

4-28-2003

Arbiter, April 28

Students of Boise State University

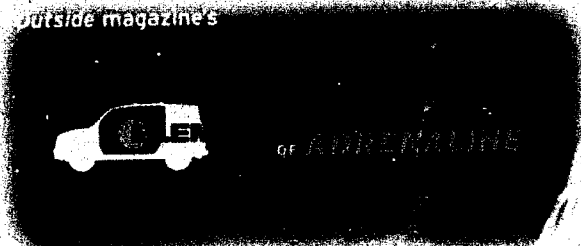
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Music: It's all in the family

Diversion
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Sports
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The Arbiter

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Monday, April 28, 2003

Boise State University

University comes together to select new president

By Linda Cook
The Arbiter

The screening committee in charge of selecting the next university president is comprised of community members from varied backgrounds—reflecting Boise State's diverse community.

The Idaho State Board of Education selected them from many nominees and volunteers with the goal of having all interests represented.

To that end, the nine members of the committee include faculty members, a student, a state senator, business leaders and the past presidents of the athletic and alumni associations.

"The committee was put together based on nominations from various campus constituencies," said Randi McDermott, plans and policy officer for the Board.

Former ASBSU president Chris Mathias is serving on the screening committee. In a recent interview, he stressed the importance of student involvement in the decision-making process. Mathias said the next president would help determine student fees and the role of BSU in the state and region. He said the candidate selected should have experience in dealing with students and student representatives.

Dr. Carol Martin, from the Department of English, has been at Boise State for over 30 years. She said that she looked for, "someone who is strong in reaching out to the community. Someone who understands academia." She noted that all of the candidates have strong backgrounds in those areas.

"On campus I am probably regarded as representing faculty because I am a faculty member and there is a dean on the search committee. People would perceive him as the administration representative," Martin said.

She said some people were concerned at first that faculty and students were underrepresented on the committee, but that those fears were unfounded.

"I think it was a good committee and certainly all of the people on the committee are strong supporters of Boise State. There were no hidden agendas or any of the other things that peo-

ple were worried about," she said.

Another committee member, Dr. Lynn Russell, dean at the College of Engineering, has worked at BSU since 1997.

Sheila Sorensen is a state legislator who chairs the State Affairs Committee and serves on a health advisory board at the university.

No fewer than five members of the business community are on the screening committee but most have a history of involvement with BSU.

Ed Dahlberg is the president and CEO of St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, a major employer of BSU graduates. Charles Wilson, owner of Wilson Properties is a member of the BSU Foundation, which raises and manages money for the university.

Mark Dunham, executive vice president of the Idaho Association of Realtors, is also a member of the BSU Foundation and is the former president of the BSU Alumni Association.

Milford Terrell of DeBest Plumbing and Mechanical is the former president of the Bronco Athletic Association.

Roderic Lewis is the chair of the committee. He is the secretary for the State Board of Education and the chief legal officer of Micron Technology.

The committee accepted input on the candidates from the public through April 23. On April 24, the screening committee met with the representatives of campus organizations to hear their feedback on the candidates. Those organizations were the Dean's Council, ASBSU, the Faculty Senate, the professional and classified staff senates, the Bronco Athletic Association, the Alumni Association and BSU Foundation.

In the past month, each of the four final candidates has visited BSU and met with those same campus organizations as well as the media, and have also participated in open forums to answer questions from the public. The four candidates are: Guy Bailey, Brad Bartel, Robert Kustra and Perry Moore.

No date had been set for the final decision.



Tianyi Pu, with her husband Yan, holds a photo taken one year ago in Boise of her dog Huahua.

Alum's dog mauled by pit bull

Walk in Ann Morrison Park turns deadly

By Elizabeth Puckett
The Arbiter

In 2000, Tianyi Pu came to the United States from China with her husband to complete her master's degree in accounting.

Lonely, in a new country, the Pu's decided to adopt a pet, hoping an animal would help them acclimate to Boise. Immediately, they became attached to their dog — a Pomeranian named Huahua.

They expected the dog to live a long life, and were deeply hurt when they

had to put Huahua to sleep after a pit bull attacked her in Ann Morrison Park on April 13.

"Huahua was like my baby," Pu said.

"We took her on visits to China twice, and my family just loved her. My mother even weaved her a sweater."

Pu said she and her husband were walking Huahua in the park when the attack happened.

"We were just playing, and it all happened so quick. All of a sudden there was a pit bull charging at us, and then he had his mouth around Huahua's neck, shaking her. The owner didn't even call the pit bull back when it came running at us," she said.

"That pit bull was probably about 150 pounds."

Huahua was not killed in the attack, but when Pu took her to a veterinarian

that afternoon, she was told the dog would have to be put to sleep. The Pomeranian's spine was damaged in two places, leaving Huahua permanently crippled. That, on top of the other injuries, convinced the Pu's to put their dog to sleep.

"I just want to know why that dog was not on a leash," Pu said.

Ann Morrison Park does have a leash law, as do most other city parks in Boise. The only area where dogs are allowed off-leash is at the Military Reserve Park in North Boise.

The law currently states, however, that infractions of the leash law receive only a \$25 fine, plus court costs and goes on the defendants record as an infraction. This law recently changed from a \$300 fine, a misdemeanor and possible jail time.

Bush has advantages his father lacked in '92

By Ron Hutcheson
Knight Ridder Newspapers

President Bush has followed his father's path for most of his life, but now he has a chance to break the pattern by winning a second term in the White House.

After the fall of Saddam Hussein's regime, one line of instant analysis held that Bush could suffer the same political fate as his dad: riding high in polls after winning a war with Iraq, only to lose re-election because voters were unhappy with a weak economy.

This President Bush is hardly a shoo-in, but he has several advantages that elder Bush lacked in 1992.

Bush enters his re-election campaign backed by a unified Republican Party, a highly disciplined political team and realistic expectations of, a record-breaking campaign bankroll. Also unlike his

father, he doesn't have the baggage of a broken promise on tax cuts, he doesn't have to worry about a Republican challenger from the right such as Pat Buchanan and he doesn't have an onerous Ross Perot threatening to run as an independent.

In 1992, Perot spent about \$50 million in the campaign's closing weeks bashing the elder Bush's economic stewardship.

And this time, unlike 1992, the war isn't really over. Continuing problems in post-war Iraq and the ever-present threat of terrorism mean that voters are likely to focus on domestic issues and national security concerns. That's bad news for America but good news for Bush politically, because voters give him high marks as commander in chief.

Republicans hope to leverage that advantage by holding their convention in New York in September

2004, less than two weeks before the third anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the World Trade Center. That offers Bush a prime-time opportunity to remind voters of his leadership when the nation was shaken after Sept. 11.

However, no one, including Bush's political advisers, doubts that a bad economy could torpedo Bush's re-election. As bad as things were in 1992, the country gained more than 2 million jobs while the elder Bush was in the White House. History shows that the economy was actually well on its way to recovery by Election Day 1992, although it didn't seem that way at the time.

Under the current President Bush, the economy has lost more than 2 million jobs, an average of more than 73,000 a month.

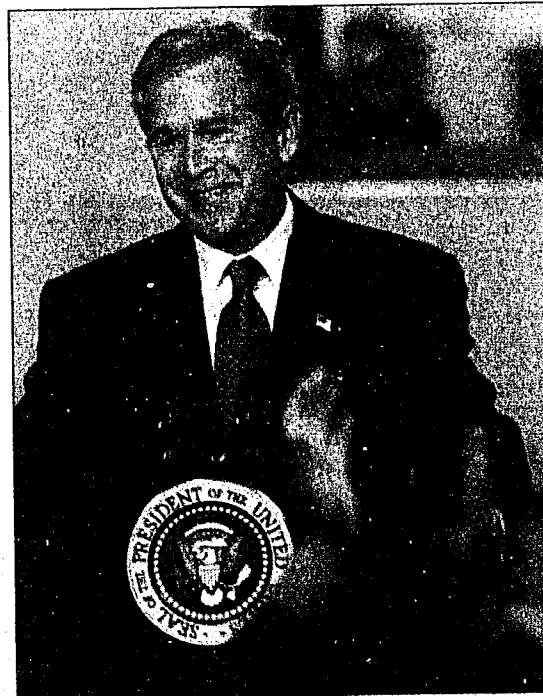
"If the economy tanks next year, he very well could meet the same

fate (as his father)," Pitney said.

That's why Bush talks constantly about the economy now — to avoid his father's mistake of appearing indifferent to the problems of average Americans. Almost every chance he gets, Bush touts his tax-cut plan as the best way to help unemployed workers.

Whether his plan actually would help the economy is another question; the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office concluded last month that its economic impact might be positive or negative, but either way, it would be small.

Bush's anti-tax message also reassures conservative activists who were infuriated in 1990 when the elder Bush broke his "no new taxes" pledge by including higher revenues in a massive deficit-reduction compromise with Congress.



Communication professor criticizes privately funded research

By Jason Kauffman
The Arbiter

No matter how unpopular he may be; his lectures have a way of lingering in the hall after class is out, and students say he's practically an institution at Boise State.

Those who know BSU Communication Professor Ed McLuskie would undoubtedly characterize him as stimulating and very unafraid. Although he holds many oppositional views, McLuskie is well respected by his colleagues.

Near the top of these is a belief that universities should distance themselves from corporate research funding.

"States need to pay for the universities, they're not; they're running away from it," McLuskie

said. McLuskie believes a dependence on corporate funding has led to deterioration in the level of free and independent inquiry in American universities.

"There are very few places left in society where you can have free independent inquiry, the university, I almost want to say, was one of them. That's where the students, the faculty, get to decide what the important questions are."

McLuskie said many professors will only do research that is funded.

"Other people get to decide what the important questions are, usually corporations, usually conservative government."

"This is the history, in a nutshell, of the social sciences in the

United States, and in universities big and small, and certainly in the field of communication."

