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Arbiter, April 29

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

Boise State University
April 29, 2002

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Students dispute new labor policy

By Andy Benson
The Arbiter

In a labor dispute in Boise State's grounds-keeping department, students are charging management of driving them out of a job because they would prefer classified employees to students.

The management says students are quitting due to interpersonal disputes.

The eight student groundskeepers were originally laid off shortly before spring break over what supervisors said was a \$9,000 budget shortfall. Student employees, however, claim the department only has itself to blame for the budget crunch.

Andrea Berical, a student employee, said the department went over-budget because they hired additional workers to work at the Langroise House, the university residence being refurbished for Dr. Ruch.

Berical said the groundskeeping work done at the Langroise House is not within the scope of the university groundskeeping duties.

"They said they went over-budget, and the reason they went over-budget is because they hired all these new people to work at the Langroise House," Berical said.

A groundskeeping manager was not available to comment on Berical's allegations.

After being laid off, the student employees met with Imran Ali, ASBSU chief of staff, and Brooke Baldwin, senate pro-tem.

Baldwin and Ali pressured groundskeeping supervisors to rehire the students who agreed after sitting down with them and the student employees.

However, students claim after being hired on again new policies were put in effect that were designed to push the students to quit out of frustration. Students said the new policies dictated whom they had to work with during the day, and required the student employees to

apply chemicals to campus grounds.

Berical said she and another student employee felt ill after applying the chemicals and said students did not have chemical applicator licenses.

Berical also said instructions for the chemicals warned to stay clear of the applied area for 12 hours, but students were walking across the area immediately after application.

Since being rehired, five of the eight students have gone. According to Berical, four quit out of frustration and one was fired.

Russ Eanes, a groundskeeping supervisor, denied Berical's claims of attempts to drive students out, saying the students left due to interpersonal conflicts.

The student workers have yet to be replaced, and Berical said that grounds work on campus has suffered as a result.

"Look at the campus," Berical said. "It looks like shit."

Eanes denied that groundskeeping has suffered as a result of losing much of his workforce.

He said that the growth of dandelions and other weeds sprouting up on campus is to be expected this time of year. Eanes explained that the sprinkler systems were turned on just last week and the lack of watering has allowed the weeds to grow much faster than the grass.

He said the grass would catch up once the sprinkling systems are fully operating.

Eanes also said that weed control on campus is about 75 percent finished.

The department expects to start hiring again in two weeks after a registry for the jobs is completed.

Eanes said his department fully expects to have the campus grounds ready in time for graduation.

"We're keeping up OK," Eanes said. "Our number one goal is to have the campus look real good for graduation."



Photo by Jeremy Branstod, The Arbiter.

Andrea Berical shows an instance near the Multi Purpose Building that needs work.

Ruch chairs accreditation, awaits summer cost-reducing measures

By Matt Neznanski
The Arbiter

Boise State President Charles Ruch returned to Idaho last week after traveling to Bastyr University as chair of a northwest regional accreditation team.

Every 10 years, colleges and universities conduct a self-study, which is audited by a group of higher ed professionals.

Boise State underwent a similar process three years ago, Ruch said.

Bastyr University is located north of Seattle and specializes in naturopathic medicine.

Also this month, the State Board of Education approved the increased student fee requests from Idaho universities, and delayed the implementation of mandatory student health insurance for one year.

"The delay is a direct result of students saying, 'We need a year to get into this,'" Ruch said.

Ruch said the open forum the night before the State Board meeting, delivered via teleconference from locations statewide was effective in influencing the board's decision.

Four Boise State students participated in the testimony. Part of the university's plan to relieve fall class load is coming together this spring.

Ruch said initial summer registration is up, even without beginning to process transfer students and incoming freshmen.

"Students are responding, that is going to help," Ruch said. "Anytime you can spread it out, it is a good thing."

The university received State Board approval for a reduced-workweek schedule

this winter, another cost-cutting measure set to begin this summer.

The plan includes increasing the number of hours worked Monday through Thursday, and making Friday a half-day for university employees.

Classes are scheduled on a four-day cycle throughout the summer.

"The plan will reduce usage Friday afternoon, Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings. These are high cooling times," Ruch said.

The summer plans are what Ruch calls "a good example of several good ideas coming together."

He said time will tell if the summer classes actually help the pressure in the fall.

"It's still a little early," Ruch said.

'Tonight Show' crew to tape segment at Boise State

By Matt Neznanski
The Arbiter

Nearly a month after 'Tonight Show' bandleader Kevin Eubanks headlined the Gene Harris Jazz Festival, the program is coming to the BSU campus for a full-fledged showing.

A production crew from 'The Tonight Show with Jay Leno' will be on campus Thursday to tape part of the 'Jay Walking' series, with a twist.

Boise State students will have the opportunity to "show offbeat talent and say anything to Jay," said director of university relations Larry Burke.

"This is a chance for students to get their 15 minutes of national fame," Burke said. "It's a chance for students to demonstrate their creativity, for better or for worse."

He said the crew will set up either on the Student Union patio, or in the quad near the business building Thursday between 10 a.m. and noon.

Burke said the location will be posted on the BSU web site when it is finalized.

The 'Tonight Show' crew has rotated through universities in New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington taping segments to air on the broadcast.

"Now it's our turn," Burke said. "That they chose Boise State rather than any of the other Idaho schools is interesting."

He said the taped segment usually airs the week after the location shooting, and runs four to five minutes in length.

"They tape two hours for a short segment, so it will be heavily edited," Burke said.

In other 'Jay Walking' installments, participants are in contact with Leno as he asks them questions. Students will not be talking to Leno Thursday, but will showcase themselves to a producer from the show.

Burke said the crew has requested five communications students to help with set-up and taping.

"Show up and do your thing. Here's a microphone, here's the camera," Burke said.

Mathias expects smooth sailing

By Andy Benson
The Arbiter

Outgoing ASBSU President Nate Peterson handed over the reins to incoming president Chris Mathias last Thursday in a ceremony at the Senate Forum.

Peterson said he gave Mathias "an orange tie, a BSU pin, and the weight of 17,000 students on his shoulders."

Mathias said he sees two crises facing his office next year: an increasing demand by students for goods and services from the school and

student apathy towards the university and student government.

"We need to get students to care about this stuff," Mathias said.

Mathias also said that he plans to use his good relationship with the administration to further the interests of the student body.

"I have a very good personal relationship with all the administrators," Mathias said. "If I need to knock on Dr. Blake's door [vice president for student affairs] or Dr. Ruch's door, I can do that."

In addition, Mathias said he would also sit on the search committee for the new Cultural Center Coordinator.

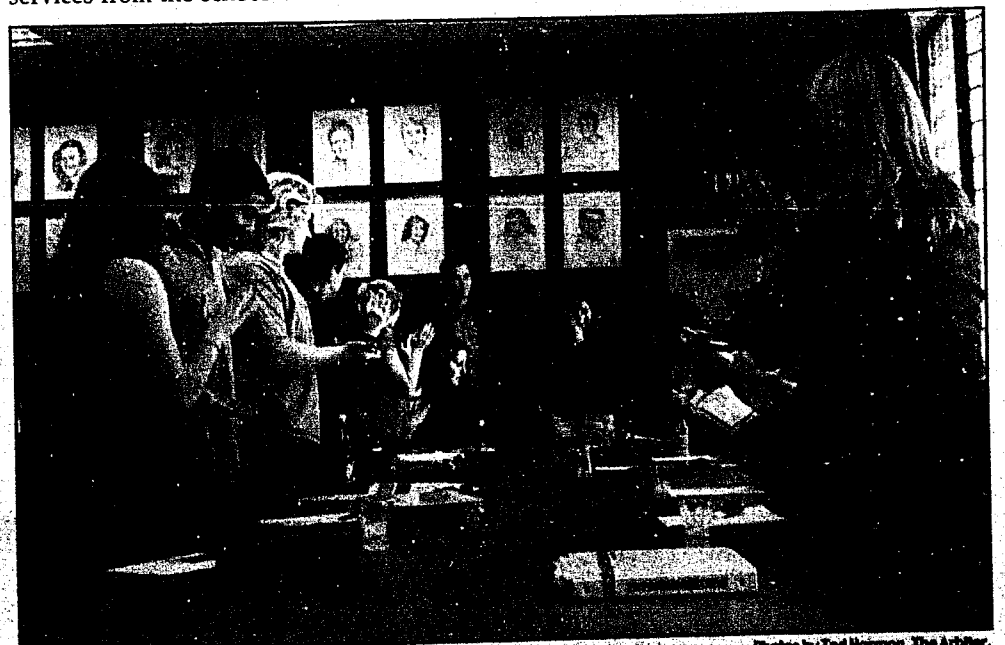
Tam Dihn, the former coordinator resigned on April 18 in protest of what she called the university's lack of support for minority students.

