the opportunity doesn't present itself in Japanese classrooms.

While at BSU, the students attend 14 hours of classes focusing on spoken English.

The students split into two groups and alternate between classes taught by Seana Sperling and Jennifer Wylie.

"We try to give them a taste of what people actually sound like," Sperling said.

One of Sperling's recent classes demonstrated the difference between the technical pronunciation of numbers and how Americans actually say them.

Americans don't enunciate clearly when they say numbers quickly, she said, "twenty" becomes "twenny."

The lesson focused on large numbers and decimals, and gave students an opportunity to practice saying the numbers, as well as hearing them.

The students also go on about four hours of field trips per week, which highlight different aspects of American culture.

The trips range from spending time in an American elementary school to traveling to Celebration Park to learn about Native American culture and history.

Their study of Native Americans continued during a recent trip to the Idaho Historical



Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

Students from Asian University practice listening comprehension of large numbers.

Museum in Boise.

Students took notes on various exhibits for class assignments, and Sperling and Wylie were often recruited to pose for pictures with the students.

Exhibits involving firearms consistently drew a crowd of students armed with digital cameras.

The AUGP also provides for two international program advisers. The advisers are students at BSU who work about 20 hours per week with the Japanese students.

Kirk Gammil, an Environmental Science major on exchange from Humboldt State University in California, is one of the advisers this year.

He said the advisers try to make sure the students have a good time in Boise and do more than just attend class. Snowboarding and skiing at Bogus Basin, and shopping trips have been big hits with students.

"The biggest thing for the girls is shopping," Gammil said. "They're marathon shoppers."

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What's Inside

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News

News Bucket

Boise State budget reduction plan approved

Boise State will implement several cost-saving measures, increase student fees and reduce budgets to accommodate an estimated \$9.34 million shortfall in the fiscal year that begins July 1.

The plan drafted by the university's Executive Budget Committee was approved by President Charles Ruch on March 12. The State Board of Education must allocate the higher education budget and vote on student fee proposals in April before the plan is finalized.

The plan was drafted in response to the state-mandated 10.1 percent reduction in the university's general account budget. One of the key components is a proposed 12 percent fee increase, which will result in approximately \$4.34 million in additional revenue. If approved, Boise State's current \$1,334 per semester fee would increase approximately \$160.

The remaining \$5 million shortfall will be made up through budget reductions and savings measures. Boise State will reduce its work force by 41 positions—22 faculty and 19 staff. Of those, 10 will be laid off. The other 31 positions are currently vacant or will be vacant due to retirements.

The university also has instituted several savings programs, including moving to a 4-day week for summer school, closing buildings for a week during the Christmas break, con-

solidating building use and reducing energy costs by heating or cooling buildings fewer hours.

"We made every effort to preserve the university's academic programs and keep personnel layoffs to a minimum," said President Charles Ruch.

"While this budget means a reduction in the quantity of our services, it by no means diminishes the quality of what we provide," he said.

National privacy expert to speak at Boise State lecture series

Charlotte A. Twight, a national expert on privacy issues and the economics of politics, will be the featured speaker at the Len B. and Grace Jordan Endowment for Economic Studies Lecture Series at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 19, in the Boise State University Student Union Jordan Ballroom.

The Len B. and Grace Jordan Endowment for Economic Studies was established to encourage the study of public policy issues and to support scholarships for economics.

"Senator Len B. Jordan dominated the Idaho political scene for many years. Each year the Len B. and Grace Jordan Endowment for Economic Studies allows us to honor senator Jordan and his wife, Grace, with a program that acknowledges and celebrates their place in Idaho history," said Don Holley, chairman of the department

of Economics at Boise State.

The Lecture Series is free and open to the public. Free parking is available in the visitor lot behind the Student Union Building. For more information call 426-3351.

Charlotte Twight is a professor of economics at Boise State. She received her Ph.D. and J.D. degrees from the University of Washington in Seattle. Her research has focused on the economics of public choice and its application to the growth of government in America. She has published articles in numerous scholarly journals, testified before Congress and is nationally recognized in her field.

Dr. Twight will discuss her new book, *Dependent on D.C.*, and her assessment of how dependence on the federal government has become a central characteristic of modern American politics. In her presentation, she will explain how America changed from a nation where the federal government played a relatively limited role in the day-to-day affairs of ordinary Americans to one in which there is almost no activity that the government cannot, at its discretion, regulate, manipulate or prohibit.

Dr. Twight will describe a universal process by which, with bipartisan support, the Congress, the Supreme Court and the president have expanded the role of the central government without resort to formal amendment of the Constitution—frequently engineering policy changes

initially against the will of the American public.

Her presentation will show how the deliberate and recurrent use of the strategies she has documented, facilitated the creation and expansion of such federal programs as income tax withholding, Social Security, Medicare and systematic surveillance of ordinary citizens.

Boise State to host engineering job fair March 19 in student union

The sixth annual Idaho Engineering Job Fair will be held from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. March 19 in the Jordan Ballroom of the Boise State University Student Union.

Students from Boise State, Idaho State University and the University of Idaho will participate.

Employers will be seeking students for full-time and internship positions in engineering, construction management, computer science, computer information systems, information technology, geophysics and other technical fields. The event is free and open to the public.

Recruiters from approximately 30 companies and agencies will conduct interviews during the fair.

For more information call Leandra Abarusa in Boise State's College of Engineering at 426-4432 or visit the fair's Web site at coen.boisestate.edu/internship/jobfair.htm.

MARCH 14

Student recital, Jessica Dean, clarinet, Morrison Center Recital Hall. 7:30 p.m. Presented by Boise State music department. Free. Call 426-3980.

MARCH 14-16

First Nations Conference, Student Union. Presented by Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board.

Free to Boise State students, \$25 general if registered by Mar. 1, \$30 after Mar. 1. Free to Boise State students, discounts for faculty and staff. Keynote addresses are free. Call 426-1223.

MARCH 15

"Mahalia: A Gospel Musical," Morrison Center Main Hall. 8 p.m. Presented by Boise State Women's Center. Tickets: \$8-\$19 at Select-a-Seat, 426-1110, 426-1494 or www.idahotickets.com

Documentary film "Long Nights Journey into Day: South Africa's Search for Truth and Reconciliation," First Presbyterian Church, 950 West State. 7 p.m. Free. Sponsored by The Interfaith Alliance, Idaho Human Rights Education Center and Ada County Human Rights Task Force.

MARCH 15-16

"Un Masqued!," Special Events center. 8 p.m. March 15, 2 and 7 p.m. March 16. Presented by Boise State Student Programs Board. Tickets: \$3.50-\$6 at Select-a-Seat, 426-1494 or www.idahotickets.com Call 426-1223.

MARCH 15-17

Bronco wrestling, NCAA

championships, Albany, N.Y. TENTATIVE.

MARCH 15-21

Alcohol Awareness Week, Student Union, various times. Presented by several Boise State department, Student Union and Activities and Student Housing. Free. Call 426-1223.

MARCH 16

Documentary film "Long Nights Journey into Day: South Africa's Search for Truth and Reconciliation," Albertson College of Idaho Langroise Auditorium. 1 p.m. Free. Sponsored by The Interfaith Alliance, Idaho Human Rights Education Center and Ada County Human Rights Task Force.

MARCH 16-17

Pow Wow, Student Union Jordan Ballroom. Noon-midnight March 16, noon-6 p.m. March 17.

All day event. Presented by Boise State Intertribal Native Council. Call 426-4259.

Bronco gymnastics at Cal with San Jose.

Bronco Buck-Off climbing competition, Climbing Gym. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Presented by Boise State Outdoor Center. Call 426-1946.

MARCH 17

Faculty Artist Series: Faculty Brass Quintet, Morrison Center Main Hall. Presented by Boise State music department. Tickets: \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and free to students and Boise State faculty and staff. Call 426-3980.



Harry Connick, Jr. & His Big Band

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Friday Mar. 29th

DROWNING POOL

COAL CHAMBER

April 3rd

SUPER DIAMOND

April 6th

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA

April 8th

LUCINDA WILLIAMS

ANNE McCUE

April 9th

GREAT BIG SEA

April 23rd

Tutors restructure and refocus

By Amy Wegner
The Arbiter

The university's budget crunch has sent many programs scrambling to come up with ways to save money and prove their place on campus.

Boise State tutoring services are no exception.

So far, none of the tutoring services will be cut, however changes have already taken place, and many tutoring services have been restructured for efficiency during the current school year.

Lois Crans, Tutorial Services coordinator, said, "At this point, the Tutorial Program has not been compromised due to budget reductions. Instead it has been reorganized to meet the needs of more students and to be more cost

effective."

The tutoring center implemented drop-in tutoring this spring instead of private intensified tutoring.

"We experimented with it a lot in the fall, and it worked really well, especially in the sciences," Crans said.

If a student feels like they need to have focused, one-on-one tutoring, they will now have to pay the tutor for their time out of their own pocket.

The tutors charge between \$10-\$15 an hour, some even cost more.

The Writing Center is another source of student help focusing on tutoring writing and editing papers.

Rick Leahy, Writing Center director, said, "There's no change that I've heard. The Writing Center doesn't have any budget cuts coming."

Writing center help is free of charge.

The main objective of tutoring services on campus is to help students with math and science classes within the core group of classes.

If there is enough interest and attendance in another section of core classes, another tutoring section could be added, if the need balances the expense.

