

3-13-2003

## Arbiter, March 13

Students of Boise State University

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Democratic presidential hopefuls gear up for next election

Viewpoints Page 4

University slates rock climbing competition for Saturday

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# The Arbiter

Vol. 15 Issue 49

arbitronline.com

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Boise State University

## Exotic dancers nixed from Homecoming event

By Jessica Adams  
The Arbiter

Former Student Programs Board Comedy Coordinator J.T. Portis envisioned bikini-clad dancers and whipped cream at last year's Homecoming party - paid for by student fees.

Portis arranged for exotic dancers to perform at "Foamcoming," a Homecoming event sponsored by SPB that took place downtown on The Grove last October.

When the entertainers arrived, SPB Adviser Autumn Haynes prevented the performance from taking place at the celebration.

"I knew there was going to be ice cream and chocolate

syrup and whipped cream, but at the time I thought it was for an ice cream building contest," Haynes said.

Haynes said she promptly cancelled the dancers scheduled performance the night of the event because she thought it would be inappropriate for SPB to provide adult entertainment.

"It went outside the framework of the event. We also had a family event and it was in a very public place - The Grove," Haynes said.

However, SPB paid \$360 for the cancelled performance to honor a verbal contract between Portis and Thomas Black, owner of Treasures of the Valley, a local modeling agency.

Portis was removed from

his position for violating Boise State University Student Code of Conduct. Portis said he was wrongfully fired, but when he appealed the complaints filed against him, the Student Conduct Program upheld their assessment.

According to Portis, he went through the proper channels to plan the event by obtaining the Board's approval of the event and payment request.

Portis said as part of the plan his goal was to challenge people's notions about beauty, in keeping with SPB's stated mission to challenge the views of their audience.

"This is different than where I come from [San Diego, Calif.] where there are more liberal ideas about

what's beautiful and accepted," Portis said.

The committee refused his first proposal, but passed the second one after he rewrote it to include male dancers and heightened security measures.

According to the minutes of the Sept. 24 executive committee meeting where the proposal was passed, there was heated debate on the appropriateness of the event.

Some members said the event had the potential to draw a large audience and that it would resemble a beauty pageant. Others said the proposal was sexist and would bring bad publicity for SPB.

The committee proposed several alternatives to whipped-cream bikinis.

Meyer was recorded in the

meeting minutes as saying, "Maybe we should have guys with just refried beans."

Ultimately, the committee members rewrote the proposal to redefine the event as a "Human-Sundae Contest" where participants would use ice cream and various other condiments to build "human-sundaes."

According to Portis, he also planned to have some of his male friends dance with the female dancers.

"My male friends were going to volunteer their services," Portis said.

"Some people said it was objectifying women and that's why it got cancelled and I got removed," Portis said.

## Students testify at fee hearing

### Fees could rise \$149 per semester

By Brandon Fiala  
The Arbiter

Students and community members attended a fee increase hearing Monday to discuss proposals to raise student fees as much as 10 percent.

About 100 people attended the hearing including members of the Executive Budget Committee, a significant increase in attendance from last year's hearing.

Fee proposals include a 10 percent increase to the matriculation fee, housing increases and activity fee increases for athletics, The Arbiter and marching band.

The State Board of Education set a 10 percent cap on fee increases after approving a 12 percent increase last year.

If a 10 percent increase is approved, full-time students will pay \$149 more per semester \$1,641 per semester compared to \$1,492 this year (excluding health insurance).

The Executive Budget Committee, which met Wednesday, to consider the proposed increases, will make recommendations to President Charles Ruch. The State Board will then consider proposals in April.

Steve Schmidt, director of Institutional Research, presented information about the proposed matriculation fee increase. Schmidt has said he requested 10 percent to provide flexibility because state appropriation levels are uncertain.

Four students and a BSU alumnus testified in opposition to the proposal, according to a hearing summary.

Glenn Miles, BSU alumnus, said college students in Wyoming, Nevada and other states pay less for college than Idaho students - therefore fee increases are not justified.

Craig Thompson, director of Student Housing, presented information about a proposed 8 percent increase in general room and board rates in residence halls, and a 5 percent increase in apartment rental rates.

One written statement was received in favor and one BSU Alumnus testified against the proposed residence hall rate increase. Also, one student testified in opposition to the apartment rental rate increase, according to the summary.

"If residence hall rates increase 8 percent, is there going to be an 8 percent increase in services or benefits?" Miles said.

Chris Mathias, ABSU president, presented information about a dedicated fee for club sports that wouldn't increase fees.

Twelve students and staff

Fee hearing see page 3

## Experts: Alcohol consumption related to media messages

By BriAnne Anderson  
Special to The Arbiter

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism reported environmental factors common in college settings contribute to a high use of alcohol and related problems.

Each year college students spend approximately \$5.5 billion on alcohol, more than they spend on soft drinks, milk, juice, tea, coffee and books combined, reported Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

According to NIAAA studies, 500,000 unintentional injuries, 600,000 assaults and 70,000 cases of sexual assault and acquaintance rape are alcohol-related incidents on college campuses.

BSU Health, Wellness and Counseling Services Executive Director Ferd Schlapper said the statistics paint a picture of a sobering, unhealthy reality, both of the short-term secondary effects of high-risk binge drinking and long-term relationship development.

Peter Wollheim, BSU communication professor, said alcohol advertisements are only part of the problem.

"... they are permission-giving. These don't model behavior. The ads model life-style students want to aspire to," Wollheim said.

Wollheim also said alcohol advertisements tantalize underage drinkers until students become the legal age of 21.

"Yet, ads are the symptom, not the cause. Everyone has to take responsibility for his or her part of it, not just shove it off on to everyone else. It is really irresponsible. We need to educate the youth that are looking at these ads to be more sophisticated and even cynical about them," Wollheim said.

The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention,

an institution of higher education, focusing on developing alcohol and drug prevention programs, suggested that campus environments can influence students decisions to drink or use other drugs by working with campus norms, enforcing campus policies and procedures, enforcing of regulation laws and providing alcohol-free social activities.

The Higher Education Center recommended promoting responsible drinking by addressing the issue of alcohol-related crimes and accidents. Forming a leadership coalition among students to promote responsible drinking that also models a healthy environment on college campuses can help reduce binge drinking. Other approaches might be to limit

alcohol availability and restrict alcohol marketing and promotion.

Boise State Campus/Community Coalition Addressing High-Risk Drinking will hold a meeting to address campus alcohol policies and practices on April 2, from noon to 1 p.m. in the SUB Alexander Room.



Illustration by David Habben, The Arbiter

## Winter recreational interests convene over Pilot Peak

By Jason Kauffman  
The Arbiter

Winter recreational use of Pilot Peak, an 8,141-foot high mountain located 90 minutes north of Boise, has recently come under scrutiny with conflicts between skiers and snowmobilers.

Recent collaborative successes in other regions of Idaho and the U.S. have inspired the Boise National Forest's Idaho City Ranger District to promote a similar approach to reach consensus.

The issue arose out of conflicts between skiers who sought a quiet backcountry experience and snowmobilers who feared losing a recreation area.

Sally Ferguson, grassroots coordinator for the Winter Wildlands Alliance, said her organizations main priorities include preserving the quality of experience for human-powered

winter recreationists.

"Winter Wildlands is the first and only national organization dedicated to this. We're it, and the reason we came into existence was because of the successful collaborative process up in the Wood River Valley," Ferguson said.

According to Ferguson, the goal of everyone involved in the Pilot Peak collaborative process is to mimic the successes achieved by all parties, government and private, in the Wood River collaborative experience.

"Our goals as a national organization are really about collaboration. We are really pro-collaboration, and our hope from this process is that it remains an authentic process and that snowmobilers and skiers will respect each others needs," Ferguson said.

According to Ferguson, collaborative processes involving private individuals working

alongside the federal government have proven to be an effective tool in negotiating tough land management issues.

"It's a great process, it's really wonderful that the Andrus Center and John Freemuth are participating to really guide it. I think it's a really effective partnership with the Forest Service," Ferguson said.

Skiers involved in the collaborative process have proposed separating snowmobilers and skiers into specifically agreed upon areas.

According to Ferguson, such proposals are not anything out of the ordinary in an era where increased use by various interests has placed increasing pressure on resources.

"A separate use area means each group is able to enjoy their sport in a quality manner," Ferguson said.

Recreation see page 3



Photo courtesy of Winter Wildlands Alliance

Cross-country skiers cross paths with snowmobilers in the mountains.

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## Campus Shorts

### East

**Studies shelved when duty calls**

Last October, Melissa Henderson was a student at the College of Charleston, studying psychology and weeks from graduating, when she got the call:

Her South Carolina Army Reserve unit, the 360th Civil Affairs Brigade based at Fort Jackson in Columbia, was being deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan. Her orders: Report at once.

