

7-9-2003

## Arbiter, July 9

Students of Boise State University

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**In Sports**  
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# The Arbiter

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Wednesday, July 9, 2003

Boise State University

## Couple dead after apparent murder-suicide at BSU

### Individuals had no connections to Boise State

By Andy Benson  
Editor-in-Chief

A teen-age girl was shot in the chest and killed Monday by her boyfriend in an apparent murder-suicide at BSU's Tennis Center on Oakland Avenue. The boyfriend, age 19, shot himself in the head and initially survived, but died early Tuesday shortly after midnight at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center. The Ada County Sheriff's Office

identified the individuals as Trishten Potts, age 17, and Matt Delveccio, age 19. Bob Seibolt, BSU director of campus safety said neither Potts nor Delveccio were associated with Boise State.

"We believe they just happened to be in this area and pulled over," Seibolt said. "They don't reside in the area surrounding the university."

According to Sergeant Gary Rouse of the Ada County Sheriff's office, a cyclist passing by on Federal Way

reported the shooting. The cyclist observed a female laying in the parking lot outside a vehicle and flagged down a passing ambulance. When paramedics arrived at the parking lot, they found Delveccio inside the vehicle and began CPR. Potts was pronounced dead at the scene and a handgun was found at the location.

Ada County Sheriff Vaughn Killeen said there appeared to be a history of domestic violence in the relationship.

"According to witness statements, it appeared he had battered her before," Killeen said. "I think it's safe to say he had a violent background."

Boise Police responded to a report of domestic disturbance by neighbors

at Delveccio's home on Sunday at 19th and Idaho, but were unable to locate anyone at that address.

Delveccio had three prior run-ins with the law prior to Monday's shooting. He was arrested for assault in January of 2002, possession of a deadly weapon with intent to use in March of 2002 and grand theft burglary in May of 2003.

Both Rouse and Seibolt said this is the first murder on Boise State property that they are aware of. "We are very fortunate we've never had a crime like this before," Rouse said.

Potts and Delveccio had known each other for seven months, according to the Sheriff's Office.

**"According to witness statements, it appeared he had battered her before...I think it's safe to say he had a violent background."**

-Ada County Sheriff  
Vaughn Killeen



The new director of the Boise State Cultural Center Ro Alvarado-Parker.

### Ro takes the helm at Cultural Center

Rosario "Ro" Alvarado-Parker began her new position as Cultural Center coordinator last month, after working with the center as a program assistant and interim coordinator during the spring 2003 semester.

Alvarado-Parker's vision for the Cultural Center includes increasing the center's accessibility to the entire student population. The center is slated to move into the Student Union Building before the fall semester starts.

"Even though we're right across the street, that street can be a huge barrier for some students," Alvarado-Parker said, "and some students don't even know we're here. This will give us more visibility."

Alvarado-Parker works closely with the university's 13 ethnic student organizations to promote cultural awareness. She considers it the center's responsibility to increase acceptance and awareness of diversity issues on campus. She is a proponent of the proposed diversity initiative that would add core curriculum intended to increase students' cultural awareness.

Alvarado-Parker is a 1992 Boise State graduate in elementary and bilingual education. A native of the Ontario area, she worked with students on issues of diversity and leadership at Treasure Valley Community College for nine years.

### Union members to lobby for better health insurance plan

#### SEIU Local 687 organizes at Boise State

By Jessica Adams  
Managing Editor

Union employees of Boise State University, concerned with the rising cost of health insurance under the state's current contract with Regence Blue Shield of Idaho, met after work on Friday, June 20 at Shari's on Capitol to get their piece of pie.

Under the leadership of BSU History Professor and full-time union organizer Jeff Olson, union membership at Boise State has grown from 4 members last year at this time, to over 80 currently. Now, BSU union employees, along with other members of Service Employees International Union Local 687, plan to petition state legislators to investigate the bid process of the \$102 million statewide health insurance contract.

"We want to use capitalist market competition to see who can give us a better deal," Olson said. "Blue Shield has had this contract for years, why?"

A side-by-side comparison of this year and last year's insurance costs and benefits for Idaho state employees, illustrates the union's concern. As of July 1, health insurance premiums for state workers will rise 15 percent from last year.

Local 687 is taking the lead from University of Idaho members of the American Federation of Teachers who, last year,

effectively lobbied university administrators to bargain for a competitive health insurance plan. University of Idaho administrators gained permission from the State Board of Education to take bids for a competitive rate. Employees of U of I, now covered by Blue Cross, pay about the same as they paid for Blue Shield last year.

However, the contractual circumstances pertaining to BSU and U of I aren't analogous. The state would have to amend legislation to allow BSU to contract for a separate plan. Because U of I was established as an institution before the territory became a state, the older university is able to negotiate a separate policy. Boise State's contract is part of the statewide contract for employee health coverage and the state department of administration is the only entity that can contract for state employee insurance.

Olson said he hopes to initiate a summer-long investigation by Idaho legislators to determine if there is a conflict of interest that would explain why state employees are faced with Blue Shield's rising price for health coverage while industry inflation apparently is not a factor.

"The way that we're going to approach this is to just start asking the legislators over the course of the summer...to oversee the bid process," Olson said.

According to the Idaho Secretary of State's website, Regence Blue Shield of Idaho contributed \$15,619.97 to Idaho election campaigns last year and another \$11,555 to legisla-

tive committees. Blue Shield also underwrites the annual Governor's Cup, a three-day trip to Sun Valley where legislators play golf and raise funds.

"That is one of the aspects of good government that we're interested in, to actually identify from the legislative perspective if there is in fact a conflict of interest, how we can go about eliminating that conflict and how we can improve both service to the tax payer and the employee," Olson said. "If there is a conflict, we want legislators to recognize it and deal with it."

Rick Thomson, division administrator of state internal management, said the state would welcome an investigation of the bid process.

"Last time we solicited bids from eight companies and only two vendors came out [Blue Shield and Blue Cross], given the market in Idaho, that's probably all we're going to get," Thomson said.

Blue Shield was originally awarded the contract in 1976 and since then, has gone out to bid four times. Blue Shield Associate Vice President of Corporate Communications Georganne Benjamin said Blue Shield has retained the contract based on its rates and benefits.

Benjamin said Blue Shield health care costs are up 12 to 16 percent nationwide for numerous reasons such as increasing technology and utility of services and pharmaceutical costs. "The amount of benefits, utilization of services, all goes into the price," Benjamin said. "Each employer contract is

See Insurance page 2

### Does She Have to Return the Ring?

By Dr. Decateur Reed  
Legal Columnist

Two little love birds, sitting in a tree. K.I.S.S.I.N.G. First comes love, then comes engagement? We all remember, this rhyme from childhood. The part not included in the song is "What happens to the ring if the engagement is called off?"

Here's the scenario. Chad and Jessica date and believe they are in love. Chad decides to ask Jessica to marry him. He diligently shops for the perfect ring, spending the rule-of-thumb three month's salary, but disregards the traditional 'ask the father for permission to marry his daughter' routine. Late one evening, Chad drives her to their favorite spot overlooking the Treasure Valley. After giving the usual 'nothing's up' response to Jessica's queries, Chad's confidence is built up enough to make the move - he asks Jessica to marry him. There is a moment of silence (except for the crickets), then Jessica says "Yes!" Chad gives her the engagement ring and she gasps with delight. Ahhhh, another engagement. Let's fast forward 6 months - the two are just not

getting along very well. After a unique spring break experience, Jessica decides that she prefers someone with an international flavor and an accent to match, so she breaks off the engagement. Chad demands the ring back since he purchased it and she's the one calling it off. Jessica refuses, arguing that the ring was a gift so she can keep it.

In order to find out who gets the ring, the elements of the engagement must be considered in its simplest terms. First, Chad made an offer to Jessica ("Will you marry me?"). Jessica accepted the offer ("Yes!"). At that point, there was an oral contract to marry between the two. Although no ring is necessary for the two to be engaged, the ring was used as a symbol of the promises the two exchanged and is considered a conditional gift to Jessica. Due to the engagement, each person incurred some benefit (the promise of a partner, etc.) as well as some detriment (neither could date other people, etc.). The oral contract is valid. As long as Jessica substantially fulfills her promise of engagement, she can keep the ring. Since Jessica expressed an intention to not fulfill her promise, she has no legal right to the ring and must return it to Chad.