Crans said, "Instead of having tutors for different professors or classes, we have a vision to hire a tutor that has a basic background in a subject, for instance, Chemistry, that is able to tutor all lower levels of chemistry, without having to break it up by professor."

Joni Siu, a junior math tutor said she thinks students who don't take advantage of the drop-in tutoring center are missing out on the opportunity to do

well in math.

She said the center offers the opportunity for students to work with someone who knows what they are doing instead of muddling through on their own.

"A student can simply go to the center with a homework assignment, and anytime they run into a problem they can't answer there is a tutor right there to help," Siu said.

The majority of the tutoring budget goes to math tutoring. Last year, math tutoring was all done in one center, but it was recently split up to two different places.

The first math center is in the Math and Geosciences Building, and concentrates on upper-division math.

The other center is in the Ed

Peterson Learning Center in the Pavilion, and focuses on lower division math classes.

During the month of February, the math center in the Pavilion logged in 2700 hours of tutoring time.

Crans said she is considering cutting the hours available in subject areas in lower demand. She said attendance records indicate demand to the centers. Attendance for science tutoring, especially chemistry and physics is high.

"My goal and vision is to make sure that we're not wasting university money. And the number one demand for tutoring right now is math," Crans said.

ASIAN UNIVERSITY from page 1



Kotaro Shimosato takes notes on the Native American "Pipe and Smoking" exhibit for a class assignment.

Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

JOBS from page 1

from college last year were faced with the worst American economy in ten years.

Because of this, active student recruitment by employers on campuses was decreased by half.

About 50 percent of firms withdrew their offers while the remaining 50 percent continued fervent attempts to recruit students through signing bonuses.

Because 2001's increased corporate productivity allowed businesses to raise or keep a consistent output with fewer employees, Business Week journal predicted companies would continue laying off employees well into this year even if the economy had recovered by now.

A 6.5 percent unemployment rate looms in our future; many economists think it will rise to this height by June.

However, The New York Times said some forecasters predicted a rebound with increased employment by this month.

According to the National Data Book, employment status ratios steadily increased from 57.4 in the 1970's to 64.5 in 2000.

At the same time, unemployment ratios declined from 4.9 percent in the

1980's to 4.0 percent in 2000.

Last June, the pool of available workers was at a record low of 9.8 million, however morale was still high, said Business Week's James Cooper.

"On the surface, higher wages would seem an inflation worry to the Fed. But they aren't troubling us as long as workers produce enough goods or services to cover the increases in their paychecks," Cooper said.

13 months ago, the unemployment rate was 3.9 percent.

Following the September terrorist attacks, 415,000 Americans lost their jobs in October.

This amount was double the original projected amount given by analysts.

The high fluctuation of the unemployment rate from 4.9 percent to 5.4 percent was a clear indication of full-blown recession.

One-fourth of lost jobs was a direct result of terrorist attacks, said Thomas Nardone, Bureau of Labor Statistics chief.

Attacks lowered morale and hope for quick recovery after a mild recession; because of this, the mild recession escalated into a more serious one.

However, between the months of March and

November 2001, 900,000 jobs disappeared.

Because of this, March 2001 is considered by some analysts to be the official beginning of the recession.

Throughout the months of May, June, and July, jobs disappeared at an average rate of 117,000 per month.

June was a month of great economic change. The weak economy caused the dynamic service sector, a main source for jobs in the 1990's, to suffer.

190,000 census jobs were lost in the crunch.

The U.S. Labor Department reports employers cut 113,000 manufacturing jobs, the federal government cut 6,000 jobs, though local and state governments added 30,000 jobs, mostly in education.

Retailers also added 18,000 employees.

The Labor Department also said the nation's unemployment rate jumped up to 5.7 percent during the month of November.

More than 300,000 jobs were dropped in Dec. 2001.

In October, an index of nationwide help-wanted advertising fell to its lowest point since 1982.

So far this year, the economy suffers from a 5.4 percent unemployment rate.

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APPLICATIONS DUE!!

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

ASBSU Hall of Fame, Student Organization & Student Organization Advisor Awards

Pick up applications for nominating outstanding graduating students, student organizations, or student organization advisors. Organizations are responsible for nominating themselves. You can pick up applications at the Student Activities Office, 1st floor Student Union. Applications must be turned in no later than April 5, 2002! Questions? Call 426-1223 or drop by the Student Activities Office.

FOR MORE INFO CALL 426-1223

Wanted

Intramural Officials

Reward offered for individuals who capture Softball Umpires and Soccer Officials.

Softball Umpires should be turned in on Wednesday, March 20 @ 6:00pm in the SUB-Alexander Room.

Turn in Soccer Officials on Wednesday, March 20 @ 6:00pm in the SUB-Alexander Room.

For More Information call Jason @ 426-2447

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Softball

- Men's, Women's & Co-Rec Divisions
- Capt. Meet. SUB-Alexander, Mar. 20 @ 4:30
- \$20.00

Soccer

- Men's, Women's & Co-Rec Divisions
- Capt. Meet. SUB-Alexander, Mar. 20 @ 5:30
- \$20.00

Sand Volleyball

- Co-Rec Division
- Capt. Meet. SUB-Alexander, Mar. 20 @ 6:30
- \$10.00

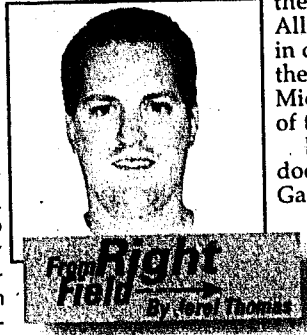
NOTE: Registration and entry fees will be collected at the captain meeting. Contact The Rec (in the Pavilion) for eligibility and details, or call 426-2447.

Opinion



Seeing the light on the evils of corporations

I have seen the light! It finally clicked in my brain why capitalism is so bad and why communism is so good. I apologize for trying to mislead everybody with my faulty ideas, poor grammar, and faulty research the last year and half. Now that I will be supporting left-wing ideas, my grammar will improve and so will my research methods. See, I'm already enjoying the benefit of being a leftist.



So what is it that changed my mind? I'll tell you. I started looking at all the evil things corporations do to everybody, and it just made me want to vomit. Let's start out with the richest corporation of all, Microsoft.

libraries across the nation free computers and software. Oh, the humanity! To think that he would try to pollute young children by giving them free computers to use to better their education. All he succeeded in doing was force these kids to buy Microsoft the rest of their lives.

But Microsoft doesn't stop there. Gates showed the world that he is synonymous with Satan when he pledged \$10 billion to help third world countries. Look at his corporate greed. Making people get healthy and learn to read just so they can buy Microsoft products in the future.

This is a blatant example of exploitation that must be stopped. I urge all of you to write Microsoft and demand that this \$10 billion in aid be stopped immediately.

What is even worse is how Microsoft abuses its employees. The average yearly salary of a Microsoft employee (counting yearly salary, stock options, and all benefits) is close to \$300,000. Now, granted, much of this is because of stock options, but Enron has showed us what happens when evil corporations offer employees stock options.

Maria Cantwell is a great example to show how much harm Microsoft has done to this nation.

Cantwell is a Democrat Senator from Washington. She beat incumbent Slade Gorton to win her seat. Cantwell is a millionaire that got all of her money from Microsoft. Yep, she exercised her stock options and earned millions. Now, because Microsoft gave her stock options, the U.S. Senate is in control of Democrats. All because of evil corporations.

Another evil corporation that must be stopped is that faceless ice-cream behemoth known as Ben & Jerry's. You

wouldn't believe what these guys are up to. They had the nerve to put together the Ben & Jerry's One World, One Heart Festival (June 22, 2002 in Warren, Vermont). This is a free concert featuring bands like Blues Traveler, The Iguanas, and Sloan Wainwright. I'll bet that couple of thousand people show up for this display of debauchery, many of them causing environmental damage as they trample a grassy field and produce all that consumer waste from eating ice-cream all day. Ben & Jerry's must be stopped because of their blatant disregard to environmental quality.

Of course, the absolute worst thing that has happened is the Ben & Jerry's Foundation. Did you know that this Foundation, started by CEOs of a corporation was started with stock options? Now this obviously fraudulent business gives grants to people and organizations "which facilitate progressive social change by addressing the underlying

conditions of societal and environmental problems." Now here's the kicker: The grants are funded by corporate profit! Bastards! How dare they give away 7.5 percent of their pre-tax earnings to help fight global warming and poverty. Nice little cover up. Notice how it is pre-tax earnings. They write that 7.5 percent off their taxes so it doesn't even affect them. All this does is take money out of government social programs that help feed poor children. Who would have ever thought that Ben & Jerry's were in the business of starving children?

The other part of corporations that makes me sick are these CEOs. I have recently been informed that all CEOs do all day is play golf and drink martinis. After seeing how much money Larry Ellison, CEO of Oracle, donated to the Democratic Party, I must believe it. One would have to be drunk to support Democrats that much.

CEOs are grossly overpaid. I mean, how hard could it possibly be to oversee a multi-billion dollar company with thousands of employees, knowing that the fate of the regions economy rests with every decision you make? Heck, all of those CEOs probably lied when they said they work an average of 75-80 hours a week.

And look at all the evil they do at golf courses. I mean, providing jobs for the people that pick up golf balls, caddies, bartenders, golf course designers, chauffeurs to shuttle them around. It would be far better if these CEOs just died so all of these people could do the honorable thing and live off the government.

Hey, it looks like I'm out of space. I hope that with my excellent left-sided research that I have been able to convince everybody how bad capitalism is. Or are leftist this retarded for actually believing this stuff?