Mathias said he expects relations with the administration to be smoother next year.

"Like Michael Jackson, I'm a lover not a fighter," Mathias said.



ASBSU President Chris Mathias (front), backed up by Vice President Ken Rock, addresses the upcoming year during a press conference last Thursday.



Photos by Ted Norman, The Arbiter.

The ASBSU Senate gives outgoing President Nate Peterson a standing ovation.

Math professor seeks to tie down research grant

By Mary Margaret Rice
The Arbiter

Knot theorist Joanna Kania-Bartoszyńska, associate professor of mathematics and computer science, received an email Wednesday from the National Science Foundation stating she could soon receive an NSF grant for her research.

If Kania-Bartoszyńska is awarded the grant, the NSF will supply a summer salary and extra travel money for attendance at professional Topology meetings where she will have an opportunity for interaction with other specialists.

Kania-Bartoszyńska said there are currently 169 NSF awards active in topology programs throughout the nation with roughly 3,000 topologists working in academic institutions in the U.S., 1,000 of which are actively involved in research.

Kania-Bartoszyńska said the grant will allow her to work on her research during the summer months, as well as provide the money to invite other mathematicians to BSU.

"My guests would give lectures at our departmental colloquium, and our expectation is that these lectures are accessible to upper division math students," she said.

Hausrath says Kania-Bartoszyńska is "extremely good at what she does, and the National Science Foundation supports the top people in a wide variety of mathematical, scientific, and engineering areas".

Mathematics Department Chair Alan Hausrath says he is optimistic that Kania-Bartoszyńska will have final approval in a month or so. She already holds a similar grant, he said, and is one of the top national researchers in her field.

"Her work has been good, so it would be a big surprise at this point if the current

proposal were not funded," Hausrath said.

Kania-Bartoszyńska said scientists from all disciplines were invited by the NSF to apply for financial research grants.

The Foundation reviewed all received proposals, and will award funding towards those scientists of the highest caliber.

Kania-Bartoszyńska says she submitted the potential grant to the Program in Topology of the Division of Mathematical Sciences of NSF.

K-B says her proposal was reviewed by a panel and in more detail by five referees. Based on the reports and ranking against other proposals for funding, Program Officers decided to recommend it for funding.

"The grant, besides being actual money, is evidence of the respect that the mathematical community and the National Science Foundation has for her previous work and a measure of their confidence that she will continue to do excellent work," says Hausrath.

Kania-Bartoszyńska specializes in Topology, which, according to Hausrath, is the study of shapes in space.

"Topology is an area of mathematics which is essentially an abstraction of geometry. It is a study of flexible objects which can bend, twist, shrink and stretch but which are not allowed to be cut or torn," Kania-Bartoszyńska said.

Quantum topology is a rapidly developing area of mathematics that brings together ideas from physics, algebra, geometry and topology, she said.

Kania-Bartoszyńska received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, and is currently teaching math courses including Topology, a specialty course for seniors and graduate students.

BSU teams take second and third in human resource competition

By Amy Wegner
The Arbiter

Two teams of BSU business students placed second and third out of 14 teams at the Human Resource Collegiate Region V Competition held in Bellingham, Wash. April 12-13.

The top team, from Central Washington, barely beat out Boise State, the final score balancing on one 100-point question.

The competition consisted of Jeopardy-style questions, where the students were given a board with

five or six categories and questions ranging from 100 to 1000 points each.

The competition helps students study for the human resource certification exam, which is required to be certified as a professional in human resources (PHR).

Human Resource Management professor and coach of the team, Gundars Kaupins said "We have been ranked 4th in the country, of all colleges and universities, with the most students passing the human resource exam. This competition is an annual event,

and BSU's third year of participation."

Students on the second place team consisted of junior Kelly Hartzel, and seniors Beth Foote and Nicole Quintana.

The third place team was made up of seniors Wendy Carlson, Paul Arrinton and Christ Cauthra.

In the first round of the three-round competition, this team outscored all of the other thirteen teams, having 25,000 points, with the closest team following [also BSU] with 13,000 points.

"These students who

participate in the competition are generally interested in getting certified in human resource management. In the past all students competing in the event from BSU have passed the exam," Kaupins said.

Competing colleges included Western Washington, Portland State, University of Washington, Montana State, University of Alaska-Anchorage and Washington-Vancouver.

U. Arkansas professor to offer course on whiteness

By Jose Lopez
Arkansas Traveler (U. Arkansas)

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. - The sociology department will offer a new course for the fall 2002 term. And it will not be the typical sociology course students might expect. Gordon D. Morgan, a University of Arkansas sociology professor, will teach the first course on "whiteness" at the UA.

Whiteness is the philosophical idea that white people have certain unique traits only they have possessed throughout history, and it refers to how white people historically have practiced supremacy in the world, he said.

Several American universities teach such a course. Morgan said his class will take a theoretical, philosophical and historical approach to find how whiteness has become embedded in history as a

philosophical idea.

His class will further examine this idea by studying where it came from, what purpose it serves and what it is worth, he said.

Morgan said he does not intend to look at whiteness as an idea based on skin color. It actually is the culture, the psychology and the attitudes of white people his class will use to determine whiteness, he said.

Research done by Morgan and others indicates that the philosophical idea of whiteness is not dominant around the world. Whiteness is the norm in two places in the world: the United States and South Africa, he said. This concept is not widespread because historically it only survives in places where the assimilation process is dominant, he said.

"People try to pick it up and use it in their psychology," Morgan said, refer-

ring to the importance of assimilation in the survival of whiteness.

He said China and India are examples of places where whiteness would never survive.

Morgan said even in England it would have a hard time surviving. England does not emphasize whiteness as does South Africa, he said.

George Jay, an English professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, also has conducted research on whiteness. According to his web site, the white race is an invented race, made up after French, German, English and other European peoples mixed.

Jay said one purpose of a course such as this is to shed light on how whiteness subliminally has been enforced through media such as art and literature.

Jay acknowledged the danger of such a course, saying people could per-

ceive it "as just a gimmick for keeping the focus on white people or as another attempt to put white people back in the position of privilege."

However, he said the main risk of this class is "re-circulating the very ideas and images it hopes to eradicate."

Although the UA offers about 30 courses dealing with human diversity, none have dealt specifically with the idea of whiteness. Morgan said he expects about 20 students to enroll in his class.

He said 20 is a good number because it will allow more opportunity for inquiry from students. He said the course will not be a requirement of the sociology curriculum, though it can become a substitute for western civilization credit after petition.

Progression Project: (1)One
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Calendar

APRIL 29
St. Luke's mobile mammography unit. Administration parking lot. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sponsored by Boise State Women's Center, nursing department, Health and Wellness Center and HersWest. For appointment call 381-2055.

Senior recital, Steve McCormick, piano, Morrison Center Recital Hall. 7:30 p.m. Presented by Boise State music department. Free. Call 426-3980.

Treasure Valley Concert Band/ Music Week Performance, Boise High School. 7:30 p.m. With the Boise Highlanders. Presented by Boise State music department. Free. Call 426-3980.