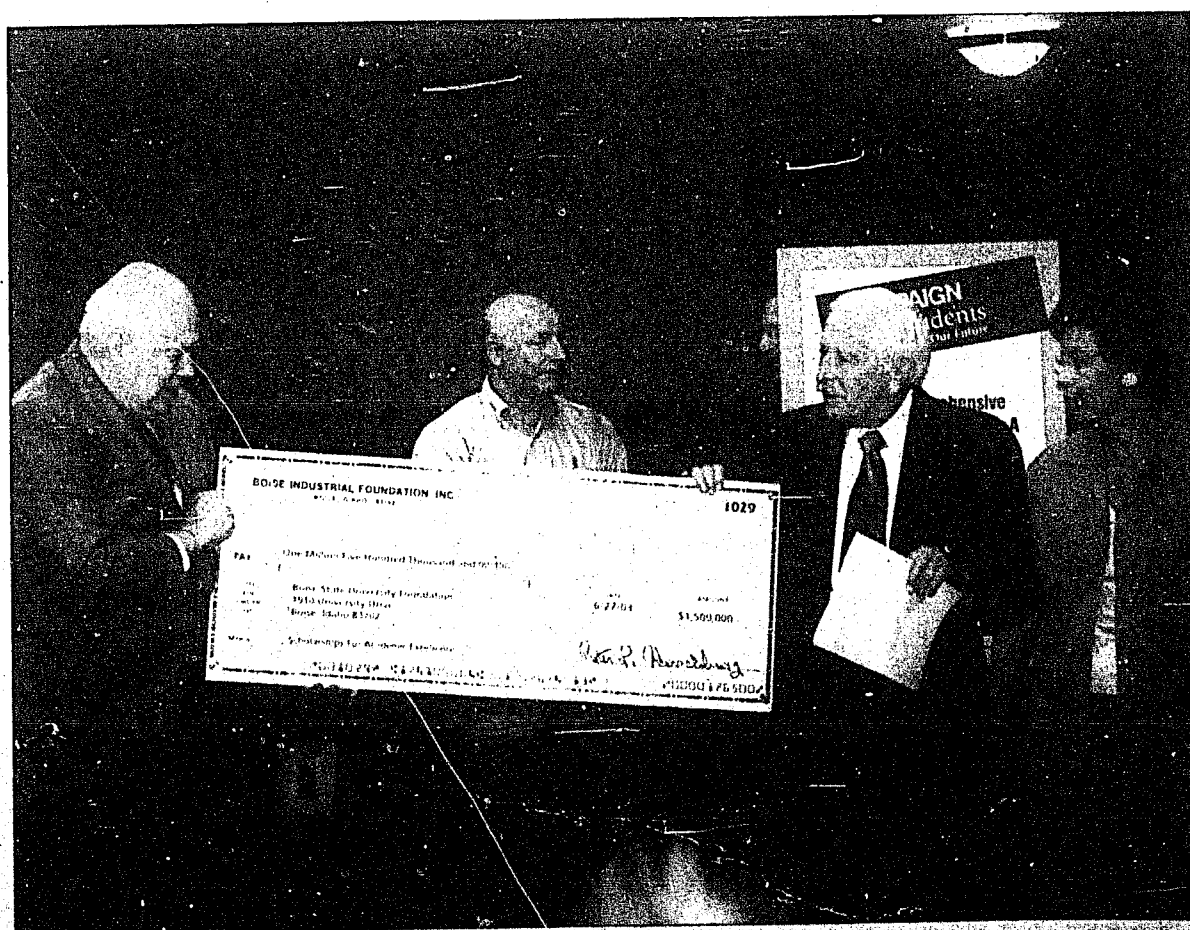


Photo by Krista Adams / The Arbiter

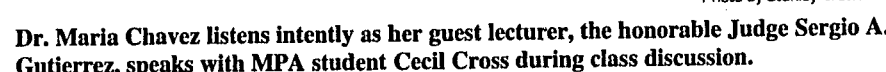
Former Boise State President Charles Ruch accepts a check for \$1.5 million from members of the Boise Industrial Foundation. The donation is the lead gift in the new 'Campaign for Students' to raise scholarship funds for Boise State students. The check presentation was Ruch's last formal function as President.



"All of my colleagues have been tremendously helpful and supportive," said Chavez. "I

Chavez was the daughter of Hispanic immigrants who

"Dr. Chavez is like a mentor to me, I'm really going to miss



Chavez feels that a college professor should know their material and be approachable to their students.

ty towards issues of social equity and justice, specifically discussions of racism, sexism, classism, and homophobia extremely difficult and frustrating at BSU.

"Perhaps making a diversity

"If I could do it all over again, I would," said Chavez. "It was a valuable and rewarding year here at BSU and in Boise."

"We're also going to be talking to legislators about state employee raises. We must keep reminding them or they will be forgotten," Olson said.

June 10 - 2:30 a.m. Once again, vandalism to the Tennis Clubhouse was reported. It is believed I have increased over the weekend. A window was broken and there was some damage to the building.

June 17, 6:42 p.m. Two teenagers were issued citations for criminal trespass. They were taken to a juvenile office in Lakeview.

June 21, 1:15 a.m. A bike was reported stolen from a bike rack by the Student Rec Center. This occurred sometime overnight on

"We're also going to be talking to legislators about state employee raises. We must keep reminding them or they will be forgotten," Olson said.



## Tokenism thwarts liberal agendas

By Aubrey Salazar  
Columnist

The Supreme Court issued some fairly controversial rulings these past few weeks to the angst of many conservatives. One was the affirmative action ruling, the other overturned sodomy laws. These rulings have brought the topics of sex and race back into the realm of politics.

These rulings mark the beginning of a liberal era of democracy. In this new era, sexual lifestyles and promotion of diversity in our schools and workplaces is safe from adverse attacks by Dennis Miller-loving, book-burning, Fox News-watching, "Red Dawn"-renting, ultraconservatives. On the other hand, we would be surprised to know how some of those who have benefited from such progressive decrees, are also playing for the other team.

It confuses me to think of how liberals have fought so hard for gay rights, and civil rights only to encounter opposition from the very groups they are trying to protect. These subversive movements are as established as the Log Cabin Republicans (the largest gay Republican organization), and as enigmatic as Colin Powell and Condeleeza Rice. I have gay Republican friends, and I have minority Republican friends. While they praise the Supreme Court for the advocacy of their rights, they will still vote for Bush in 2004. While they ride the coat tails of fierce liberal agendas, they are sailing under the false colors of a political party that implicitly dubs them "inferior." These groups often mislead themselves into believing that they retain a valuable and equal membership in conservative circles. It is a fool's paradise. One word

should be used to describe them - tokens.

The word "token" is defined by Merriam-Webster as: "A member of a group (as a minority) that is included within a larger group through tokenism." Tokenism being the symbolic act of extending membership to a minority to deflect criticism or accusations of discrimination. As a racial minority, an openly-gay person, or woman, tokenism is often hard to reject. It can create career opportunities or social advantages that would otherwise not be offered. In liberal crowds, tokenism is hardly noticeable because the semblance of colorful individuals has always been trendy. However, in conservative groups, workplaces, or establishments, the obviousness of tokenism is sometimes embarrassing. For the token individual, it is either a matter of indifference, opportunism, or ignorance. In the case of the latter, awareness is the first step to recovery. Below is a resourceful compilation of scenarios to determine if, in fact, you are a token.

You are a token if:  
You are the only one at the office who suggests happy hour be held at The Locker Room.  
All of your colleagues insist on asking you to explain the meaning of certain slang like "bling-bling" and chronic.

The firm president asks you to refresh his coffee at the weekly board meeting by mistake, for the twelfth time.  
The people around you keep mentioning to you how they are on the lookout for a good fried chicken recipe but think okra is a village in the Middle East.

Everyone else has a framed picture of their spouse and children on their desk; you have a framed picture of your pet.

The only bathroom at work has 10 urinals and no tampon dispenser.

Every time you walk into your office building, the security guard makes you take off your shoes, pats you down, and calls upstairs to confirm your identification.

Every year you are invited to the office Christmas party at the Four Seasons, even though you are the janitor.

The company leases every-one a Taurus, and they offer you a lease on a Miata.

All your co-workers get perks like tickets to the Knicks games, but you get tickets to the Cher concert.

Your professor always asks you how the game went, even though you don't play university athletics.

Finally, you are a token if you let small-minded groups feel safe about their views of the world. There is nothing

wrong with being a token to get a leg up as long as your ear is to the ground. Be aware that they may be using you to create a facade of openness and diversity, all the while furthering an agenda that is hurtful to you and people like you. Ask yourself questions like, "Will I benefit more from them, than they are benefiting from a false image?" In the case of minority and gay Republicans, the answer is no.

The recent Supreme Court decisions are the result of undaunted efforts by progressive liberal organizations, groups and individuals. They are people that never swayed in their outward beliefs of equality and justice. Minority conservatives are in most cases hypocrites who damn liberals with faint praise, even amidst landmark achievements that serve to better their lives.

## Credit cards - public enemy No. 1

By Ralph Nader  
Public Citizen

What's the most self-destructive thing that consumers carry around in their pockets? It's those little pieces of plastic - credit cards - that are becoming the greatest menace to the financial health of low-, moderate- and middle-income Americans.

There was a time when the "plastic money" was considered a convenience for consumers and a boon to the small merchants who couldn't afford to establish elaborate credit programs to compete with the national chains. Today, the credit-card industry has become a hungry monster that is devouring the hopes and dreams of low-, moderate- and middle-income families across the nation.

Credit-card companies are rapidly moving to the front of the pack of predatory lenders. They are targeting sub prime audiences, the working poor, college students and people with blemished credit histories.

This segment of the unsecured credit market is a rich lode of fees - over the limit charges, late-payment fees, cash advance fees. Desperate for any kind of credit, lower-income borrowers are willing to pay outlandish fees to establish an account. Deceptive offers of easy credit combined with the desperation of credit-starved

consumers too often end up in foreclosures, bankruptcies and devastated families.

The "come on" is sometimes a promise of a relatively low interest rate on the outstanding balance each month. But, the "low rate" disappears quickly under the terms hidden in the fine print of the mandatory disclosures accompanying the credit card. A payment arriving a day late, or a charge that exceeds the credit limit by a few dollars can trigger a 300 percent increase in the interest charges.

A 9.9 percent interest rate trumpeted prominently in the credit card advertisements can become overnight a costly 28 percent on outstanding balances. When cardholders reach their borrowing limit, the companies frequently offer to increase the limit for an additional fee, all the while pushing the cardholder deeper in debt with increasing fees and interest charges.

Dr. Robert Manning, author of "Credit Card Nation," who monitors the credit-card industry closely, says that the companies market the sub prime borrowers because they are more likely to keep high balances on their accounts month after month, often paying only the minimum finance charges. In contrast, the wealthier cardholders pay off the balances each month and, as a result, pay the least in interest charges and

fees.

In the back rooms of credit-card companies, Professor Manning says these more affluent quick-paying cardholders are referred to ironically as "deadbeats." Manning notes that the largest increase in consumer credit-card debt in recent years is among households with incomes of less than \$10,000 according to the Survey of Consumer Finance conducted by the University of Michigan.

Some of the offers that fill mailboxes would make a common pickpocket thief blush. The First Premier Bank of Sioux Falls, S.D., recently sent out a massive mailing, telling recipients that they had been pre-approved for a 9.9 percent fixed rate gold Master Card. In the fine print of the disclosure form, the bank revealed that the credit would be limited initially to \$250. From that sum, the bank would deduct an annual fee of \$48, a "program" fee of \$95, account set up fee of \$29, and a monthly participation fee of \$6. After the bank pockets these fees, the holder of the pre-approved card would have \$72 available for credit.