On a serious note, those

Americans are not the only casualties

Last Friday, President Bush shed tears over one of the casualties of his war. "I know your heart aches, and we ache for you. But your son and your brother died for a noble and just cause." Bush audaciously spoke these words during a speech supporting his brother's gubernatorial campaign.



Members of the victim's family sat in the front row. Their brother and son, also a U.S. soldier, is now dead because of Bush's violence. Where does this President, who has killed over 3,000 innocent Afghans, as well as numerous U.S. servicemen, and who promises to expand his military aggression infinitely with the total number of dead innocent children, women, and men yet to be determined, find the gall to address the loved ones of his victims in this way?

How does he manage to not incessantly shed tears over the droves of innocent Afghans, Palestinians, and Israelis that he has already sentenced to death? He is crying, but is he

going to endorse ways of fighting terrorism that won't cost thousands more innocent lives? Unlikely. The President's tears and words demonstrate with perfect clarity the convoluted, irrational morality that has gripped the U.S. and its leaders since Sept. 11th. Their authenticity is not suspect; the ideology that created them is.

If justice is measured in terms of punishing the offender and protecting the innocent, the U.S. government has failed.

Following the atrocity, officials quickly moved to exacerbate the tragedy's destructive impact. First, Bush refused to acknowledge Taliban offers to turn over Osama bin Laden if given evidence linking him to the crime. Because of our leader's failure to even consider this option we will never know its sincerity. U.S. officials

then proceeded to bomb into oblivion an entire nation of innocent people, a people who had not elected the tyrants ruling over them, and who had nothing to do with the Sept. 11 crime. Our leaders took this action knowing that it put 7.5 million innocent people at severe risk of starving to death.

These were people decimated by years of drought whose only food source was the tons of humanitarian aid being shipped into the country by the UN and other agencies. Well aware that our bombing would sever this lifeline, the U.S. attacked. Later, we mocked our victims by dropping a pinky number of food packets on them—packets that were the same color and shape as our anti-personnel cluster bombs.

For U.S. officials, the risk of starving millions of innocent people to death and the certainty of murdering several thousand more (including U.S. servicemen), was an acceptable sacrifice in pursuing "justice."

But justice was not our goal. Had it been, we would've led an international police-style anti-terrorist operation that would've had the same or better odds of bringing the perpe-

trators to justice, without adding as heavily to the death toll. However, this life-saving option and others like it were blankly rejected, with only one voice in Congress voting against giving Bush the authority to kill thousands.

And what exactly has the U.S. accomplished or proven through its unilateral violence? To the dead Afghani children and their parents, we have proven that their non-U.S. lives are worthless. To Americans, dead Third World civilians are rubbish, mere "collateral damage"—and certainly not worth the trouble they might cause our collective conscience if we saw them on the 10 o'clock news at night.

To the murderers that thought nothing of killing thousands of innocent Americans, we have proven that we are just as ruthless and just as willing to murder innocents as they are. We have also handed them a partial victory. If their goal was to impose draconian, fundamentalist laws upon our populace, our leaders have accomplished that goal for them—even using the same rhetoric. Bush and Ashcroft's theme of destroying "evil" is one bin Ladenites

would admire.

To the families who lost loved ones that day, we have proven our willingness to extend their agony to more families, in their names. Many of these individuals have spoken out against Bush's unending and unjust wars; "not in our name" they say, but to no avail.

And finally, we have proven to the world that we are still willing to murder and starve millions of innocent people simply to reassert our global domination and protect the economic interests of the wealthiest one-percent of our population.

Our officials' continuing response to the Sept. 11th tragedy, including the decimation of Afghanistan, has nothing to do with justice. The memory of those who died that day has been tarnished by mega-corporations and politicians who have seized the opportunity to free themselves of tax burdens, advance their neo-liberal economic agenda, grab at lucrative oil pipeline deals in the newly "stabilized" Afghanistan, fatten "defense" revenues, and further militarize the U.S. for its continued role in ensuring its economic

hegemony—regardless of the human toll. Our leaders' decisions and bombs have provided more fodder for the terrorist fire—not less.

The "War on Terrorism" is a farce. For heads of state and business owners it is a game that will be manipulated just like the "communist virus" was for the past 50 years. As Reagan did, Bush will use this new excuse to broaden and stabilize U.S. imperialism. Our government will continue to murder innocents as well as train and fund other nations that are also murdering and raping innocents, all in the name of fighting "terrorism." It happened in the 1980s with almost the same people and almost the same language, and it's happening now. And 20 years from now, as terrorism and anti-American sentiment continue to flourish across the globe, we will still be asking ourselves "why do they hate us?" Here's a clue: think massive, violent oppression—not envy.

Our president shed tears. I firmly believe that criminals can repent, but given the evidence, it appears we still have a murderer on our hands.

U.S. should look at past before resorting to nukes

By Rene L. Gonzalez Berrios
Massachusetts Daily Collegian (U. Massachusetts-Amherst)

AMHERST, Mass. - The Bush administration decided on Saturday, March 9, to instruct the Pentagon to prepare contingency plans for the possible use of nuclear weapons against at least seven countries: China, Russia, Iraq, North Korea, Iran, Libya and Syria.

The release of this information comes at a time when declassified documents regarding President Nixon's activities during his presidency revealed that the president seriously contemplated using nuclear weapons to bring the Vietnam War to a close with a U.S. victory.

Nixon's actions and gradual moves by the present administration to erode safeguards regarding civil liberties, war conventions, missile arms

treaties, environmental treaties and others are a major cause for concern. It seems that the current President is "masturbating" with the idea of supreme, unilateral and authoritarian power and worst of all, the American people are consenting to it. All theories that professed the conviction that the American people would not tolerate an authoritarian President encroaching on the democratic power of the American people are being put to test, and they are failing.

This failure of the American people to realize what their President is doing (or worse, consenting to it under the erroneous belief that they must support their President in a time of crisis by not dissenting) has reached its logical conclusion: the belief of a U.S. president of his right to unilaterally alter the most fundamental of power politics in the modern nuclear age. Namely, the abrogation of mutual nuclear destruction the-

ories, and the contemplation of breaking the "nuclear stalemate" by considering the use of nuclear weapons in aggressive, rather than defensive action. For years, mutual nuclear destruction theories have held that rational (and this is very important to the theory) leaders would not resort to the aggressive use of nuclear weapons because the cost would be too high if they did. World War I started from this type of complex military alliance obligations. It began with a simple assassination of a Serbian leader, and then progressed to be one of the world's worst wars. The possibility of another World War beginning with the ignorant aggressive actions of a jingoistic President is not unlikely.

In practice, we could contemplate some possible outcomes of the U.S.'s aggressive use of nuclear weapons (no matter how "small", as the present administration is trying to

justify). A nuclear attack against China would force the Chinese to launch their nuclear weapons against the United States and possible U.S. allies (like Britain and France), destroying much of the Western civilization in the process.

There is debate about how many weapons China has, but it has at least eight presently readied for immediate launching against the eight major cities of the United States. Estimates of the total number of nuclear weapons China have ranged from 50-200. A launching against North Korea would also have a similar Chinese reaction (because of the Chinese-North Korean alliance). A U.S. launch against Russia would ensure the total destruction of both Russia and the United States. Russia has thousands of weapons, enough to destroy the United States and its Western allies many times over. Launches against Iraq, Iran, Syria and Libya would

have unpredictable consequences.

The mere usage of nuclear weapons would destabilize governments in many parts of the world, and could lead to "preemptive" strikes by other nations (China, Russia, and even Israel) against each other for fear of a breakdown in the international nuclear order. The Chinese and Russians would most likely strike at the United States and the West, and maybe even each other if suspicion was high enough. The Arab world and Israel would be severely destabilized, causing turmoil in the region and possible Arab war against Israel and the subsequent usage of Israeli nuclear weapons to defend itself. The reactions of nuclear India and Pakistan are also unpredictable, possibly escalating the present Kashmir and other conflicts to nuclear proportions.

All of this, I admit, is purely speculative. But what is scary to

me is that our President would actually contemplate (as did Nixon) the use of nuclear weapons in an aggressive fashion (a new development), and furthermore, to publicize it in a manner that may destabilize governments around the world (especially the seven mentioned as possible targets).

During the Cold War, nuclear states often threatened defensive retaliation if nuclear weapons were used. But, rational leaders in all nations knew that aggressive nuclear action would be met with resolute retaliation and would give doomsday results. If the present government cannot see the error of its ways, then it is up to the citizenry to do something about it or else face the consequences of an overly ambitious President with absolutely no idea of the repercussions of his "tough Texan cowboy" attitude.

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- Best ad campaign - Rocky Mountain Collegiate Media Association
- Best typography - Rocky Mountain Collegiate Media Association

letters
to the
editor

Affirmative Action is a
misguided principle

Dear Dr. Ruch, Why is your employment office named, "Office of Affirmative Action?" Affirmative Action is a bankrupt concept of placing the interests of a politically favored minority group ahead of members from other groups who are better qualified. All across the United States, programs bearing the "Affirmative Action" label have been successfully attacked in our courts because of their unjustifiable bias against citizens of the majority and disfavored minorities.

Just to give you some perspective, according to the Census, there are thirty-eight million white Americans currently living in poverty in the United States. This is larger than the entire Latino or the entire black populations respectively, yet, "Affirmative Action" programs routinely deny opportunity to impoverished white people, based solely on their race. I can assure you that, if you were poor it would matter very little to you what percentage of your source population you represented; poverty hurts, no matter who you are.