McLuskie said there are professors who recognize that all knowledge has a political dimension.

"There are professors who are oppositional professors. They're not afraid of questions of value, not afraid of questions of political dimensions to their work, and that's the group I work with," McLuskie said.

While not minimizing the importance of jobs, McLuskie believes it is short-sided to hold up, as the only goal of the university, the preparing of students for the marketplace.

"It's a dangerous position to hold when you're not tenured. I held that position when I wasn't

tenured. But then I think those were times when people understood that there were other perspectives at universities," McLuskie said.

McLuskie grew up in Billings, Mo., and while attending college there received a B.A. in music and a minor in English.

As an undergraduate student McLuskie ran for student body president on an anti-war platform.

After winning the election McLuskie brought anti-war speakers to campus, drawing the condemnation of many in the politically conservative state of Montana.

In his next year at the university, McLuskie served as his editor at the university newspaper.

McLuskie said the Montana legislature tried to cut off funding

for the paper in part because of the papers anti-war stance.

"We had the distinction of being the topic of a Montana legislature bill introduced by a conservative member of the legislature to cut off funding. That was just what anti-war stuff looked like in Montana," McLuskie said.

"Money is a tool of power all the time," he said.

A desire for further knowledge led McLuskie to pursue an interest in the field of communication at the University of Iowa where he obtained a Ph.D.

"I wanted to know what it all meant. That's the only reason I ever went to school," he said.

Over time his interest in the field of communication became focused more on theories of mass society

McLuskie believes that mass communication is a species of mass society, which is in turn a variation of sociology.

Where McLuskie's views depart from the mainstream communication field is in his attention to critical theory.

McLuskie believes the field of communication has become less theoretical over time, and said that's why he has become more passionate in arguing on behalf of theory.

"All I've been doing is problematizing the field. I think there is a role for professors to come in and, problematize our knowledge claims, to come in and problematize our society," McLuskie said.

"It's a pretty bleak story I tell, but you know, I'm pretty optimistic."

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Campus Shorts

Midwest

Financial aid more popular on college campuses

BELLEVILLE, Ill.—More students are seeking financial aid to pay for college, and fewer have defaulted on their college loans.

The national default rate is about 5 percent — down from 20 percent 10 years ago.

In 2000, loans made up 54 percent of financial aid to U.S. college students — up from 45 percent in 1990.

Bob Clement, Southwestern Illinois College director of financial aid and student employment, shared this information with staff, students and parents in seminars held on campus last week. Despite the promising signs, he said the amount of money students borrow may affect their finances later in life.

"The thing that students don't realize is loan repayments are going to affect their lifestyle," Clement said. "You might not be able to buy the car you want or a house right away."

He also said one of six borrowers changes career goals — not because of an interest in the new career — but because of a need for extra money to pay the loans.

Clement said the average amount borrowed for an undergraduate education, depending on the school, is between \$14,000 and \$16,000. Students need more than \$27,000 to afford both a bachelor's and master's degree.

In the 2001-2002 school year, U.S. college students borrowed \$90 billion.

About 70 percent of college seniors received loans in 2000, but only 46 percent borrowed a decade ago, Clement said.

He also said credit cards also are a problem because students tend not to be savvy when it comes to finances.

"We just see more and more students getting into problems because they don't know how to use credit cards," he said. "There's nothing wrong with credit cards, it's the misuse of the credit cards."

At Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, students borrowed about \$28 million in the 2001-2002 school year. Acting Financial Aid Director Sharon Berry said she hasn't seen credit cards as a major problem but said federal and state grants are not keeping up with increasing college costs.

"I am concerned about it because any debt a student incurs in college is going to be detrimental when they also have student loans to pay," Berry said.

McKendree College senior financial aid adviser Cindy Keifer also said she has noticed students are borrowing more. She said when students seek financial aid, they need to know how much they can afford according to the pay range in their selected profession.

"If you're in a low-paying degree program, you can't take on (a lot of) debt," Keifer said.

Clement said more employers are reviewing applicants' credit reports. He said a poor credit history can keep someone from getting hired. He said a good credit rating is as important as good college transcript.

Berry said current default rates reflects those who were in school two to eight years ago when there wasn't as much effort and education to control it. She said consolidated loans and low interest rates have helped students in repaying their loans.

She said current payment plans are more flexible and offer more repayment options. Plus, there is more education and awareness through counseling provided at the schools.

East

Students ask university president to show her breasts

PHILADELPHIA—Lisa Pettinati has a simple request for juniors at the University of Pennsylvania as they celebrate their passage to seniorhood on Friday:

Please don't ask university president Judith Rodin to expose her breasts.

"It's such an immature way of getting a woman down from power," Pettinati, a Penn senior, said. "If we continue to ignore it, we have to say, 'What is going on in our culture that allows this?'"

For those of you who may have missed this controversy and wonder why it is even an issue, here is some background:

As part of the school's annual "Hey Day" celebration, a bacchanal of a day that includes a ritual where students take bites out of one another's plastic-foam hats, Rodin speaks to the junior class to honor the students' passage to senior status.

In return, in recent years, some have chanted for her to expose herself.

To some, it is just sophomoric, irreverent humor from drunken college students. To others, it is downright galling.

Rodin says she has never heard the crude harassment, and it is not clear how many students engage in the behavior or for how many years it has been going on. But as the Friday Hey Day approaches, more than a few on campus are hoping to put an end to the practice.

Pettinati started the campaign urging students not to hurl the sexist language at Rodin, the first woman to become president of an Ivy League university.

Tuesday, she stood on the leafy Locust Walk next to a sign emblazoned with the word sexism and a slash through it, handing out leaflets to students. The small leaflets ask students to pay Rodin the "respect she deserves." She and several others will pass them out all week.

The cries — drunken or not — for Rodin to bare herself cut to the very heart of sexism in America, Pettinati argued.

"Any time you have a woman in power ... there's always an attempt to try to bring her down by some sexualization or objectification," the political-science major said.

Students: White House lawyer was Deep Throat

WASHINGTON—Attempting to solve one of America's greatest political mysteries, student investigators at the University of Illinois have concluded that former White House lawyer Fred Fielding is the Deep Throat who broke the Watergate scandal

wide open.

Some of the students and their teacher, Bill Gaines, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner for The Chicago Tribune, named Fielding as their choice for Deep Throat in a news conference at the Watergate Hotel, site of the famed break-in at the Democratic National Committee nearly 31 years ago.

Deep Throat was the nickname that Washington Post reporter Bob Woodward gave to his anonymous source, who provided damaging details of the break-in and Nixon administration efforts to cover it up, along with its campaign of "dirty tricks" against political opponents.

The scandal touched off investigations that ultimately led to President Nixon's resignation in 1974 and became the subject of a book and movie, "All the President's Men."

Deep Throat's identity has been the subject of a political guessing game that has lasted since then. Woodward has said he will name his source only when Deep Throat dies.

Using 16,000 pages of FBI documents and other Watergate records, Gaines and his students said that Fielding knew about or likely would have known about many of the key Watergate revelations that Woodward and his colleague, Carl Bernstein, made in their news stories that won them a Pulitzer Prize.

They ruled out six other possible candidates for Deep Throat, saying that the others could not have known everything that Fielding did as first assistant to then White House counsel John Dean. "If it wasn't Fielding, I don't see how it could have been anybody else," Gaines said.

In their project, the students and Gaines cited six specific instances of closely held inside information that Fielding knew and Deep Throat provided. These included the involvement of Watergate burglar Howard Hunt and former White House aide John Ehrlichman's instructions to former White House counsel John Dean to throw a briefcase containing incriminating information about political tricks into the Potomac River.

Schools select range of personalities to address graduates

SOUTH HADLEY, MASS. As president of the senior class at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, Jessica Zerges will get to have dinner with this year's commencement speaker, popular children's book author Judy Blume.

"Because it's a women's college and so many of us read her works growing up, it's going to be interesting to hear her voice



KRT PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT D. WILLIAMS/PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
Brandi Berger, left, hugs Keith Ojedi outside the Red Lion Area Senior High School after a grief counseling session after a deadly shooting. James Sheets, 14, shot and killed his principal Eugene Segro, 51, before turning the gun on himself.

now that we're grown up," said Zerges, a history and politics major.

Blume has written 22 novels, including classics like "Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret" and "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing."

Zerges was on the committee that polls the senior class for their choice of speaker and decides who to invite. "This year we were very lucky," she said. A good commencement speaker should be someone who "not only has national recognition but someone who also feels like

they have something important to say to the graduates."

Mount Holyoke's choice of Blume reflects the diversity of this year's batch of commencement speakers, which features fewer politicians than last year. Graduation speakers in 2002 included President George W. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, Attorney General John Ashcroft and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge.

Campus shorts are compiled by Brandon Fiala from KRT and U-Wire news services.