Credit-card solicitations continue to grow. From 1997 to 2001, the mailings rose 66.7 percent from 3.5 billion in 1997 to 5 billion in 2001. Credit-card debt rose from \$554 billion to \$730 billion in the same period. Net revolving credit-card debt

climbed from \$51 billion in 1980 to more than \$610 billion in 2002.

In addition to targeting the sub prime market, credit-card companies have been zeroing in on college students and, in some cases, even high school seniors. Manning says college students are a lucrative market for the card companies because the students lack knowledge of personal finance and are largely free of consumer debt. Manning's research finds that three out of five college students had maxed out their credit cards during their freshman year. Three-fourths of the students, according to Manning, were using their student loans to pay for their credit cards.

The credit-card industry has become increasingly concentrated. In 1977 the top 50 banks controlled more than 80 percent of the credit-card market. Today, only 10 banks control more than 80 percent of the market. These banks and their credit-card affiliates wield heavy influence in the Congress, particularly in the House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over the financial industry. And this is an industry that dumps generous bags of cash in the campaigns of key politicians in a position to block any attempt to provide consumers protections against the gouging by the credit-card operatives.

MBNA, the nation's second-

largest credit-card company, was the No. 1 contributor to President Bush's 2000 campaign and inaugural festivities. Not only the president, but both Democratic and Republican members of Congress, particularly those on the Senate and House Banking and Judiciary committees have shared in the campaign largesse of the credit-card industry. A coalition of banks, automobile finance companies and credit-card companies distributed \$20 million in individual, PAC and soft money to members of Congress in the 2002 election cycle.

The aggressive tactics of the industry and the reach into the lower-income market has created a few problems for the industry. Not the least of these is the fact that the deceptive practices and the gouging with high fees and unconscionable interest rates have destroyed many working families, forcing them into bankruptcy. The credit-card operators now are fearful that protections in the bankruptcy courts may prevent them from collecting all their ill-gotten gains.

As a result, the banks and credit-card companies are demanding that Congress change the bankruptcy laws, remove consumer protections and make certain that they will be able to collect every dime from the people they have pushed into bankruptcy. In

effect, consumers would be placed in a virtual debtors prison and left with no chance to resume their lives as productive citizens. The bankruptcy courts would be converted into glorified debt-collection agencies.

The House of Representatives - which has become an easy rubber stamp for the banks and other corporate interests - has already agreed to the wipeout of bankruptcy protections. It is still in the Judiciary Committee in the Senate, but the heavy pressure is on to send this pro-bank, anti-consumer legislation to the president this session.

Congress should be concentrating its fire on the banks and credit-card companies that have lured so many hard-pressed low-income consumers into costly unmanageable credit-card debt. Instead of going after the perpetrators of the credit abuses, Congress, led by the dictatorial Texas representative, Tom DeLay, wants to punish the victims. In this Congress, the only thing that talks is money - money that is given with greedy expectations of legislative booty.

### ABOUT THE WRITER

Ralph Nader is a consumer advocate and former Green Party presidential candidate. Readers may write to him at: Public Citizen, 1600 20th Street NW, Washington D.C. 20009, www.citizen.org.

## American males no longer measure up

By John Timpane  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Someone thinks they know about me.

A lot of someones.  
All over the place.

I went on vacation and didn't check my e-mail. Upon my return, I found no fewer than 22 messages with the same theme. BIGGER, LONGER, HARDER, THICKER. Or THICKER, LONGER, HARDER, BIGGER. Or how about THICKER, HARDER, BIGGER, LONGER?

I walk this land of broken dreams, downcast, realizing that in the eyes of multitudes of distant strangers, I am small, slender, short and soft. Slender, soft, short and small. Small and small and small and small.

According to whom? Based on what intelligence? Spies in the bedroom? Comfort station look-outs? Locker room video cameras? Have silent agents followed me into the woods?

Most appear to be women. Women from foreign countries. Oh, great: foreign women announcing I am lacking. Olympics judges holding up their cards - and the scores are waaaay low.

Antonia Carlton writes me that Real men get huge results! pwemxyo rqvirt What is that last bit? Pwemxyo rqvirt? "Pwemxyo rqvirt?" How dare she?

Jeannette Dahl thinks I should seek substantial growth in both

length and girth en wigum. Loraine Reaves agrees I need substantial growth in both length and girth fofakxyq. Sylvia Peck thinks I need UP TO THREE FULL INCHES BETTER q. Olive Fitch, Ola McLain, Brooke Garland, Heather Wolfe, Wanda Schmidt, Manuela Rosado, Valeria Link and the aptly named Josie Strong, too, are critical.

What to do? One suggests surgery. Another will send an apparatus. One names a pill that ADDS TWO INCHES IN TWO DAYS KBVSZX!!!!!!

I check the e-mail addresses. One of them ends in .ru - why, that's Romania. "They're saying this in Romania? Broadcasting it throughout the Transylvanian territories? Grist for every barroom chat from Bucharest to Sighetu Marmatiei? Romanians in my bedroom?"

I walk this land of broken dreams, realizing that in the eyes of a post-communist country of 23 million, I am a shrimp. At least now I know some Romanian: Pwemxyo rqvirt! En wigum! Fofakxyq!

My poor wife. Never once has she come to me and begged: "Please, please, please gulp this pill. Strap on this apparatus. Oh, unzip for the knife."

Why does she stay? Is it because she's OK with me as I am? Or is it because, now that they're giggling from here to Romania, she's ashamed to leave the house?

So many e-mails. From all over. Can there be this many BIGGER LONGER factories, smokestacks belching HARDER THICKER all over the world? Or - but surely this is cynical - could it be just a handful of sharp characters trying to make money by "need creation" - making me desire something I never desired before? Using fake names and false fronts to batter my already beat-up self-esteem? In the very area in which I, like the whole human race, am least confident?

Naw. Couldn't be. SIZE MATTERS blares from every other billboard, every other commercial. There must be something to it.

I'm not proud. I'll look into it. Hmmmm. That apparatus looks, er, strenuous. I don't think the FDA has cleared any such pill; I would have heard. And those surgeons ain't getting near me. Forever will I remain small, slender, soft, and ... small.

Then came the day I heard something that made me feel better.

After agonizing for weeks - should I tell someone? If so, whom? Who will receive my deepest fears with grace, understanding, and delicacy? - I decided to call my best friend.

After laughing at me until he was hoarse, he said: "I've been getting them, too. Lots and lots of them. Every day." Thank God, I thought: I'm not alone.

Another man admitted it, and

another, and another. All the guys are getting them.

So that's it: Somebody out there has high standards. So high nobody measures up.

Gasp: These are everybody's standards.

As I walk this land of broken dreams, I realize: This is what it is to be male. You're never enough. Not only that - now, through the miracle of e-mail, and through popcult-mass-crass-culture, your not-enough is getting smaller and smaller. No man ever will be happy again unless adding inches every day.

Now I know where the dreams come from. And why they're broken.

### ABOUT THE WRITER

John Timpane is commentary page editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to him at: Philadelphia Inquirer, 400 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19130, or by e-mail at jtimpane@phillynews.com.

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## Everybody loves Shakespeare

By Jason Bright  
A&E Writer

For most, donning a tie or suit coat and spending time and money at a live play is akin to swimming in gasoline before lighting a match. But The Idaho Shakespeare Festival, an annual event held off Warm Springs Avenue, is currently putting forth its 27th season and the event booklet boasts "50,000 patrons... each season."

So the question becomes, simply put, why? Why would thousands spend an extravagant sum of money to attend a play that they could purchase at Barnes and Noble for \$12.95 and 37 cents in gas? Anyone who has ever suffered through a live play in a sweaty high school auditorium knows that an easy chair beats the pants off of the hard-backed swing thrones provided there. So what is it that delivers the taut

bill of many a wallet into the coffers of the Shakespearean institution?

Nearly every media encounter of the Idaho Shakespeare Festival describes, or at least touches upon the setting. As well it should. The Boise River seems to be a main attraction as it softly pulses on the outskirts of the complex, which is not simply a theatre. There is a café that serves appetizers, soups, salads, entrees, dessert and drinks. Most of which is moderately priced, and the frugal consumer can spend under \$10 for a decent meal. The premier beer is Table Rock Draft and costs only as much as it would in any bar. The wine selection should obviously be passed over by any cost-effective college student, but overall the café affords a fine outdoor eating experience.

The outbuildings themselves

are beautifully crafted of soft sandstone or river-rock and the vegetation—lustrous green, blue, yellow, and even some red, all promoted by the river—accents the structures wonderfully. Some may worry insects could pose a problem, but in fact they do not. Bats dart overhead feasting, performing their own hunting dance, above the audience attempting, but ultimately failing, to steal the spotlight from the thespians.

The stage props are changed between the 'green show' (an introductory performance) and the main attraction. They alter slightly between acts, so the background is never dull. If the eye wanders directly behind the complex a wonderful view of the mountains are proffered. The lighting is superb and no matter where one sits, the stadium seating assures that the stage is always in view. Tables are also available, but for a

price. Another option is a grassy hill, but the performances are typically very long, so a seat may be a better bet for someone with a bad back, ankles, or knees.

The sound quality of the event is really not bad. Surely voice projection is a practiced form of the thespian, but there were moments when a rude patrons guffaw outweighed the play. Certain steps have been taken to curb audible distractions, especially high-pitched, teeth-grinding squeals of children. There are family nights for those with children under six, but on every other occasion they are not permitted. Now, if they could only discover a way to silence the annoying adults...

The previously mentioned wonders of the complex only serve to strengthen the performers, who are obviously professionals. Even those who

hate, or feel indifferent towards famous literary playwrights such as Shakespeare or Oscar Wilde, must acknowledge that each writer did something very right. But without an incredibly picturesque imagination, ink-marred pages can only do so much for a reader in search of entertainment. One can break down the tragic character development of King Lear and his daughters' dissent, or ponder over the choices that Jack Worthing makes regarding his friend Algernon Moncrieff in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, but ask any one member of the audience after a performance what their favorite part was, and it probably will not be intellectual stimuli. Chances are, they will comment on a certain actor or actresses role, how the woman who played Lady Bracknell was so composed in posture that she intimidated even the

patrons. How the simple statement, "Good heavens, Gwendolen," was enough to send them home with a side-ache from laughter. Without a performer's voice or choreographed food exchange, sword fight, or dance, the humor would be a bit less engaging, not as thick.