APRIL 30
Student recital, Rebecca Podwils, flute, Morrison Center Recital Hall. 7:30 p.m. Presented by Boise State music department. Free. Call 426-3980.

MAY 1
Guest artist Dan Immel, piano, Morrison Center Recital Hall. 7:30 p.m. Presented by Boise State music department. Tickets: \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and free to students and Boise State faculty and staff. Call 426-3980.

MAY 1-4
"Channel Surfing," theatre majors spring showcase, Morrison Center Stage II. 7:30 p.m. Presented by Boise State theatre arts department. Admission at door: \$5 or \$4 with a can of food. Call 426-3980.

MAY 2
"Middle East and the U.S.: Origins of Terrorism," Michael Zirinsky, The Flicks Theater, 646 Fulton St. 10 a.m.-noon. Renaissance Institute seminar series \$40 for four-session series plus membership fee. Call 426-1709.

MAY 3
Guerrilla Girls, Student Union Jordan Ballroom. 7 p.m. Presented by Student Programs Board. Free. Call 426-1223.

"The Toxicology of Chemical and Biological Weapons," Gary R. Krieger, M.D. Micron Engineering Center, Room 106. 3 p.m. Presented by College of Engineering. Free. Call 426-5707.

muMs Special Events Center. 7 p.m. Tickets: \$6 general, \$3.50 students and Boise State faculty and staff at Select-A-Seat. 426-1494 or www.idahotickets.com. Presented by Student Programs Board. Call 426-1223.

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JENNIFER KNAPP

WE ARE SOLDIERS

News Bucket

English Restoration books enhance Boise State collection

A cache of 17th and 18th century books donated to Boise State University's Albertsons Library by Boise resident Bob Fahringer focus mostly on English history. The new additions won't show up on any best-seller lists, but Alan Virta, head of special collections at the library, considers them valuable nonetheless.

Not only is the subject matter important, he said, but so are the books themselves. "It enlarges our collection relating to the English Civil War and the Restoration," he said. "It's important to have this subject matter written by people a lot closer to that era than we are. But it's also an example of the book-making craft. These books are leather bound and the paper is in wonderful condition, made mainly from rags as opposed to wood fibers."

Fahringer began collecting the books as a graduate student in the 1950s working on a thesis on the English Restoration period.

While serving a tour of duty in the Army, he found himself in England, where he purchased several more books at quaint old bookstores.

"After my discharge in 1956 I just kept collecting," he said. "Not just old English, but also special editions and masterpiece reproductions."

The collection includes a book printed in 1649 as well as a reproduction of the Book of Kells, a hand-illuminated manuscript originally done by monks in Ireland in the 8th century.

Before he knew it, Fahringer's collection had grown to more than a hundred, finally topping out at about 285. A teacher at the high school and college levels for 38 years, he moved five times, packing books with him every time.

Finally, a friend suggested he donate them to the university.

As a former teacher, the idea of making the books accessible to students is appealing. "I hope they'll have an opportunity to use them, particularly the newer history and literature books," he said.

The books will be kept in the rare book room with temperature and humidity control, but will be available to the public upon request.

"Sweet Memories" film festival benefits Alzheimer's research

When someone is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, family members often feel overwhelmed and afraid. Soon after Susan Randall's mother was diagnosed, she and her sisters watched a touching and funny documentary and found it helped them begin to discuss their emotions and situation.

"Watching a movie was where we could start talking about it based on someone else's experiences," said Randall. "Film brings us to awareness in a different way."

Randall, assistant director of University Television Productions at Boise State University, along with other members of the Alzheimer's Association, Oregon-Greater Idaho chapter, has created a film festival to reach out to the community, making them aware of valuable resources.

"Sweet Memories," a film festival benefiting Alzheimer's disease research, will feature three award-winning short films, a variety of decadent desserts, and opportunities for people touched by Alzheimer's to share stories and information.

The festival will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, in the Bishop Barnwell Room at the Boise State Student Union. A \$10 donation at the door is suggested.

Donations will go to "A Ride to Remember," the Alzheimer's Association, Oregon-Greater Idaho chapter's fundraising bike ride from Boise to Portland on July 7-13. Proceeds are earmarked for research in Idaho and Oregon.

With wit and artistry, three films will offer glimpses into lives of people with Alzheimer's and their families.

In "Erased," Jay Rosenstein overlays his mother's answering machine messages with home movies. Claudia Myers' film "Buddy and Grace" portrays the enduring love of an elderly man and his wife, who suffers from the disease.

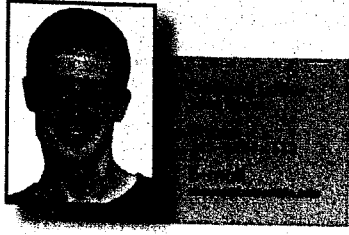
Oscar-nominated "Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter" is a sweet and funny documentary by Deborah Hoffmann, whose mother has Alzheimer's.

After the second film, Joan Dashiell, regional director of the Idaho/Oregon chapter of the Alzheimer's Association will facilitate a discussion for people whose families are affected by the disease.

Dessert will be ongoing throughout the films and discussion. Additionally, volunteers from the Alzheimer's Association and an early-onset Alzheimer's group will staff a table to answer questions and provide information.

"Sweet Memories" is presented by Boise State University Television Productions, with support from the Alzheimer's Association, Oregon-Greater Idaho chapter, Best Bath Company, Organon, Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, A Ride to Remember and Boise State University.

For more information, call 426-3468. For more information about "A Ride to Remember," call Bev Pressman at 362-4828.



Opinion

Powell's efforts at Mideast peace misguided

For anyone who thought that the U.S. was interested in anything other than economic hegemony and empire, this week should've been a major ideological turning point.

As Israel's Prime Minister mercilessly pounded 15,000 refugees crammed into a one square kilometer patch of shacks and dwellings with 250 missile strikes a day, dozens of F-16s, and 50 tanks, Colin Powell, Mr. Bush's point man for peace, embarked on an "urgent" peace mission that included a casual eight day excursion across North Africa before arriving in Jerusalem to meet with Sharon.

Powell then proceeded to visit the besieged Arafat and demand that he denounce that day's suicide bombing, ignoring completely the atrocity occurring miles away in Jenin. National census and UN figures indicate that 47 percent of the population in Jenin camp is children under age 15 or adults over 65.

Reports coming out of the camp indicated that some of those children had been forced to drink sewage; bulldozers were clearing piles of bodies from the streets; and Israeli

army officers were saying, "When the world will see the pictures of what we have done there, it will cause us enormous damage."



Apparently, the lives of Palestinian children and old folks have now become so worthless that such circumstances don't draw any comment from the Bush administration's only dove, an indication of Bush's commitment to human rights, the sanctity of human life, and peace.

Nor did they draw comment from anyone else—except a handful of suffering Palestinians. That's because the IDF, Israel's army, refused to let any journalists (Israeli or for-

eign), ambulances, rescue teams, or simple civilians bearing food and water, into the camp. One must ask, "What are they hiding?"

Ambulances that came close to the camp were shot at; amounting to a war crime, as it is certain that wounded individuals bled to death in the streets as a result. Even days after the "massacre"—as it was accidentally called by Israel's Shimon Perez, who later retracted the comment—heavy equipment and rescue teams still had not been allowed into the camp to try and save those trapped under the rubble (as of April 22). Sadly, all sides—the IDF, UN representatives, Israeli and foreign media—agreed that the stench of decomposing bodies wafting from the camp was overwhelming.

Israeli government officials and the obedient Israeli media are treating this atrocity primarily as a PR problem (in Hebrew 'hasbara'). Accordingly, Prime Minister Sharon recently objected to a UN fact-finding mission on the grounds that "two of the three members [of the team] were veterans of humanitarian work," and "Israel was not consulted in the selection of the

team" (according to the New York Times). For Sharon, humanitarians not handpicked by Israel amount to a "setup to accuse Israel of war crimes." The Bush administration, for its part, was "taken by surprise" that Sharon rebuffed an objective attempt to examine the extent of Israeli destruction and terror; but we're not to worry, the ever-diligent Mr. Powell "was on the phone this evening," and he doubted that "Israeli objections would be insurmountable." Nice of them to be so generous; most war criminals aren't so amenable.