The reason why some of the best people from around the world used to come to America was that it was perceived that in the USA anyone could get ahead based on their own MERIT. Affirmative Action programs short-circuit this fundamental basis of our society's success and instead plunge our country into the racial favoritism that has corrupted many of the third-world countries. Affirmative Action, creates an environment where hiring and promotions, whether deserved or not, are always tinged with the haze of political favoritism. Consequently, smoldering racial resentment is easily fanned into a flaming inferno.

With a staunch commitment from leaders like you to base all hiring and promotion solely on MERIT, the popula-

tion (even poor whites) will at least have the hope that they can compete for jobs in a fair system. With the term "Affirmative Action" affixed to your employment office, the message is quite clear that MERIT is not welcomed at Boise State and that politics, not achievement, determine advancements.

I urge you to take prompt measures to correctly return your employment office to its more accurate title. By repairing this error, you will send a clear message that at least at Boise State, it is the content of one's character, not the color of one's skin that matters.

J. Tyler Ballance

Nate Williams misses the
point

Nate Williams, your editorial about how the war in Afghanistan must end doesn't really present much for people to digest besides shady facts and a non-pragmatic consideration and parroting of Afghani accounts of the bombing compiled by Howard Zinn.

First, your claim that the goal of the war was initially to bring the perpetrators to justice is true in a broad sense, though, to imply that that it was the ONLY goal is absolutely wrong and shows how ignorant the argument is. As a matter of fact, before any military action took place, it was publicly said, time and time again by government officials, that any future action would include getting the individuals responsible for the attack, but that the goal was much bigger than that - to stamp out terrorism as a whole. It was also made clear before military action took place that those who harbored "terrorists" could be targeted for future action as well. The Taliban was given the chance to hand over the al-Queida suspects, but refused. Thus, the Taliban government was toppled, thankfully.

In a war, people die. That must be expected, though those fighting should take great care to prevent innocent deaths.

However, how does a relatively small number of civilian deaths invalidate the justifications for the war? Civilians weren't purposefully targeted as they were by

the "terrorists." And, by the way, some people use the argument that targeting the WTC was not the same as targeting civilians, but was the basis for this argument? To say that such a place is a justifiable target for violent action in war shows the inhumanity of those who strangely claim their activism is on behalf of innocent people around the world. As for the various stray "smart bombs" that killed many civilians, such tragic errors may very well have been the result of dubious manufacturing practices of Eagle-Pitcher Technologies who makes the guidance batteries.

In a time of desperate measures, such as the time on and after Sept. 11, the suspension of certain rights in apprehension of suspect individuals would seem a most pragmatic thing to do for the sake of preventing similar events as the WTC attacks.

However, this does not justify mistreatment of such detainees or irresponsible disregard for their human rights.

What domestic groups does Nate refer to when he declares that groups that challenge capitalist exploitation are labeled as "terrorists"? The Earth Liberation Front? The various anarchist rioters at the various WTO meetings, etc. - who, by the way, stole the show from the more peaceful, more justifiable protesters?

Does Nate even watch the network or cable news that he criticizes, or does he simply parrot the accusations made by leftist critics of media? I took a class from Professor Martin Orr in which we "learned" about how the popular media ignored issues critical of large corporations or the government, but I could never fully agree with the arguments made because I've seen plenty of stories in the news about poorly performing smart bombs, the civilian deaths in the various campaigns of the recent decade, including the war in Afghanistan, and other issues that some people say the media absolutely ignores. This isn't to say that the media is never biased, though.

I think that the war in Afghanistan is one of the most easily justifiable military campaigns in recent history. Why is it that we never

hear the supposedly humanitarian activists praise the collapse of the Taliban? After all, while the new rule may not be particularly egalitarian, stable, or even fit in with the popular notion of "democracy," a truly oppressive regime has been unseated. People should be happy, as women aren't going to be so likely to be beaten for revealing their faces.

Education is going to be more widespread, including education for women. People can legally enjoy music now.

Shouldn't we also praise the fact that there is no longer the very oppressive regime in Afghanistan that sullied the reputation and image of Islam by using it as a justification for its horrible oppression? And people who say that the attacks were to be expected as a result of our support of Israel's actions against Palestine, if one looks back, one can find that the actual motivation behind Osama bin Laden had far more to do with the stationing of Westerners on "holy" land.

The Israeli-Palestinian troubles were not cited as a motivation behind Osama's cause until after the WTC attacks when it became convenient for him as he wanted to rally the Muslim world against the West. I mean, Nate, come on, this guy used the money he got from capitalist enterprise and upper class inheritance to fund his violent action as an expression of his religious extremism! Of course, the actual moral justification for the war can be debated, but Nate, next time you feel the urge to present your ignorant assumptions as fact, do a little research. I've noticed a lot of errors in your "facts" in this and other editorials you've written.

Mike Smith

Bush fails to deliver on
higher education

During his campaign for President, George W. Bush frequently addressed the importance of expanding access to higher education. In the fall of 2000, he said, "I want to make sure that higher education is affordable and accessible to every American. I am committed to helping families prepare for

the cost of higher education." Candidate Bush was right to show concern. According to the General Accounting Office, annual tuition and fees for all types of colleges have more than doubled since 1980 even when adjusting for inflation. Household incomes have risen at a significantly slower pace, and working families throughout the nation have struggled to keep up with college costs. Although higher education provides the best avenue through which young Americans can find well-paying jobs, it's harder and harder each year for many students to pay for college.

President Bush has shown he understands this problem, but he has consistently failed to take arms against it. Despite increasing college costs and the erosion of grant and loan purchasing power, Bush has proposed freezing or only marginally increasing the funding for several important initiatives. Notably, his administration has flunked the test on three programs that affect the day-to-day lives of millions of Americans.

First, President Bush has failed to deliver on campaign pledges about Pell Grants.

These federal grants target low-income students, and they're the government's most far-reaching effort to reduce barriers to higher education. Although Bush's campaign proposed that the government increase the maximum Pell Grants to \$5,100, his 2002 budget offered only \$3,850 and his 2003 budget proposes freezing grants at their current \$4,000 level.

Second, President Bush has failed to support the Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships (LEAP), a program that allocates funding to state governments for the purpose of expanding grants and loans. While Bush's 2002 budget proposed freezing its funding, his 2003 budget proposes eliminating the \$67 million program altogether. Through LEAP, states have provided need-based grants and work-study assistance to students with substantial need, and the program's elimination would potential-

ly impact 1.2 million recipients.

Finally, President Bush's 2003 budget proposes freezing funding for the Federal Perkins Loan. This is a low-interest loan for undergraduate and graduate students with exceptional financial need, and it helps prevent students from amassing crippling debts.

In response to increasing college costs and decreasing access to higher education, the Democratic Party has taken a more aggressive approach. During the last eight years, we raised the Pell Grant maximum award from \$2,300 to \$3,750.

Additionally, we guided the creation of the HOPE Scholarship and Lifetime Learning tax credits, which have helped nearly 10 million American families pay for college. Although only 43 percent of students benefited from federal grants and loans in 1992, 59 percent did by 1999.

The difference between the Democratic record and the Bush record thus far is clear and striking. It's time we energize college students to be motivated by these differences and to fight for an agenda aimed at improving their future.

Fewer than 30 percent of Americans 18-21 years of age cast their votes in the 2000 election. Many are cynical about the effectiveness and intentions of politicians, and they want national leadership fighting on their behalf. They need to be reminded why it is worthwhile to make a trip to the voting booth — and they need to remind President Bush why he needs to listen to America's younger voters.

In short, America's young people need President Bush to commit his administration to higher education — not just in words, but in action — and it will only happen if America's young people are committed to activism, not in words but in votes on election day.

Senator John Kerry (D-MA)
& CDA National President
Ashley Bell

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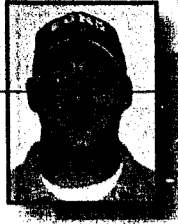
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Sports

Is it just me

March madness getting madder

By Darrin Shindle
 The Arbiter

Is it just me, or is this year's NCAA basketball tournament going to be one of the best ever? If it's not the best then it will definitely be one of the most memorable and maybe the hardest to predict.

The field this year is so deep and has so many possible "upsets" that my mom could probably do a better job filling out my office pool than I could. Of course that could be true in a lot of cases since I suck at office pools. Every team in the tournament has shown that they can be beat at any time.

Let's look at Duke for instance. Everyone was saying how invincible they were at the beginning of the season, but they managed to lose three games. They have the best starting lineup in basketball, but their bench is definitely lacking. And if Jason Williams and Mike Dunleavy are cold then it could be a long night for the Blue Demons.

Kansas has shown they are probably the best team in the nation, but just as they were placing themselves on the unbeatable list, they lost in the Big 12 championship game to Oklahoma.

And then there is Maryland, whom one can argue is among the elite teams in the nation along with Kansas and Duke. They have about as good of a team as anyone in the nation, but when it comes

to the tournament they always seem to find somewhere to hide. Until they can get over the hump and get to a final four I can't pick them.

A team that I can pick, and the team I think will be in the final four is USC. Sure they are a four seed and that's not much of a sleeper, but they are in Duke's bracket and I think they can beat Duke. USC did lose to Arizona in the Pac-10 championship game but they have so many athletes on their team I wouldn't count them out.