Though the works in written form are definitely worth their weight in gold and cannot be undermined, at least so far as what they have represented in the critical literary world, live performance takes different things into account. Months of preparation are only a part of the process; over 100 different types of specialists are summoned into the theatre for things such as lighting, audio, costume design and production management, not to mention volunteers who escort patrons to their seats (and act as walk-  
**See Shakespeare page 5**

## 3 stars for 'T3: Rise of the Machines'

By Mark Caro  
Chicago Tribune

You may figure that "Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines" has no right to exist. "I won't be back" was the stance of James Cameron, the visionary director of the first two "Terminator" movies, as well as stars Linda Hamilton and Edward Furlong.

More importantly, "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" (1991) formed a complete circle with the first "Terminator" (1984) as the machines' threat was decisively thwarted, judgment day was averted and the future and present were neatly reconciled.

"Terminator 3" amounts to the tearing open of an old wound. John Connor (Nick Stahl, replacing Furlong) is now a young man who shouldn't have mortal fears now that mechanical assassins of the future are no longer being ordered to terminate him.

Yet now that his mother has died of leukemia (that's what happens when an actress jettisons a franchise), John is an anxious drifter convinced that his future remains apocalyptic. If he were wrong, there'd be no movie.

The fact that he's right, surprisingly, turns out to be a good thing, not for the humans in "Terminator 3" but for those who will watch it. Previous movies aside, "Terminator 3" is a taut, exciting science-fiction thriller that pumps up our adrenaline without forgetting to engage our heads.

Directed by Jonathan Mostow, who also injected much tension and atmosphere into the submarine thriller "U-571," the new movie plays a game of one-upmanship with its predecessor and succeeds more often than you'd expect.

"Terminator 3" repeats many of the "T-2" good Terminator/bad Terminator dynamics, with Arnold Schwarzenegger "back" as yet another version of his original stone-faced, sunglasses-wearing

Terminator, sent from the future on a mission involving John Connor. As in "T-2," the protective Schwarzenegger Terminator is less technologically advanced than the evil Terminator upgrade threatening Connor and the fate of humankind—why the good guys of the future keep employing obsolete models is anyone's guess.

The new, ruthless "Terminatrix," or simply T-X, is an impressive piece of work. Played by Kristanna Loken with the blond-on-porcelain magnetism and steely glare of Sharon Stone in "Basic Instinct," T-X boasts the morphing abilities of her "T-2" predecessor, can turn her arms into firearms and, most important, can control other machines telepathically (or whatever the robot equivalent is).

So when the Terminator, John and his high school acquaintance-turned-veterinarian Kate Brewster (Claire Danes) flee T-X in her van, T-X adds a fleet of unmanned police cars to the pursuit. That chase is the movie's true showstopper, an eruption of glorious mayhem that's far more thrilling than the video-game-like highway chase of "The Matrix Reloaded."

This havoc feels more real, has more of a how'd-they-do-that quality, as T-X commandeers a huge truck with a fly-away crane that takes out lamp-posts, cars and anything else in its path. The high point comes when the Terminator is hanging at the end of that crane, and T-X is running it through office buildings to dislodge him.

Such a sequence is what summer blockbusters do best; it's undeniably exciting, provided you let go of any impulse to condemn mass destruction as entertainment.

At least this isn't mindless destruction. Aside from the occasional Terminator-adapts-to-pop-culture humor, Mostow and screenwriters John Brancato and Michael Ferris ("The Game") maintain a somber tone as they take the



Photo courtesy of KRT

Kristanna Loken and Arnold Schwarzenegger engage in the ultimate staring contest.

saga's science-fiction elements seriously. Their explanation for this story's continuation is reasonably plausible, touching on larger questions about whether fate and judgment day truly can be averted.

The movie also plays as a more palpable cautionary tale about humans' ceding control to machines than "The Matrix Reloaded," which tells what "Terminator 3" shows. Here Skynet, the highly sophisticated network of machines developed by the U.S. military, has yet to go online and thus to become self-aware and destructive.

But when an insidious computer virus threatens the nation's defense systems, top government officials want to use Skynet to combat it, even

though its architect, Kate's father, Robert Brewster (David Andrews), fears that it isn't ready. The movie becomes a race against time as John and Kate try to warn her father that activating Skynet indeed will start the clock ticking toward doomsday.

Schwarzenegger's recent career suggests that he has outgrown action movies (or vice versa), but he retains his appeal as the iconic Terminator. He's in a comfortable groove here, intoning orders or adapting to the cultural landscape in a knowing deadpan. (He puts a new spin on "Talk to the hand.")

Stahl, the doomed son of "In the Bedroom," makes you quickly forget about Furlong, making John a ragged, desper-

ate figure who instinctively knows why he's running. Danes brings her usual combination of warmth and intelligence to Kate.

This pair has a history together, as well as a future, and the actors play off each other well. But their romance barely progresses; it's all sparks, no fire.

Likewise, "Terminator 3" never achieves the grandeur, emotional or otherwise, of "Terminator 2." Despite its large-scale set pieces, it ultimately feels small, unfinished, and not just because it clocks in about a half hour shorter than its predecessor.

It leaves you with an anti-climactic action scene and a conclusion that cries out for

"Terminator 4" although after the next "Matrix" and "Star Wars" entries, I'm not sure who will be craving another man-vs.-machine war film. Besides, who knows whether California would give Schwarzenegger time off from his gubernatorial duties to film it?

Yet even in its frustrating finale, there's a grim poetry. "Terminator 3" could have turned massive profits as an empty, explosive thrill ride, so credit Mostow and company with not taking the blast of least resistance. Against all odds this "Terminator" deserves to be welcomed back.

## Sub Pop band, The Thermals, rocks Sotano

Jake Hansen  
A&E writer

I will confirm the rocking of Sotano. In my preview article that printed in the June 18 issue of *The Arbiter*, I told you this would be one mean rock show. And though only about 40 people crammed into the tiny basement, The Thermals delivered one memorable night of music.

When I wrote the original article I had hoped more music lovers would take advantage of such an intimate show. I felt like I let The Thermals down with such a small turnout. But after the show, when I spoke with Hutch, the lead singer/guitarist, and apologized for the lesser turnout, "Oh no," he said, "It was awesome. You can't see past the first row of people anyway, so if there are only 10 people...I couldn't

see the others." I sighed with relief and thought, "what a nice guy."

The night began slowly. I was supposed to meet up with the band before the show, but when I showed up at six, like in the deal, they hadn't quite reached the house yet. In fact no one was home. I thought to myself, "Shit, this is the right house, right?" So I tried to contact my editor, to confirm the show, but he was out of town. So I sat, and sat. Lord was I bored. Just as I was getting ready to leave, two fantastic gentlemen arrived. They were the tenants of the house. They told me the show wouldn't start until 8:30 that evening.

Well, I thought, "I guess I can talk with the band after the show."

So when I and co-A&E writer, Jason Bright, arrived at Sotano for a second time at

the adjusted time, I was ready for the interview. But Hutch and his gang still had not arrived. And I was let down again when I found out both Me and My Ego and Central Boise Library had pulled out of the show. Ninety minutes passed the scheduled show time, not only had The Thermals not arrived, but no music was playing whatsoever.

Shortly after, both the All Girl Summer Fun Band and The Thermals arrived at the house. I was a little annoyed by the delay, but still had hopes of a rockin' good evening. I approached Jordan, The Thermals' drummer, introduced myself, and asked him for an interview. He told me after the show would be great. I was excited I would finally get to sit and talk with them.

Once actually in the base-

ment known as Sotano, I got a chance to survey the environment and realized it didn't offer optimal concert conditions. The ceiling was only about six feet from the dirt floor and ventilation pipes hung even lower where the bands set up. I was sure someone was going to pop their head. I later asked Hutch if this was the lowest head space they had ever played in, I was shocked when he said no. I then told him I was amazed no one was injured by the pipe hazards, to which he coyly remarked, "You learn the perils of the basement show."

So when the AGSFB finally took the stage with their bubble-gum-pop meets The Pretenders, I was relieved, and never regretted the show for the rest of the night. The girls had strong rock riffs with insensitely catchy leads that left me bobbing my head all night

long. The only draw back to the set was their inability to harmonize the vocals. The back up vocals were always flat. But once I was able to put the faulty vocals aside their set was incredibly...fun.

Finally The Thermals took the floor. Immediately I knew this band had passion. Jordan played his drums with such aggression I was sure he was going to puncture his head. Hutch had an intense demeanor about his face and body the entire time he played his guitar and sang. I was amazed at how much rock this rock show actually offered. The band rolled through their two and a half minute songs, and did not relinquish any of their original intensity.

The crowd automatically connected with the band. A few girls performed what I dubbed, "the convulsion dance," which entitles shaking

every body part at once, as fast as possible. Most people just did the usual head bang and tapping of the foot.

One awesome crowd member brought oodles of relief from the intense set. A 40-year-old, extremely drunken man would yell to Hutch after every song that he was a young Pete Townsend. Most of the crowd had no idea who Pete was, so the drunkard informed them he was The Who's guitarist. That was nice of him. I asked Hutch his thoughts on the 40-year-old drunk at every show and he said, "I like it actually. I love being called Pete Townsend....They [the drunkard's] love to get nostalgic for their high school days."

So in closing, after much anticipation, set backs, and minimal let downs, The Thermals offered a solid night of music.





photos by Stanley Brewster / The Arbit illustration by David Habben

## Recording industry to begin hunting down file sharers

By J. Scott Bowman  
Kansas State Collegian  
(Kansas State U.)

MANHATTAN, Kan. - In the eyes of the Recording Industry Association of America, pirates aren't just swashbuckling outcasts searching for gold — they are anyone who likes to download copyrighted music.

The RIAA said its lawyers will file lawsuits against people with the largest collections of music files they can find online. U.S. copyright laws allow for damages of \$750 to \$150,000 for each song offered illegally on a person's computer.