News Bucket

BSU to host reception for Ruch

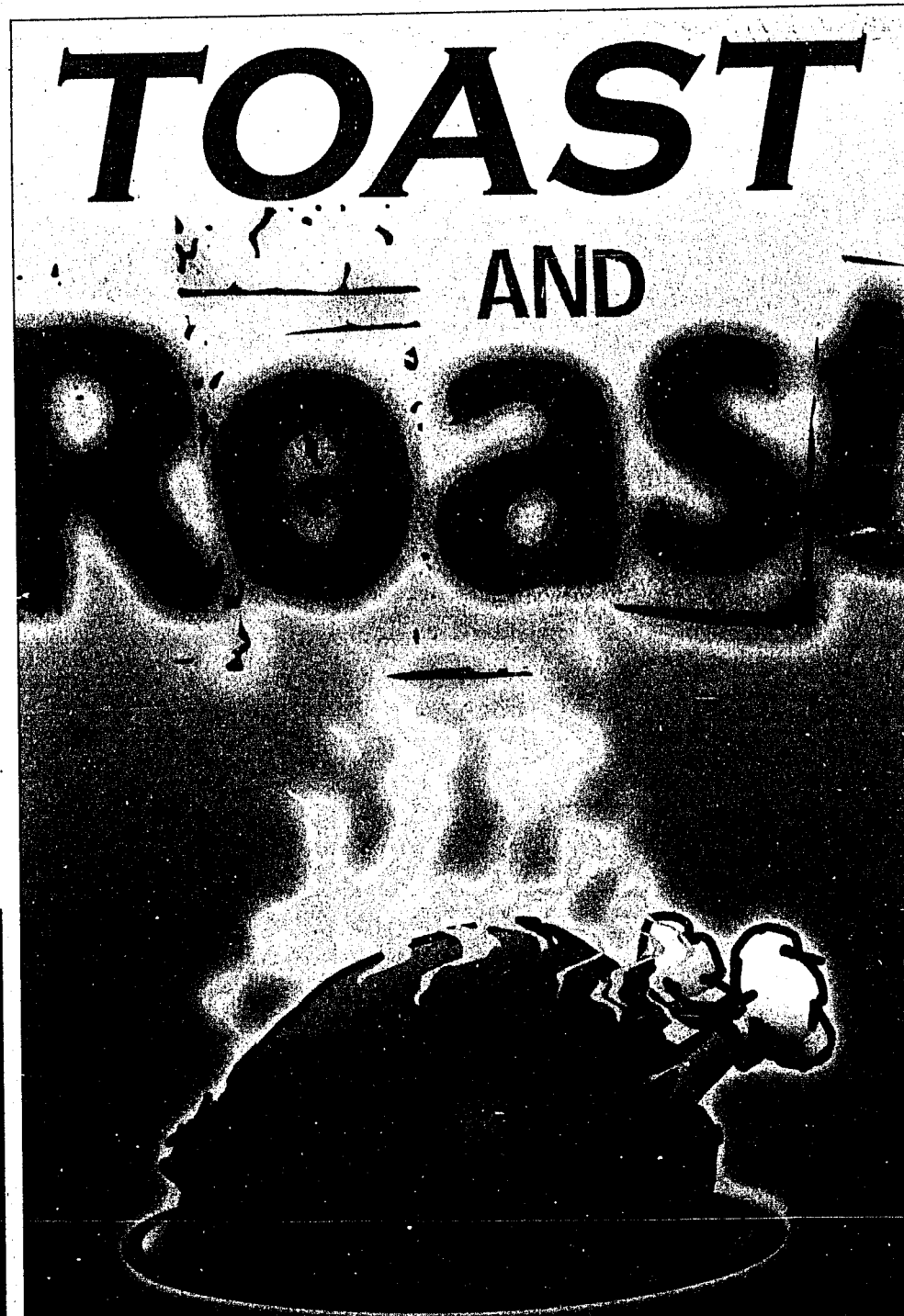
A reception will be held for the retirement of Boise State President Charles Ruch on May 1 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom. BSU faculty, staff and leaders of student organizations are invited to stop by to say thank you to Dr. & Mrs. Ruch for their 10 years of service to Boise State University.

New book traces social, cultural experience of Latinos in Idaho

A new book published by the Idaho Humanities Council focuses on the social and cultural histories of Latino and primarily Mexicano people in Idaho. *Celebrando Cultura*, a collection of essays edited by Boise State University anthropology professor Robert McCarl (94 pages, \$10), is designed to trace the evolution of Latino influences in Idaho and expand their formal study and recognition.

Research shows that the Latino population of Idaho is growing very quickly; by 2025, it is expected to have increased by 114 percent since 2000 and make up 10 percent of the state's population. Yet McCarl writes that, "The promise of these insights into another worldview will never be fulfilled until those inside and outside of these communities begin to appreciate and seriously consider the impact of these perspectives on our increasingly pluralistic lives."

Copies of the book may be purchased through the Idaho Humanities Council, 217 W. State St., Boise, ID 83702, or by calling (208) 345-5346. The book was created through financial support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



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War has long history of wreaking havoc on environment

From Staff Reports
Minnesota Daily (U. Minnesota)

As the battle in Iraq draws to a close, environmentalists and scientists warn war historically has taken its toll on the environment.

"Long after hostilities cease and peace is achieved, the lingering consequences of the war continue to harm Iraq's ecology and people," said Ross Mirkarimi, an environmental crimes investigator for San Francisco's district attorney's office.

The world has paid an environmental price for wars over the last 60 years, Mirkarimi said.

"The contamination or hoardings of water sources that travel between combatant territories as witnessed throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America ... (and) scorched earth (policies) have caused extinction of several species of flora and fauna as well," he said.

Operation Enduring Freedom

Afghanistan's troubled environment has now suffered through 23 years of almost continuous warfare. Thirty percent of its forests have been lost since 1979, according to a report released by the United Nations Environmental Program.

The program said the country as a whole now lives with four years of drought, resulting in degraded farmland. Groundwater levels for drinking wells have slipped and what little water is left has become heavily salted.

Serbia and Yugoslavia

Thirty oil tankards in Novi Sad, on the banks of the Danube, were set afire and burned for nearly 10 days during the mid-1990s NATO campaign in Yugoslavia.

Serbian media reported seeing a Danube oil slick one inch

thick and 21 miles long. Journalists in Kosovo were implored to wear gas masks even after the ceasefire and reported seeing NATO soldiers only drinking bottled water.

According to recent U.N. reports, Yugoslavia is enduring unusually high rates of mercury, asbestos and dioxin poisoning. The reports state Serbia still has dangerously low levels of drinkable water.

The NATO forces in Kosovo also dropped thousands of depleted uranium bombs that hit chemical factories, coal plants and oil refineries.

Operation Desert Shield

Mirkarimi said he doubts there will be an investigation of "the millions of ammunition rounds made from depleted uranium" used in Kosovo and other conflicts - including the first Persian Gulf war.

Mirkarimi has been to Iraq twice, once on behalf of a team of Harvard University public health scientists to study the impact of the gulf war and the U.N. sanctions. Later he followed up the study with a group organized by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

Hundreds of thousands of pounds of depleted uranium bullet and rocket shells, which oxidize on impact, litter Iraq. The oxidation creates a dust that destroys tanks and bunkers, yet the U.S. Defense Department does not currently label it as a toxic substance.

"The ongoing use of depleted uranium is the real pressing and urgent issue right now," said Steve Kretzman, an oil industry analyst for the Washington-based nonprofit Institute for Policy Studies.

Dan Fahey, a board member of Veterans for Common Sense, served in the U.S. Navy from 1990-91 and was stationed in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm.

"Science and common sense dictate it is unwise to use a weapon that distributes large

quantities of a toxic waste in areas where people live, work, grow food or draw water," Fahey said in a prepared statement.

Iraqi troops set fire to more than 732 oil wells and burned more than 6 million barrels of oil per day in March 1991, creating a cloud of smoke stretching more than 10,000 square miles.

In the fall of 1995, Iraqi warships filled with chemical munitions sank off the coast of Kuwait.

In Kuwait City, truck and tank tracks have accelerated erosion, and massive sand dunes are beginning to shift. Oil has leaked into aquifers and contaminated more than two-thirds of the fresh water reserve.

Iraq's water supply comes from the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, which the Saddam Hussein administration dammed and drained after the 1991 retreat. This has led to skyrocketing typhoid and child mortality rates every year since. Lung cancer, birth defects and death rates are also on the rise in Kuwait.

According to BBC reports, between 10 percent and 25 percent of the more than 30 million cluster bombs dropped during the Gulf War did not explode but still pose a serious threat to Iraqi civilians and U.S. peace-keeping forces.

Each bomb scatters approximately 200 smaller "bomblets," which are usually painted bright yellow and are approximately the size of a soda can. More than 1,600 Kuwaitis have died from "bomblet" explosions since the end of the first Gulf War.

Navy Capt. Frank Thorp, currently stationed in Qatar, is the Defense Department's spokesman on cluster bombs and depleted uranium. Thorp did not respond to multiple e-mails and phone calls.

Operation Ranch Hand

From 1962 to 1971, U.S. forces sprayed more than 19 million gallons of Agent Orange herbicide, which includes the

compound dioxin, over a 3-million-acre stretch of Southeast Asia.

Dioxin was banned by the mid-1970s in the U.S. commercial marketplace.

Vietnamese scientists have also linked dioxin with cancer, heart disease and diabetes. A 2000 Air Force study confirmed their findings.

Surveys conducted by Vietnamese researchers found nearly 1 million civilians exposed to Agent Orange had serious health problems. Of those victims, 100,000 possessed some sort of birth defect. Fifteen percent of those born with the defects are already dead.

The U.S. military also used cluster bombs, which are designed to create "pressure waves" that can rupture spleens or cause intestines to explode, in Laos and Indochina.

Rules and Regulations

The Vietnam War's environmental destruction inspired two international treaties: the Environmental Modification Convention and an amendment to the Geneva Convention called Protocol 1.

The environmental modification treaty was drafted to ban the purposeful manipulation of nature, such as U.S. flooding attempts, during wartime.

Protocol 1 condemned damage to natural resources crucial to civilians during times of war.

The United States still refuses to ratify either measure. "The Pentagon consistently requests and receives exemptions from the president or Congress when they don't want to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act," Mirkarimi said.

He said new legislation is needed to solve the problem.

"We need stronger environmental laws that can be enforced ... whether during peacetime or war," he said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

SARS, a viral lung disease

Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) appeared in China last fall and spread quickly to dozens of nations, but only a few thousand people have been infected and most infected people recover fully.