Instead of trying on graduation robes, Henderson withdrew from her last semester of school (which she must repeat), pulled on boots and camouflage fatigues, and joined the massive mobilization for Operation Enduring Freedom and a possible war against Iraq.

She is among hundreds of reservists or National Guard members at Carolinas colleges — thousands around America — being sent overseas or to state-side military installations as replacements for other reserve or Guard units, or active-duty troops.

"I saw this coming after Sept. 11," said Henderson, of Taylors, S.C., who returned to Kabul this month after a two-week leave. "When I watched the news on TV, I knew I was going to be going somewhere, and we have a colonel who kept warning us we'd be going away eventually."

"I had hoped to finish the semester and graduate. But when the call comes, you've got to go."

Waves of reservists and National Guard troops have been called up since Sept. 11, most for a year or more. College students from major universities to community colleges have put schooling on hold and will face repeating unfinished semesters.

Most schools have made provisions for students to withdraw, including total or prorated refunds for tuition, hous-

ing, books and parking permits — and holding their spots once they return.

**Journalism school may test two-year plan**

NEW YORK—The future of Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism is finally coming into view.

Columbia president Lee Bollinger said he thinks there will be "experimentation" with a two-year program at the J-school, or a longer curriculum than the 10-month regimen now in place.

However, he told the New York Daily News, "I do not expect the current program to be abandoned."

Bollinger looked ahead as his 34-member task force, full of media heavyweights, approaches its sixth and possibly final session reviewing what the prestigious J-school should offer.

Bollinger, 56, a newspaper publisher's son and First Amendment scholar, halted a search for a new dean that preceded his arrival in July and produced two finalists for his consideration.

Instead, he set off a lively, often angry debate on campus and in the media when he insisted on examining "how future journalists should be taught" and indicated the J-school should do much more than train students to gather and present news.

Joel Gershon, president of Columbia's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, said Bollinger's expressions of doubt about the current program soured the J-school experience for him and other students.

Gershon also said he wondered how many students — the average age is now 28 — would be drawn to a two-year program that raised tuition and living costs to \$70,000 or more.



Melissa Henderson, from Taylors, South Carolina, was a senior at the College of Charleston and was only weeks away from graduating when her reserve unit was deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan.

KRT Photo by Robert Lehsery/Charlotte Observer

**Businesses can suffer during school breaks**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—The aroma of coffee and sounds of mellow music fill dimly lit coffee houses around town as students hunker down with their mugs of latte at cozy tables and cushioned seats, textbooks, flash cards and highlighters in hand.

Coffee shops are one of the businesses that thrive off the patronage of Tallahassee's college students.

But beginning late last week, those students will board planes, cars and cruise ships, leaving local businesses in the wake.

It's spring break, and they're heading to beaches throughout Florida and Jamaica, taking cruises to Mexico and exploring the wonders of Disney World.

They'll be missed. "We are greatly affected,"

said Susan Weigner, an employee at Aristotle's Coffee Garage on West Tennessee Street, which will close for the week.

"We don't have enough business to make it worthwhile," said manager Shannon Meece. She said owners have tried to stay open for the break but it "doesn't work out as well."

Wayne Harris, vice president of technology and development for the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, said: "I think most people who start businesses in a college town understand that it's a seasonal market, and there is a huge variation in the amount of customers out there based on whether school is in or school is out."

Harris said there are about 60,000 students in Tallahassee and the expenditures of the average student are about \$10,000 a year, which equals

about \$200 each week.

Campus Shorts compiled by Brandon Fiala from UWire and KRT news services.

## News Bucket

**SPRING FLING SEEKING SPONSORSHIP**

Boise State University's Student Programs Board Spring Fling committee wants to partner with area businesses and organizations in planning the 25th annual Spring Fling.

Spring Fling is an annual festival in Julia Davis Park at the Gene Harris Bandshell. This event features live music by regional and national artists, family activities such as wax hands and inflatable games and food and product vendors.

In the past two years, this event has seen an increase in attendance of over 300 percent. More than 8,000 people attended the 2002 event that combined Earth Day and the Spring Fling.

Businesses and organizations interested in becoming a sponsor may contact Skylar Christenson with SPB at 426-3655, fax 426-2160, or email specialevents@boisestate.edu.

**Craft artists invited to summer fair**

Sign-up packets for table space to display and sell your items at the fair are now available. The registration deadline is May 16.

Table reservations cost \$45. All types of arts and crafts are welcome — paintings, quilts, knitting, ceramics, beading, jewelry, etc. The Summer Craft Fair is a fund-raiser sponsored by the Filipino-American Organization, a new group founded by Boise State University students.

To request a sign-up packet, call club president Evangeline Beaver at (208) 870-2337 or e-mail her at ebeaver@mind-spring.com.

The Summer Craft Fair will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, July 19, in the Student Union Hatch Ballroom.

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# Women still lag in science, says UW professor

By J. Patrick Coolican  
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE—Joyce Yen says that when she goes to academic conferences, there's never a line for the women's restroom.

Though they've made many gains, women still lag behind men in the sciences and engineering to the detriment of scientific and technological advances, Yen argued in a lecture last week.

"You don't want solutions to the world's problems to come from the same type of people. You end up with less diversity, creativity and innovation," said Yen, a University of Washington assistant professor of industrial engineering who spoke at Bellevue Community College on the death of women in science and technology.

She pointed to early car air bags, which were designed to protect the average male, a one-dimensional mode of thinking that harmed children and small women.

Yen said women are more likely to think collaboratively than men, who she said tend to think competitively. That's increasingly seen as an asset in the corporate world and in the scientific community, she added.

Data compiled by the Association for Women in Science seem to support Yen's conclusion that women continue to be underrepresented in the sciences. In 1966, women received 0.4 percent of engi-

neering bachelor's degrees, 0.6 percent of master's degrees and 0.3 percent of doctoral degrees nationwide. In 1996, the numbers were 17.9 percent, 17.1 percent and 12.3 percent, respectively.

Women have made greater gains in biology, chemistry and especially medicine, where their number enrolled in medical schools rose from 9 percent in 1970 to 44 percent in 1999. Among women scientists, 77 percent believe it is harder for women to succeed in science because of their gender.

Yen cited ingrained gender

bias for the slower rates of progress than in other academic and professional areas.

"It starts right from the moment you put some Legos in front of a 1-year-old boy but not a 1-year-old girl," she said. Women don't consider careers in science and technology because of "years of social conditioning that tell them not to be scientists," she said.

Women must be recruited into math, science and engineering departments and then given special nurturing, Yen said.

April Ibarra, a BCC student who hopes to become a veteri-

narian, said she had benefited from the nurturing of female professors especially.

A professor at the lecture, attended by about 15 women, nearly all faculty and staff members, said she would love to nurture women students, if she could find some.

"Only a quarter of my students are women," said professor Jennifer Laveglia, who teaches calculus in BCC's math department. "Yeah, we can reach out, but if there's no one to reach out to, it's hard."

Photo courtesy of KRT.

## Recreation from page 1

According to Jerry Stuart, Region 4 director for the Idaho State Snowmobile Association, the main issues of concern to snowmobilers include preserving access and improving parking in the area.

"We have given up a lot of areas over the past twenty years or so. We just don't want to lose another area, there has got to be a give and take," Stuart said.

According to Stuart, the importance of Pilot Peak lies in its easy access and close proximity to the Treasure Valley.

"Areas within a couple hours of Boise are very important to both snowmobilers and skiers," Stuart said.

John Freemuth, BSU professor of Public Administration and facilitator in the collaborative process, said that Idaho City District Ranger Richard Markley hopes to achieve consensus between skiers and snowmobilers.

## Fee hearing from page 1

members spoke in favor of the proposal. An ASBSU senator read Senate Resolution 32, "Support for Club Sports Fee Proposal," which was approved unanimously by the Senate, according to the summary.

Brad Arendt, ASBSU general manager, presented information about a \$1 per credit hour summer student fee increase.

One student spoke in favor and one in opposition to the proposed fee.

Curt Apsey, associate Athletic Director, presented information about a \$5 increase for full-time students.

Three students testified in support and one in opposition to the fee increase. Seven written statements, all in favor, were also presented.

Participants voiced their concerns in a meeting Feb. 26. A second meeting, open to the general public, will be held on March 12.

"He wants to go away from a meeting that has people just expressing their opinions, to one where people are rolling up their sleeves and working on solutions that everyone can agree on," Freemuth said.

"The next step is solution generation. I think that Dick's goal is to have a solution in place next winter," Freemuth said.

Freemuth believes there's room for disagreement on both sides of the conflict, as long as the dialogue is eventually brought back to solution generation.

"It's a inter-recreational conflict. It requires a give and take from both sides of the issue," Freemuth said.

David Wells, director of the Keith Stein Blue Thunder Marching Band, presented information about a \$1 increase for full-time students. Three students spoke in favor of the proposed increase.