Executives for the RIAA, the Washington-based lobbying group that represents major labels, would not say how many songs on a user's computer will qualify for a lawsuit. The new campaign comes just weeks after U.S. appeals court rulings requiring Internet providers to identify subscribers suspected of illegally

sharing music and movie files.

Matt Marron, vocalist and guitarist for Pomeroy, said downloading copyrighted music has such a fine line. He said that on one hand bands get their music out to the public, but at the same time it hurts business.

"A year ago I'd say I'm all about downloading music," Marron said. "The topic can go either way. But tons and tons of music stores are going out of business, like the Streetside Records at 95th and Metcalf."

Marron said that he had downloaded some stuff before to check out what is out there. He said that downloaded music can help music listeners familiarize themselves with songs. Marron said that if everyone does it all the time, it can become a major problem.

"If everyone downloads, how do artists make money?" Marron said. "I know the economy is bad, but I don't think that it's a coincidence that CD sales are down and at the same time everyone is downloading

music."

Marron said that he doesn't think that downloading Pomeroy music from the Web has had a negative effect on them because their fans support them. Marron said that he could see how some of the bigger name acts that sell millions of albums could get upset. He said that they encourage people to burn CDs of their music because their fan base grows by word of mouth.

"If pirating continues to go on, we won't be able to sell our CDs anywhere," Marron said. "You hope that fans will buy your CD, because that is how you feed yourself. It's hard to give 100 percent for your fans when you have to take up a second job to get by."

Dave, resident of Hill City, Kan., who asked to be identified by only his first name, said that he has collected music long before Napster was around. He said that growing up in the 1960s music was scarce and you had to beat around the bushes to find the

music you wanted.

"Downloading music is the only hobby I have — I'm busy working my ass off the rest of the time," Dave said. "Music is a part of our culture. I think that the RIAA is stepping on who we are."

"I collect music, and I don't see anything immoral for me to put as big of a library together for my descendants. I've downloaded a lot of old radio shows that I wouldn't have a clue as to where to look for them."

"In a way it's like I'm collecting a part of Americana. I want my grandkids and even great-grandkids to know how the country was, how it is and where it will be."

Dave said that he understands that some artists are getting robbed of some money, but the bigger problem is with the RIAA. He said that the RIAA is blowing the whole downloading situation out of proportion.

"The recording industry has failed to realize that some

record sales are down because of downloading MP3s," Dave said. "But we're in a slump recession anyways. The first thing that will go is luxury costs like music."

"Motor boat sales are down, but people aren't out there pirating motor boats."

"They want to holler thievery, but none of the music I have downloaded I would buy. I'm a music collector, and I've heard newer music that I probably wouldn't have bought, I would have just found another way to get it."

Dave said that some of the musical artists' music is getting ripped off, but the same artists are getting their money ripped off going through the RIAA. He said that the RIAA has created its own woes.

"Take Garth Brooks for example," Dave said. "He has sold millions of CDs at about \$14 per CD, but he makes only \$1 from each one."

"Now, I'm as capitalist as it comes, but the fact is that the real artist that is producing this

music is getting only one-fourteenth of the money. This shows that there are a lot of leeches sucking money out of this deal."

Marron said that it will be impossible to completely get rid of pirating music. He compared it with the war on drugs, in the fact that you can slow the battle by getting some of the bigger problems, but it will keep on going.

"I think that when they threaten people, they are scaring only a small percentage of people," Marron said. "I do get a little pleasure when huge record companies, the ones that gobble up other labels that treat some of their artists badly, are getting scared."

"All I know for sure is that if pirating did not exist, everyone would be fine. When I was in college, we didn't have it, and we were fine without it. It's not like you won't be able to function without it. But in the end, it should be the artists' decision."

## '28 Days Later' mixes style, traditional zombie motifs

By Ryan Nyburg  
Oregon Daily Emerald (U. Oregon)

EUGENE, Ore. - As painful as it is for me to say it, I think the heyday of zombie films is over. The latest film from "Trainspotting" director Danny Boyle, "28 Days Later," is a last gasp of life for the particular subgenre of horror cinema, but a worthy one at that. It takes the format of the George Romero-style zombie film and retools it into a faster-paced, more visually excessive monster.

The film's setup is simple. A virus is accidentally unleashed in England, turning all who are infected into mindless, feral, zombie-like creatures. A few survivors band together and try to escape the devastation. This premise is used to remarkable advantage through much of the film, with its scenes of an abandoned London and the leftovers of a civilization gone wild.

The characters are essentially cardboard cutouts, bland personality types that could be anybody. This is a standard effect used in horror cinema to make it easier to see yourself in the place of the people on the screen. Most films get it wrong, making the characters so shallow and uninteresting that their inevitable deaths have no effect

on the audience. "Days," however, gets it right for most of the film, making it easy for the audience to connect with the characters.

The visual style of the film is also effective. Filmed on video, it has a grainy, documentary feel to it that adds a sense of immediacy to the horror. It often feels like you're watching front line war coverage on CNN. In the later scenes, set in the rain-soaked countryside, the speed of the camera movements and the darkness create a brilliant sense of disorientation, while never leaving the viewer confused.

None of this is new, and many aspects of the film can be found in horror films of the past. The scenes of the virus spreading through a population and sending the infected into a violent rage is reminiscent of David Cronenberg's "Rabid." And the film seems to borrow something from each installment of the "Night of the Living Dead" trilogy. But I've never been one to criticize a little postmodern recycling, and nothing here feels blatantly derivative.

So what's wrong with the film? What's keeping it from becoming one of the classics of horror? Two things. One is that many of the film's set pieces don't come off right. For exam-

ple, a scene where the group of survivors escape London by driving through wreckage-clogged tunnel could have been effective, but the timing is off. It all happens so quickly and so pointlessly that no suspense is ever built.

The other problem with the film is an ideological one. There are a few intimations throughout pointing to the idea that we are no different than those infected by the disease. It's all just "people killing people," as one of the characters puts it.

The film can also work as a political allegory of modern day Great Britain, but I think that's reading a little too much into it. The problem is that it never follows through with its ideas, and ends on a lighter note than what seems natural, given what's taken place.

The truth is that in its heart of hearts, the film doesn't contain the dark, cynical nihilism of films like "Night of the Living Dead." While much of the film wallows in the kind of despondency and terror it belongs in, it doesn't go through with it into the logical conclusion. This leaves "28 Days Later" as a generally well-done — but still flawed — exercise in horror cinema.

### Shakespeare from page 4

ing trash receptacles during intermission). Furthermore, theatrical presentation is someone's interpretation of a familiar work, so each play will vary depending upon the director, but each time a hardback copy of the play is opened, the same words exist unchanging.

Or the theatre could simply be a great way to escape daily toils. For the student, it could be a break from a cluttered apartment, summer school and studies, or other typical forms of entertainment that have become exhausted, such as Edwards. At least the Idaho Shakespeare Festival has ample parking, and basic human odor is not trapped indoors to manifest within your nostrils.

The Shakespearean event, though beautiful and well suited to its purpose, does have its errors. The thespians make slight mistakes, most are not distracting, and some even add to the flavor of the experience. This of course is to be expected during any live performance and the thespians typically roll with the impromptu problems. This was only one of many more minor problems though. Take 700 people, add alcohol that only seems to get cheaper with each passing act, a five-minute intermission, and only four bathrooms. The answer to our equation? An insurmountable line of people all holding their crotches and nearing point break by the second.

Furthermore, take a friend, as the audience is not terribly

warm, and do not show up at the event underdressed unless you do not mind being openly glared at (the author would recommend neckerchiefs and sweaters, pink or cream, to be tied about the throat and tucked like a tie into the front of a suit-coat).

The Idaho Shakespeare Festival is currently putting on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *Henry V*, all by William Shakespeare, as well as *The Fantasticks* by Tom Jones and Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Ticket prices and schedules can be viewed online at [www.idahoshakespeare.org](http://www.idahoshakespeare.org)

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# Base Ball in BOISE a commentary

By Andrea Trujillo  
 Sports Editor

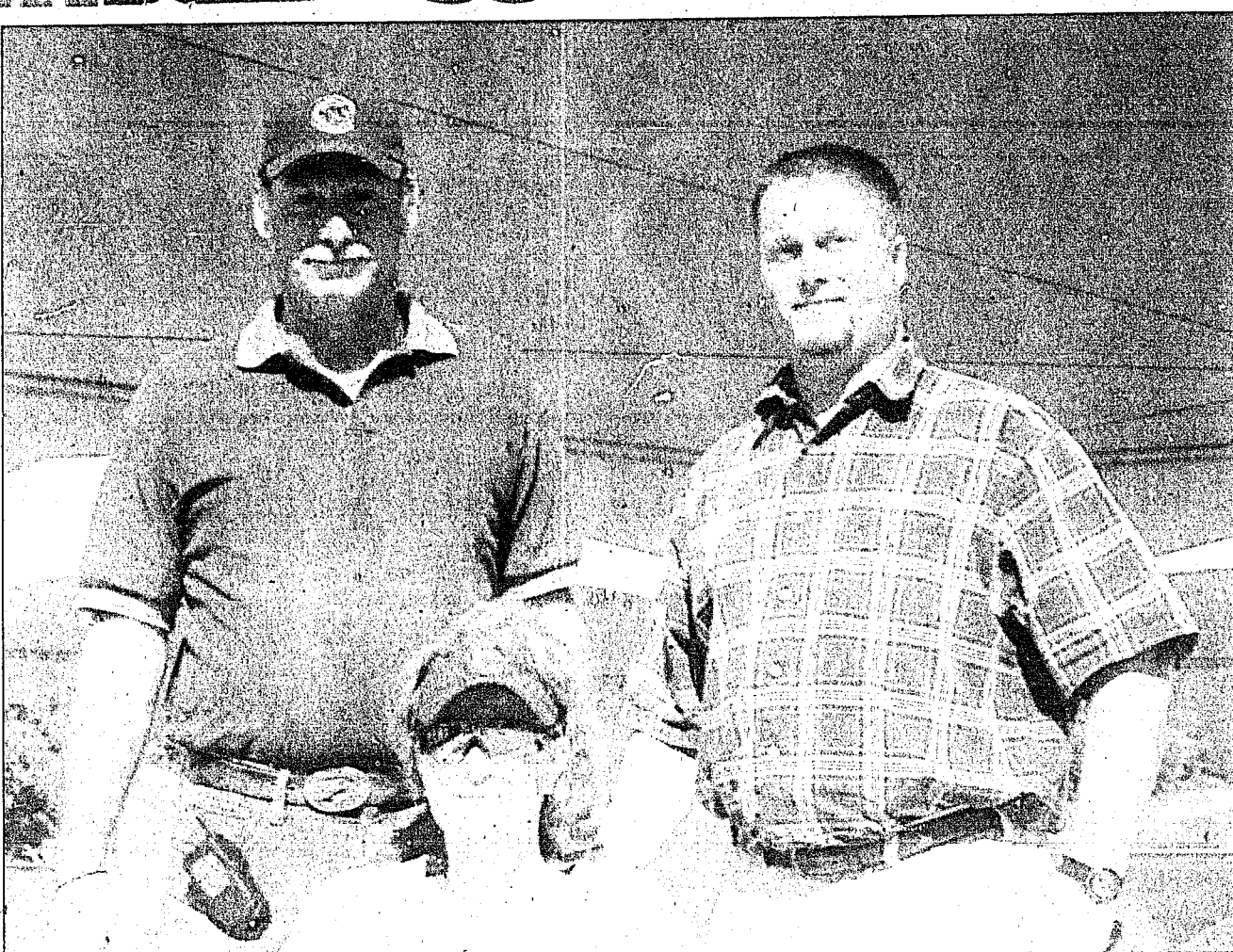
Forget about the Humanitarian Bowl, or even the Rose Bowl for that matter. We've got another six months until the airwaves are bombarded with the annual ranting and raving over the ever-questioned BCS. March Madness in Boise? Not likely. We're more likely to see a Boise State basketball player wearing a glass slipper than to actually be part of a Cinderella story.