What it is

A type of coronavirus
Germs that cause colds in humans, serious diseases in animals

- Symptoms appear 2 to 7 days after infection
- Person with symptoms can spread virus through saliva, mucus, other body fluids
- Requires immediate medical treatment

Symptoms

- 100.4°F (38°C) fever, sometimes chills, headache, body aches
- Dry cough
- Difficulty breathing in some cases as virus attacks lungs

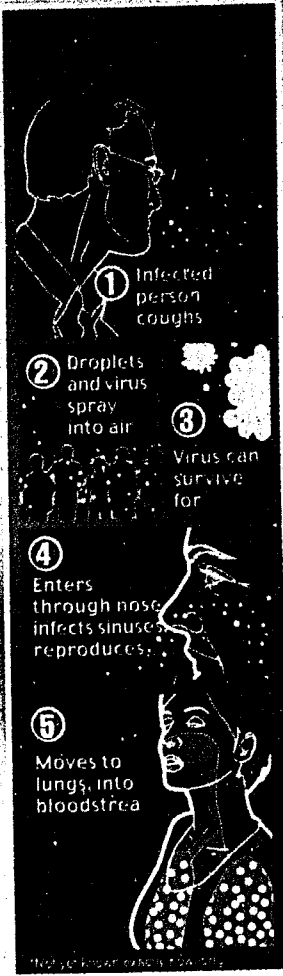
Treatment

- Antiviral drug oseltamivir or ribavirin
- Antibiotics can't kill SARS virus but keep bacteria from infecting lungs

In first cases reported:

- 4% death rate
- 10% to 20% required mechanical breathing assistance

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Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Graphic: Lee H. Wang



China reports surge in SARS cases

By Michael Dorgan
Knight Ridder Newspapers

BEIJING—China on Monday reported another big surge in SARS cases, but the lack of detail left unclear whether the epidemic is raging, waning or leveling off in the world's most populous country.

The Chinese government still has not cooperated fully

with the World Health Organization, even after China's leaders pledged to report new cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome promptly.

The Chinese Ministry of Health on Monday released an update of probable SARS cases showing 152 more cases nationwide since the day before, including 102 in Beijing. That raised the official number of cases in the capital to 448, up from just 37 two days earlier.

But because the Ministry of Health has not disclosed any details about the cases, such as when they were diagnosed, it is impossible to determine whether the epidemic is getting worse or easing, said Dr. Jeffrey McFarland, a WHO infectious disease specialist in Beijing.

"I can't understand why that information is not included," he said. "It's more than critical. You've just got to know this stuff."

After months of cover-ups and delays, China's government took a major step toward confronting the epidemic Sunday when it disclosed more than 300 previously unreported SARS cases in Beijing and removed the Beijing mayor and the health minister from their Communist Party posts for failing to deal with the mounting crisis.

At the news conference in which he disclosed the huge number of previously unreported cases, Vice Minister of Health Gao Qiang declined to answer questions about the trend of the epidemic.

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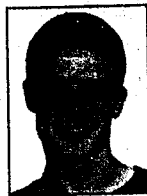
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American Idol: The search for one-hit wonders



By Sean C. Hayes
Satirist
The Arbiter

American Idol, like MTV's *The Real World* invites the same criticisms from everybody. With *The Real World* it's, "If they were in the real world, they'd have to have jobs to pay for that high-rent apartment."

I always defended that. I mean if you had seven roommates, two or three to a room, I bet you could afford to upgrade your living situation too.

With *American Idol*, it's blah, blah, blah "manufactured pop acts," "can't play instruments," etc.

But pop music was manufactured from its inception. Some of its greatest never picked up an instrument or sat down to write a song. Manufactured pop acts, for Top 40 listeners, provide the soundtrack for our lives.

What I have against *American Idol* is that its British pop music impresario, the notorious Simon Cowell, doesn't know the first thing about selling a pop act, except a one-shot gimmick like a reality TV show.

To watch his criticism of Vanessa Olivarez, the first booted contestant, a couple months ago, you'd think he'd stepped into another dimension. He told Vanessa she's more of a "road performer" like Bette Midler, and less of a singing star. Huh? And the irony is, he said this sitting right next to Paula Abdul. That woman couldn't sing a note. She made a brief career of creative music videos, her famous choreography, a songwriting team and a fantastic marketing division (not to mention her infamous slimming lens camera).

Can Britney Spears sing a note? Without a vocal machine, a synthesizer, skimpy outfits, a friendly snake and slick dance moves, where would she be?

Here's why Kelly Clarkson'll never have another hit, after her beauty pageant theme song "A Moment Like This," or why the next winning contestant is going nowhere; they've got no star quality.

Singing talent is incidental. Christina Aguilera has a great voice, but it wouldn't mean a thing if nobody wanted to see her mount a motorcycle in her underpants.

And if the producers cared so much about a voice, why'd they kick off Frenchie, one of their most talented vocalists, just because she had a porno past?

R. Kelly starred in his own XXX feature recently and his new album's selling truckloads.

That leaves us with their current crop of talents, a completely lackluster bunch, its frontrunners, tellingly, look like Fat Albert and the banjo kid from Deliverance. Can you honestly see Clay Aiken Ricky Martin-ing across a stage? There's a reason the boy never dances. If he's not strapped behind a guitar in an Emo rock band, he's got no chance in hell of becoming a pop crooner. Ruben Studdard? Joshua "I'm a little bit country, little bit rock n' roll" Gracin? Would anybody buy an album with those jokers on the cover?

Lately, there's talk of the *American Idol 2* contestants putting out a God Bless America tribute album. This is straight out of the '70s variety show era. Next episode, they may as well tumble in on an inflatable slide singing the Brady Bunch's "Keep on Groovin'."

Last season, just because I like some edge with my pop stars, I was rooting for ex-stripper, single mom Nikki McKibbin. When she finally got voted off, boggling everybody's mind as second runner up, I bought purple hooters - as a tribute - for everybody in the bar. It was early Wednesday evening, only a few people there, but still I can't see myself buying shots for anybody if Carmen Rasmusen's voted off.

The American Idol Drinking Game:

Drink at these times:

Simon is heard off-camera saying "um" before it's his time to comment

Simon reminds us the show is the search for the next "American Idol"

Simon says, "At this point in the competition"

Simon tells us he likes a contestant with better with "his eyes closed"

Simon describes the fantasy "American Idol" involves Ryan Seacrest

Randy calls a contestant "dawg" or "man" he calls a female contestant "man"

Randy mentions he's worked with "the likes" of Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey he can name one of the songs he worked on

Paula croons in heat over a male contestant that contestant was per-

forming a Paula Abdul song "Drink three times when that song was 'Vibeology'"

You can recognize the "celebrity" guest host before they're introduced "Drink two times when they've had a hit in the last 10 years" "Drink three times when they say anything remotely negative about any contestant"

Ryan insults Simon in a way sounding suspiciously like a clumsy pass "Drink three times when Ryan and Simon declare their undying love"

If anybody has anything nice to say about the performance of Kimberley Locke "Drink three times when Kimberley has been voted off by the time you read this column" "Drink three times when she hasn't"

If a contestant performs in an Afro wig "Finish the Bottle: If that contestant is Joshua Gracin"

If a new American Idol mugshot or criminal past comes to light

"Drink two times when: If the mugshot is Joshua Gracin"

"Drink two times when: If it's for an anti-war protest"

If Trenyce leaps over the table and decks Simon "Drink two times when: If she precedes it with, 'Who you talkin' to, honky?'"

If Clay smiles wanly and points in a vague direction "If Clay sings a song involving the word 'star'" "Drink two times when: If Clay sings Missy Eliot's 'Work It'"

If that Keith "Like a Virgin" guy's clip is show again "Drink two times when: If he sneaks back on the show"

"Drink three times when: If Clay wins."

If you're still alive after playing this game at the end of the show you might want to seek medical attention.



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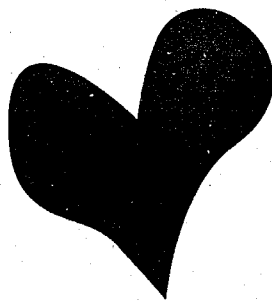
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Insignificant acts are significant

Guest Opinion

By Julia Berger
Student

I have often been disappointed by the stupidity of my fellow humans.

Unfortunately, no amount of wishing or hoping can bring about change. I can find no real and tangible solution to the problems of ignorance, hate and intolerance. Nor have I heard an actual solution from anyone who claimed to have one.

But, we have been told, and so should know, that all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. There is an overabundance of ignorance in the world and I see no difference in this city and on this campus than anywhere else. Some rant and some rave. Some hate, some destroy, others try to do something con-

structive to no avail.

Being in college and assuming yourself to be a well-educated individual does not exclude you from the ugliness in the world. It is precisely that which makes it your responsibility to develop intelligent thought and attempt to correct that ugliness. If you do nothing to counteract that which is destructive, you are allowing it to grow.

Just being here, with the time and the money you are spending, does not guarantee that you will exit this college as an intelligent human being. It's what you choose to do with your newfound intelligence that makes you what you are.

Acts of hate are being carried out around you every day in ways that you cannot notice, unless you are the target. Those who are living their lives in fear of persecution cannot speak out for themselves. Must acts of prejudice be allowed or ignored simply because you feel there is no way to stop it? There are people living in pain and fear, knowing that these things are only being done and said to them because they do not

look or sound American. It always begins by the tiny acts of discrimination, the ones that no one thinks are significant, and the ones that are ignored. Then suddenly one day, not so insignificant, someone is beaten on the street because they "look like one of those people".

If you don't care now, you will one day. Someone you care about will be made to know hate, and then you will care. Perhaps you should go ahead and start caring now, before you have to see what one day will only bring you pain.

I am a white female. I have only received remarks to myself that are well justified. I have no personal experience as the target of any acts of prejudice or hate. All I can say is that I feel I must apologize, as what I am, to every Native-American, African-American, Asian, Hispanic, and Jew that I meet with shame and regret for the stupidity of my race. I must now add all those who are French or Middle-Eastern. I am sorry on the behalf of all things human and all things beautiful. There is nothing that will ever give anyone the

right for any reason to proliferate the wrongs that have dominated this world. We have, as a unified human race, brought so much misery and unhappiness on those who have been born naturally predisposed to laugh and find joy.