# Gulf War pollution worries environmentalists

By Tom Avril  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

PHILADELPHIA—When Peter Hobbs flew over Kuwait with a team of scientists in May 1991, it was three months after retreating Iraqi forces set more than 600 oil wells ablaze.

About 500 of the wells were still burning, sending dense, black smoke thousands of feet into the air, forcing the researchers to wear gas masks inside the plane. Soot obscured the sun up to 250 miles away, in Bahrain, where average temperatures dropped seven degrees.

The Iraqis also had opened the valves on Kuwaiti oil tankers, spilling an estimated 6 million barrels of crude, the largest spill on record.

"It was just like a picture of Dante's hell," recalled Hobbs, professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle.

It was an illustration that while war itself can be fast and furious, the effect on the environment can endure long after the other casualties have been counted.

U.S. military experts have predicted that Saddam Hussein will unleash similar havoc this time around if there is another war, perhaps ordering the destruction of his nation's own oil fields in a "scorched-earth" strategy. In a television interview last week with CBS newsman Dan Rather, the Iraqi leader denied he would do so.

Oil fires or no oil fires, the environmental consequences of war are often devastating.

Air pollution can be widespread. Water supplies can be endangered. Croplands ruined. Birds and fish poisoned. Rare species driven out.

Environmental groups that monitor the impacts of war are quick to point out that pollution and birds and fish are not the biggest immediate concern when missiles are being launched.

"You have to step back," said Jonathan Lash, president of the Washington-based World Resources Institute. "The worst thing about war is that it kills people."

Yet the same toxins and other impacts that affect animals also can affect humans, whether through direct exposure or indirectly, as they work their way up through the food chain, Lash noted.

The Gulf War had a severe impact on the environment, although not nearly as bad as some feared at the time.

At their peak, the daily soot emissions from the oil-field fires were equivalent to 3 million heavy-duty diesel trucks being driven at 30 miles per hour, Hobbs wrote in a 1992 paper in the journal Science.

Yet the oil fires were extinguished many months ahead of the most optimistic projections, and little of the smoke escaped to the upper atmosphere, he said in an interview.

That meant it did not travel around the globe, as some had feared. Local precipitation cleansed the soot and other pollutants out of the sky, Hobbs said.

That didn't do wonders for the ground where the rain fell, according to Jack Hardy of Western Washington University, another scientist who visited the region.

"A lot of that soot came down over the water," said Hardy, chair of the school's environmental sciences department.

"We saw what we thought at first were oil slicks. It turned out they were soot slicks. ... You could see kind of black, streaky lines on the sand."

The soot, along with the spilled crude from the tankers, spelled bad news for the coasts of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Thousands of birds were killed and prolific shrimp fisheries were closed.

Hardy, who made several research visits to the gulf, said the coasts took about 10 years

to recover. The process was aided by high temperatures that helped to break down the oil, he said. Others suspect that dangerous toxins persist in the ecosystem.

Oil droplets from the fires also fell on the desert, forming a layer of "tarcrete" that persists in some areas to this day, said Farouk El-Baz, director of Boston University's Center for Remote Sensing, which used satellite images to study the issue on behalf of the Kuwaiti government.

The Iraqis weren't alone in causing environmental harm.

Military activity by both sides, ranging from the movement of armored vehicles to the building of trenches and berms, harmed the fragile desert ecosystem, El-Baz said.

Such activity tears up the desert's protective surface layers of gravel, exposing finer sand that is then vulnerable to winds, he said.

"It clobbers the vegetation," El-Baz said.

Environmental groups say the U.S. forces also caused lasting damage in 1991 by firing a form of munitions made from depleted uranium. It was the first extensive wartime use of such weapons, which were used also by the U.S. military in the Balkans in 1999 and which are expected to be used in an Iraq war this year.

Shells and bullets made from uranium, a very dense metal, are favored for their armor-piercing ability because they do not blunt on impact.

U.S. forces fired 320 tons of depleted uranium rounds during the Gulf War, most of it from cannon mounted on Air Force A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, or Warthogs.

Some veterans' advocates suspect that the residue from exploded uranium shells is a culprit in the mysterious illness known as Gulf War syndrome. And Iraqi doctors blame the use of the munitions for elevated rates of cancer and birth defects in the local population.

But the Pentagon says there is no evidence that the residues from depleted uranium have environmental or health impacts.

The uranium in the munitions is not dangerously radioactive, the Pentagon says. Uranium at high doses can cause kidney damage, but U.S. soldiers were not exposed to such levels, the government says.

The Baltimore VA Medical Center is conducting long-term studies of U.S. soldiers exposed to friendly fire with uranium shells. Some have elevated levels of uranium in their urine, but hospital researchers say they have detected no significant health effects to date.

The debate likely will not end anytime soon.

In the meantime, environmental advocates such as Lash say the willful damage wrought by Saddam Hussein is especially troubling.

In addition to causing the oil spills and fires in 1991, Iraqi forces also destroyed sewage treatment plants in Kuwait, spilling more than 65,000 cubic yards of raw sewage a day into Kuwait Bay.

To date, a dozen nations have submitted environmental-damage claims to the United Nations, totaling \$79 billion. The United Nations has ruled so far on \$1.9 billion of those claims, awarding about \$1 billion, most of that to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Whether such damage recurs in a new war is speculation, of course, Lash said. But he worries that the potential is there.

"It's a little hard to comprehend an environmental story that results not from the unintended or unforeseen consequences of somebody doing something positive, but rather from an intentional destructive act," Lash said. "That's not something I'm used to dealing with."

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## Observations on race for next Democratic presidential nomination

By John E. Mulligan  
The Providence Journal

A few observations from the sidelines of the rapidly unfolding contest for the next Democratic presidential nomination: Earlier than ever before, this race is fully launched.

That is so, even if you have not noticed that Senators John Kerry of Massachusetts and Joe Lieberman of Connecticut own serious claims to the right to challenge President Bush, and even if you've never heard of another neighbor, former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, who is lighting up liberal Democrats with his stump speeches.

It's conceivable, in fact, that the nominee to be crowned at the Democratic convention in Boston in July 2004 could be known by a year from today. The crucial opening events, the Iowa precinct caucuses, the New Hampshire primary and South Carolina's first-ever Democratic primary, will all be done by the first week in February.

The top few finishers will run a crowded course capped on March 2 by the vote for the big prize of California.

The richest rewards, in all likelihood, will go to the candidates who succeed right now in raising the most money and building the best national network of organizations in the early voting states.

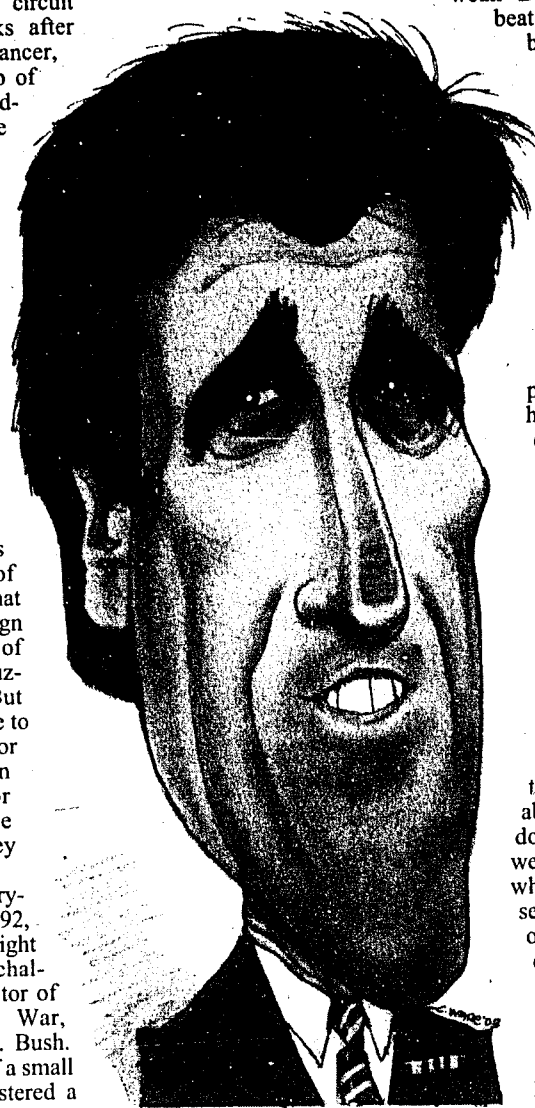
Despite the fact that he has

been off the campaign circuit for almost three weeks after surgery for prostate cancer, Kerry is now at the top of many insider lists of leading candidates for the nomination.

Still, the pros think the nomination is up for grabs despite the early strength of Kerry, Lieberman, North Carolina Sen. John Edwards and veteran Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt (who has been Rep. Patrick Kennedy's longtime mentor in the House).