So there you have it: a major atrocity is committed and covered up by a prominent U.S. ally, using weapons of mass destruction and terror that the U.S. has sold to it (\$3.6 billion a year from the U.S. in "aid," half of which is military), and Bush does virtually nothing, expressing his amazement when the colonialist oppressor, following assiduously in our footsteps, refuses to let anyone look at what it has done. (Keep in mind that 200 or so years ago the U.S. similarly made this continent's Natives repeat refugees, also exercising indiscriminate slaughter when considered nec-

essary.)

Meanwhile, U.S. hard-line hawks and doves alike ponder whether their dictator/ executive has lost his sense of "moral clarity."

Sadly, he hasn't. The President's sense of "moral clarity" is as clear as ever. We know because he's acting exactly as we'd expect someone to act who is mostly interested in monopolizing Middle-East energy reserves and maintaining "full spectrum dominance" (the official Pentagon term for "empire"). Israel is the U.S.'s ally because, as a Nixon official once put it, along with Turkey it serves as one of our local "cops on the block" in the Middle East. Seumas Milne of the Guardian elucidates: "Unlike the various autocratic Arab potentates the U.S. and other western states lean on to keep the oil flowing and their populations in check, Israel is an utterly reliable ally with a proven military record against Arab armies. It was Israeli prowess which broke the dangerous spell of Nasserism [that is, Arab nationalism] when it defeated the Arabs in the six day war." Furthermore, "while it is impossible to imagine Israelis electing

an anti-western government, it would be a one-way bet in many Arab countries if their people were actually given a choice." These factors guarantee U.S. support for Israel; comparable, one might suggest, to a gangster racketeering outfit.

Bush is currently pulling off a balancing act. He has to support our junior imperialist partner, Israel, at the same time that he builds up Arab support (or at least acquiescence) for the desired "immanent" war with Iraq. Right now, these two necessities grossly contradict each other: the populations (not leaders) of our client Arab states get very upset when Israel starts ravishing the Palestinians, and Israel gets upset when we don't unquestioningly support their ravishing—err, "anti-terrorist network" operations. And so we're conflicted—such are the trials of wealth plunderers. But rest assured. Colin Powell is on the phone, and we can all be sure that Mr. Bush will do exactly what's right—for Exxonmobile, the Carlyle Group, and Citibank.

Pure capitalist belief system benefits minorities

Capitalism breeds equality. Others on this campus are constantly putting forth false claims that capitalism is the cause of racism, sexism, and social prejudice. Nothing could be further from the truth. Capitalism in its pure form brings equality to all races and sexes. Sometimes people working within capitalism are bad and do bad things, but this does not mean that the capitalist system is bad.

Let's start out with sexism. Borrowing a thought from one of the most intelligent professors on this campus, capitalism was a big catalyst in the Women's Rights Movement. How can this be, you ask? A true capitalist would recognize that the biggest expense for any business is their employees. Granting women their right to enter the workforce doubled the labor pool. When there is an increase in the amount of available workers, the cost of labor goes down. By granting women the right to work, capitalists were able to cut the cost of doing busi-

ness. Stealing some facts from the Sociology Department, there has been a drop in pay in fields that were once dominated by men and are now readily available to women. My sociology professor gave the example of a baker. Baking used to be dominated by males and paid pretty decent. After granting women the right to work, many women entered the trade of baking and wages fell.

Some call this sexism, but more rational people clearly see simple supply and demand being played out. Capitalism and corporations are responsible for the quality of life that we all enjoy. Again, I would like to champion women here. Before capitalistic industrialization, women had a very rough life as they were in

charge of taking care of the domestic front. I'm not kidding about this. These courageous women had no refrigerator, no washer and no dryer. This meant that food had to be purchased and gathered daily.

Laundry was a monumental task without modern day machines. Women had to bend over a wash-tub for hours scrubbing away only to have the joy of hanging the clothes on the line to dry for a few hours. A laundry was an all day task. Keep in mind that without a vacuum cleaner, rugs were pulled out of the house and whacked with a stick to get clean.

Then along came capitalism and corporations. Some fella had an idea that he could retire a millionaire if he placed his new fangled refrigerator in every home.

Refrigerators were mass produced by corporations, thereby lowering the cost and making them affordable to all. Putting a refrigerator and washer and dryer in the home shaved hours off the work day for women. This allowed women the opportunity to get educated and join causes like the Women's Liberation. Before capitalism and corporations, women simply did not have the time to organize to push for their equal rights.

Pure capitalism dictates that the person with the best qualifications gets the job, regardless of race or sex. Capitalism in its pure form does not allow for slavery. During the Civil War, a pure capitalist in the North would want freedom for slaves. Slaves could only work during the cotton cycle. After the cotton harvest, slaves would run out of work. Industry operates year round. If slaves were free, they could work in industrial plants. Again, this would add to the labor pool and bring the cost of labor down. This gives another rea-

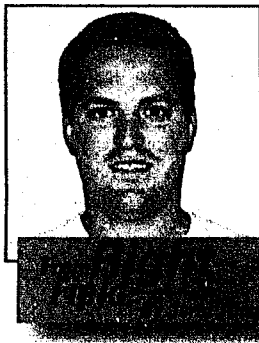
son why the North was for freedom and the South wanted slaves. Freedom for slaves was better economically for the North.

I know that some are going to find fault with using economic reasons to overcome moral shortcomings. Perhaps a better question to ask is does it matter? Arguing about the morality of slaves never changed the fact that slavery was practiced. The slave issue was heated from the beginning of the drafting of the Constitution (as evidenced by the 3/5 compromise). We argued the morality of slavery for over 80 years without change. Once slavery was understood in economic terms, slavery was abolished.

Other people point to Enron as the perfect example of what is wrong with capitalism. While what happened with Enron is terrible, it does not show the failings of capitalism, rather, it highlights what happens when bad people become involved in capitalism. For every one Enron there are thousands of great

corporations that use company profits to help people. As most of you have seen on your picture box, Crest is providing free dental service to thousands of inner city children so they can keep their teeth. While it could be argued that Crest is just like tobacco companies in doing this; creating a future market with children to ensure future profits, I must again ask "so what?" The bottom line is that thousands of children are getting free dental care. If the government did it these same people would feel good about how helpful another government program is. But because this generosity came from a corporation, they find it evil and offensive.

In pure capitalism is perfect in its pure form, this is not to say that all of the people in it are good. Sexists and racists still exist in a capitalistic society, just like they do in virtually all other political regimes. This shows the fault of women and men, not the capitalistic system.



Pro-life activists should fight for environmental health

By Peter Wollheim

Now that many voices have weighed in on the issue, permit me to humbly suggest that both the organizers of the recent pro-life exhibitions on the BSU campus and their opponents may have lost sight of the actual dangers to both fetal health and access to free speech in our society.

To begin with, "abortion stills a beating heart," so does miscarriage. The National Center for Health Statistics, operated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, estimates that in 1996, among the 6 million-plus pregnancies in the United States, 22 percent were terminated by induced abortions, while 16 percent ended in stillbirth or miscarriage. A precise calculation of these spontaneous abortions is difficult to obtain, given the difficulties of diagnosing loss of embryonic tissue during the earliest stages of pregnancy. However, at a minimum, a fetus in our country is two-thirds as likely to die in womb from what are termed "natural causes" as it is from any kind of elective surgical pro-

cedure. Incidentally the Idaho rate for miscarriages may run as high as 20 percent, although this discrepancy might result from inconsistent reporting and classification schemata across all the states.