There is nothing in my mind that can ever buy back another's lost moments of happiness. There is something that I will not excuse in others. Walking through life without a heart is a choice you make, not a predisposition.

One of the most important things this country is meant to stand for is the right to the pursuit of happiness. Unfortunately, I must now say that you may not take part in these basic human rights unless you look and sound like "one of us".

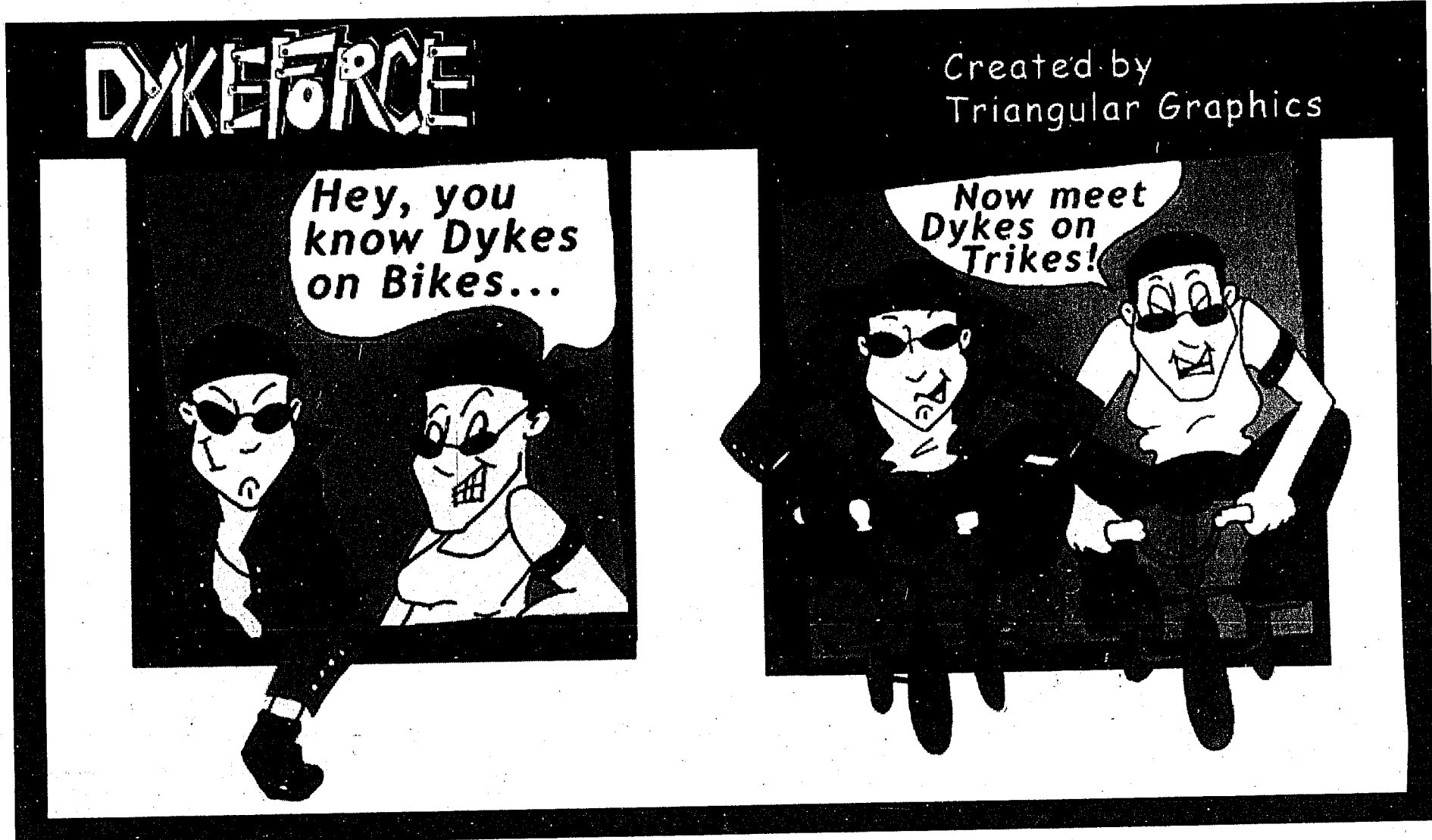
Carrying out acts of hate or prejudice under the delusion of patriotism is the least patriotic thing you could possibly do. Show me a white man whose family didn't come from another country and I'll show you a liar.

And so, as in all things, the great circle resumes. One man buys his hap-

piness through the miseries of another. What happiness that could be I do not know.

If it disgusts you, that only means you have one of two very important things: a heart, or a brain. You can do something; don't let it happen around you.

If you find even meager acts of hate or intolerance offensive, I do not suggest bothering the administration with such trifles because, sadly, they may tell you "there is really nothing we can do." And if you should think that such things should be reported, think again. You may hear the excuse or the non sympathetic rationalization that, "These are politically stressful times." Not even treated with the respect of being swept under the carpet. It simply isn't important enough for certain people who could even be the dean of something or other to pretend they care. "We don't report that sort of thing." I admire honesty in all its forms.



Spanish oppose war in Iraq

Guest Opinion

By Justin Hurst
Student

On the brink of being rejected by the UN, George Bush and his faithful administration worked night and day to fabricate a pretext for war. He then ordered the troops that were stationed in Kuwait to invade Iraq - picking up where his father had left off.

What they mustered up was a list of supportive, mostly Third World countries, some dubious satellite shots of weapons of mass destruction (such a magician, that Colin Powell), and testimonial praise for the "Good Cause." I am currently traveling through Spain, so I would like to focus on the first pillar of the pretext - International Support.

Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar declared his support for U.S. action early on, much to the dismay of Spaniards. Some of the largest "manifestaciones" of anti-war emotion have occurred on the streets of Spain. I witnessed one, of at least 100,000 people, last Saturday in Barcelona.

Whether in Pais Vasco, Galicia, Catalunya, Valencia, Navarra or Andalucia, it is not uncommon to see banners draped from apartment windows or bar walls, graffiti or stickers attached to various objects, bearing the words, "No A La Guerra" (No to the War), with a picture of a falling bomb with a slash through it.

The reality of Spanish sentiment is quite clear - that despite the pro-war gestures of their government, Spanish, Galician, Basque and Catalan people do not support this war.

Some will argue that international protest is deeply rooted in and explained by simple anti-Americanism, or jealousy for our uniquely free and democratic society. This is completely unfounded. Others argue that it's about economics; that Europe has financial interests in Iraq. Although this is true of some European governments, it ignores the fact that the rest of the world opposes the war.

The vast majority are people unaffiliated with and unaffected by the economic interests. They couldn't care less about oil contracts (oil is already expensive and many rely on very efficient alternate means of transportation), and are protesting on the basic principle of morality. Indeed, children and the elderly, who vividly recall the fascist reign of Franco, are representing their country in protest. A woman around my age - 20 - told me that polls have indicated a 20/80 (20 percent in support; 80 percent against) split over the issue of support for the war, and even that is a conservative estimate, as young people are left out. While this is not concrete evidence, everyone I've spoken to, everything I've read and everything I've seen personally has reaffirmed it.

Here in Spain, much like the rest of Europe and even Canada, personal stories and photographs of the damage inflicted upon Iraq can be seen in various newspapers and on television-news programs. The American media deliberately avoids those things. In the United States, we are bombarded by

comparatively small numbers of American casualties, without ever a mention of Iraqi suffering. We are left to wonder if there are even real faces in that far-off country that our military is attacking.

As for the other countries that are proudly advertised on Bush's grocery list, they only reflect governmental and superficial acquiescence. Millions of people in countries like Britain are taking to the streets to remind the politicians that the common people are not being properly represented.

Algeria, an ardent U.S. ally in Bush's pocket, was welcomed in on the War on Terror, despite the fact that it is a home base for some of the world's worst terrorist cells. It lent military aid to fight terrorists in Afghanistan.

Furthermore, all of the "supportive" countries jumped on the bandwagon (a very small one), because they were either bribed with loans or threatened by U.S. preeminence in the U.N. Security Council. In the case of Turkey and Israel, support for the war presented an excuse for stepped-up oppression of Kurds and Palestinians, respectively.

Spain is just one of more than 100 countries, representing billions of people worldwide, that is against war in Iraq. War, even when engaged in with the best of intentions, has always resulted in an overshadowing of the perceived enemy by the "Good Guys," from the Peloponnesian War to World War II to the war in Afghanistan. Our government professes to value freedom and democracy, yet ignores the opinion of many Americans and a majority of the world. This war is wrong.

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Guest Opinion

The Arbiter is seeking guest opinions from Boise State students, faculty and staff. Give us your best rant in 800 words or fewer. Send submissions to editor@arbiteronline.com.

SPORTS SHORTS

Women's golf team finishes fourth in Hawai'i

The Boise State women's golf team shot a final round 309 on Wednesday, their best score of the tournament, and finished fourth at the Western Athletic Conference Tournament at Kapolei Golf Course. The Broncos finished with a 54-hole score of 947, 33 strokes behind team-champion Tulsa.

Senior Marie Beasley finished the tournament with a four over par 76 during the final round. Beasley tied for third place with San Jose State's Tai Kinney, 10 strokes behind individual champion Julie Tvede, of Tulsa. Beasley finished just one stroke out of second place.

Freshman Ashley Hogg wrapped up a successful rookie season, finishing tied for 15th. Hogg shot a final round 77, her best score of the tournament, and finished 20 strokes off the lead.