So what's a sport's fan to do come summer, when Bronco football isn't a Saturday fixture and our Hoosier dreams are laid to rest? One word—baseball. That's right, America's pastime. The game that has been blessed with the Babe survived a strike, and has an international flavor that the NBA is just beginning to embrace. Boise State might not put a Division I team on the field, which is unfortunate considering the fan support of Bronco athletic programs - but alas, there is baseball in Boise.

Every June, July and August, the boys of summer take to the grass of Memorial Stadium as Boise Hawks, a Class-A affiliate of the Chicago Cubs. The future pride of Wrigley Field grace the greens of Memorial Stadium, showcasing some of the best and brightest major league stars of tomorrow, today.

Most of the Hawks are from the United States, others bring a unique Latin flavor to the club. Some players come from as far as Venezuela and the Dominican Republic to season and hone their skills. With any luck, they finish out their season without injury, and one step closer to the bigs.

Everyday these fellas suit up and take to the field, they're living out a dream that most of us can only relate to when we are



"Home away from home" Sammy and Sherry Rick, parents of Hawk's starting catcher Alan Rick, visiting Boise from their home in sunny Florida. Seen above with host-family member Ryan Hembree.

in fact dreaming. They possess enough God-given talent to lace a fastball down the left field line when the pitch ran up and in at 90 mph. They are given the speed to stretch a stand-up double into a triple, and the strength to take an outside pitch 400 feet deep to the opposite field. Pitchers are given the arm of a deity, allowing them to not only

pitch through the marathon of a season players endure, but to still throw heat in October. Amazing.

These guys are truly blessed. But don't mistake their natural talent for an easy ticket. The road to the major leagues is long. So, so long. There's no easy ride. In fact, their road is filled with rides - bus rides that

is, from rookie ball thru the minor league ranks. Teams travel countless hours, from city to city, to play at ballparks they've never heard of before. I promise, Fenway Park and Yankee Stadium are nowhere to be found.

There are no celebrities in the minors. There is no LeBron James in baseball. You're the number one pick in the NBA draft, you get a fat contract and a key to the city. You not only play, you start. Nobody wants a kid making that much money warming the bench.

Same story, different game. You're the first pick in the MLB draft? You've got a million-dollar arm? Great. Here's your signing bonus. Don't spend it all in one place, 'cause you won't be making crap from here on out until you hit the majors. Oh, here's your invite to spring training. "Good luck in the minors kid."

You see, there's no place for boys among the League's men. So when you think these guys have it made, know this: they are fighting for their job each and every day they hit the field. Their futures depend on their ability to avoid a 0-4 slump as a hitter. Their jump to the next level relies on the fact that they can get lit up by the opposing team one night, and bounce

back their next start, recording 10K's while redeeming their ERA.

Minor league coaches are challenged as well. First, the city they represent expects them to win. Second, the organization's major league affiliate needs their pitchers getting innings and their hitters getting at bats. It's a balancing act between the short-term goals of the team and the sometimes-opposing long-term goals of the organization.

Minor league teams are a group of players challenged to perform as a team, while distinguishing themselves as individuals. But unarguably, they are all working toward the same goal. They all dream of making it to The Show, where they'll play alongside the Griffey's and the A-Rod's, the best of the best. That is why they're here, playing in a city with small-town appeal, and big league dreams. They all love the game of baseball, and Hawk fans love their team, as evidenced by attendance at Memorial Stadium. The Hawks rival all other members of the Eastern League in fan attendance, based on ballpark capacity.

Boise Hawks baseball has something for everybody. From the chicken dance to the seventh-inning stretch, to the heck-

lers that occupy the seats directly adjacent to the Hawks dugout. For the first six innings these insightful gents can be heard rousing the Hawk's opponents, with not-so-clever gems. This continues thru the sixth inning, when sadly, their beer supply gets cut off. At this point they redirect their efforts toward the box seat server who repeatedly explains the ballpark's alcohol policy. Pepsi will have to do. The poor girl can't possibly get paid enough to put up with these guys. Still, entertainment reigns supreme at the games.

Best of all, minor league baseball is superior to collegiate and MLB on many levels. Collegiate players use aluminum bats, which essentially sugar-coat their hitting potential. With the exception of a select few summer leagues, such as the Cape Cod League and the Alaska Baseball League, scouts don't have the opportunity to see what a player can do with the wood. This can make drafting a power hitter, a hit or miss.

As for single-A ball rivaling the bigs? Consider this, name recognition might be far from household, at least for now. The Hawks players might not be flooded with endorsement deals for the time being—but something else is missing—something you don't really miss at all. Superegos. We've all seen it. At the next level, players often lose their grounding, becoming bigger than the game. When contracts and salaries dwarf the Mariners beating the Yanks in extra-innings, something is off.

Big contracts breed big egos, but for the time being, Boise is still exempt from this. While the major leaguers are flying on charters from city to city, the Hawks spend countless hours on a bus. While the superstars bounce from luxury hotels to luxury homes, minor leaguers are housed out with host families. While Sosa is driving to the park in his Mercedes or SUV sitting on 20's, his Class-A counterparts, at least for the most part, aren't.

These guys don't pull the cash that the average fan presumes. With the exception of a few guys who managed lofty signing bonuses, a.k.a. Scott Boras' clients, the only green to be seen in the minors is on the field. Add that to the fact that these guys are playing in front of 2000-3000 fans instead of 20,000-40,000 plus, that too must be a humbling experience to these future big leaguers.

So take away the jumbo tram, the retractable roof, and the off-the-field celebrity sightings. Take away the luxury suites and the \$45 box seats, and strip it down to the bare essentials. What do you have? Minor league baseball. Where players still run out a ground ball, and bunt the run in from third. Where players are happy to sign autographs for nine-year-old and 49 year-old fans alike. The stars of tomorrow, still trying to make a name for themselves today. Baseball in Boise, the way it should be played. For the love of the game.



Hawks take batting-practice before a win at Memorial Stadium.

Photo by Stanley Brewster / The Arbiter



Photo courtesy of Boise State News Services

By Lori Hays  
 Courtesy of Boise State Athletics  
 Special to The Arbiter

The Boise State volleyball family was saddened to hear of the death of Chera Sommer, a senior this past season on the Bronco team. Sommer, died in an automobile accident Sunday, June 22, while driving from Los Angeles to her hometown of Seal Beach in California.

Chera, a team captain, was known for her dedication and hard work on the court and will also be remembered for her friendly nature and smile off the court.

Sommer was a four-year letter-winner and a four-year starter for the Bronco volleyball team as the squad's setter and libero. She had a career total 2,080 assists with the Broncos, ranking her fifth in career assists. She also averaged 7.74 assists per game in her career which ranks seventh

## Bronco Chera Sommer dies in car accident

currently on the all-time list. In career digs, she tallied 603 and averaged 2.03 digs in her four-year career. She did an internship with the KIVI Sports department during the summer of 2001. This past spring Sommer served an internship in Marketing for the Boise Weekly. Her plans for this coming year were to return to Boise this coming August to complete a bachelor's degree in Marketing. The Boise memorial service for Chera Sommer is scheduled for Friday, July 11 at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Student Center on University Drive across from the Administration Building. What follows is a recap of her four-year athletic career with Boise State.

1999: Sommer moved into the starting role at setter midway through her freshman season. She was named to the Big West All-Freshman Team after playing in 71 games and averaging 9.06 assists overall and 9.77 assists in conference games. She also averaged 1.69 digs per game as a freshman.

2000: Sommer started for the Broncos as a sophomore and averaged 10.22 assists

and 1.95 digs. She tied her career record for assists in a match with 77 against Idaho on Nov. 18. She also had seven blocks in that same match against Idaho. She was named to the Las Vegas all-tournament team.

2001: She shared starting time at setter with Mindy Bennett. She averaged 8.25 assists and 1.52 digs per game and was the team's co-captain.

2002: Sommer moved to the Broncos' Libero position her senior year, leading the team in digs with 231, and averaging 2.89 digs per game. She also added 73 assists to her season totals.

She has a career high 19 digs against Fresno State on Nov. 7.

High School: She graduated from Los Alamitos High School (1999) where she was named to the honor roll. In volleyball, she was the team's MVP and also received the school's scholar athlete award. She was named to the all-league team. Her high school coach was Tina Stickler.