Based on a medical layman's review of some current epidemiological literature, embryonic and fetal death are generally attributable to poor prenatal care due to substandard nutrition; substance abuse or traumatic accidents; chronic illnesses such as obesity and diabetes; or infectious diseases such as the human papilloma virus. What clearly remains under-reported and under-investigated is the role that industrial pollutants such as heavy metals, aerosols, solvents, agribusiness-produced hormones, and waste products play in compromising fetal health to the point of severe birth defects and even death.

A recent CDC Reproductive Health bulletin, based on research conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, complains that "most of the 4 million chemical mixtures in commercial use

remain untested. Physical and biological agents in the workplace that may affect fertility and pregnancy outcomes are practically unstudied." At the same time, both demographic and clinical evidence suggests strong causal relationships between other exposure to radioactivity, toxins, organic solvents, hormone disrupting agents, and birth defects and miscarriages. Concerned readers are advised to check the relevant publications and web sites of the Environmental Research Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as the two journals Archives of Environmental Health and Environmental Health Perspectives.

Despite the growing body of data on this subject the chemical, petrochemical, biochemical and pharmaceutical industries have consistently resisted congressional efforts to regulate the safe manufacture, storage, distribution and final disposal of actual and potential fetal mutagens and abortifacets; suppressed research on this public health issue; and successfully lob-

bied for diminished regulatory oversight and lowered penalties for those companies which knowingly introduce such materials into the air, water or landscape of the general, shared environment. This pattern of behavior closely parallels that of the tobacco industry.

For those persons concerned with reproductive health issues, regardless of religious belief or denominational affiliation, it seems philosophically inconsistent and even strange that they would concentrate their political efforts on sanctioning individual women who choose elective abortions. These are usually the segments of our population who are too poor or uneducated to afford or use effective methods of birth control. Surely members of the pro-life movement should also dedicate themselves to organizing around the environmental health hazards that compromise fetal health. It makes little sense, in my mind, to picket outside Planned Parenthood or even an abortion-provider clinic if one is not also going to demonstrate

outside the company headquarters of oil, pesticide, herbicide, insecticide, munitions, pharmaceutical and biotechnical manufacturers, or at the least petition them for increased public disclosure on the effects of their products on fetal viability.

Regarding the issue of First Amendment right to free speech, most idealistic rushes to defend this constitutional guarantee seem to ignore the reality that since the presidency of Ronald Reagan, the Federal Communications Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, and other regulatory bodies have been discouraged from applying antitrust legislation to media conglomerates. As a result, only five multinational corporations now control the news and editorial content of all mainstream broadcast, cable, satellite, television, print and electronic media in America.

Recent changes to FCC regulations now permit single radio and newspaper owners to buy and operate even more of their competitors, resulting in less programming diversity and access to alternative points of view. This erosion

flies in the face of the fact that the airwaves have always been considered a public resource and trust, and that existing antitrust and interstate commerce legislation was designed to prevent such concentrations of commercial power. Unless federal regulators and prosecutors put teeth into this legislation, arguments concerning the sanctity of free speech become increasingly moot.

A classic tool of stage magicians is a technique called "misdirection." With all their sincerity and concern about the value of maternal and prenatal life, and freedom of expression, many pro-life and pro-choice activists may find themselves unconsciously acting in a manner which distracts public attention away from the more substantial and threatening factors mitigating against both. Surely all parties in this debate might find more common cause than they currently realize.

Peter Wollheim is a Communications professor at Boise State

The Arbiter
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 The Arbiter is the official student newspaper of Boise State University. Its mission is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues affecting the BSU community. The Arbiter's budget consists of fees paid by the student body and advertising sales. The paper is distributed Mondays and Thursdays to the campus during the academic school year. The first copy is free. Additional copies can be purchased for \$1 a piece at the Arbiter editorial offices.
 Submit letters to the editor to: letters@arbiteronline.com

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AWARDS

- Dr. Helen Lolek - Sigma Tau Delta
- Women's Lacrosse Club
- Student Nurses Association
- Hui O Aloha
- Alpha Chi Omega Sorority
- Returning Women's Discussion Group
- Honors Student Association
- Institute Women's Association
- John B. Barnes Tower Hall
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- Men's Lacrosse

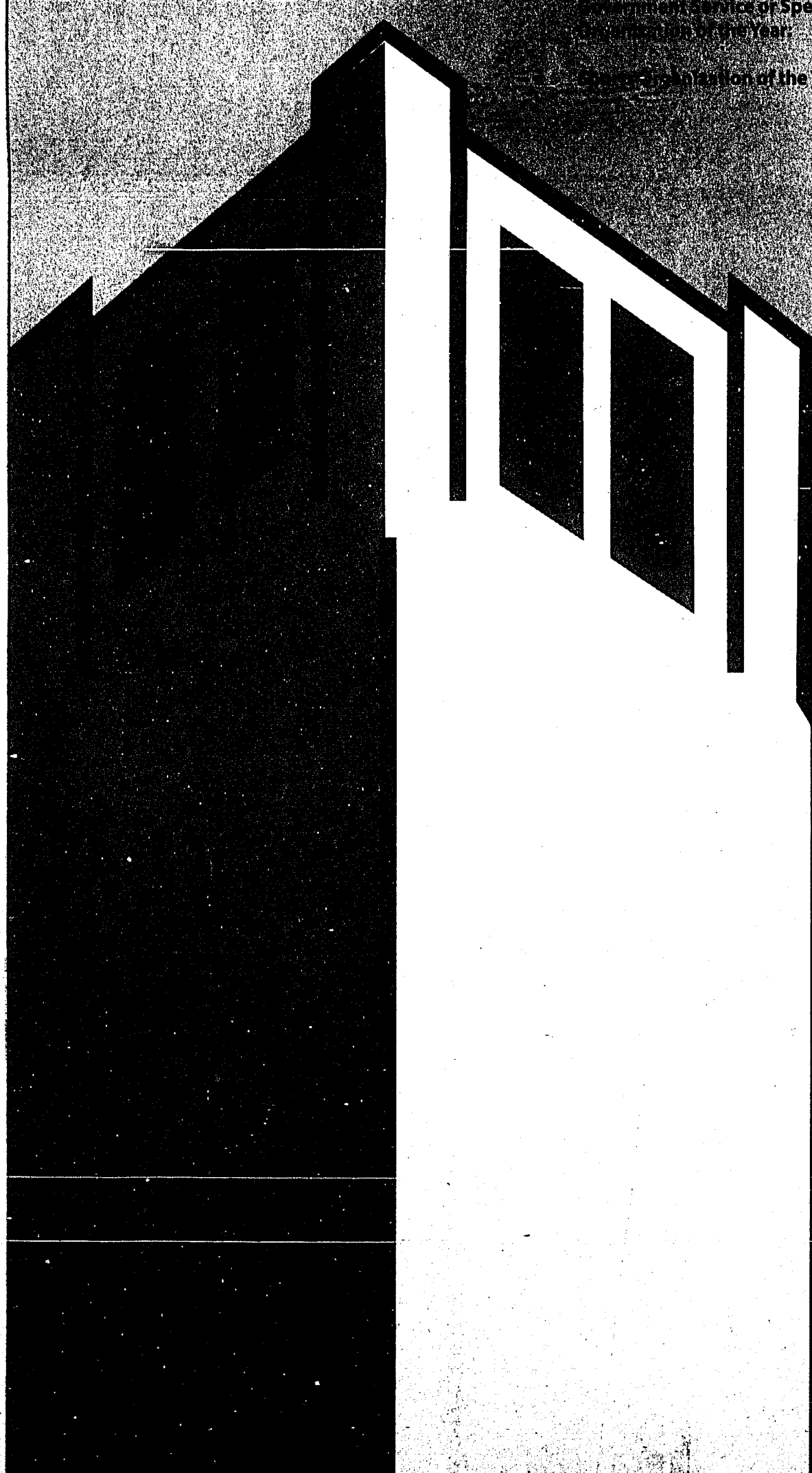
- David S. Taylor Award:** Tam Q. Dinh
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- Community Award:** Colleen Foster

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Erin Anderson
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Aaron Granden

- Dan Q. Nabors:** Leo Morales
- President's Award:** Imran Ali
- Marj Billings:** Brooke Baldwin
- Horizon Award:** China Veldhouse

- OCNORB Award:** Debby Flores
Keyin Israel

- Service Learning Awards**
- Community Partner:** Phil Hawkins
- Faculty Partner:** Dr. Peter Lutze
- Student Partner:** Senior Nursing Program





Sports

Broncos compete in golf and track

By Phil Dalley
The Arbiter

The Boise State men and women's golf teams were in action last week at the WAC championships in Nevada and Hawaii.