Boise State's three other golfers finished in a tie for 23rd place. Senior Alissa Lean wrapped up her career with a final round 84 and a 54-hole score of 246. Sophomore Jennifer Hedberg shot an 80 during the final 18 holes, while sophomore Jenny Judd posted her best round of the

Beasley named to golf All-WAC team

Senior Marie Beasley was named second-team All-Western Athletic Conference following a third-place finish at the WAC Tournament in Honolulu, Hawai'i this week. Beasley put up three rounds of 77-75-76 on the par-72 Kapolei Golf Course to cap a solid season.

Beasley finished the season with the top stroke average in school history, a 77.4 per 18 holes. That beat the previous best, 77.6 set by Acey Erlandson in 1999-2000, by .2 strokes per 18 holes. Beasley also is third (78.4), fourth (78.5) and sixth (79.9) on the list.

During her senior year Beasley had four top 10 finishes, tied for second best in school history. In addition to the third place finish at the WAC Tournament, she was fourth at both the BYU-Dixie Classic and the Bronco Fall Classic and seventh at the Lady Vandal Fall Invitational.

Beasley ended her career with 12 entries in the Bronco record books and two all-conference honors. Besides this year's second-team All-WAC honor, she was a first-team All-Big West performer as a sophomore.



Anthony declares for NBA Draft

Freshman blue chip says he has to move on

By Eli Saslow
Daily Orange (Syracuse U.)

This is business, he told himself as he nonchalantly glanced at his cell phone and swaggered into a room full of reporters.

He'd tell them he was going pro. Then he'd smile and laugh until he left the room glowing. This would be a press conference Carmelo Anthony style: Fun and lighthearted.

Sporting his trademark orange headband, he sat down next to two of his coaches and looked at the 14 news cameras, some waiting to broadcast his decision live.

"I won't be coming back to Syracuse next year," Anthony

said. Basketball would become business now, he explained.

Then he cried. Carmelo Anthony - an 18-year-old freshman so audacious he guaranteed a Final Four berth and led his team to a national championship - finally folded emotionally Thursday as he announced he'd leave Syracuse for the NBA.

For at least a few moments, the Syracuse men's basketball community seemed to fold with him. Head coach Jim Boeheim and assistant coach Troy Weaver both cried at Anthony's side during his announcement. Anthony's teammates - four of them attended - kept their eyes glued to the floor.

"It felt kind of like a funeral," said Billy Edelin, Anthony's teammate and roommate. "The whole atmosphere just seemed so sad. It was almost like depression just sort of spread through the room."

Odd, considering the press conference started with Anthony's smile and Boeheim claiming, "This is a very happy day for Syracuse basketball." Odder still since Anthony never showed anything but carefree joy during the season.

He averaged 22 points and 10 rebounds. He won National Freshman of the Year and Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four. He helped Syracuse win 30 games and its first-ever national

title, all while saying "the Big East isn't really that hard for me" or "sometimes college basketball seems easy."

He walked with a swagger well-earned. He signed autographs on the Syracuse Quad and at fraternity parties. And he always smiled.

"Nobody else I know is so comfortable in the spotlight," Steve Smith, Anthony's high school coach at Oak Hill Academy, said earlier this year. "He'll just soak everything in. He'll take all the praise and prove he deserves it."

"First of all, I really don't want to leave to be honest with you, but that's another story right now," Anthony said, choking

back tears. "It's a tough decision for me to make."

"My teammates brought me in for one year. We were really like a family out there. I'm going to miss them so much."

In terms of his draft status, Anthony could hardly be hotter. He likely will be the No. 3 pick in the NBA Draft, held at Madison Square Garden on June 26. Last year's third pick, Mike Dunleavy of Duke, signed a contract that paid him about \$2.6 million in his rookie year.

"I have to move on," Anthony said, "because there's really nothing more I could get out of college."

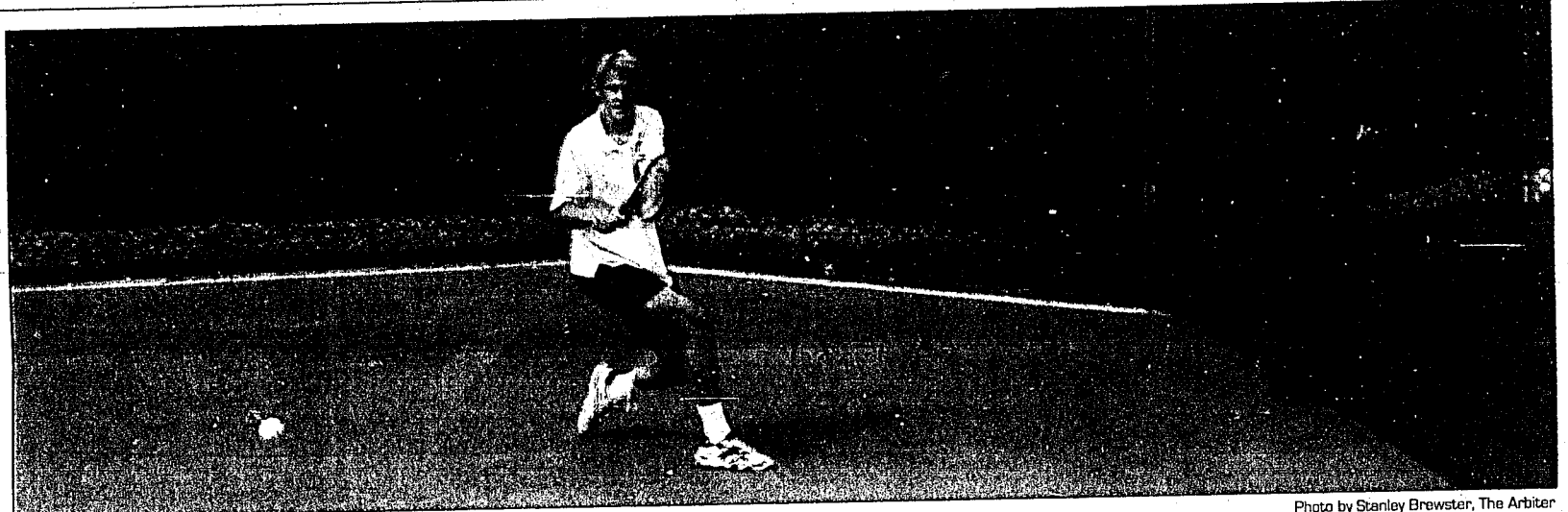


Photo by Stanley Brewster, The Arbiter

Marcus Berntson in action against Tulsa's Ryan Livesay Friday Night at the Appleton Tennis Center.

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For a complete wrap up of the Western Athletic Conference Tennis Championship between Boise State and Southern Methodist go to arbiteronline.com.

Boise State's Guillaume Bouvier working on his 6-2 - 7-6 defeat of Tulsa's Alejandro Tejerina this past weekend.

Photo by Stanley Brewster, The Arbiter

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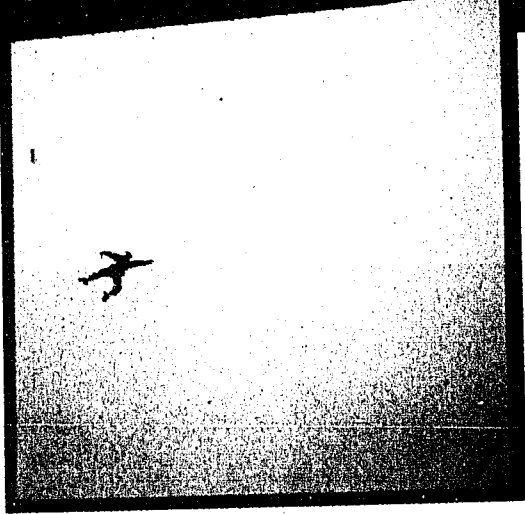
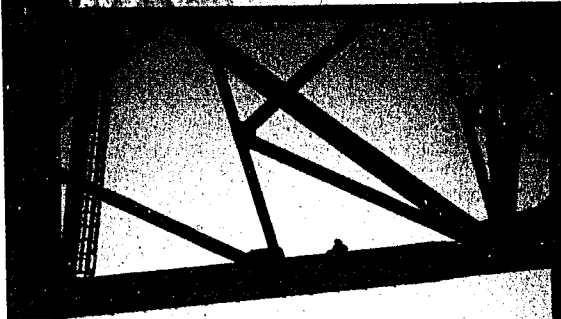
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Pamela Means, who opened for Alex Olson's poetry slam, plays her song "Devils Henchman". Photo by Jeremy Branstad, the Arbiter.

Alex Olson recites a poem at the SUB.
Photo by Jeremy Branstad, the Arbiter.

National poet slams the SUB

Poet/feminist/activist performs wise words at BSU

By Lauren Consuelo Tussing
The Arbiter

Slam poet/feminist/spoken-word artist/lesbian/activist Alix Olson performed at Boise State Friday evening in the Student Union first floor dining hall.

Olson, member of the 1998 Nuyorican National Championship Slam Team, and winner of the 1999 OutWrite National Slam, has become well-known among spoken-word enthusiasts for her witty social and political criticism and infectious stage presence. "There's this cynicism in the air these days, but there's also this really hot, potential political energy. I'm much more interested in feeding forward movement than staid dis-

illusionment," Olson said in *girlfriends magazine*. Olson showcased her talents to an intimately sized crowd last Friday, occasionally accompanied by opener guitarist Pamela Means. One poem Olson performed, called "America's on Sale," critiqued American consumerist culture, "American's on sale/(restrictions may apply if you're black, Arab, gay or female)/And shoppers/global perspective is ninety-ninety

percent off/cause most of the world don't count to us/our ethnic inventory is low/because moral business has been slow/the values-company is moving to Mexico/and all ethics must go." Olson has toured all over the world, including performances at the International Poetry Festival in Rotterdam, Netherlands, the LGBT Cultural Arts Festival in London, England, and Amsterdam's Gay Games.

