

1-22-2004

## Arbiter, January 22

Students of Boise State University

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# The Arbiter

THURSDAY  
JANUARY 22, 2004

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## Windy City Sell-out

Second City brings colorful comedy to sold out show A&E - 4

Ani DiFranco CD Review A&E - 4

2004 Buck Off Climbing Competition Sports - 6



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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 36

## ASBSU lobbyist pushes equitable funding agenda at Capitol

BY KYLE GORHAM  
News Reporter  
The Arbiter

Boise State lobbyists are continuing to work for equitable funding methods for higher education in Idaho this legislative session -- an issue complicated by a tight state budget. Associated Students of Boise State Lobbyist James Skaggs said pushing for improved state funding methods ranks high on the lobbying agenda. "It's just because we're the lowest funded out of the four institutions," Skaggs said. "If we weren't continuing with equitable funding, I wouldn't be doing my job otherwise." Skaggs said the legislature and the State Board of Education have acknowledged the problem with inequitable funding and that there are plans in the works to remedy the issue. However, state holdbacks have prevented the accumulation of money needed to attain equity in the state's allocation of higher education funding, he said. The plan is simply waiting to be funded. Nonetheless, Skaggs acknowledged the opportunities that may be available this legislative session. He said the importance of bringing equitable fund-

ing to the legislature stems from Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne's plan to hold nearly \$75 million dollars from the state budget as a contingency fund. "What I'm saying is with close to \$75 million in extra dollars, why not step up to the plate and break loose that one-time funding and get that part balanced away," he said. Providing Idaho colleges with a one-time lump sum funding stems from recommendations made by an outside firm to help restore equity in the state's allocation practices. With increased pressure

on enrollment of Idaho institutions in recent years, concerns about the effectiveness of the state's funding allocation methods were voiced by the universities and also in the state legislature. The State Board of Education responded in 2001 by hiring MGT of America -- a company with experience in the financing of public higher education -- to examine funding methods. The MGT of America study evaluated the methods used by the state of Idaho to fund its institutions to determine if there was an inequity problem. The study looked at how Idaho institutions -- Boise State, Idaho

State, Lewis and Clark State, and the University of Idaho -- ranked against each other and also how they ranked with regards to peer universities throughout the country. The conclusions made by the company showed that Idaho's funding methodologies resulted in inequities, both between the four Idaho institutions and also their peer universities. The study stated that many factors contribute to differences in funding between the schools, but ultimately concluded there was a problem with Idaho's funding methods. In the second phase of the study, MGT provided some rec-

ommendations to help fix the problem -- among which was the one-time lump sum, yet to be distributed. Skaggs said fixing the inequity problem and increased funds from the state could stymie the rising matriculation fees that Boise State students are paying. Matriculation fees constitute a large part of the costs of attending the university. "The only way we can hold that fee down is if the state ponies up more dollars," he added.



PHOTOS BY JAMES ORR/THE ARBITER

## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY CELEBRATED

A group of Boise residents marched to the Statehouse Monday, Jan. 19 for the annual celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. As the crowd moved, they shouted out energetic slogans such as, "Idaho is too great for hate" and carried banners honoring King. There was a diverse crowd, including the Boise State Green Party and Pro-Life advocates. Boise State student Neb Joyner addressed the crowd on the

Capitol steps, stating Idahoans no longer face cross-racial problems, but instead face the issue of people turning against one another interracially. Joyner continued by saying, children are killing other children, families are ignoring one another, and hate is prospering without the influence of race. The crowd responded enthusiastically as he encouraged them to make a change.



## Provost Jones retiring after 18 years of university leadership

BY GRETA KRANZ  
News Editor

Eighteen years after his start at Boise State as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Daryl Jones, provost and vice president of academic affairs, sent an e-mail to all Boise State faculty and staff announcing his impending retirement scheduled for June of this year. Jones has served as BSU's provost and vice president of academic affairs since 1991, though at the time of his retirement he will have been an administrator within the field of higher education for 30 years. In that amount of time, he has seen -- as well helped create -- a great deal many changes within the Boise State community. And, with BSU poised to complete its transition from a community college into a serious academic university, Jones outlined what he thought some of BSU's challenges might be in the coming months and years, programs that are already serving the university well, and his own plans for retirement.