The women's championship was held at Red Hawk Golf Club in Sparks, NV. Tulsa's Stacy Prammanasudh ran away from the rest of the field shooting a three round score of 211 and finishing the tour-

namant at 5 under par. Prammanasudh also helped the Golden Hurricane to the team championship with a combined score of 881. San Jose State finished in second place 25 strokes behind the Hurricane.

Boise State finished in sixth place with a team score of 952. The Broncos best score came from Marissa Kim who shot a 236 and finished in 23rd.

The Boise State men wrapped up its tournament

on Friday at Turtle Bay Resort in Kakuku, HI.

Tulsa's David Inglis won the WAC Championship shooting 18 under par for a three round score of 198. Southern Methodist's Ryan Abbate finished a distant second, ten shots behind Inglis with a 208.

As a team Boise State finished tied for ninth with Rice University with a team score of 893. Graham DeLeat led the Broncos at two under par and finished tied for eighth

place. DeLeat finished with a final score of 214.

Also this weekend the Boise State men and women's track teams were in action at the Outback Invitational at Bronco Stadium.

A few records have already fell this year for the Bronco track team, but on Friday it was Abby Ellsberry who set a new mark for the women's team. Ellsberry not only took first place in the women's hammer but she

did it with a record-breaking toss of 191-1. Gloria Butler set the old record in 2000 at 186-9. Ellsberry's throw was good enough to pass the NCAA provisional qualifying standard.

Sadie Sweet also brought home a first place finish for the women in the pole vault clearing 11-6.

On the men's side Stellan Kjellander also took first in the hammer with a throw of 197-2. Jacob Powell won the 3,000-meter steeplechase

with a time of 9:29.8 and Josh Sherven won the 10,000-meter run clocking in at 33:38.15.

Former Boise State All-American Jarred Rome took first in the discus with a throw of 212-9. Rome owns the top discus throw in America this year, which is fourth best in the world.

The Boise State track team will be in action once again next Saturday at Bronco Stadium.

Lacrosse, the fastest sport on two feet

By Mandy Jo Dancer

BSU men's lacrosse president Kyle Gandiaga came to BSU from the small town of Castleford, located in southern Idaho. Gandiaga began playing the sport because he wanted to be involved in some type of athletics in college and it's good for his small frame.

"It was also a new sport and I found it interesting," Gandiaga added.

Gandiaga began playing lacrosse five years ago for BSU, and although he didn't play in high school, he hopes to continue his involvement in the sport after he graduates this May. He wants to help coach lacrosse for BSU, as well as play on a men's club team located here in town. The team calls themselves Dublin Up, named after their sponsors, The Dublin Up Bar located in down-

town Boise. "It's a club team of a bunch of old, washed up has-beens," Gandiaga joked.

Gandiaga says the two key components to playing lacrosse are quickness and endurance because the sport consists of high-speed running and fast action.

"You can't be big and slow," Gandiaga said.

The BSU men's lacrosse team doesn't have specific

workout plans like most sports played at BSU. The men work out on their own time and sometimes see each other in the weight rooms.

"Sometimes six or seven of us show up at the same time just by coincidence," Gandiaga said about his teammates.

Gandiaga's favorite aspect of the high paced sport is that it's the "fastest

sport on two feet."

With two teams battling for victory, you may not know who has won until the referee blows and the game is over.

"I remember watching a team that was down by four with 30 seconds left and they came back and won the game," Gandiaga said excitedly.

Gandiaga added that he loves the "utterness of not

knowing if you're going to win."

Although lacrosse is not as popular as sports like basketball and football, Gandiaga loves the game and loves his team. He has enjoyed his experiences at BSU and hopes to continue his journey playing the sport he gets a thrill out of playing.

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Diversions

Grad student revives poetry in new millennium

By Lauren Consuelo
Tussing
The Arbiter

It's not usual to find a poet in a suit and tie, stuck in a nine to five job. It didn't take long for Boise State graduate student, poet and New York native Matt Reiter to realize the "buttoned-up-suit life" wasn't for him. Besides, what would poetry be like if it were known for its practicality?

"Poetry is dead nowadays and my desire is to revive it," Reiter said.

And he plans to make this poetic resurrection through teaching. As soon as Reiter experienced the joys of teaching poetry writing at Boise State, he immediately recognized his calling.

"This job [teaching] incorporates everything that I want to do. It incorporates poetry. It incorporates writing. It incorporates teaching students and being able to mentor students. It's an active social environment. It's an active political environment," Reiter said.

Reiter moved to Boise two years ago and began his course of study in Boise State's MFA Creative Writing Program. As part of the curriculum, Reiter was given the opportunity to teach lower-division poetry writing, which became a pivotal moment in his career.

"Teaching 205 has confirmed my choice in wanting to become a teacher of poetry and creative writing. The workshop environment is quite familiar to me after seven years of being a student, and I find it even more enthralling as the coordinator/teacher of the creative writing processes. My 205 class has been great this semester!" Reiter said.

Obviously, teaching has been an exceptionally rewarding experience for Reiter and

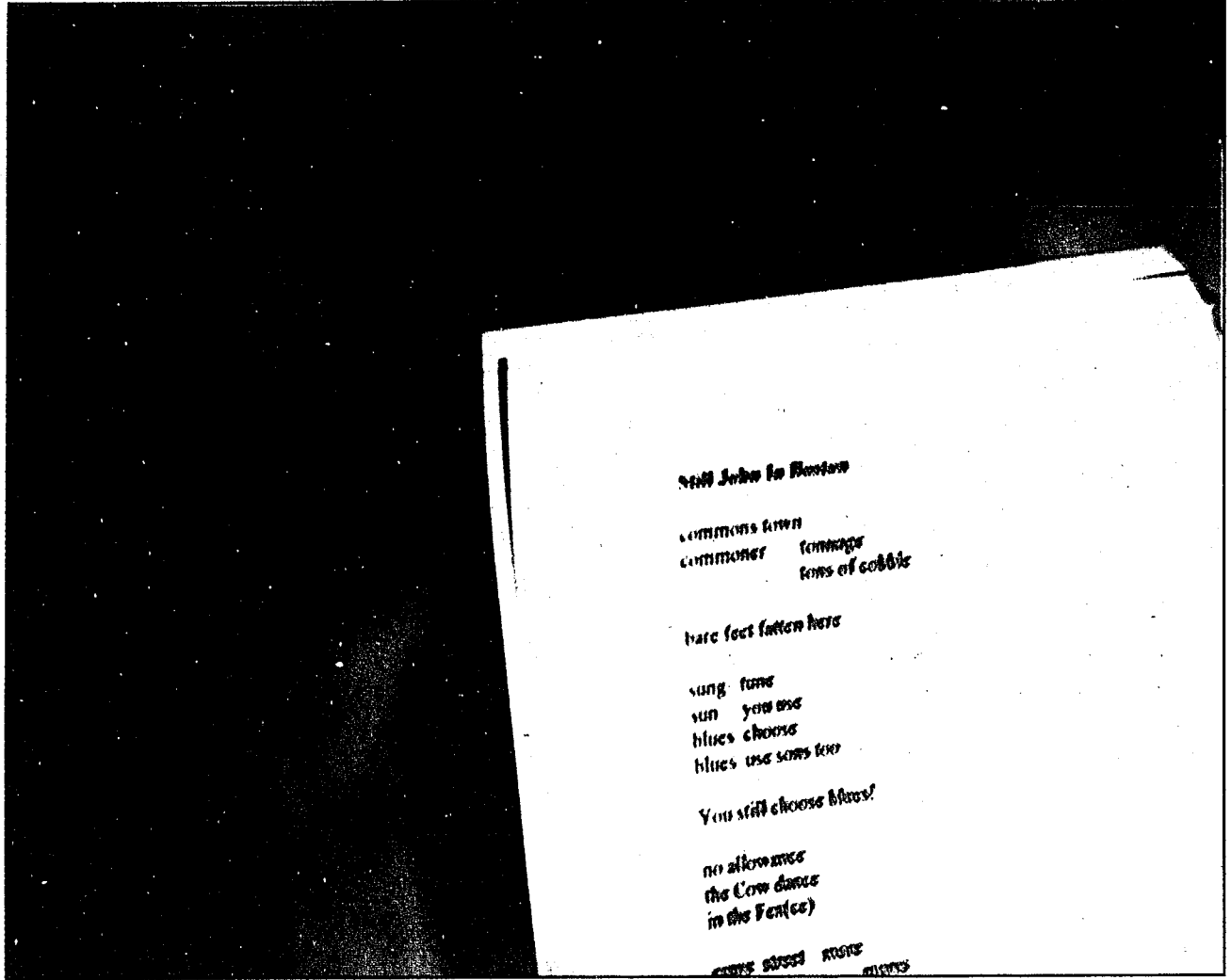
he attributes much of the success to his students and fellow poets in Boise State's English department, including Martin Corless-Smith, Janet Holmes, Karena Youtz, Maura Payne and Mark Brown.