Gonzaga is the team that got snubbed the most, getting an inexcusable six seed. This seed not only hurts them, but also Arizona whom they will be playing in the second round. This is an elite eight caliber game being played in the second round. I don't know what the selection committee was thinking, but maybe they need to get out and see some games next season.

When it comes down to picking the national champion I think it would be hard to bet against Kansas. They went undefeated in the Big 12 this season and I think it is Roy Williams' time to win it all. They have too much talent and are coming out of the easiest region in the Midwest.

It will be Kansas against USC in the national championship game with Kansas coming out on top. But it's probably just me.

BSU gymnasts upend fifteenth ranked BYU

By Phil Dalley
 The Arbiter

The Boise State Broncos gymnastics team hosted the 15th ranked Brigham Young Cougars on Tuesday night.

In what was the last home meet for three seniors turned out to be the biggest night of the season for the Broncos.

Seniors Jamie Johns, Heather Ruiz and Rachael Goetz might have competed in their last meet at the Pavilion but they defiantly saved the best for last.

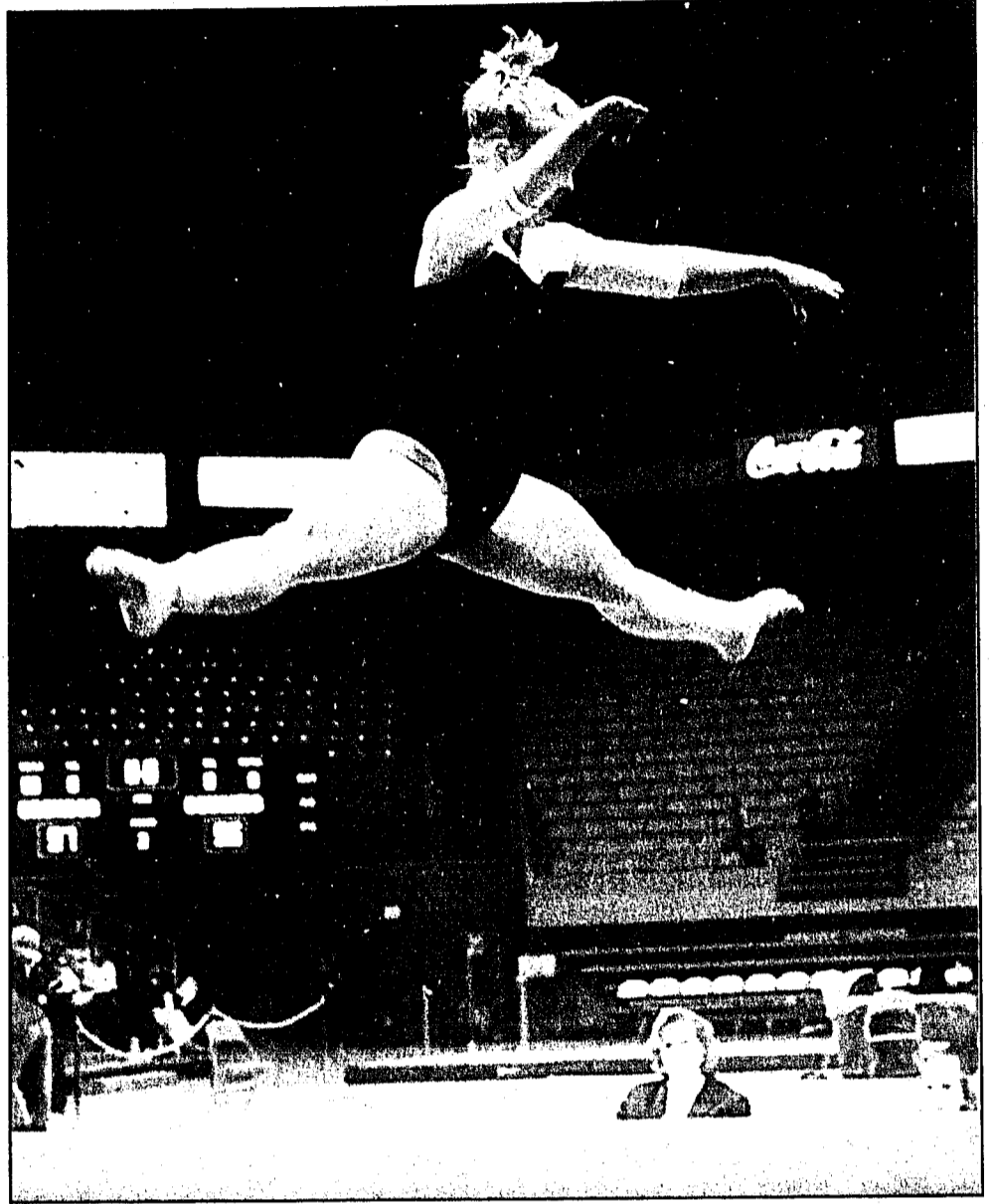
It was only last week when the Broncos scored a season high 194.825 in a loss to Southern Utah. This week Boise State not only set a new season high in scoring they did it in a win against a top 15 team.

The Broncos set the new mark beating the Cougars 195.35 to 194.8. Jamie Johns who scored a season high of her own with an all-around score of 39.275 once again led Boise State. Other Broncos helping the winning cause were Heather Ruiz who added a solid score of 9.85 on her floor routine and Breanne Holmes who threw down a 9.9 on the bars.

Freshman Tiffany Putnam who scored an enthusiastic 9.925 and took first place on the floor exercise also led the Broncos.

The Cougars came into the meet with a lot of confidence already beating the Broncos back on Feb. 22. All-American Kelly Evanson led BYU with a 9.950 on the vault. Angie Hickman also helped out the Cougars with a season tying best 9.875 in the same event. The Cougars would go on to tie the second best performance in school history on the vault with a score of 49.100.

BYU's Jamie Mabray won the all-around with a career high score of 39.350 but too



Senior Jamie Johns puts some distance between herself and the beam.

Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter

many falls on the bars and on the balance beam proved to be too much to overcome. Boise State will travel to

Berkeley on March 16 to take on California and San Jose State. They will then gear up for the Western Gymnastics

Conference Championships on March 23 in Logan, UT.

NCAA Tournament bracket met with curiosity, questions, debates, confusion

By David Teel
 Daily Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Multiple top seeds for the ACC, a California gold rush and a snub of the Zags mark the 65-team NCAA Tournament bracket revealed Sunday.

ACC Tournament champion Duke and regular-season titleist

Maryland received No. 1 regional seeds, the Blue Devils in the South, the Terps in the East. Kansas in the Midwest and Cincinnati in the West complete the No. 1s.

Oklahoma, which defeated Kansas in Sunday's Big 12 Tournament final and Maryland during the regular season, also contended for a top seed but is

No. 2 in the West opposite Cincinnati.

"Cincinnati and Oklahoma were the teams we really struggled with," said committee chairman Lee Fowler, the athletic director at North Carolina State.

Deadline affected those struggles. Kansas and Oklahoma did not tip off until 3:30 p.m.,

Sunday, less than three hours before CBS' selection show.

But the most curious seed was Gonzaga's. The West Coast champion Zags do not hail from a power conference, but they advanced to the regional semifinals each of the past three years. Despite that history, a 29-3 record this season and top-10 standing in the national polls, Gonzaga is the No. 6 seed in the West and faces a possible second-round game against Pac-10 Tournament champion Arizona.

When Gonzaga's seed was revealed, the crowd gathered on the Spokane, Wash., campus boomed.

"We discussed them a lot," Fowler said of the Zags. "They're not an easy team to seed."

Fowler attributed the low seed to strength of schedule. Gonzaga, he said, won 12 games against teams ranked below 200 by the NCAA's Rating Percentage Index, a computer-

generated poll of all 324 Division I teams.

Gonzaga and Pepperdine give the West Coast Conference multiple entries in the field. Ten other leagues earned more than one bid, led by the Big 12, Southeastern, Big East and Pac-10 with six each. Five Big Ten teams made the field, four from the ACC, three each from Conference USA and the Mountain West and two each from the Missouri Valley and Western Athletic.

The field also includes seven teams from California, a record for state representation. The seven: Stanford, UCLA, Cal, Southern California, Pepperdine, Cal-Santa Barbara and San Diego State.

Hampton is Virginia's only representative. The Pirates, seeded 15th in East, face Big East Tournament champion Connecticut on Friday in Washington, D.C.

The bracket's final pieces didn't become clear until late Sunday afternoon, when Ohio State defeated upstart Iowa in the Big Ten Tournament final. With Ohio State and four other conference teams locked into the field, an Iowa victory would have given the Big Ten six representatives and knocked out an at-large team.

The lowest seeded at-large teams are Utah, Missouri and Tulsa, all No. 12s.

After last season, when only a third of the field (22 teams) played first-round games in their time zones, the committee made a concerted effort to keep teams closer to home. With new bracketing guidelines, 39 teams play first-round games in their time zone, according to Fowler.

Among the teams the committee bypassed: Butler (25-5), Memphis (22-9) and Utah State (23-7). Butler, with a Horizon League regular-season title and a non-conference victory against Indiana on its resume, is the most notable exclusion.

But Indiana was Butler's only game against a team ranked among the RPI's top 50. Also, the Bulldogs lost to lowly Wisconsin-Green Bay in the first round of the Horizon Tournament.

"The committee feels like you can play your way in or play your way out," Fowler said.