Club: She played for the Cal Juniors three years under Chris Gonzales and Club Long Beach one year. Her Club Long Beach team won the Bronze Medal at the 1996 Junior Olympics.

Chera Sommer's Bronco Career Statistics									
Year	GP	Kills	Avg	E	TA	Pct	Assists	Digs	Avg
1999	71	36	0.51	22	114	0.123	169	114	1.69
2000	81	32	0.4	24	122	0.066	195	122	1.95
2001	65	34	0.52	22	109	0.11	152	109	1.52
2002	80	6	0.08	4	26	0.077	289	231	2.89
73	1	0	2	0.03	231	0.097	2080	371	2.03
Totals	297	108	0.35	72	371	0.097	603	603	2.03
Chera Sommer's Bronco Career Highs:									
Assists:	8 vs. UC-Irvine, 10-22-99								
Kills:	77 vs. Idaho, 11-18-00								
Digs:	77 vs. Nevada, 11-4-99								
Total Blocks:	3 vs. Multiple Opponents								
Solo Blocks:	19 vs. Fresno State, 11-07-02								
Block Assists:	7 vs. Idaho, 11-18-00								
	1 vs. Multiple Opponents								
	7 vs. Idaho, 11-18-00								

## My Two Cents: In memory of Chera

By Maurice Sapp  
 Sports Reporter/Columnist

The sports world is bigger than just the people who play. It consists of coaches, families, spectators, reporters, followers and those who just catch a glimpse of some scores in the newspaper every now and then. All these people make up a community, maybe even a family. Right now our family is in mourning because we've lost one of our own.

Chera Sommer, better known to family, friends, and volleyball teammates as "Cher Bear," was taken from us on the morning of June 22, 2003. She died in an automobile accident while driving home from Los Angeles to Seal Beach, California, where she was going to spend what would be her last birthday with her family. Yes, she died on her birthday.

News of Chera's death was not well received here in Boise. Chera was the single most caring person I've ever had the pleasure of meeting. I'm not alone. There are countless people in Boise, her home away from home, who look back and remember this remarkable young woman with the same fondness. She befriended and left an impression on everyone she encountered. She had a way of making your day better whenever she crossed your path.

By June 23, the day after the accident, everyone at the university knew about Chera's death. There wasn't a single soul in the sports family with their

head not bowed. The funeral was held Monday, June 30 in Seal Beach, California. Many players from Chera's volleyball team attended as well as a few football players and some members of the track team who knew her. All of these people traveled the miles from Boise to show their love and respect for Chera, giving both their memories and condolences to her family.

There will be a service held here in Boise on Friday July 11 at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Student Center on University Drive, across the street from the Administration Building.

Those of us in the Bronco athletic family feel the loss of Chera Sommer. We see it in each other's eyes. Yet, we will never again see the smile of this young woman, who was inevitably going to accomplish great things. Looking back, it's not the loss of what she might have done, or who she might have been that tears me up. It's who she already was that I will miss the most.

If there is any right thing to say, or at least the most accurate take on the tragedy, it came from the mouth of Chera's friend, Tony McPherson.

"Chera was to good for Earth. Earth is hell. She deserved a lot better than what we could give her down here. So God rescued her and took her to something better."

She's with God now, but the rest of us will sorely miss her. We love you Chera.



# Will time heal hard feelings between ACC members?

By David Droschak  
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. - It may take some time for the Atlantic Coast Conference to become one happy family again.

A conference that prides itself on unity and integrity has just ended two of the roughest months in its history, haggling and arm-twisting over an expansion effort that ended with the addition of Miami and Virginia Tech in 2004.

The ACC could use the coming year to heal some deep wounds.

"There were pressures put on - politically, by faculty - that changed some things with people," North Carolina State athletic director Lee Fowler said. "Some schools went from one side of the issue to the other. As time went on it was a difficult situation to manage."

The move to 11 teams was just the third ACC expansion in a half-century. Each previous time, the ACC added just one team - Georgia Tech in 1978 and Florida State in 1991 - to a group that also includes Duke, North Carolina, N.C. State,

Virginia, Clemson, Maryland and Wake Forest.

One byproduct of this year's expansion was dissent over finances, travel and student welfare among some of the ACC's original members - mainly Duke, North Carolina, N.C. State and Virginia.

Another argument surrounded just how many schools would be the correct mix. North Carolina and Duke favored a 10-team league, others talked about 13 or other numbers.

"I am personally disappointed with the outcome of our expansion discussions," Duke athletic director Joe Alleva said Tuesday. "I am concerned that this will be detrimental to several sports, especially basketball, and change the culture of the league significantly. The ACC will emerge from this process successfully, but it will take time and leadership."

That will fall to ACC commissioner John Swofford, who is confident the league will move forward despite its members' differing opinions.

He said expansion, revenue sharing and probation are the most difficult items for schools

to deal with collectively.

"The fiber of this league is very, very strong," Swofford said. "It has always had the ability to deal with tough issues and tough problems and come back stronger than ever in terms of relationships and working effectively with each other. I've seen it over the years and when Florida State came into the league."

Many fingers were pointed at Swofford when it appeared the ACC's attempt to expand could fall through. Fowler said such criticism was unfair as Swofford tried to forge compromises with the ACC's chancellors and presidents, who had the final vote on expansion.

"John Swofford has been overly abused in this process," Fowler said. "I thought his leadership has been amazing. When you're in charge of something and some opinions change in the middle you're in the mode of trying to hold things together, which he did."

"When it got public it got a life of its own," he added. "People change their minds in business every day and it happened in this. We were in a glass

house where people were dissecting things."

Swofford believes it's unfair to portray the ACC as a greedy league aimed at cornering the financial sports market along the East Coast.

The ACC handed out a record \$9.7 million to each of its nine schools last year. He said members were prepared to take a loss for the next few seasons with the addition of the Hurricanes and Hokies if certain financial scenarios don't unfold.

That worried UNC chancellor James Moeser.

"There are no assurances," he said when asked about financial projections. "We are concerned about that - we have been from the very beginning of this."

But Swofford insisted the benefits will be more than monetary.

"We've never thought it would be a financial windfall," he said. "This is a way to stabilize us and strengthen us and position us to make certain we maintain our place in the marketplace - and that's been a very good place for us in recent years."

## ACC Expansion

Main events in the history of the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), which is celebrating its 50th anniversary by expanding the league.



May 8, 1953	Clemson, Duke, Maryland, North Carolina, North Carolina State, South Carolina and Wake Forest universities withdraw from Southern Conference, draw up bylaws for ACC
June 14, 1953	Colleges adopt bylaws, making ACC official
Dec. 4, 1953	University of Virginia admitted
June 30, 1971	University of South Carolina withdraws
April 3, 1978	Georgia Tech admitted
July 1, 1991	Florida State admitted
May 13, 2003	Votes to expand league to 12 schools, targets Miami, Boston College and Syracuse, but later excludes Boston College and Syracuse
June 25	Invitations issued to Miami and Virginia Tech
June 27	Virginia Tech accepts offer
June 30	Miami accepts offer

© 2003 KRT Source: Atlantic Coast Conference, AP Graphic: Pat Carr, Mark Matern

## Boise State athletes place in track & field championship

By Max Corbet  
Courtesy of Boise State Athletics  
Special to The Arbiter

BOISE, Idaho — Rob Minnitti and Justin St. Clair, former members of the Boise State University track and field team, placed second and fourth, respectively, in the men's javelin at the 2003 USA Outdoor Track and Field Championships on Saturday, June 21.

Minnitti, a senior on this past year's Bronco team, finished runner-up with a lifetime best throw of 253-4 (77.21 meters). Last week Minnitti, a two-time All-American for Boise State, also finished second in the men's javelin at the NCAA National Outdoor Track and Field Championships. St. Clair, who earned NCAA All-American honors for the Broncos as a senior in 2002, just missed the medal stand with a fourth place throw of 242-10 (74.02m).

Two other former Bronco athletes also competed at this week's USA Championships. Trina Rogers, placed fourth in the women's javelin on Friday with a throw of 164-6, while Jared Rome finished 14th in the men's discus on Thursday with a toss of 186-6. Rogers earned All-American honors for Boise State at last week's NCAA Championships. Rome is the most honored athlete in the history of the Boise State track and field program winning a total of six NCAA All-American awards during his career from 1997 to 2000 in the discus and shot put.



Photo courtesy of Boise State Photo Services

In other results involving athletes with ties to Boise State, Oscar Duncan, who is an academic advisor in the Bronco athletic department, placed seventh in the javelin with a throw of 238-5 (72.67m), while Charlie

Clinger, a volunteer assistant coach for Boise State tied for seventh in the high jump with a mark of 7-3.25 on Friday.

## Former Bronco competes in three Wimbledon rounds

By Lori Hays  
Courtesy of Boise State Athletics  
Special to The Arbiter

Former Boise State tennis player Wesley Moodie lost in the third round of Wimbledon Saturday, June 28 in four sets (6-7, 6-2, 6-4 6-4) to 13th seeded Sebastian Grosjean of France. Moodie was the first Bronco to qualify to play in Wimbledon, let alone survive the first two rounds.

Moodie had reached the third round at Wimbledon Thursday (June 26) after a five-set match victory over Frederic Niemeyer of Canada. Moodie, a 2000 All-American at BSU and a first-time qualifier at Wimbledon, beat Niemeyer 7-6, 4-6, 2-6, 6-1, 7-5.

In his first round match on Tuesday (June 24), Moodie defeated Marc Rosset of Switzerland 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.

Moodie, from South Africa, has played on the pro circuit since he completed his eligibility at Boise State. He played for the Broncos in 1999 and 2000 and was an All-American with Leif Meineke in doubles as seniors in the spring of 2000. He was also a two-time All-Big West honoree. Moodie's records in his two seasons at Boise State were 44-26 in singles and 56-23 in doubles. Boise State won the Big West team championship each of those years.