"My students are vocal, they are thirsty to learn about the craft, and they have become used to experimenting with their own writings no matter how weird or off-centered the assignments or approaches are. That's not easy to do; to de-familiarize yourself with your own writing is tricky and seems foolish at times. But, through experimentation, they are truly realizing both the potential of their own writings and the potential satisfactions of the world poetry," Reiter said.

Reiter was born in Queens, New York, where he lived with his mother until he was 10 years old. That's when he moved to Fairlawn, New Jersey to live with his father. Upon high school graduation, he enrolled in West Virginia University. It was there that he met his poetic mentor, James Harms, who recognized and encouraged Reiter's impeccable artfulness. After studying at WVU for five years, Reiter received a bachelor's in English with a creative writing emphasis.

Reiter realized his love for language at an early age. He composed his first poem in 1984—his earliest poetic inspiration coming from the hope that his grandmother would buy him an expensive toy. Of course, Reiter's poems have evolved since the tender years of his boyhood and he currently finds poetic stimulus elsewhere...or perhaps everywhere is a more accurate word.

"Music is my main inspiration. For life, for poetry...any-



The words of Matt Reiter.

Photo by Kelly Day, The Arbiter

thing...it exists within us all and it/we are constantly making sounds, consciously or unconsciously...Sound, noise, music and motion are necessary constants in my life in order for me to create songs, poems, or other forms of art," Reiter said.

Reiter names songwriters such as Bob Dylan, Jim

Morrison and Kurt Cobain as influential in his development as a poet. Among the poets that Reiter lists as instrumental in his career are William Carlos Williams, Allen Ginsberg and Lawrence Ferlinghetti. Currently, Reiter is exploring a new poetry project.

"Recently, in Martin

Corless-Smith's Graduate Poetry Workshop, I have been working with another musical element and that is dance. I love to dance, and anyone who has seen me at shows in town know my affinities toward, 'getting a good groove on.' I am trying to write a longer poem, 20-30 pages, in which the characters and images of

the poem try to dance their way through the poem's landscape...We can sing a poem. We can read a poem. We can listen to a poem. But, can we dance through and with a poem? This is my current exploration," Reiter said.

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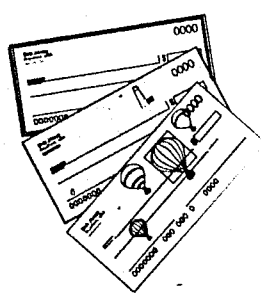
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Senior artists respond to technology



"Curlo" by Carrie Quinney. Photos and installed objects.

Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

By J. Patrick Kelly
The Arbiter

Once again, Boise State's Department of Art is graduating another class of artists and displaying their definitive college projects in a bachelor of fine arts thesis exhibition.

This year's installation is called "Busy Signal." The exhibit is an artistic rebuttal to the chaos of popular media forms and high-tech electronic communications that exist in our society. The display's mission is to connect people via visual communication in juxtaposition to the disconnected feeling people get from modern technology.

"Busy Signal" is running until May 15 in Gallery One of the Liberal Arts Building and Gallery Two of the Hemingway Center.

Senior fine arts major Carrie Quinney's black & white photography installation, "Curlo," relates to collectible objects that connect people to the past and are treasured for their nostalgic curiosity.

"I really wanted to make the photographs seem like they could be from another time or reality, that is why some of the 'characters' look like vaudevillians or from the past," Quinney said.

"I get to play director of my own little production. The photograph itself becomes a collectible that is valued for its unique qualities as well as what it depicts."

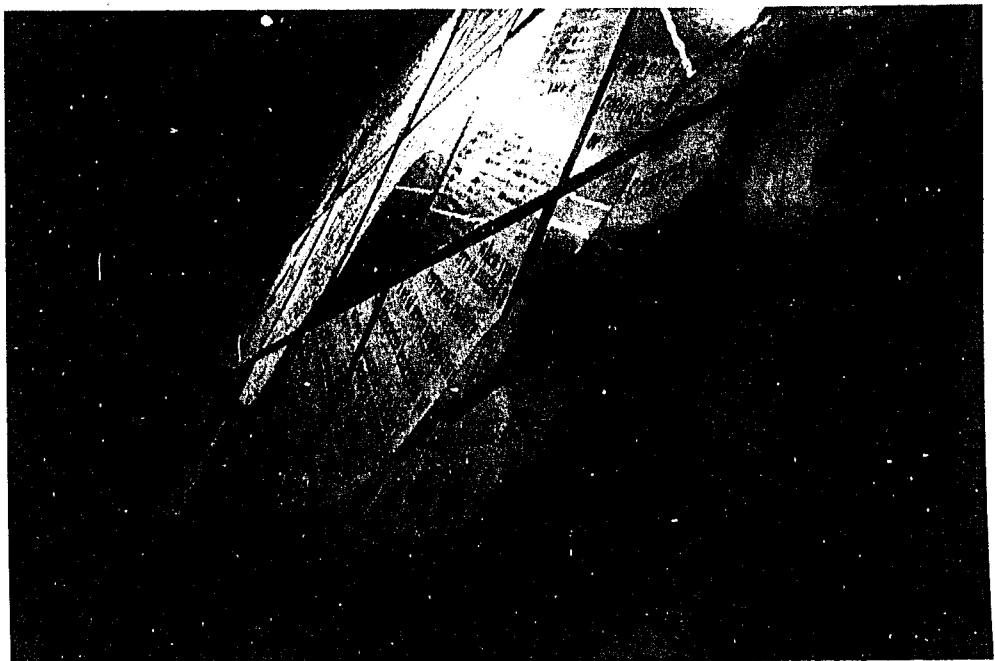
Senior graphic design student Matthew Brunicardi, a Bay Area native, breaks convention and examines the creative world of bookmaking and binding. In two of Brunicardi's artists' books, "Absence" and "Presence," he compares the colorful world of New York City street art and tag-

ging vs. Boise's absence of public exhibitions and creative graffiti.

"It depicts what's lacking in Boise because it's [unconventional public art] been legislated out of existence," Brunicardi said.

In his book "An American Topiary," he uses an artistic pun by creating a dichotomy between topiary, which is the art of trimming shrubs into ornamental shapes, and a series of newspaper photos of President Bush that were altered by the ink pens of others.