That's why the field keeps expanding. Last week's entry was Sen. Bob Graham of Florida, a home base that promises ample campaign cash and a key piece of the general-election puzzle for Democrats. But Graham comes very late to the game, believe it or not, and unlike Kerry in New Hampshire or Gephardt in Iowa — he has no edge in a key opening contest.

In this context, everybody looks back at 1992, when several heavyweight prospects balked at challenging the popular victor of the Persian Gulf War, President George H.W. Bush. An obscure governor of a small state, Bill Clinton, mastered a



weak Democratic field and beat Bush on bread-and-butter economic issues.

Nine candidates are now in the race; others are still flirting with the idea of a run. Nobody wants to look back on the campaign muttering that he or she could have been a contender.

Democrats who do politics for a living have developed a bone-deep belief that this George Bush can also be defeated. The weak economy is the dominant factor in their rising hope. Less openly, Democrats also calculate that Mr. Bush is determined to make war on Iraq and is thus opening himself up to real political peril.

The scent of potential victory is remarkable, considering how downcast Democrats were just last November, when the Republicans seized back full control of Congress. In the candidate forums, labor conventions and other party forums where the candidates speak, there is almost a palpable hunger for red-

meat Democratic rhetoric and frontal assaults on Bush.

Cheers rang out in the basement ballroom of a Capitol Hill hotel 10 days ago, when Dean demanded to know why his party leadership has backed President Bush's preparations for war.

Wild cheers followed his shouted punch line: "I'm Howard Dean and I represent the Democratic wing of the Democratic Party!"

All the same, if there had been thought balloons over the Democratic National Committee's candidate forum, many would have read like this: "Hmm. Nice bit. Will it play in Peoria?"

The prospective war is very unpopular with the activists who are a key part of the Democratic base that selects presidential nominees. But at the same time, many pros fear that a strong anti-war strain will weaken the party's presidential prospects in a political world transformed since Sept. 11.

It is notable that the leading candidates, at least at this stage when fundraising and organizing are the main measurements, have carefully balanced their criticism of Bush's diplomacy with provisional support for war against Saddam Hussein.

Gephardt's personal hymn to lunch-bucket populism also got a great reception at the DNC meeting. It was less noisy than the response for the rookie Dean, more in the nature of deep

affection for a veteran performer who had shown some signs of staleness. The thought balloons for the former Democratic House leader might have read, "Let's not count Dick out just yet."

At this stage of a presidential campaign, so crucial but so little noted by most voters, attending these candidate "cattle calls" is a bit like watching the rehearsal stage where a hard-bitten crew of old comics and hoofers and promoters run auditions for a big Broadway show.

The audience is willing to be entertained, even moved to laughter and applause by the best of the new talent. But these are cold-eyed realists, for the most part, who are gathered for professional and competitive purposes.

"These people have seen a lot of speeches," said Massachusetts Democratic Chairman Philip Johnston, dismissing any concern that Gephardt or Dean or the others had scored lasting gains on the convalescing Kerry.

Wait until after the first of April, said Johnson, who supports Kerry. That's when this year's first-quarter campaign finance reports will show who is winning the money race.

**ABOUT THE WRITER**  
John E. Mulligan is the Washington Bureau Chief of The Providence Journal. He can be reached by e-mail at [jmulligan@belo-dc.com](mailto:jmulligan@belo-dc.com).

## In accidents, blame game solves nothing

### Guest Opinion

By Lisa Korb  
Student

It's interesting how the aftermath of vehicle accidents can result in a culmination of many forces pointing fingers. More interesting is the amount of lawsuits that result, focused on compensating the victims.

I can understand the vantage of a "victim," being one myself. Two years ago, I was driving on a countryside high-

way to my residence, when I found myself engulfed in a horrible snowstorm — not uncommon to the winter conditions of Wyoming. Familiar with the "storm backdrops" via a 70-mile route I chose to take daily to campus and back to my residence, it's fair to say that I am an experienced driver.

Nothing, though, could prepare me for what transpired that day. I was driving at the safest speed for seeing ahead of me, an unfavorable 10 mph, when I spotted a semi gaining ground behind me. I turned on my emergency flashers and crawled over to the shoulder of

the road to allow the driver some room to pass me. Apparently my safety precautions were not sufficient enough to allow the driver to advance.

The driver became aware that he was driving on the shoulder of the road when he caught my car with his fender and smashed the rear into the dashboard, pinning me in the mess. Alive and conscious in this smashed up car — that was going to land somewhere, I had a brief thought that the end of my life was near.

Then I was interrupted again when the trailer of the semi jack-knifed the car, crushing it from top to bottom, further pinning my body in the wreckage. After spinning several circles under the semi, the car eventually spun out, coming to a halt in the middle of the highway, where I was literally "stuck" facing two oncoming semis through the broken remnants of the windshield.

To my RELIEF, the drivers of those trucks stopped in time and participated in the rather long rescue effort to get my new "car outfit" off.

Reflecting on the accident, I still have harsh feelings about the "guilty party" of the accident, the semi driver, who was driving haphazardly at 75 mph, on the shoulder of the road — and in the poorest con-

ditions. Beyond medical expenses, I don't care to play the "pointing finger business," filing lawsuits to pay for the emotional stress. It really helps me to put myself in the driver's shoes and imagine that my poor decisions almost killed someone — or worse scenario, did kill someone.

Thinking in this context lends me to believe that my misadventure had an outcome of safer drivers, the witnesses of the accident, and anyone I can share this insight with. Though I have ill feelings for the driver, they are not so much the basis of blame, as they are to the suffering that I incur daily. Though the physical ailments I incurred from the accident are almost entirely gone, I still suffer. Not a day goes by that I don't have a reflection of the accident, but there isn't a day that passes that I hold any regrets for having it.

Suffering is a daily paradigm, whether it is suffering based on our own poor decisions or based on living conditions that resulted from someone else's ill decisions. We all suffer to some extent, and to realize that requires distance from blame, but more importantly — that we accept it. Just getting into a vehicle is accepting the mere chance of having an accident.

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Arrange mug shots with photo editor Ted Harmon at 345-8204 Ext. 121.  
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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 apiece at the Arbiter editorial office.