Boise State baseball kicks off season in Washington

By Darrin Shindle
 The Arbiter

The Boise State baseball team opened up its season last weekend at the Sunnyside Tournament in Washington. It was a tournament that saw seven teams from the northwest compete, including the University of Oregon, University of Montana, Seattle University, Idaho, Eastern Washington, Central Oregon and Boise State.

The Broncos came away from the tournament with a .500 record with two wins and two losses.

After losing the first two games to Seattle University and Eastern Washington, 11-8 and 3-2 respectively, the Broncos turned it up against Central Oregon, winning 3-0 behind a strong pitching performance from Steve Gowans.

Gowans, who found himself in the pitching rotation this year for the first time, pitched seven innings and gave up four hits, three walks, and had seven strikeouts in the shutout. Normally Gowans plays first base for the Broncos.

The offense for the game was supplied by a 2-run homerun from Jeff Baranco.

The Broncos wrapped up the weekend with a 2-1 win over the University of Oregon, despite not playing up to par.

"We played terrible, but we still managed to come out with a win," Gowans said.

Another bright spot for the Broncos in the tournament came in the 3-2 loss to Eastern Washington. Jeff Baranco was scheduled to start at pitcher but was unable to go a third of an inning when he had to come out do to an arm injury. Dusty Hovrud was able to come in and pitch a great game according to Gowans.

"Eastern Washington is in our league so losing to them will hurt our league standings, but we know we can beat them," Gowans said.

Boise State has two weeks off before they travel up to Moscow to take on Idaho. After that the Broncos will start NCBA league play. The Broncos play their home games out at the Columbia Village fields.



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Men's Basketball Tournament

SOUTH REGION

FIRST ROUND March 14, 15 | **SECOND ROUND** March 16, 17 | **REGIONALS** March 21, 23

- 1 Duke
- 8 Winthrop
- 9 Notre Dame
- 9 Charlotte
- 5 Indiana
- 12 Utah
- 4 USC
- 13 NC-Wilm.

Greenville, S.C.

- 6 California
- 11 Pennsylvania
- 3 Pittsburgh
- 14 C. Conn. St.
- 7 Oklahoma St.
- 10 Kent St.
- 2 Alabama
- 15 Fla. Atlantic

Pittsburgh

Greenville, S.C.

Lexington, Ky.

EAST REGION

REGIONALS March 22, 24 | **SECOND ROUND** March 16, 17 | **FIRST ROUND** March 14, 15

- Maryland 1
- *See below 16
- Wisconsin 8
- St. John's 9
- Marquette 5
- Tulsa 12
- Kentucky 4
- Valparaiso 13

Washington, D.C.

- Texas Tech 6
- Southern Ill. 11
- Georgia 3
- Murray St. 14
- N.C. St. 7
- Michigan St. 10
- Connecticut 2
- Hampton 15

St. Louis

Syracuse, N.Y.

Chicago

Washington, D.C.

WEST REGION

FIRST ROUND March 14, 15 | **SECOND ROUND** March 16, 17 | **REGIONALS** March 21, 23

- 1 Cincinnati
- 16 Boston U.
- 8 UCLA
- 9 Mississippi
- 5 Miami, Fla.
- 12 Missouri
- 4 Ohio St.
- 13 Davidson

Pittsburgh

Albuquerque, N.M.

San Jose, Calif.

- 6 Gonzaga
- 11 Wyoming
- 3 Arizona
- 14 UC Santa Barb.
- 7 Xavier
- 10 Hawaii
- 2 Oklahoma
- 15 Ill.-Chicago

Albuquerque, N.M.

Dallas

MIDWEST

REGIONALS March 22, 24 | **SECOND ROUND** March 16, 17 | **FIRST ROUND** March 14, 15

- Kansas 1
- Holy Cross 16
- Stanford 8
- Western Ky. 9
- Florida 5
- Creighton 12
- Illinois 4
- San Diego St. 13

St. Louis

Chicago

Madison, Wis.

Dallas

Sacramento, Calif.

- Texas 6
- Boston Coll. 11
- Mississippi St. 3
- McNeese St. 14
- Wake Forest 7
- Pepperdine 10
- Oregon 2
- Montana 15

SEMIFINALS March 30 Atlanta

SEMIFINALS March 30 Atlanta

CHAMPIONSHIP Atlanta April 1

*Opening round, decides 64th team

Alcorn St. Dayton, Ohio March 12

Siena 16

Winner of this game becomes 16th seed in East region

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N C A A

Women's Basketball Tournament

MIDEAST

FIRST ROUND March 15, 16 | **SECOND ROUND** March 17, 18 | **REGIONALS** March 23, 25

- 1 Connecticut
- 16 St. Francis, Pa.
- 8 Virginia
- 9 Iowa
- 5 Florida Int'l
- 12 Creighton
- 4 Penn St.
- 13 Chattanooga

Milwaukee, Wis.

- 6 Arkansas
- 11 Clemson
- 3 Kansas St.
- 14 Kent St.
- 7 Old Dominion
- 10 Georgia
- 2 Purdue
- 15 Austin Peay

WEST REGION

REGIONALS March 23, 25 | **SECOND ROUND** March 17, 18 | **FIRST ROUND** March 15, 16

- Oklahoma 1
- Hartford 16
- Pepperdine 8
- Villanova 9
- Boston College 5
- Miss St. 12
- Texas Tech 4
- Steph. F. Aus. 13

Boise, Idaho

- LSU 6
- Santa Clara 11
- Colorado 3
- Southern U. 14
- Colorado St. 7
- Tulane 10
- Stanford 2
- Weber St. 15

MIDWEST

FIRST ROUND March 15, 16 | **SECOND ROUND** March 17, 18 | **REGIONALS** March 23, 25

- 1 Vanderbilt
- 16 Oakland
- 8 Wisconsin
- 9 Arizona St.
- 5 Minnesota
- 12 UNLV
- 4 N.C.
- 13 Harvard

Ames, Iowa

- 6 Florida
- 11 Brig. Young
- 3 Iowa St.
- 14 Temple
- 7 Notre Dame
- 10 New Mexico
- 2 Tennessee
- 15 Georgia St.

EAST REGION

REGIONALS March 23, 25 | **SECOND ROUND** March 17, 18 | **FIRST ROUND** March 15, 16

- Duke 1
- Norfolk St. 16
- TCU 8
- Indiana 9
- La. Tech 5
- UC Santa Barb. 12
- Texas 4
- Wis.-G.B. 13

San Antonio March 31

Raleigh, N.C.

- Cincinnati 6
- St. Peter's 11
- So. Carolina 3
- Liberty 14
- Drake 7
- Syracuse 10
- Baylor 2
- Bucknell 15

SEMIFINALS March 29

SEMIFINALS March 29

San Antonio March 31

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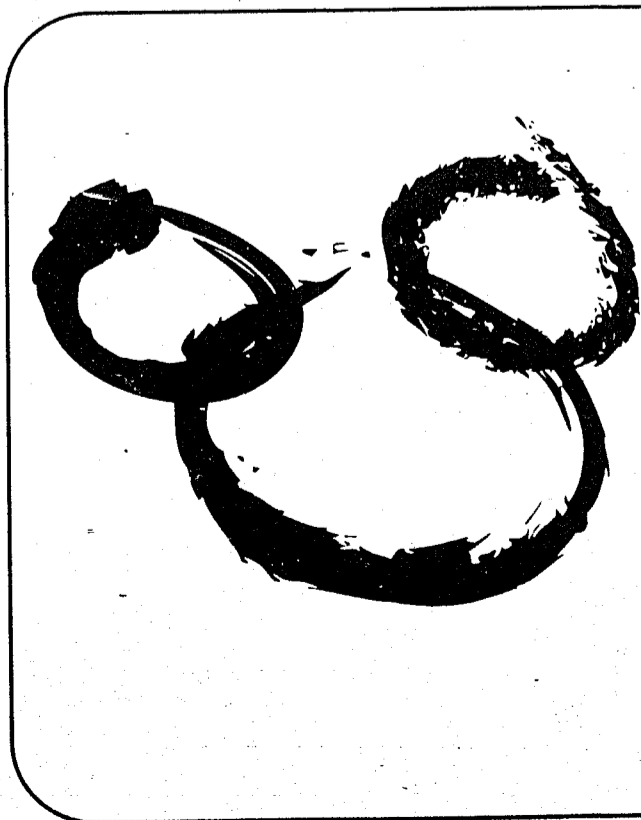
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Divisions Editor
 J. Patrick Kelly
 Phone: 325-4114
 E-mail: jpkelly@boisestate.edu

Diversions

Concrete Blonde comes to Big Easy

Band reunites to cut new album

By J. Patrick Kelly
 The Arbiter

It's been eight years since Los Angeles-based gothic-rockers Concrete Blonde have been in the studio. And it's been almost that long since they have been on a tour bus zigzagging the lower 48 states. Concrete Blonde's bus arrives in Boise this Sunday for a St. Patties Day concert at The Big Easy.

And nothing says Ireland like Concrete Blonde. Just kidding, of course.

The band formed in north Hollywood in the early '80s. They released a five-song album in 1982 called "Caroline," which featured the haunting title-track song "Caroline." Lead singer Johnette Napolitano's is admittedly an Anne Rice fan. Her dark and brooding lyrics work well with her gutsy and emotional voice.

In 1987, the band released their sophomore effort, simply named "Concrete Blonde." The album showed their grass roots sensibilities and aptitude for writing sad, heartfelt lyrics. "Dance Along the Edge" is a desperate song with no relief in sight. "True" is a ditty about leaving town for good, and "Still in Hollywood" is an anthem about the true spirit of the north Hollywood streets. "She lives under a truck / She doesn't give a fuck." The album is chalk full of urban angst like this.