She has also released a CD, titled *Built Like That*, featuring her finest spoken-word work with musical guests, including Pamela Means. Student poets Brandon Follett, of Veronica and the Mental Foreplays and Kelly Morse also performed earlier in the evening. For more information about Alix Olson go to www.alixolson.com.

"There's this cynicism in the air these days, but there's also this really hot, potential political energy. I'm much more interested in feeding forward movement than staid disillusionment."

Alix Olson said in *girlfriends magazine*

Silence lawsuits, bring on free downloads

Commentary
By Jack Schneider
Daily Forty-Niner (California State U.-Long Beach)

Remember when a person could download a catchy or great tune without having to pay for the entire CD? Most college students remember when Napster was a popular web site where eager Internet browsers could download oodles of music for free. As soon as Napster rose to pirating fame, the controversies started. Lawsuits were filed

against Napster, and the company was trying to make agreements. BMI music tried to correlate in downloading with Napster, so that every time a person would log on to the site, a fee would be charged. The plan never went through, and the stellar idea fizzled. This week history is repeating itself, with yet another lawsuit against Napster. Two record companies, Universal Music and EMI, filed a lawsuit last Monday, against Napster Inc., with major cases

of copyright violations. As if the obvious statement about pirating wasn't enough, the suit seeks \$150,000 per violation. Making matters worse, this lawsuit intends to prevent other companies from creating a file-swapping service ever since Napster. Could there be a more ridiculous idea? A good majority of students around California State University-Long Beach have probably heard of Limewire, WinMX, BearShare, Aimster and the ever-famous KaZaA.

These five companies have spawned ever since the decline of Napster. It's been said before and it will be said again; there is no escape from Internet piracy. However, there are ways to incorporate piracy, without depleting the usage of MP3s. Apple Computers, which is the creator of the iPod, have incorporated a way to download music, and pay a fee with the iPod. This idea also correlates with Apple's iTunes, so people can get all the latest and greatest

songs. Apple's plan, unlike past ideas with Napster and BMI, incorporates all digital music, and could prove to be a successful plan. Best of all, Apple's plan pays royalties to the record companies, proving to be a win-win situation for music downloaders (with enough money to pay for services) and record companies. The issues of downloading music with Napster are all in the past. While some people see digital music as an opportunity for profit and correspondence

with downloaders and record companies, others, like Universal and EMI, need to stop complaining about digital music. It's about time both record companies and digital music stop complaining about each other, and find a common ground. If Apple's digital music plan works, then the dispute between record companies and the people who download music won't have to worry about who is getting the short end of the stick.

It's been said before and it will be said again; there is no escape from Internet piracy. —Jack Schneider

Musical families: They kin sing

By Dave Tienen
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

As Hank Williams Jr. put it: "It's a family tradition."

Hank Jr. was singing mainly about partying to the point of liver damage, but he also meant singing itself.

Perhaps it's genetics, perhaps it's opportunity—maybe it's both. But it seems there are always fresh faces with familiar names making their bow in the music business.

This year, Norah Jones, the daughter of sitar master Ravi Shankar, pretty much swept the Grammy awards.

And at the rather advanced age of 35, Lisa Marie Presley is attempting to step out of the longest of all musical shadows with her recently released debut album, *To Whom It May Concern*.

Ben Taylor, the son of James Taylor and Carly Simon, is opening shows for Dar Williams.

Having a famous name is obviously a mixed blessing.

On the plus side, getting that first record deal and at least a degree of media notice is probably a lot easier.

Would Lil' Romeo have made it on the Billboard charts at age 11 if his dad weren't Master P?

Same thing with Kelly Osbourne, who certainly owes her musical career to mom Sharon and dad Ozzy and their MTV mutant update of *Father Knows Best*.

But it's a trade-off. With early attention comes the promise of intense scrutiny for developing talents. And even deserving talents face assumptions of privilege.

Finally, if the famous offspring too closely mirrors the famous parent, he or she may be dismissed as little more than a second-generation echo.

Famous names or not, most of the sons and daughters of stardom

never achieve long-term stardom in their own right.

For every Natalie Cole or Liza Minnelli, there are two or three Gary Crosby and Julian Lenons.

The experience of trying to fill superstar shoes has unfolded in many different ways. Consider some of the variants:

A BLOCKBUSTER OFF THE OLD CHIP
(Kids that did better than mom or dad)

—Whitney Houston and Cissy Houston: As a member of the Sweet Inspirations, Cissy Houston backed up Aretha Franklin and Elvis Presley and scored a couple of minor R&B hits.

Later, as a solo artist, she released several modestly successful soul and gospel albums. But she never even approached the superstar success of her daughter Whitney.

—Shemekia Copeland and Johnny Copeland: Johnny Copeland was a respected Texas bluesman who gained a measure of autumnal acclaim later in his life.

But he never had anything like the commercial and critical acclaim his 24-year-old daughter Shemekia has won after just three albums.

WALKING A MILE IN MY OWN SHOES

(Sons and daughters who have taken a very different musical path)

—Ravi Shankar and Norah Jones: Jones' classic pop and jazz piano stylings obviously have little in common with her dad's sitar music.

This is a good thing. If they did, it's almost certain she would never have become a rising star.

There's a marvelous moment at the beginning of the rock documentary *The Concert for Bangladesh* where Shankar and his group come on stage, noodle around for a little while and stop, to scattered applause.

Shankar then thanks the crowd for their applause and tells them that

if they enjoyed the tuning up that much, they should like the music even better.

—Elvis Presley and Lisa Marie Presley: Lisa Marie seems to have her dad's famous sneer stamped on her mug.

Musically, however, her Harley, greaser and kickbutt genes seem to have misfired.

The most common musical comparisons to Lisa Marie's new album have been Sheryl Crow and Alanis Morissette. This surely would never have happened if Dad had stayed with Wanda Jackson.

—Jim Croce and A.J. Croce: A.J.'s husky barroom blues owe far more to Dr. John than to his dad's hit folk-rock story songs from the '70s.

DYNASTIES
(Musical families that have crossed three generations)

—The Nelsons: twins Gunnar and Matthew (as the duo Nelson); Rick Nelson; and Ozzie and Harriet Nelson.

When you get as much attention for your hair as for your music, it's usually not a career plus, so it's probably not surprising that Gunnar and Matthew have fallen back into obscurity after a short burst of hits in the early '90s.

Their dad, Rick Nelson, was a Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and the most gifted of the early teen idols.

What is sometimes forgotten is that his parents Ozzie and Harriet Nelson were very successful musicians in their own right.

Ozzie was a bandleader with nearly 40 hits in the '30s, and Harriet was the singer in his band.

Oddly, they rarely sang on their long-running sitcom. They did appear as musicians on the radio version of *The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet* that preceded the TV show.



Norah Jones

'The Real Cancun' displays racy reality



From left, Sky, Dave, Roxanne, Paul and Nicole appear in *The Real Cancun* from the producers of MTV's *The Real World*. KHT photo by Brie Childrens/New Line Productions.

By Rebecca Louie
New York Daily News

On second thought, maybe gyrating topless (and almost bottomless) with a twin sister, slathered in whipped cream, in front of hundreds of drunk revelers and movie cameras was not the best idea.

"I have no problem with nudity, but I'm worried that people will think I'm slutty," said Nicole, 20, of Texas Tech University, who competes in a wet T-shirt contest in the spring break "reality" movie *The Real Cancun*, which opened on Friday.

Cancun is the first film to chronicle sex and relationships

in the unscripted, 24/7-camera format popularized by MTV's *The Real World* and CBS' *Big Brother*.

Real World creators Mary-Ellis Bunim and Jonathan Murray are the movie's producers.

"That's so not what I am," Nicole said. "I'm really sexually reserved. It was just all of these people were cheering me on, and spontaneity took over."

Laura, a 20-year-old aspiring actress from the small town of Brandon, Wis., also succumbed to her impulses — and is not sure she wants her mom, dad and grandma to catch her big-screen debut.

"I knew that I would end up

hooking up with somebody, and I thought Jeremy was cute," she says of the guy she is seen having sex with in the film.

"It was the first night, and whenever a new cast person came in, we took a shot of tequila. It was, like, 18 shots later and..." She trailed off.

"I didn't think about the future or consequences at all. I just lived minute by minute. I'm doing what half of the other kids my age do," she said. "I just did it on camera."

The Real Cancun used more than 100 surveillance cameras, 50 microphones and 5 miles of cable to capture the exploits of 16 college-age youths as they caroused during eight days in

Mexico just last month.

Their adventures, which include copious body shots (in which you slurp alcohol out of someone's navel), one-night stands and the transformation of a substance-free dweeb into a slurring, wasted, horn dog earned the film an R rating.

"When you attach an R rating to something, people see it as value added to the show," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of Exhibitor Relations, a company that tracks box-office sales.

"You turn up the volume on the sex, nudity and language and people don't mind paying for something that they can watch (a tamer version of) for free on TV or for their monthly cable fee."

Trading on television's taboo territory is often a lucrative venture for movie studios.

MTV's *Jackass the Movie*, an R-rated departure from its television counterpart, grossed about \$65 million at the box office.

The network has released four more explicit video collections of *The Real World You Never Saw*.

The Gidget-gone-bad aesthetic is a hot one for upcoming movies.

Earlier this year, Universal Pictures shot a spring-break film, *The Quest*, produced by Mike Fleiss, creator of *The Bachelor* and *The Bachelorette*.

Following seven male cronies from the University of Colorado as they searched for, among other things, sex in Cabo, Mexico, the film, now called *Spring Break, the Movie*, was slated to come out on May 9 but was bumped to an as-yet-undisclosed release date.

Too much good material, the studio says, to get into shape so quickly.

MGM is working on a fictional adaptation of *Girls Gone Wild*, the popular straight-to-video series bursting with real-life footage of young women getting down and dirty during spring breaks and Mardi Gras events around the world.