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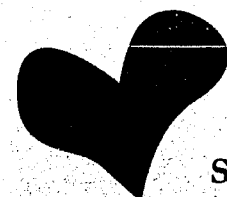
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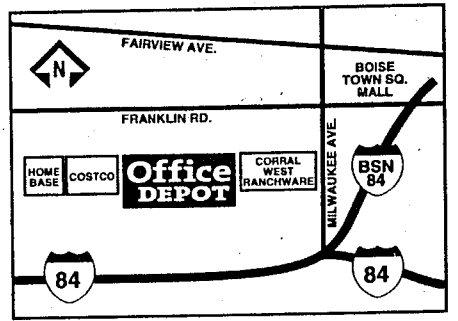
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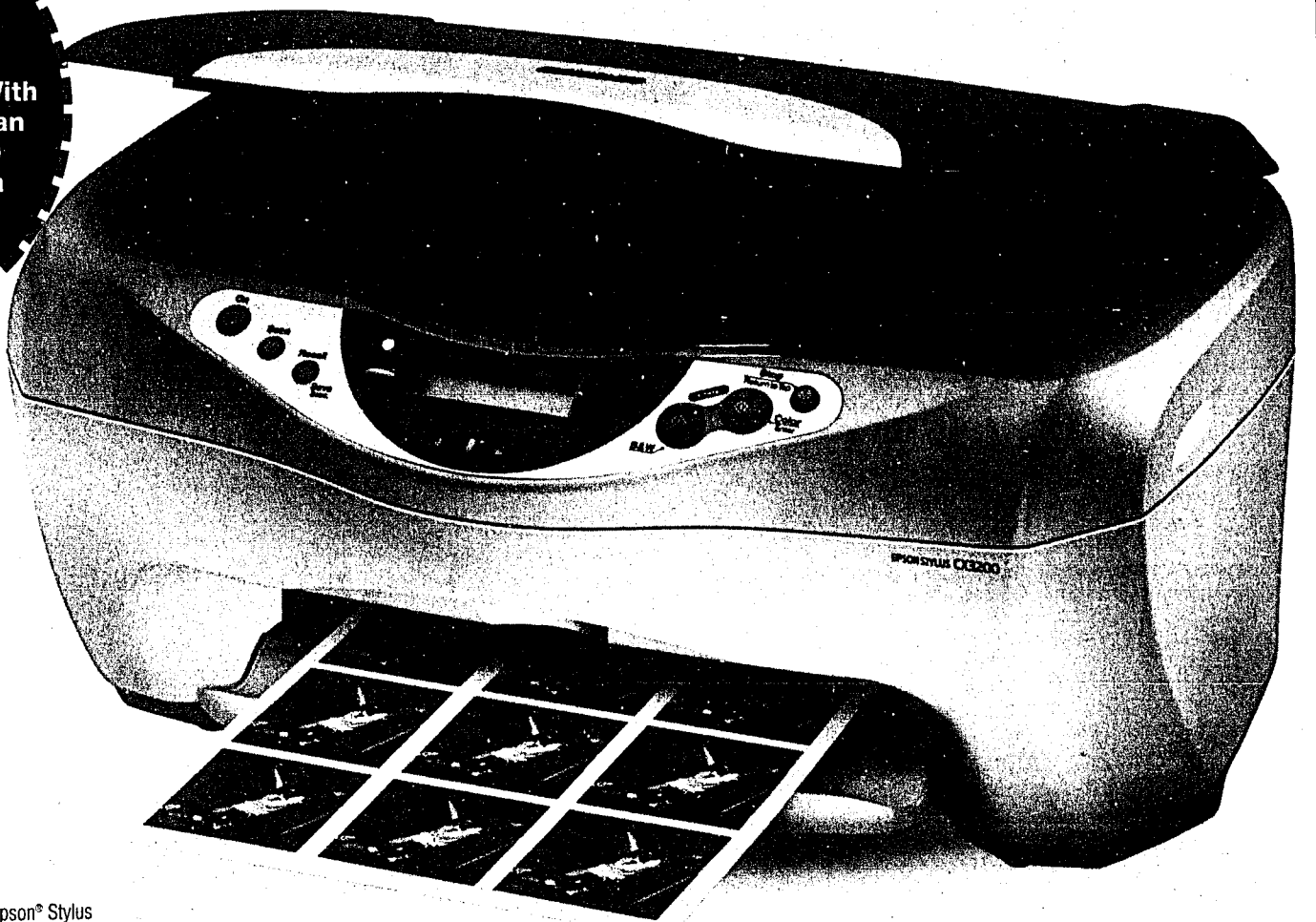
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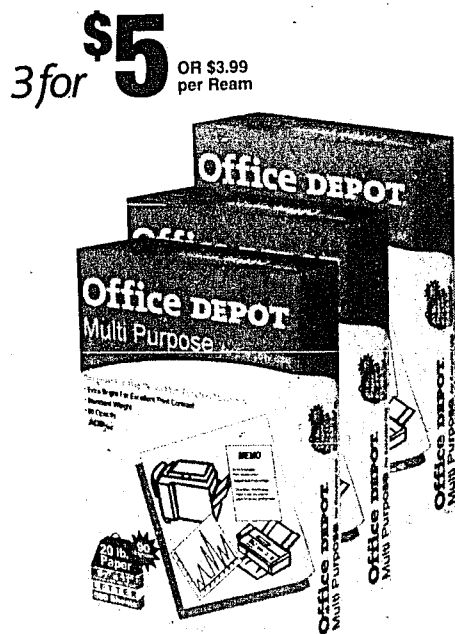
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## Williams wraps up career as Bronco

By Andrea Trujillo  
The Arbiter

Senior guard C. J. Williams went out in style when he played his final home game as a Bronco on March 1.

During the final home game of the season, the team decisively beat Louisiana Tech, in front of 5,910 fans at The Pavilion. The game was also significant for first year head coach Greg Graham.

The Broncos' 23-point margin of victory was Boise State's largest of the season. For Graham, the victory represented how much the basketball program has improved. Williams said Bronco fans should definitely have something to cheer about in the seasons to come.

"The system is good, and it will only get better with time. We have a lot of players coming back next year, and some key additions that will make this team better. The program is on the rise," Williams said.

For Williams, the victory signified a conclusion of sorts. It was the last time Williams would grace The Pavilion floor, wearing Bronco blue and orange, in front of his home crowd. Williams said the La. Tech game was important to him.

"It was definitely significant for me. I had family here to see me play. It was the first time they had attended a home game and it would be the last time I had the privilege of taking The Pavilion floor," Williams said.

A year ago, the Broncos finished the regular season with a poor record, moving on to the WAC tournament with little or no hope of advancing into the second round, much less the NCAA Tournament. After the team's first-round elimination,

the team returned home to rumors floating about of the possible firing of head coach Rod Jensen. The rumors proved to be true.

Enter coach Graham. He joined the Bronco program after spending the last five years as the top assistant at Oregon. Coming off a Pac-10 regular season championship and a spot in the Elite Eight NCAA Tournament with the Ducks, Graham brought a tradition of winning to Broncos

hoops, something that had been lacking. Graham inherited a team of players, such as Williams, recruited and signed by former coach Jensen. Perhaps more significantly, Graham inherited a group of guys who were tired of losing. Williams said coach Graham was a much-needed change for the program.

"Coach Graham and the system are different, better really. There's more freedom to just play ball, and the team's overall

attitude is a lot more positive," Williams said.

Prior to attending BSU, Williams played for a highly successful California prep program. He was the starting point guard for Westchester High School as a senior, leading the Comets to a California Division I state championship, while earning a number 10 ranking nationally by USA Today. In his first season at BSU, the Broncos fell just one game short of the NCAA Tournament,

losing in the Big West Championship game. Not a bad first season, but Williams expected more.

Williams was used to winning and more importantly being a part of a winning program, but that did not describe his experiences as member of the Boise State men's basketball team the past couple years.

Wins were hard to come by and fan support dropped off. Williams found that he had come

from a program where he was conditioned to win, only to join a program where he was expected to lose. This time last year Williams was not even sure he would return for his senior season at Boise State. Now he's glad he did.

"My experience here has matured me a lot, it has been very positive. I've learned things, not only in the classroom, but in life as well," Williams said.

Williams is not sure what his future holds, or if basketball will be a part of it.

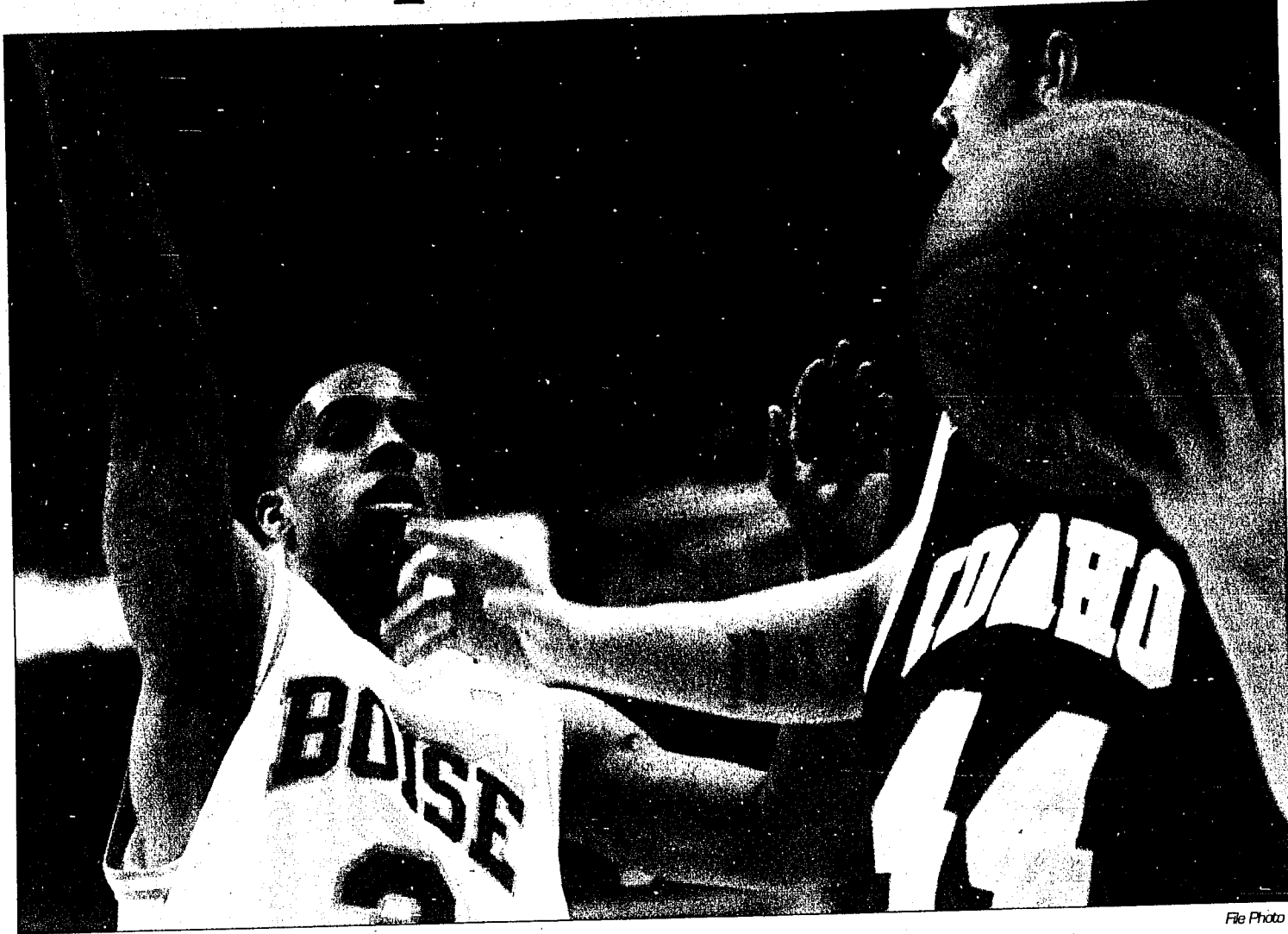
"I would like to continue playing ball if the circumstances are right, maybe overseas or something. I hope to get that opportunity, but if I don't, I'll move on," Williams said.