Much has been made in the past year about Boise State's role in the Boise community and the need to foster a better relationship between the two. Dr. Jones agreed with the idea: "From the State Board of Education we're really identified as Idaho's metropolitan institution and I think Dr. Kustra has focused on that as a way in which Boise State can be distinctive, and really meet the needs of a growing metropolitan area that will in turn serve all of the state and the region... So, we've been working for some time to do that but I think now there's sort of a renewed energy and a focus to really ratchet up the academic quality here at the institution...It's been a very successful undergraduate institution, but now we're going to move to that next step...We've been challenged by growth and limited resources and a very broad mission. Obviously, our mission has to be refined and focused. It seems to me that that's the

See Jones page 3

## Women's Center offers relationship help

BY GRETA KRANZ  
News Editor

It's common knowledge that a large portion of Boise State's student body falls into a category best described as "non-traditional". It's also common knowledge that "non-traditional" students frequently have concerns and interests that deviate from the concerns of traditional students. In an effort to recognize and address the special concerns

of the BSU student body, the Boise State Women's Center will present a four-part workshop series entitled, "Know Your Rights: Addressing misinformation about the areas of divorce, custody, separation and child support," beginning Monday, Jan. 26 at 10 a.m. The first presentation will be moderated by former Idaho Supreme Court Justice Cathy Silak and is entitled, "The Law Speaks Up." A panel of attorneys -- members of Idaho

Women Lawyers Inc. -- will discuss the legal processes in Idaho regarding separation, divorce and child custody. On Tuesday, Feb. 3 at 1 p.m., professional mediators will be on hand to discuss and field questions regarding parenting classes, child custody and mediation, as well as important child support issues, in a workshop entitled, "Managing Conflict: When the Little Ones Count." "Relationship Resourceful-

ness," scheduled Monday, Feb. 9 at 10 a.m., will bring experts from the Family Court Services for the Fourth Judicial District, Boise Women's and Children's Alliance, Idaho Legal Aid Services and the Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program to the Boise State campus for a discussion of the services available to those who are struggling with separation and divorce issues. Finally, "Resolving Problems in Relationships" will be pre-

sented on Tuesday, Feb. 17 at 1 p.m. This workshop is specifically for those who recognize issues and problems within their relationship, but do not see divorce as an option. Panel members will include counselors from BSU in addition to community professionals trained in couple and family conflict resolution. More information and pre-registration for these events can be obtained by contacting the Women's Center at 426-4259.

# Theory suggests reading will be done in high-tech manner in future

BY ELBERT STARKS III  
Knight Ridder Newspapers  
(KRT)

AKRON, Ohio -- It's easy to define literate as "able to read and write."

What happens, however, if the recognized tools for literacy such as books, pencils and paper give way to Internet chats with streaming video?

What if, in the age of text messaging and 250 TV channels, youths grow increasingly disconnected from the printed word and find other ways to process information and communicate?

A concept being discussed in some quarters, and taught and implemented in others, is called New Literacy.

Dr. William Kist, a professor at Kent State University's Stark Campus, is a proponent of it, has researched it extensively, written papers and an upcoming book on the subject, and teaches it to his students.

"I would say, in a nutshell, the theory is that we human beings are going to read in a different manner in the 21st century than we did in the 20th century," Kist said.

"We are going to spend more time in front of a screen than we spent in front of a page."

"Now that doesn't mean that we're not going to need to have to know how to read print. That's absolutely imperative," Kist said. "However, this theory ... is saying that the way we read and write is going to be different. It's going to be nonlinear."

Nonlinear reading? New Literacy? Are these simply esoteric terms with vague meanings?

If you use the Internet regularly, at work or at home, the answer is no. If you play video games online, where you interact with other players using created characters, you're already doing it.

"Do you remember those books, 'Choose Your Own Adventures'?" Kist said. "That's what reading

is going to be more like. When you read a book, most people are reading from left to right, start to finish.

"Whereas if you hit on a Web site, every person's experience with a Web site is going to be different. No one is going to click on the same links in exactly the same order."

A 2002 summit held in Berlin set out to define basic tenets for the 21st century, using New Literacy. There were five types of literacies promoted: technology, information, media creativity, global, and literacy with responsibility.



KRT PHOTO  
Dr. William Kist, a professor at Kent State University's Stark Campus with his students.