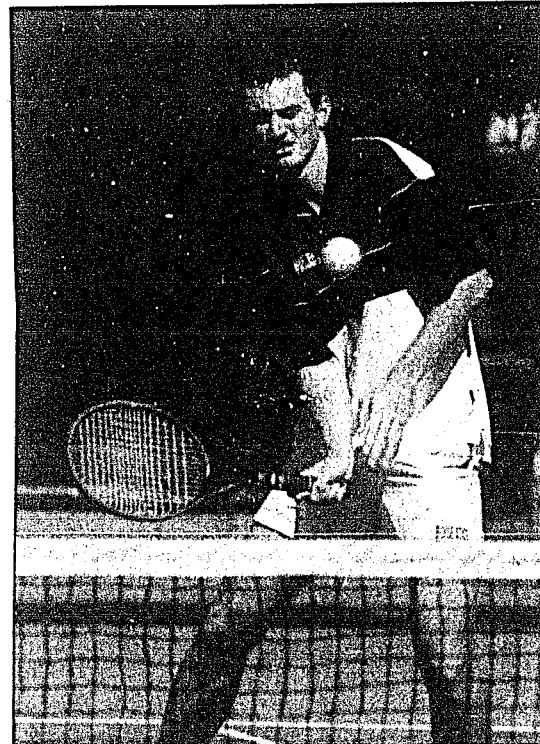


Photo courtesy of Boise State News Services

## NCAA makes changes in men's tournament

By Wendell Barnhous  
Knight Ridder Newspapers

In addition to announcing Final Four sites through 2011 last week, the men's basketball committee also made two significant changes in the look of the NCAA Tournament men's bracket starting in 2004.

When the bracket is released on Selection Sunday, which is March 14 next year, the committee will determine the Final Four semifinal pairings when it sets the bracket. In years past, the semifinal matchups of regional winners (East vs. West, South vs. Midwest, etc.)

were predetermined and rotated each year.

"The committee's main charge has been to competitively balance the bracket," Bill Hancock, NCAA consultant to the Division I men's basketball championship, said Monday. "But the Final Four semifinal matchups really weren't balanced. This addresses that."

Basically, the tournament's top two No. 1 seeds will be placed in opposite brackets. The fourth-best No. 1 seed will be placed in the regional opposite the overall No. 1 seed with the third-best No. 1 seed placed with the other No. 1 seed.

The committee will do away with the directional names for the four regions on the bracket. Instead, each of the four regions will be referred to by the host city's name. In 2004, the regionals will be East Rutherford (formerly East), Atlanta (South), St. Louis (Midwest) and Phoenix (West).

The 2-year-old pod system, which is designed to keep teams closer to home on the NCAA Tournament's first weekend, has blurred the directional nature of the regionals' sites.

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The Arbiter

## Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black  
Tribune Media Services

**Today's Birthday (July 9).** You have a way with words this year, especially regarding love. Make sure you talk yourself into a lifestyle that you'll flourish within. No more fooling around. This year it's for keeps. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** Today is a 5 - Curtail the urge to overspend; it's not necessary. With a thrifty woman's advice, you can get the best without paying extra.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** Today is an 8 - They say the truth will set you free, and you can find that out for yourself. An honest conversation strengthens bonds that are good for you.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** Today is a 5 - Make time to set priorities before you go running off. There's no point wasting time or money on a wild goose chase.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** Today is a 10 - You want it? You got it!

Your wish is another's command, and don't let them tell you otherwise. Don't take "no" for an answer.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** Today is a 5 - Continue to let the others do most of the talking. You just listen and smile sweetly, and they'll tell you everything.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Today is an 8 - The more you learn, the more ridiculous your fears will appear. You may forget some of them altogether and not even notice they're gone. So don't let them get in your way.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** Today is a 4 - Continue to take it easy while keeping up with your work. Stay in the routine you're establishing. The money should start coming in soon.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** Today is a 9 - A couple of those previously mentioned barriers should be pretty obvious by now. You simply have to make a decision or two, then talk the objectors into going along. It'll be easy.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** Today is a 5 - You have a natural talent for expressing ideas. You're a great teacher, but this time it's wiser to let somebody else talk. Be the student.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Today is an 8 - Strategy sessions will go well now. Contribute your experience, but also learn from the experience of another.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** Today is a 5 - Just continue to do what you've always done, in the most efficient way possible. As you do your job well, your actions speak for you much better than words.

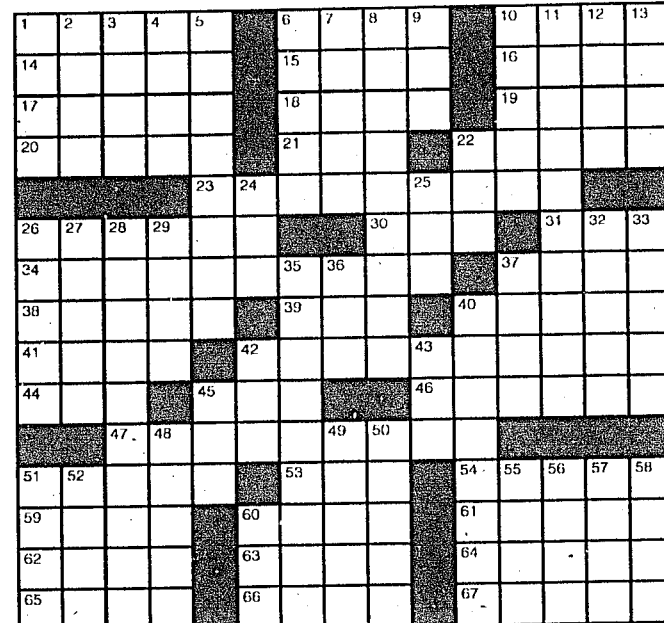
**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** Today is a 10 - It's good to keep the big picture in mind and to have a long-term plan. If you develop your skills as a strategist, you'll find ways around obstacles.

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## Crossword

**ACROSS**  
1 Sailing ship  
6 Liability  
10 Perfume ingredient  
14 Madagascar primate  
15 Light beige  
16 Pot starter  
17 Flavoring seed  
18 Alda or King  
19 June 6, 1944  
20 Power units  
21 Varnish ingredient  
22 Deuce toppers  
23 New Yorker, to a Californian  
26 Broken-bone support  
30 Do-over service  
31 Brit. flyboys  
34 Monarch's daughters  
37 Desert gully  
38 Soprano Lehmann  
39 Crude shelter  
40 Revolving blade  
41 Choir part  
42 Air-perfuming products  
44 AT&T part  
45 Food from taro  
46 Beginning  
47 Fatigues  
51 Lesser  
53 DDE's command  
54 Marble material  
59 Down for the night  
60 Vegas machine  
61 Deadly poisons  
62 Barn pests  
63 M. Descartes  
64 Pear-shaped instruments  
65 Questions  
66 Fruit drinks  
67 Slur over

**DOWN**  
1 Cabbage dish, briefly  
2 Singer Horne  
3 Leave off  
4 Boot out  
5 Dignified bearing



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07/09/03

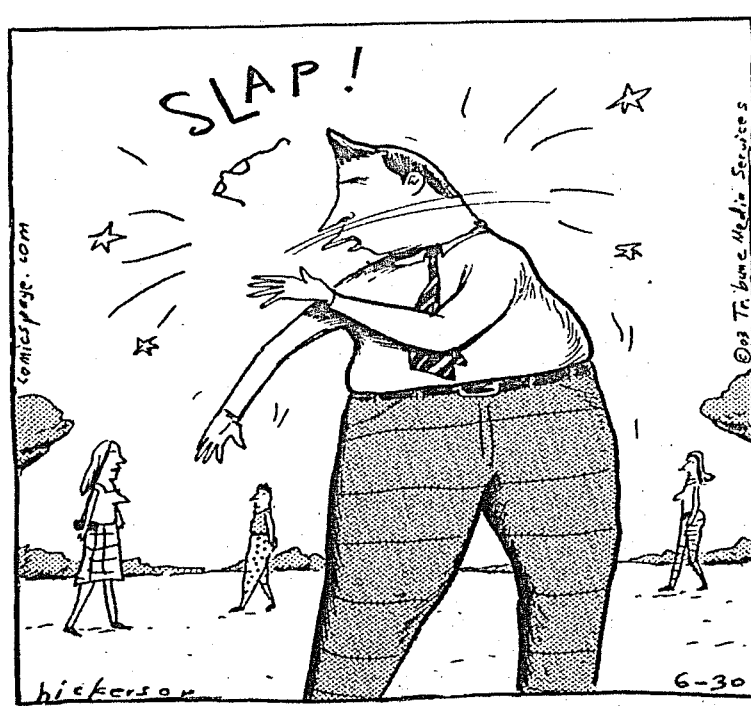
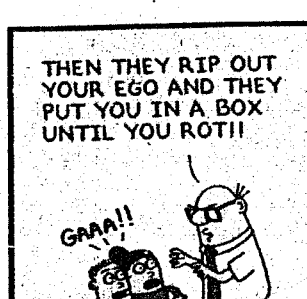
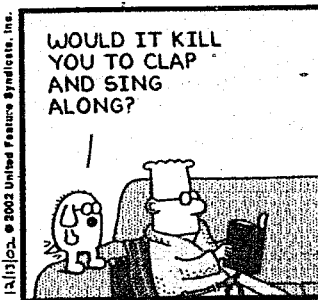
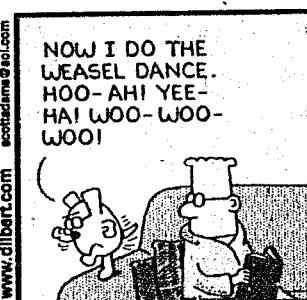
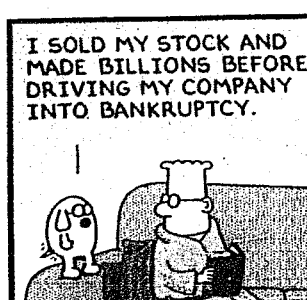
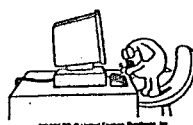
## Solutions

ACROSS  
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3 Leave off  
4 Boot out  
5 Dignified bearing

## DILBERT

BY SCOTT ADAMS



Bob got in touch with his feminine side, and it slapped him.

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