Today, the Broncos will face Southern Methodist in the quarterfinals of the WAC Tournament in Tulsa. The team is only three victories away from a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

Williams' years at Boise State have brought him full circle, back to where he started. But if he has anything to say about

it, this time the team won't come within one win of the NCAA Tournament, they'll be invited to the dance.

The senior, who has been dribbling a basketball since he was five years old, will graduate from Boise State with a degree in Social Sciences and a minor in Communication. But most importantly, Williams will finish what he started, and he'll finish it as a Bronco.



C.J. Williams earlier this season against Idaho, could possibly play his last game as a Bronco today against Southern Methodist.

File Photo

## Boise State kicks off annual rock climbing competition

By Geneva Roman  
Special to The Arbiter

Boise State Recreation is celebrating the beginning of spring with its annual all-access Buck-off for the Indoor Climbing Competition at the rock climbing gym in the Kinesiology building this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Climbing Program Coordinator Jesse Weiss has been rock climbing for 19 years and will be running the show.

"It is the largest local, amateur event," Weiss said.

Weiss is looking to pull in more than the usual 60-70 competitors this year and is also hoping to see a larger number of female climbers. The number of male climbers is disproportional. Weiss finds this gender gap in rock climbing odd because the world's most successful rock climber, Lynn Hill, is a woman.

While March is Women's History Month, Weiss is confident that more women will be determined to fill that gap and just plain have a good time.

"It helps foster a local climbing community and to bring people together," Weiss said.

Boise State's gym is the second oldest in the United States and this year's competition will be its last. As the times move along, next year's competition will be held in Boise State's new recreation center. The old gym's 2,600 feet of climbing space will be replaced with a new and improved climbing space of 7,000 feet.

There will be one boulder route and five top-rope competitions. Equipment is not provided. The competition is open to participants of all abilities. There is a \$20 registration fee to be paid at Boise State's Outdoor Center. Tickets will be available at the door for \$25. This will cover the competition entry, an automatic T-shirt, and raffle tickets.

Prizes to be raffled off range from fashionable clothing, quality climbing holds and free scenic flights. Winners will be awarded with paper certificates and five extra raffle tickets.

The best part of the competition is that, "It helps establish friendships," Weiss said. Information and registration are available at the Outdoor Center office or call at 426-1946.



Climbing Competition at the rock climbing gym in the Kinesiology building this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# First year basketball coaches did just fine

Commentary By Phil Dailey  
The Arbiter

The men and women's hoops season has come and gone, and with the mere formality of early-round WAC Tournament action, it appears we have reached the end to yet another year of Boise State hoops.

With both programs undergoing a change last fall and expectation at best mediocre for both squads — it has come time to evaluate this season progress.

Let's start first with the women's team. The first issue for the women's basketball was like the men, they were picked to finish in the basement at the end of the season. Tallying only 11 points in the preseason coaches' poll, which means one of ten coaches in the WAC went out on a limb and placed the Broncos to finish ninth, this seemed to be a blatant indication of little respect for the revamped program.

Well they didn't finish last or even ninth, but with six conference wins they did finish near the back of the pack at eighth. There were some bright spots, however, as they won six of their last 11 games, including Tuesdays 17-point win in the play-in game of the WAC tourney over Texas-El Paso. While one of their best players is graduating (Abby Vaughan), they have some newcomers to fill the void next year.

Jamie Hawkins, who had an instant impact with the Broncos, leading them in scoring, was named this year's WAC Freshman of the Year and is obviously the future of the program. Don't forget about next year's seniors either. Camille Woodfield and Mandy Welch both tossed up nearly nine points per game this season

and with more shots to go around next year, should easily match those totals.

With that said, head coach Jen Warden did just fine in her first year, but expectations should continue to climb in the next few years.

As for the men, well, they played some games like they were the best team in the WAC, beating Tulsa, Hawai'i, Louisiana Tech and Southern Methodist. Other times they played like one of the worst teams in home games against Rice and Fresno State. Either way, the Broncos exceeded expectation in Greg Graham's first year at the helm.

With the Broncos only losing one player that saw considerable playing time this season (C.J. Williams), along with many of the top WAC teams losing their standout players (Tulsa, Hawai'i and SMU), the Broncos should have no trouble finishing in the top half of the WAC next year.

With the emergence of Aaron Haynes, who was named to this year's WAC Newcomer team, and Jason Ellis, along with the continued play of Bryan Defares, Booker Nabors and Joe Skiffer, the Broncos should easily improve on its sub-par record in the WAC next season.

Many thought this team couldn't win more than a few games this year, but they did win more conference games than last season, and with a win today against SMU, the Broncos can surpass last year total for overall wins (13)—a feat they should proud of and a foundation to build on for next November.

If the men's squad could pick up a win or two in the WAC tourney it would keep the momentum going for Graham and the Broncos for next year and the future to come.

The WAC's Freshman of the Year, added 16 points, four rebounds, and was 6-of-7 from the floor. Junior Camille Woodfield added 13 points and three assists.

None Wharemate's 14 points, and Dragana Zoric's 12 points and 11 rebounds led UTEP.

For Boise State, other scorers included Simone Grant (9), Lynnette Grondin (8), Cariann Ramirez (5), and Jodi Nakashima (3).

**Boise State gymnastics team hosts 12th ranked Washington**

The Boise State gymnastics team, after three meets on the road, return to the friendly confines of the Boise State Pavilion. The Broncos host the Washington Huskies tomorrow night at 7 p.m.

The Broncos are ranked 32nd this week nationally, by virtue of their Regional Qualifying Score of 194.595. Washington is ranked 12th nationally with a regional qualifying average of 196.060. Boise State's highest score of the season is 196.375. Washington's highest score of the season is an impressive mark of 197.050.



Photo courtesy of KPT

The Red Raiders' 16-11 record is unexceptional for Bob Knight and his second year at Texas Tech.

## Knight is giving up his salary

By Brian Davis  
The Dallas Morning News

Texas Tech basketball coach Bob Knight said Monday he will not accept his \$250,000 base salary for the 2002-03 season because his Red Raiders have not "played as well as we should have played."

Athletic director Gerald Myers said Knight was being too hard on himself and urged the 62-year-old Hall of Famer to reconsider. "But his mind is made up," Myers said. "He's got high expectations, and he feels this is the right thing to do."

The Red Raiders, seeded seventh in this week's Big 12 tournament, finished the regular season 16-11 and went 6-10 in conference play. This comes one year after Tech finished 23-9 and reached the NCAA Tournament in Knight's first season in which he was received a base salary of \$12,000. His contract called for the base salary to rise to \$250,000 this season. Knight signed a five-year deal worth an estimated \$4.5 million in March 2001.

"I just feel like I had a product, and it broke," Knight said by phone from Lubbock. "You shouldn't have to pay for it. That's all I think."

"When I was a kid, I used to

shovel walks and do all kinds of stuff to make a dollar. But if I shoveled the walk, I made damn sure that I did a good job. I'm just not at all satisfied with what transpired with our team in terms of our fundamental execution. I don't think it's anybody's fault but mine."

Knight has received more than half of the \$250,000. Tech's fiscal year begins in September and coaches are paid once a month, Myers said. The base salary is just one part of Knight's total package, which is worth an estimated \$900,000 annually.

Myers said he has never heard of a coaching giving back anything, much less his salary. Knight will meet with senior associate athletic director Bobby Gleason, who oversees the business office, after the season and work out the arrangements.

Apparently, Knight has been thinking about this for some time. Myers said Knight told him about the decision Saturday after Tech lost to Baylor, 74-68. The two spoke in the locker room, but Knight did not announce his decision until Monday.

The Baylor loss was an especially tough one for Tech. The Red Raiders came back from a 16-point second-half deficit only to lose by six. Tough home losses to Texas

and Kansas preceded the Baylor game. Those two losses dashed Tech's hopes for making the NCAA Tournament with an at-large bid.

Knight also had to suspend two players this season for missing team functions, which drew national attention.

Knight did not grow truculent with the media as the season turned sour. However his demeanor has changed slightly. Regular attendees to Tech's post-game news conferences could tell Knight was down after the Kansas game.