Joe Francis, the founder of the series and production company Mantra Entertainment, was charged earlier this month with drug trafficking and racketeering related to prostitution.

Parents had complained to police in Panama City Beach, Fla., that Francis asked minors to lie about their age so he could videotape them nude.

"Porn can be so boring," Horn said.

"They are actors, they are paid, they have boobs that God clearly did not give them. But with our movies, and others like them, you get to see the girl next door going wild. It could be your neighbor. This is the real deal."

However, some people believe reality movies featuring lewd behavior encourage dangerous stereotypes for women.

"It's part of a whole culture's impetus on mainstreaming pornography," said Ann Simonton of Media Watch, a nonprofit advocacy group in Santa Cruz, Calif.

"What this does is give a very overt message that all women want to get drunk, take off their clothes and dance around," she said.

"If you're different from that kind of female, you're a prude, uptight, living in yesterday's world."

In *Cancun*, there was at least one holdout against hedonism. Sarah, a 21-year-old from Arizona State, refused to cheat on her boyfriend of three months.

"The temptation was all around, but I knew what I got to go home to," she said of the beau she may someday marry.

"It wasn't worth losing that for a week of lust."

She also managed to keep her bosom to herself.

"I want to be the next 'Wild On...'! E! host and you have to show them clips of what you've done," said the broadcast major.

"I didn't want to them to see me and think I was the type of girl who just takes it all off. It's not respectable."

CD REVIEW

'Rainy Day Music' rightly titled

By Eric Lange
The Maneater (U. Missouri)

Rainy Day Music is not bright music, but it's not dark. Bittersweet is the best word for the album's tone.

And pretty is the best word for the album's neo-folk, Simon and Garfunkel-esque sound — the album could have come out of the '60s folk movement.

The guitars are easy, light and unobtrusive, lyrics are sensitive and sober and sweetly sung harmonies abound.

In the band's almost 20-year career, the Jayhawks have morphed from an alternative country band, blending Big Star's power pop with the country rock of Gram Parsons, to its own brand of lush, accessible, harmony-heavy power-pop.

The release of *Smile* in 2000 seems to have marked the end of this trend, however. The follow-up, *Rainy Day Music*, ditches the synths, overlays and thick textures of the past two albums.

The new album is not the alternative country of early Jayhawks (save for the track "Tailspin"), but it does harken the band's earliest releases like "Hollywood Town Hall," with a simpler, folkier, more roots-based type of sound (let's call it folk-rock-power-pop).

Frontman Gary Louris writes mature and intelligent lyrics and sings them with genuine empathy, never raising his voice.

Louris is not the only writer in the Jayhawks, however — Marc Perlman writes the sad remorse of "Will I See You in Heaven."

Drummer Tim O'Reagan is the standout, though. On the tracks "Don't Let the World Get in Your Way" and "Tampa to Tulsa" he not only realizes his true potential as a songwriter but also as a singer.

The Louris song "Save It for a Rainy Day" stands out for its swagger and radio friendliness. It is already in some commercial radio playlists such as Columbia, Missouri's KBXR/102.3 FM.

But the O'Reagan song "Don't Let the World Get in Your Way" earns the distinction of being the prettiest, most emotional and most heart-wrenching track on a disc already characterized by such qualities.

He sings the song with a gentle nature, belying the power of the track. He should have cried into the microphone.

The album, however, is chock full of beautiful bittersweet songs — each one earning a distinction.

"Tailspin" is the only country song on the album — we knew the Jayhawks still had a little country in 'em — with its quiet banjo plucking and faint slide guitar whines.

The electric-folk-pop of the opener, "Stumbling Through the Dark," is the most Birds-esque, while the acoustic reprise of "Stumbling Through the Dark" is the most Simon and Garfunkel-esque with its echoing harmonies.

Relationships gave 'Confidence' to director

By Duane Dudek
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Director James Foley knows actor Ed Burns by another name. "Sucker," Foley sneered jokingly.

Burns was telling about being hoodwinked out of a couple hundred dollars by street hustlers when, in the ninth grade, Burns and his friends went to Times Square to try to purchase some fake IDs.

"We were three kids from the suburbs, and they marked us just like that," said Burns, who stars in Foley's new film, *Confidence*, about a team of grifters who pull a fast one on a mobster, played by Dustin Hoffman.

As for whether acting is something of a con, well, "that's the definition of the job," Burns said.

Fooling the audience is one of the great pleasures of *Confidence*. So it's surprising Foley never saw it as a caper film.

If he had been asked if he ever wanted to make a caper film, Foley said, "I would have said,

"No, not necessarily."

But Doug Jung's screenplay attracted him because, Foley said, it had the thing "I'm drawn to time and time again, which is the relationship among a group of men, how they form a hierarchical kind of organization, who trusts who and how it plays out."

"I like the caper stuff, plot machinations and the surprises," Foley said. "But what I'm really drawn to is that."

Initially, Foley was skeptical that Hoffman would be interested in playing a supporting part, even a showy one.

But the actor was just coming out of a career hiatus after becoming disillusioned with Hollywood, and he shared an agent with Burns.

When Hoffman signed on, the character changed from a 250-pound gym running a gym in New York to a volatile Los Angeles "businessman."

The film also stars Paul Giamatti, Andy Garcia and Donal Logue.

For Burns, *Confidence* marks his decision to act full time.

Burns' good looks suggest that his film career was genetically assured. But he had something more powerful — the luck of the Irish.

He arrived on the scene, as if fully formed, in 1995 with *The Brothers McMullen*, about the love lives of Irish-American brothers, a film he wrote, directed and starred in.

It became the most profitable film of the year, when its \$25,000 cost is compared to the \$10 million it earned at the box office.

That *The Brothers McMullen* even saw the light of day is a small miracle.

Burns, whose high, hoarse voice can crack like a kid still in puberty, recalled "sitting in the corner of the studio" during the course of Redford's interview with his tape of *The Brothers McMullen* in his hand while he was preparing a speech in his head.

"I was shaking," he said.

His goal was not to get into the Sundance Film festival but to get \$50,000 from the Sundance Institute to finish the film and

transfer the rough cut of the film to 35-millimeter stock.

"I was in a really bad mood, and I was leaving," Redford said, "and a guy handed me a tape. I thought he was a panhandler. I go, 'Geez, what is this? Dirty pictures?' And he said, 'Please just look at this.'"

Redford's curiosity was piqued, "maybe because I'm Irish," the Sundance founder said.

"So I looked at it and loved it. It was about 40 minutes too long. But I sent it to (the Sundance Film Festival) and told them, 'We've got to get this in. This is what we're all about.'"

The encounter has entered Sundance lore. Filmmakers will sometimes throw tapes of their films at Redford during the Sundance festival in the hope that lightning will strike twice.

None of Burns' subsequent self-generated projects met with that kind of success. And his most recent studio film, *Life, or Something Like It* with Angelina Jolie, was also coolly received.

But one of Burns' stranger

failures was *Sidewalks of New York*, a love story whose release was delayed after the Sept. 11 attacks because it had shots of the World Trade Center and a title that some found haunting.

The real problem with the film and others like it, he said, is a studio, distribution and exhibition system that makes it hard for small filmmakers like himself to find their niche.

"The tough thing about the independent film world is the reality of the marketplace," Burns said.

In Times Square in New York, he noted, you can find "a 25-plex and a 15-plex, and out of those 40 screens, 38 of them will show 'Spider-Man' and 'The Lord of the Rings.' But they don't put any screens aside for the little films."

"It's tough," he said, "to sell a little movie."

Unless, perhaps, you have "Confidence."

Cold clichés consume clever conspiracy in 'Buzzing'

By David Boyk
Daily Californian
(U. California-Berkeley)

Sometimes, a writer can distort clichés in a witty way, and what could have been a stream of hackneyed conversations and predictable turns-of-plot ends up an enjoyable and original work.

The Buzzing isn't a bad book, but Jim Knipfel doesn't have the virtuosity he needs to make that cliché-twisting stuff work.

The Buzzing centers on a stock character, the Hardboiled Reporter (capitalized, like the Lovesick Youth or the Braggart Soldier), who covers the "kook beat" for a New York paper.

This involves talking to crazies who call him up with reports of being kidnapped by Alaskans or of having tracking devices planted in their nether regions by FBI, and then writing up the interviews

in straight-faced articles.

He's got a Foul-Mouthed Editor, an Asexual but Attractive Confidante and Drinking Buddy and an Irritatingly Earnest Young Competitor, too.

He even calls the editor "Chief," because that's what all reporters do.

So guess what? He covers people with crazy conspiracy theories, right? You won't believe what happens. He starts to believe a conspiracy theory, too! And he loves cheesy monster movies, okay?

Well, what if I told you that *Godzilla vs. Megalon* (which I happen to have seen, and it's a very fine film) is coming true? In the book! Wow!

So far, it's a bit of a standard story, but lots of standard stories are good.

All it means when an author stomps someone else's ground is that they'll need to deliver a compelling version of their standard characters, and their writing will have to stand out.

Sadly, none of Knipfel's characters are notable, save Natacia Ranzigava, the tracking device

lady. She's a great combination of the entrancingly kooky, the scarily withered and the convincingly intelligent.

But all she does, really, is put the reporter, Roscoe Baragon, onto some key clues to his conspiracy, and she never really becomes a focus.

The dialogue must be the book's roughest facet. Knipfel mistakenly puts exposition and internal monologue into dialogue,

so Baragon explains to his aforementioned drinking buddy, Emily, "what we call 'the news' has become a kind of magical realism — stop me if you've heard this lecture before." She has, and we have, too, it's likely.

Knipfel needed Baragon to say that line, because it explains Baragon's later descent into paranoia. But it's his problem that he missed the chance to work it in less obstructively.

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