Two years later, Concrete Blonde released "Free," which featured major hit



Concrete Blonde unwinds after a hard day at the office.

"Scene of a Perfect Crime" and minor hit "God is a Bullet."

But Concrete Blonde is mostly known for their alternative smash hit "Joey," which has been on several of the band's compilations and is done acoustically on their greatest hit's album, "Still in Hollywood." "Joey" is about the pain of heartbreak, fueled by a drunken binge and a healthy dose of for-

giveness. The band is on the road promoting their latest release "Group Therapy," which is their first album of new material since 1994. Napolitano reunites with original band members Jim Mankey and Harry Rushakoff for this latest tour.

If you go...

L.A. rockers Concrete Blonde are coming to The Big Easy this Sunday night for a St. Patties Day celebration. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at all TicketWeb locations or by calling 1-800-965-4827.

AE bonus

"Musical M & M's"... Boise State's Department of Music is presenting an orchestra concert, "Musical M & M's," this Sunday night in the Morrison Center's Main Hall.

"Musical M & M's" stands for the composers Mozart and Mussorgsky. The first portion of the evening features Boise State's Orchestra playing Mussorgsky's Romantic blockbuster "Pictures at Exhibition," which is a musical depiction of the 19th century Russian artist Victor Hartman.

The second part of the performance, the orchestra is playing excerpts from Mozart's comical opera, "Abduction From Seraglio," which they recently played in its entirety.

The concert starts at 7:30 p.m. and tickets are \$3 for students. For more information call 426-2980.

"Salon des Refuses"...

Saturday night, Boise State's Liberal Arts League is presenting the 1st annual "Salon des Refuses," which literally means a show of rejected art. In this case, "Salon des Refuses" is a showing of works that didn't make the cut for the Juried Student Art Show that is currently showing in the Liberal Arts Building gallery. The goal of the LAL for the show is to dispel the perception that rejected art is bad. The show boasts great diversity and will feature an open forum of discussion. The opening runs from 6-9 p.m. in the Campus School Building, Room 103. This event is free to the public.

Latin vibes at Bouquet...

Agua Dulce, a southern California-based band, is coming to the Blues Bouquet this Friday for a night of sizzling Latin music.

Agua Dulce fuses Afro-Cuban, salsa, samba, reggae and funk music into a dynamic package of Latin vibes. The last time they played at the Bouquet, the dance floor was a veritable sea of bobbing heads, and the management expects more of the same this Friday night.

The show starts at 9:15 p.m. and tickets are \$4 at the door. For more information call the Bouquet at 345-6605.

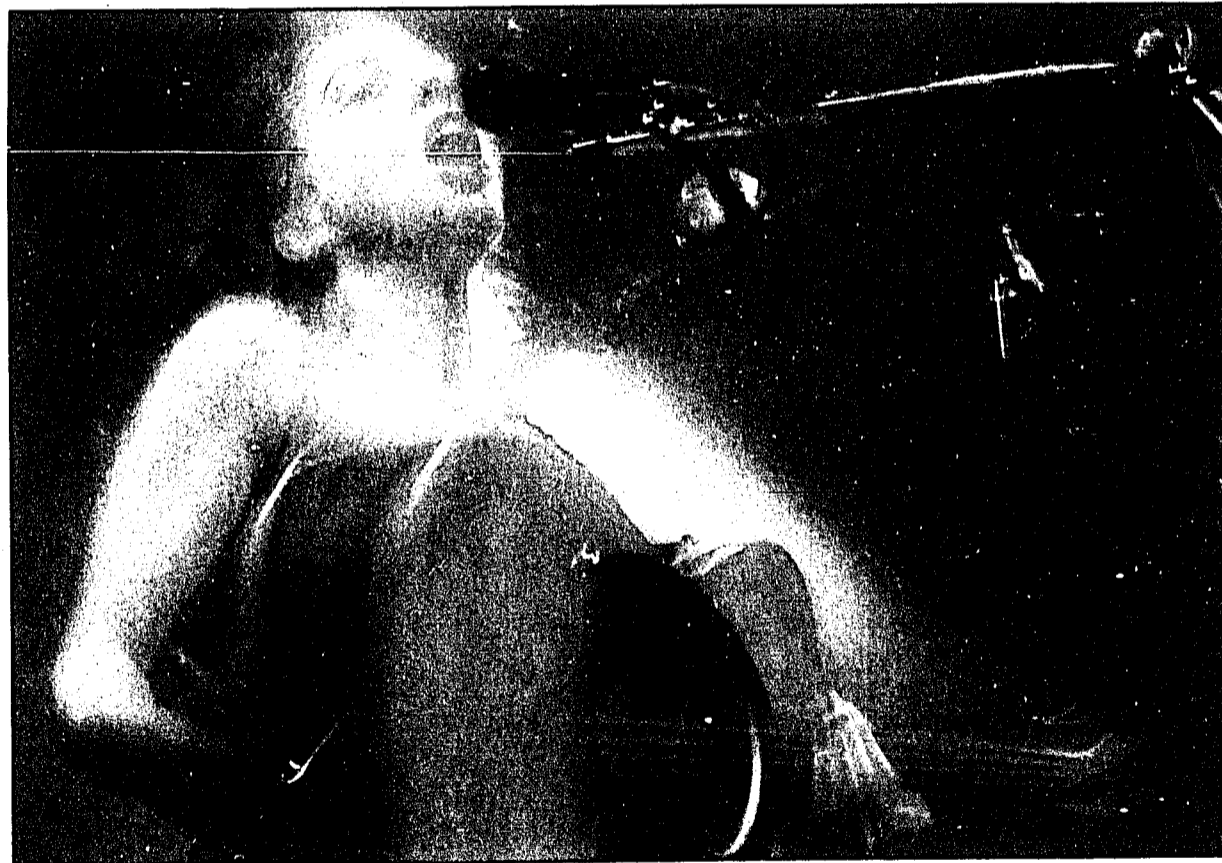


Photo by Jeremy Branstad, The Arbiter.

Ani DiFranco plays her brand of punk-folk to a sold out show at the Big Easy. Die-hard fans packed the adjoining Bourbon Street bar hours before the doors opened in anticipation of DiFranco's hard hitting show.

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Tuesday 3/19:
 - Film, The Breakfast Club, 7pm, Special Events Center

Wednesday 3/20:
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Band builds homes with proceeds from concert



Take another look at Thrd Day.

By Jason Shofner
Special to The Arbiter

Grammy-nominated band Third Day joined forces with Habitat for Humanity at the Pavilion last Friday, and they left Boise with more than just a concert.

The Georgia-based Christian rock group has agreed to sponsor the construction of eight houses after partnering with Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization whose goal is to help eliminate homelessness around the world by providing houses for families in need.

Third Day is currently on tour with Bebo Norman and The Paul Coleman Trio. Third Day is scheduled to perform in 51 cities, following the November release of their fifth album "Come Together," which immediately jumped to No. 31 on the Billboard charts after selling 56,000 copies in its first week.

Part of the goal of Friday's concert was to encourage the audience to get involved with Habitat for Humanity by volunteering their time and resources. The organization was founded in 1976, and has built

more than 120,000 houses around the world, sheltering some 600,000 people in affordable housing.

The band donates \$1 from each ticket they sell to assist Habitat's efforts.

"One thing I'm excited about, is that it's not set up where we were doing this commercial from stage...When people come to the show they're automatically donating to this cause," guitarist Mark Lee said.

"They bought their ticket, they've got a Third Day shirt and a Paul Coleman CD or whatever, and so for us to ask anymore of the audience I don't think would be quite fair, so it's cool that we were able to have it set up that way. What we do can have an impact for a lot longer than just one day. There is a legacy involved."

Lee hoped those who attended the concert would be encouraged to help support the local Habitat for Humanity in Boise.

More information on Habitat for Humanity can be found on the Web at www.thirdday.com, and www.habitat.org, or by calling the Boise office at 331-2916.

Hot new music picks

The Dallas Morning News
Knight Ridder Newspapers

ALANIS MORISSETTE "Under Rug Swept" (Maverick) Grade: B

When Alanis Morissette emerged in 1995 — sounding like an old soul trapped in the body of 21-year-old — it was obvious she was more than just another flavor of the week.

True, some skeptics dismissed her as a post-grunge anger merchant. But anyone who bothered to listen to the entire Jagged Little Pill CD (not just the snarling "You Oughta Know") discovered a songwriter who wrote about the pitfalls of love and life with uncommon depth. Uncommon, at least, in the Hallmark Card-like world of rock lyrics.

Seven years and two albums later, she's still digging away at the male-female dynamic and uncovering nuggets of wisdom. "21 Things I Want In a Lover" — the witty tune that opens Under Rug Swept — is just what the title says: Alanis' wish list of potential-boyfriend traits. As fans of the cerebral singer might guess, washboard abs are not on her list.

As upbeat and quirky as "21 Things" is, she spends much of the CD exploring the same emotional minefield she navigated in Jagged Little Pill and its follow-up, 1998's Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie.

"Narcissus" is the flip side to "21 Things," a no-holds-barred personality study of the ego-crazed jerk she makes the mistake of falling in love with.