His news conference after the Baylor game lasted 2 minutes, 13 seconds. There wasn't much to be said. Tech was outplayed.

"I can remember talking to Ted Williams about this," Knight said. "Ted Williams not only turned down a raise but demanded a cut after one year in which he didn't play particularly well. He and I had a long talk about that and why he felt that way."

"But from a basketball standpoint, I look at us play and there's things that we just have to be able to do that we don't. I don't think I get paid to be just a coach. I get paid to get what should be done and get the best out of what we had that we can."



### SPORTS UPDATE

**Women's basketball team defeats UTEP in play-in game**

The Boise State women's basketball team defeated Texas-El Paso 75-58 Tuesday to advance to the quarterfinal round of the Western Athletic Conference Tournament.

In the Boise State-UTEP game, the Miners led at the half, 35-30, but Boise State but the Broncos turned on the heat in the second half to out-score UTEP, 45-23, in that period.

Both teams shot well from the field in the first half. Boise State was 12 of 22 and UTEP was 15 of 27. But in the second period, the Broncos held the Miners to 29 percent from the floor (10-34) while Boise State was a hot 15-of-19 for 79 percent.

The team's only senior, Abby Vaughan led the team with 21 points and was 5-of-8 from three-point range. Jamie Hawkins,

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Thursday, March 13, 2003

## Ani DiFranco jazzes up new disc

By Lauren Consuelo Tussing  
The Arbiter

Ani DiFranco's 13-year-old career as singer/songwriter/guitarist/poet has left behind a vast legacy. Her first albums, released in the early '90s, spawned a reinvention of folk music.

By staying true to a strongly oral tradition, DiFranco used a colloquial medium to convey the socially critical and poetical lyrics that made her a household name.

Then, it was just her voice, mind and guitar, creating a new voice for feminism and alternative politics.

Now, over a decade later, DiFranco continues to reinvent her sound. Her latest testimony to musical innovation, *Evolve*, released on Tuesday, fuses jazz, blues, funk, rock and folk, all impeccably laced with DiFranco's words and voice.

"I'm especially excited about this record 'cause it's a realization of all the work put in with my band, of a vision that developed along the way," DiFranco said in a press release.

Although DiFranco has recently revisited solo performing, the band she has toured with for the past few years backs DiFranco on *Evolve*: Ravi Best, Shane Endsley and Todd Horton on brass, Daren Hahn on drums, Jason Mercer on bass, Hans Teuber on flute and reeds and Julie Wolf on keyboards.

Most engaging about *Evolve*'s sound is that it borrows heavily from the spontaneity of jazz, keeping the listener actively listening for unexpected twists and turns not usually found in popular cookie-cutter radio tunes. Also keeping the listener's ears tuned in are DiFranco's words.

DiFranco, who has become well known for the way she unites personal and political lyrics, doesn't shy away from addressing progressive themes in *Evolve*.

"Since political edifices are purporting to dictate me, whether I can or cannot have an abortion, what drugs I can or cannot ingest, where on this earth I can and cannot go, and who on this earth I

can love (just to name a few things), then it seems obvious to me that the personal is political," DiFranco said.

In the title track, DiFranco sings, "c'mon people, we've got to come clean/cuz they are locking our sons/and our daughters in cages/they are taking by the thousands/our lives from under us/it's a crash course in religious fundamentals/now let's all go to war/get some bang for our buck."

The longest track on the album, "Serpentine," goes on for 10 minutes and 23 seconds.

DiFranco said she spent months writing the poem and had initial difficulties recording the song. She recorded it many times and tried putting different recordings together, but she settled on recording it in one take.

"At the end of the performance that appears on the record, I cried and cried. So I figured, 'fine, I guess that's it,'" she said.

In the song, DiFranco tackles subjects including recent corporate conspiracies, the corruption of the music industry, unquestioning patriotism and the evils of capitalism, government and the military.

Also equally interesting is the Latin-influenced track "Here For Now," which DiFranco said was influenced by the surge in popular Latin music.

"[I was] Listening, that is, by choice, and also by default, since Latin pop artist were dominating the requisite Top-40 soundtrack to all public spaces," DiFranco said.

"I was in a bar in Copenhagen when I first made up the main guitar riff. I remember it because I was walking around the venue all day, with my back-packer guitar slung over my back, just riffin' on it," DiFranco said.

Despite being an independent artist who doesn't get much airplay on popular radio, DiFranco has gained a solid and vast following.

As of the date, DiFranco has recorded 15 full-length albums on her self-created record label Righteous Babe Records, and has earned four Grammy nominations.



Photo by Eric Frick

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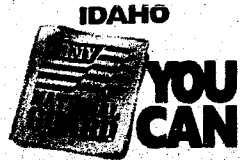


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*Tristan*, Buffalo Exchange buyer

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-Mekhi Phifer ("ER," "8 Mile"), in Teen People magazine.

"I never have given a diamond to anyone. But I've made some jewelry for (women). I whittle them things."

-Matthew McConaughey, on giving gifts to women, in Entertainment Weekly.

"I'd like to write more, but it's like being back in school doing a term paper. There's so much pressure. With acting, I just get up do a scene."

-Owen Wilson, in Details magazine.

Distributed by Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services

surgeon general's warning:  
death can be harmful.



# Web site 'The Smoking Gun' is keeping America posted

By Michelle Megna  
New York Daily News

William Bastone and Daniel Green, co-founders of www.thesmokinggun.com, are guys who don't round things off. Ask how many visitors their expose Web site had in February, and they'll tell you: 4,756,767.

It's all in the details. Consider the difference between reading in the newspaper that, according to court documents, Michael Jackson allegedly molested a young boy, or reading a graphic account of a sexual act from the 13-year-old's 1993 deposition, which was posted on the Web site.

"It's a much more compelling narrative," Bastone said. Remember Rick (Restraining Order) Rockwell of "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?"

What about bondage babe Sarah Kozer of "Joe Millionaire?"

The Smoking Gun broke those stories by posting the restraining order against Rockwell, as well as stills from the Kozer videos. It also busted Busta Rhymes' concert contract rider request for ribbed condoms backstage.

In fact, concert riders are such a hit with visitors to the site that Bastone and Green created a "Backstage" section that currently features 134 acts. There you'll discover that J.Lo must have designer candles, white drapes, white furniture and white lilies in her dressing room.

But it's not just sensational tidbits that make the site so successful. In addition to exposing celebrity foibles, it posts documents such as prison, police and medical examiner's records (such as those relating to the death of Malcolm X). A flight manual investigators believe was used by the Sept. 11 terrorists was also posted.

"You will always find something at our site that you can't find anywhere else," said Bastone.

Washington Post media reporter Howard Kurtz said "The Smoking Gun has become a journalistic gold mine because it produces the one thing — raw

documents — that every reporter needs to nail down a story. Journalists get hundreds of tips and rumors to check out, [and they don't] always have the time to go through dusty files to find supporting documents [such as memos and letters] for their stories."

Kurtz refers to the period in 2001 when a number of prominent journalists wrote "embarrassing suck-up letters to [Unabomber] Ted Kaczynski" in an effort to get an exclusive interview. Kaczynski ultimately donated the pitch letters to the University of Michigan, which turned them over to The Smoking Gun. "That story never would have seen the light of day without the Gun site," said Kurtz.

Larry Pryor, professor of journalism at USC's Annenberg School for Communication and executive editor of Online Journalism Review, said print and broadcast media, constrained by space, time and advertisers' sensibilities, can miss the essence of a story by glossing over the details.

"I saw TV reporters who started to read the Jackson document, (but) because it was too graphic, they paraphrased [it] with ambiguous language," Pryor said.

"What works really well in online journalism is documents. The Smoking Gun had the whole deposition, made under oath. It's sensational, but it isn't gossip, and it leads the public to think we have a right to prosecution. Where's the DA?" (A civil suit by the boy's family was settled out of court.)

Before creating their niche in cyberspace, Bastone and Green worked in print: Bastone was a crime reporter for The Village Voice, and Green worked as a freelance magazine writer. As investigative journalists, the two accumulated a collection of FBI reports, court affidavits and memos.

They realized the powerful effect raw documents can have on readers — seeing an FBI "confidential" stamp makes you feel like you're in on the discovery; part of the gumshoe game. In 1997, they first posted their collection on the Web, never expecting their project to become a full-time occupation.



Photo by Andrew Savulich, The New York Daily News.

Smoking Gun's founders Daniel Green, front left, and William Bastone, front right, work with reporters Andrew Goldberg, left rear, and Joseph Jesselli to dig up newsworthy documents.

"They're good at fact-gathering and have a good sense of timing," said Pryor.

"They're topical. And they're focused on a specialized beat. That's one reason why they're capable of beating large organizations that have to focus on the bigger picture."

Another plus is that it often takes less than 20 minutes from the time a document is discovered to confirm and post it, said Bastone, giving the site what amounts to a journalistic fast break.