"When I was working at the Flying M Coffeehouse, I collected a bunch of photos of Bush from papers that were left over at the end of the day. Some of them were drawn on by patrons, and on one, somebody wrote 'Come Join My Minions.' I could-



"MNE Tactics" by Nancy Walker. Mixed media.

Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.



"Meet Lucy" by Ted Walker. Oil on canvas.

Photo by Ted Harmon, The Arbiter.

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Own your home! 4 Bdrm Mfg. Hm. Close to Green Belt. \$53,900. 433-9772 sherihone@hotmail.com

EVERGREEN SUITES
FREE UTILITIES!
FREE CABLE TV!
\$350 / MONTH
Private Living Areas & Bath
Shared Common Amenities
EVERGREEN SUITES 384-1600

Help Wanted

ARTISTS WANTED!!!
BOISE STATE SEEKS ARTISTS FOR 2002-2003 SEASON!!!
The Student Union Gallery is now accepting artwork submissions from students and community members. Submissions must be turned in by May 3. Applicants should turn in 12 slides of their work, a resume, biographical information and an artist's statement. Submissions that are selected will be on display for approximately 45 days. Financial assistance is available for artists' receptions and invitations. Work can be dropped off at the Student Office in the Student Union or mail it to Boise State University Student Activities, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho, 83725-1335. For more information contact Student Union and Activities at 426-1223.

Cocktail Servers
Wanted Night Moves 388-1829 After 4 pm Applications @ 4348 West State Street

SPB
Get hands on experience in the entertainment industry and get paid for it. Pick up an application @ Student Activities in the SUB or call 426-1223

Bartenders needed.
Earn \$150-250 per night. No exp necessary. Call 866-291-1884 ext 435

IDEAL EMPLOYMENT
...those who have excellent verbal skills and need a flexible schedule...
IMAGINE THIS:
- Evening & Weekend shifts 20-40 hrs/week
- Top Dollar - our reps average \$7-\$12/hour
- Paid Training
STURNER & KLEIN
FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL (208) 376-4480

\$250 a day potential/bartending.
Training provided. 1-800-293-3985 ext 223.

Take charge of your career
Walgreens is one of the nation's fastest growing retailers - with 3,100 new openings for store managers over the next five years. And we have the track record to make it happen - 27 straight years of record growth & profitability. We now seek:
MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
We have opportunities in BOISE for entrepreneurial, ambitious individuals who thrive on challenge - and who want to take charge of their future. Who want the authority to make decisions, the control to implement them & the willingness to take responsibility for the results. Retail experience and/or college degree preferred. Walgreens offers:
- Competitive starting salaries.
- Hands-on management experience.
- Dynamic, diverse work environment.
- Great benefits, including a stock purchase program.
- Cutting edge technological tools.
- Intensive training.
Send your resume to: Walgreens, 8100 W. Fairview Ave., Boise, ID 83704. Fax: 208-376-2648.
Walgreens
Walgreens.com/careers
We welcome individuals of diverse talents and backgrounds. Walgreens promotes and supports a drug-free workplace. EOE.

Free Toast

shout out **CONGRATS** to your favorite grad

Due April 30th

Call 343-2404

ROAST

DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS

I JUST FOUND OUT THAT THE COMMITTEE ACROSS THE HALL IS DOING THE SAME THING WE ARE.

ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS HUM "WEST SIDE STORY" AND HAVE A DANCE-FIGHT.

CAN YOU TEACH ME HOW TO HUM?

ALICE, WRITE A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF YOURSELF FOR ME TO SIGN.

WHAT WILL OUR SEVEN LAYERS OF MANAGEMENT BE DOING WHILE I MANAGE MYSELF?

SORRY. I'LL DING MYSELF FOR THAT ON MY EVALUATION.

IF YOU CAN'T FIND ME, HAVE CAROL SIGN MY NAME.

DON'T E-MAIL YOUR ANSWER TO MY BOSS UNTIL I'VE REVIEWED IT.

UM... OKAY.

MAY I WALK TO MY CUBICLE NOW OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO REVIEW THE ROUTE FIRST?

NOW THAT YOU MENTIONED IT, I CAN'T RELEASE.

Crossword

ACROSS
1 Perched on
5 Like a hillside
11 Black goo
14 Gloomy
15 In good order
16 The Greatest
17 Go from bad to worse
19 Forbid
20 Goody dollups
21 Bean and Welles
23 Correspond
25 Winter mo.
27 Stance
28 Family members
29 Radio station employee
31 Dancer Kelly
32 "Imagine" singer
33 Haul
36 Spike or Pinky
37 Brian of "Cocoon"
38 Simple card game
39 Conclusion
40 Sea off Corfu
41 Quick meal
42 Potts and Lennox
43 Support-line employees
44 Tel -Jaffa
47 Buffoon
48 Superlatively achy
49 "Ecstasy" star Hedy
51 Railroad switch
52 Lofty mountain
53 Compositions in new forms
58 Have regrets
59 Spode or Wedgwood
60 Hootbeat
61 Director Brooks
62 Quaking trees
63 Writer Buchanan

DOWN
1 Annex
2 Lower digit
3 Used more firepower
4 Bishop
5 Shoot from cover

6 Tolstoy and Gorcey
7 Rower's need
8 School org.
9 "Your Song" singer
10 Color changer
11 Prohibition
12 King and Ladd
13 Wash off
18 Spoils
22 Secret agent
23 Philly player
24 Bee leader
25 Female donkeys
26 Virgil's hero
29 Actor Franz
30 Some
32 DiCaprio and da Vinci
33 Repeated
34 Curses
35 Wrench
37 Racket
41 "The Elected Member" author Rubens
42 Ms. Gardner
43 Racetrack figure
44 Lookout's warning
45 Worth
46 Drive
48 Persian rulers
50 Indian prince
51 Musial or Mikita
54 Egyptian cobra
55 a la mode
56 Sine qua
57 Mineral spring

Weekly Horoscope

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

resolved, but you can get a good start - and let go of some tension.

Today's Birthday (April 29). A treasure you've stashed away could increase in value this year. Don't cash it in now; keep it hidden. You can get by if you wisely use whatever's in your pocket. Earn more before you touch your savings or go into debt. You could gain great wealth.

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 an 8 - A variety of considerations have kept you stuck. You still have a few of them, but you can see a way 5/8o advance. Say "yes" even if it seems almost impossible.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
- Today is a 7 - Put more of your money in a place where it will grow. It doesn't have to grow quickly; you won't need it for a while. Better safe than sorry.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)
- Today is a 7 - Talk over your plans with a creative partner. Might as well mention your concerns and considerations. You won't get them all

Cancer (June 22-July 22)
- Today is a 7 - A sense of urgency should have kicked in by now. That's partly because it's Monday, but more because the moon's now in Sagittarius. That's your green flag to do all those things you've been thinking about.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
- Today is a 7 - Your friends are pushing for one outcome, but a loved one wants something else. Can you be everything for everyone? Nope. Family comes first.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
- Today is a 6 - You'd just as soon stay home, but your presence is requested. Somebody needs you to help them make sense of a complex situation.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
- Today is an 8 - Are you getting smarter, or does it just seem that way? Maybe it's because you're doing the homework. Keep practicing and studying. You can grow up to be an expert.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
- Today is a 6 - You could either double your money or

lose half of it. Don't bet it all on one number. Diversify! Take only carefully calculated risks.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
- Today is a 7 - Have you figured out that you can't make it alone? Well, for some things you can, but you get a lot further with a partner, and it's a lot more fun.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
- Today is a 6 - The pressure is intense. There's no more time to talk about it. Prove you can produce results. You thrive in this sort of environment, but it's still tiring. Don't plan anything for tonight.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
- Today is an 8 - You're almost too popular! Everybody wants your time and attention. Don't stretch yourself too thin. You can't be everywhere at once. Schedule carefully.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
- Today is a 5 - You're stuck between a rock and a hard place, if you have an agenda, follow it one step at a time. Don't try to please everybody.

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