"So Unsexy" and "Flinch" studies the way certain men send her self-esteem reeling. And "Hands Clear" — the CD's first single and its most intriguing tale — is sung in the voice of a male record-biz exec who's having an affair with his young protégé: "If it weren't for my attention, you wouldn't have been successful," he says, spinning a web of mind games.

Is the song autobiographical or fictional? Morissette's not telling, of course.

But what makes her psychodramas worth listening to is the fact they always sound as if they're written from experience. If only her music were as revealing as her words.

Although Morissette produced and wrote every tune on Under Rug Swept, the album still bears the formulaic imprint of Glenn Ballard, her producer and co-writer on Pill and Junkie. Most of the new songs sound so 1995 — lots of echoey drums, distorted guitars and hip-

hop flavored drum loops — it's as if Morissette purposely tried to retrace the blueprint of Jagged Little Pill, which sold 28 million copies.

But the saving grace is her voice — an ever-shifting instrument brimming with comic nasal twists and strange diction. The guitars, drums and keyboards on Under Rug Swept might be stale, but Morissette's moody vocals make her lyrics all the more interesting. Thor Christensen

KYLIE MINOGUE "Fever" (Capitol) Grade: B

Talk about an appropriate song title: Australian pop-dance princess Kylie Minogue's latest international hit "Can't Get You Out of My Head" sticks in your brain with the strength of industrial Super Glue. Just one listen to the song's hypnotic, electronic beat and its "la la la" refrain will do the trick. You'll never get it out of your head.

That's why "Can't Get You Out of My Head" has been such an across-the-board smash. The song perched itself at No. 1 in 17 countries, selling 3 million copies in the process. Now all eyes are on the United States, where Minogue's been a non-entity since 1989, when her second album Enjoy Yourself was released.

The verdict's in: She's conquered Middle America. "Can't Get You Out of My Head" stands at No. 15 on Billboard's pop singles

chart a mere five weeks after its release. Top 10 success is all but assured. The last time Minogue was in the U.S. Top 10 was back in 1988 with her cover of Little Eva's "The Loco-Motion." Though she's maintained stardom throughout Europe, none of her five albums from 1990 to 2000 saw the light of day on this side of the Atlantic.

So for the young, especially the pop radio constituency, Minogue is a new artist. Fever, released in October overseas, is an irresistible introduction to the uninitiated. From start to finish, the album mixes electronic grooves with pop hooks to create a trance-like confection. It's club music with structure and style.

The weakest link is Minogue's voice, which sometimes must fight to rise above the soundscapes. Although we do hear some of her seductive personality, her cute-sexy way with a phrase — particularly on the atmospheric title track and the intoxicating opening number, "More More More." (No, it's not a cover of the Andrea True Connection disco classic.)

But Minogue already proved she had strong pipes on 1994's Kylie Minogue and 1997's Impossible Princess. This time, she's just having a good time with the blips and bleeps. And much of the album has a state-of-the-art Euro-dance flavor. It will remind you of the strobe light-ready work

of Basement Jaxx and Daft Punk.

Occasionally, as on the dreamy "Fragile," Minogue's delivery is as smooth and breezy as the melody. For the final cut, "Burning Up," she convincingly goes from quiet and coquettish to loud and fiery. The music moves right along with her.

Ultimately, Fever is all about moving — on the dance floor, of course. Oh, it's also about ensuring Kylie Minogue's world prominence. Mario Tarradell

KASEY CHAMBERS "Barricades & Brickwalls" (Warner) Grade: B+

It would be wrong to say rootsy Australian singer-songwriter Kasey Chambers has mellowed on her second album, Barricades & Brickwalls.

Still, the effort lacks the startling fire of her powerful debut, 2000's The Captain.

Chambers is singing more about love this time — love gone awry, of course — on tracks such as "Not Pretty Enough" and "A Million Tears." But she can turn raw and sardonic when she's warbling about matters of the heart. The traditional country gem "A Little Bit Lonesome," with its prominent fiddle and steel guitar, boasts the great lines: "I'm a little bit lonesome/It's all your fault."

Yet the best song on the album is the hidden track "Ignorance." With just an acoustic guitar,

Chambers sings about the world's ills, from murder to starvation to war. She's angry and she's venting. And we're listening to her potent words. Mario Tarradell

FIELDY'S DREAM "Rock N Roll Gangster" (Sony) Grade: F

And a dream it surely must be for Reginald "Fieldy" Arvizu, the Yoda-like bassist for rap-rock band Korn, to get to put out his own solo disc. Such are the fringe benefits when you are part of an influential band that has made a lot of money.

Rest assured, it is his membership in that band that made this dreadful release possible. It's definitely not on the basis of the disc's "music" or the content. On his own, Fieldy appears to dream of nothing more than being a hip-hop gangster in the style of Coolio or Snoop Dogg.

The disc establishes its "aspirations" from the very start: The opening "song" is a 15-second recording of gunshots. Those go on to become the percussion for the next song, "Baby Hugh Hef." If the title doesn't tell you everything you need to know, how about the lyrics' original turns of phrase such as "I like the fame and the fortune, I can't complain, what a great life."

No one would begrudge Fieldy his right to the pursuit of happiness. If only he'd keep his wannabe gangster hip-hop stuff to himself. On his own, the dude sucks.

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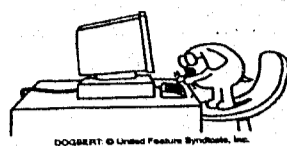
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BY SCOTT ADAMS



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Attorneys: Margaret Laramie and Julie Schneider of Schneider & Laramie Law Offices LLP, Boise, ID.

CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Scheme Of Things by Sprengelmeyer & Davis

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IRISH PEOPLE ARE FUNNY.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY!

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT MAKING FUN OF MY HERITAGE, PAUL!

SO ARE MORONS, BUT I DON'T SEE ANY HOLIDAYS IN YOUR HONOR.

DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF.

Weekly Horoscope

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (March 14). You've had the ideas, drawn up the plans, built up your self-confidence. Now, it's time to ask for the money. Whatever you want it for is justified, so you'll probably get it. Don't spend it all in one place.

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 6 - Do you feel yourself getting stronger? It should happen any moment now. You're confident yet gentle, inspired to protect. Inside that tough exterior beats a brave heart. Stand up for somebody who needs you.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - Did you tell a friend or loved one you'd do something, then forget? It doesn't happen often, but maybe you'd better check. Even if you're late, you'll save face if you do it before being nagged.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 6 - Your goals are nowhere near big enough if you can accomplish them all by yourself. You need a team, and they're all around you. All they want to do is play. Give them direction.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Your mind may have a tendency to wander this morning. This could lead to embarrassment. Don't forget to provide something a cranky person expects. You know how he/she gets!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 7 - Your attention is beginning to turn from practical matters to fun. Better finish getting your supplies so that you can take off on your next adventure. Don't forget something important, like food. Better to have it than wish you did.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - Better discuss an investment you've been contemplating with your partner. It's not a good idea to spend the money before you're sure it's going toward the right thing. Mistakes can be expensive.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Today is a 6 - No need to feel overwhelmed for long. Friends would love to help, so tell them what you want. You're the one with the idea, but one of them will show you how to make it happen.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is an 8 - You're getting into the "hard work" part of the process. Sure, dreams can come true, but vivid fantasies are not enough. Elbow grease is also required.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - It's amazing how just being quiet can sometimes lead to profound insights. Love is the answer again, of course.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - This'll be a good night for a family meeting. If anybody's got hurt feelings, it should be easy to tell. Love is strong, so understanding can't be far behind.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - You may run out of ideas soon, but that's OK. You know where to find more, and searching for them is one of your passions. This next part's going to be very interesting.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is an 8 - You're wise and compassionate already. Would it be OK to also be rich? Accept a promotion or raise that you've earned - or, if that's not happening, a whole better job. You're worth it.

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Island off Java
 - Artist Picasso
 - Ms. Fitzgerald
 - Actress Moran
 - Austrian psychiatrist
 - Polite address
 - With prudence
 - Not taken in by
 - Glossy fabric
 - Kaline and Jolson
 - Precipitation
 - Kitchen utensils
 - Spotting
 - Killers in the family
 - Actress Anderson
 - Sentimental drive
 - Barked like a peke
 - Chekhov or Bruckner
 - Tango team
 - Make fun of
 - Put on pounds
 - Uncouth clod
 - Small coin
 - Like Custer at the Little Bighorn
 - Teaching session
 - Hot tubs
 - Zounds!
 - Young boy
 - Completely
 - Johnson of "Laugh-In"
 - Opening remarks
 - New York nine
 - Stop, look and look?
 - Occupation
 - Editor's note
 - IBM feature from 1981
 - Tennis units
- DOWN
- Flower plots
 - Pavarotti solo
 - Tilt
 - Beginning
 - Deutsche mark fraction
 - Ready when you _!
 - carotene.
 - Calmed
 - Extended trip
 - Atlanta school
 - Hawaiian island
 - Ovid's tongue
 - Surrounded by
 - Stand on hind legs
 - Edinburgh man
 - Exam for jrs.
 - Banner
 - Gossipy Barrett
 - Against
 - Dubuque man
 - Bases for statues
 - Duo
 - Salinger heroine
 - Ownership document
 - Deion's nickname
 - Musical piece
 - Two-sided belief
 - Extensive enterprises
 - Parcels of land
 - Scourge
 - Cloth connections
 - White heron
 - Picture border
 - That is (to say):
 - Lat.
 - No longer quick
 - Dust Bowl migrant
 - Bivouac shelter
 - Raw minerals
 - Buddy

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Solutions

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