Armed with little more than the Freedom of Information Act, help from two other reporters (Joseph Jesselli and Andrew Goldberg), computers and scanners, Bastone and Green work in an office in the East 30s that was once

Court TV's mailroom. "We follow leads for months. Check court dockets, municipal records, things like that," said Green.

Scott Pansky, president of the Entertainment Publicists Professional Society, disagrees. He thinks the site is more about digging up dirt than uncovering compelling facts. "They're taking advantage of people in the limelight, and of the sensationalism of being a celebrity," he said.

Regardless of the topic the site investigates, its approach remains the same. This focus is the main reason The Smoking Gun is still smoking. Bastone and Green say their site still looks and reads the way it did in 1997, when they launched it with a previously unpublished FBI report detailing

Elvis Presley's drug use. After turning down offers to sell the company for stock at the height of the Internet boom, the Gun guys sold the business to Court TV in 2000. Their corporate parent makes Green show up for only one meeting a week; otherwise, they're left alone. According to Bastone, Court TV is planning two half-hour specials this summer based on their material.

As for the site's greatest hits, Bastone said, "Anything bad that's related to a reality TV show came out of this office. We sort of lump all those together as our best stuff. It just never ends."

# Rock Hall of Fame lineup includes Clash, AC/DC, Police

By David Hinckley  
New York Daily News

The Police and surviving members of the Clash will reunite Monday to join AC/DC, the Righteous Brothers and Elvis Costello and the Attractions for induction into the Class of 2003 at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

The Hall is now considering artists from the late '70s (performers are eligible 25 years after their first recording), and is also dealing with a time when most black artists were split off into "urban" music and thus out

of rock's mainstream. "This is the first year there are no black inductees," notes music business analyst Bob Grossweiner.

"It looks as if the Hall feels it has inducted all the '50s vocal groups it's going to, and there aren't any traditional soul or R&B artists."

There are also no women this year, which is mildly surprising since critical favorite Patti Smith was nominated. The Hall has often been accused of seeing rock as a male endeavor.

"There's always going to be disagreement over who should

get in," says Jim Henke, chief curator of the Hall's museum in Cleveland. "Some of my own favorites still haven't made it. But if you look at the overall picture, I think the inductees are pretty reflective of the music."

Henke notes that the museum itself covers all of rock 'n' roll, not just inductees. Its current featured exhibition is, on U2, which is not yet eligible for induction. Its summer concert series last year featured, among others, John Mayer and Avril Lavigne.

But even as fans argue their cases for Rush, Lou Reed, the

Moody Blues or Patti Smith, most artists take induction as an honor while reserving the right to remain slightly bemused.

"It was worth all the pain and anguish to finally, after 25 years, get the gold watch," says Police guitarist Andy Summers.

Summers will join fellow Policemen Stewart Copeland and Sting to perform at Monday's ceremony, their first show together since an aborted attempt at Sting's wedding in 1992.

Sting says he's doing this one "because the Police were a damn good band, and it's an

honor." The group's only other plan is a 25th-anniversary re-release of their recordings — a gambit many record companies take when an artist is inducted.

In what is likely to be Monday's most emotional performance, surviving Clash members Mick Jones, Topper Headon and Paul Simonon will pay tribute to lead singer Joe Strummer, who died in December.

The other inductees also will perform. Costello will play with the Imposters, while AC/DC will follow Monday's show with an invitation-only club

show the following night — their only planned live gigs in 2003.

Perhaps the act that can take the most satisfaction from an induction performance is the Righteous Brothers — Bill Medley and Bobby Hatfield — who likely would have been inducted years ago if it weren't for Phil Spector's influence in nominations. Their "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling" was music publisher BMI's most-played record of the 20th century.

# Song, dance fill cinema of India

By Eric Christ  
The Lantern  
(Ohio State U.)

The international film sections of most video stores are often the most overlooked by American audiences, evident by the thin layer of dust, which clings to the skimpy selection of videos filed in the foreign section at mainstream video stores such as Blockbuster Video.

But as the popular cinema of India, known as Bollywood, begins to gain international popularity, this may soon change.

Ron Green, professor of film studies, said the film industry in India is serious business.

"It is the second largest industry in the world and has been for decades behind the U.S., so it is an enormous industry," he said.

The Indian Students Association at Ohio State is one student group which uses the films of Bollywood for entertainment and recreation.

"I think we do it because it's like a connection for international students who are coming here, and it's something that still connects them to India," said Aparna Donthi, president of the Indian Students Association.

A major difference between the Western moviegoing experience and Indian moviegoing experience is the audience reaction to the films.

"It's definitely a different environment," Donthi said.

"It's a lot rowdier, people make a lot of noise. It's not like you have to be quiet the whole time like theaters here. It's more than just laughing out loud or something. It's like whistling at a pretty girl or making comments about what just happened, loud comments so everyone can hear it. It's a lot more enthusiastic, I guess."

Several important characteristics of Indian films set them apart from American films.

"Even before the films come out, the soundtracks are released so everybody knows

the songs," said Chris Stults, curatorial assistant in the film and video department at the Ohio State Wexner Center.

"Then it's a much more interactive experience when you're watching the film, since everybody's kind of familiar with the songs already."

Western filmgoers might be turned off by the singing and dancing and far-fetched scenarios, but these things are what give the films their entertainment value. Kerry Brown, a graduate student in art history said she was initially turned off by the idea of Bollywood films because of the singing and the dancing, but after one film she was hooked.

"There's always a happy ending. There's always this sort of escape from reality," she said.

Genevieve Reiner, a graduate student in art history, said a Western viewer must suspend disbelief to enjoy this kind of entertainment because of the fantastic scenarios and non sequiturs in the films.

"They're not made to reflect reality; they are made to make you forget your life and to forget the everyday. We tend not think like that," she said.

This approach to filmmaking has a value beyond a simple escape from reality, Stults said.

"A lot of Westerners, they think of it as really hokey, cheesy fun, but there's more to it than that. It's another type of filmmaking and with a good film it can just be a rapturous, transcendent experience where it doesn't obey the formal boundaries that a Western film would. It's just completely unchained," he said.

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## Crossword

**ACROSS**  
1 Genesis character  
5 The one there  
9 Ends of trousers  
14 Alan of "M\*A\*S\*H"  
15 Hindu music form  
16 Chilean-born pianist Claudio  
17 Bring up  
18 "Roots" author Haley  
19 Drink noisily  
20 Digital storage medium  
23 Rink surface  
24 Small bills  
25 Food sampler  
27 Silver's place  
30 Nappy leathers  
32 Make up (for)  
33 Bold outlaw  
36 Attila, for one  
37 Makes a lot?  
38 "When I Need You" singer Sayer  
39 Readers  
42 Arrive at  
44 Grim figure  
45 Musical pieces  
46 Jenna Eilman TV role  
48 High tea, for instance  
49 Gangster's pistol  
50 Peace offering  
56 Hunter constellation  
58 Italian beach  
59 Part in a play  
60 Mother-of-pearl  
61 Lascivious gander  
62 Hired thug  
63 Adlai's 1956 running mate  
64 Former ugly duckling  
65 Split hairs?  
**DOWN**  
1 DEA employee  
2 Ersatz butter  
3 Genesis man  
4 Queequeg's spear  
5 Followed  
6 Stops  
7 Matured  
8 Hirsch sitcom  
9 Waterfall  
10 Internet address  
11 Dessert choice  
12 Spoof  
13 Natural starter?  
21 Bancroft or Boleyn  
22 Staircase  
26 Sun. oration  
27 Satirist Mort  
28 Needle case  
29 Assert the opposite of  
30 Cut off  
31 Employs  
33 Appointment  
34 Art  
35 Cries of delight  
37 Of the Vatican  
40 Auction conclusion?  
41 "I Wanna Be Sedated" singers

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### Solutions

S	O	N	E	N	Y	M	S	S	E	L	S	E
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E	L	O	W	O	I	L	N	O	I	H	O	
H	O	N	V	B	E	A	I	T	O	O	H	
S	O	G	N	O	V	E	W	V	W	H	O	
H	O	V	E	S	E	L	V	E	E	L	I	
O	E	T	S	E	A	V	E	N	N	H		
O	V	H	E	S	E	O	E	N	O	L	V	
S	E	D	E	N	S	O	N	O	C	E	S	
H	E	L	S	V	L	S	E	N	O			
E	O	I	O	S	I	O	L	O	V	W	O	
J	U	N	T	S	X	E	V	H	V	E	H	
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N	E	H	O	L	V	H	L	H	V	O	N	

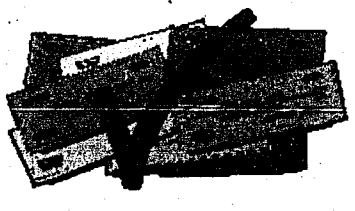
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