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The Law Speaks Up

Monday, January 26, 10am  
A panel of judges and attorneys will address the legal aspects of divorce, custody, separation and child support, along with legal processes, rights and logistics involved in state's standard procedures.

Managing Conflict,  
When the Little Ones Count

Tuesday, February 3, 1pm  
Professional mediators will answer questions surrounding the state's requirements about parenting classes, child custody mediation, why mediation is important, and child support issues.

Relationship Resourcefulness

Monday February 9th, 10am  
A valuable resource is knowledge. Panel members from a variety of community organizations will provide information about support services available for those struggling with divorce, custody, and separation issues.

Resolving Problems in Relationships

Tuesday February 17, 1pm  
Designed for those who don't see divorce as an option, but recognize that they are struggling. The panel will include counselors from Boise State and professionals from the community who are trained in helping families and couples resolve conflicts.

all workshops will be held in the Farnsworth Room in the Student Union

Sponsored by the Boise State Women's Center and the Boise State Students of Conflict Management Services

## Gay student group fights for recognition by Seton Hall

BY PATRICIA ALEX  
The Record (KRT)

Anthony Romeo says he only wants the camaraderie and recognition that other students at Seton Hall University have.

After all, he argues, there are more than 100 student groups and clubs recognized on campus in which students sort themselves based on everything from ethnicity to hobbies.

But Romeo's TRUTH organization, a support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and homosexual students,

has had a tougher time of it at the Catholic university.

The group's application for university recognition was denied last month because administrators found it at odds with the school's Catholic mission.

"The most compelling guidance from the church directs us to care for the human person whose fundamental identity is as a 'child of God,' not a 'heterosexual' or 'homosexual,'" wrote Dr. Laura Wankel, vice president for student affairs. "No organization based solely upon sexual orientation

may receive formal university recognition."

Though it denied the group official recognition, the university said TRUTH may operate on campus, apply for funds from the office of student affairs, and host educational events, meetings, and programs. The group cannot, however, host social events or sponsor religious services or activities.

The half-a-loaf approach is part of a balancing act that has played itself out at Catholic colleges and universities across the country, Catholic academe's version of "don't ask, don't tell." Official church teaching condemns homosexual acts.

"With public colleges, it's pretty straightforward, they have to recognize these groups," said Nick Sakurai, director of the US Student Association's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Empowerment Project. "With private ones it's a little more gray. I've seen Catholic colleges that do recognize LGBT student groups, but it seems to vary from diocese to diocese."

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# Kansas students, lawmaker debate university sex education class

BY COLLEEN MCCAIN NELSON  
The Dallas Morning News (KRT)

LAWRENCE, Kan. -- On the University of Kansas campus, a scantily clad student strikes a provocative pose for a photographer.

In a classroom, images of sexual encounters flicker across a screen as students silently take notes.

As an election year cranks up, with caucuses in neighboring Iowa on Monday, the candidates are mired in Medicare and the war on terror. But at this Midwestern school, a human sexuality class and a sexually charged calendar are the issues.

The separate controversies have spurred students to consider the boundaries of academic freedom and freedom of expression. "This has brought a debate to campus that's worth having," says Brian Thomas, a KU senior.

Long considered a left-leaning outpost in a largely right-wing state, the University of Kansas sparked a statewide political debate and a national discussion with its support for a popular class devoted to human sexuality.

The discussion started when a state senator took an interest in a class she deemed obscene.

For more than two decades, Dennis Dailey, a social welfare professor who has received frequent accolades from his peers and his students, has taught a sexuality class that draws standing-room-only crowds of 500 students.

But when her intern raised questions about the curriculum and its execution, Republican lawmaker Susan Wagle sought to deny funding to Dailey's department.

The course, "Human Sexuality in Everyday Life,"

includes frank discussions about sexual development and expression. Students view educational films that show homosexual sex and masturbation.

Wagle registered several complaints about the class, saying that some materials were obscene and suggesting that the professor used vulgar "street language" in class. A university investigation determined that the allegations were without merit.

But Wagle's declarations that the class is pornographic and her attempts to persuade the Legislature to rein in a highly regarded professor prompted a renewed level of student activism.

Students jumped into the political fray, collecting petitions, contacting administrators and making their voices heard. Wagle and a couple of students turned up on Fox News' "The O'Reilly Factor" to respond to the host's question: "Perv or prof?"

For most on campus, the answer was obvious.

"If the curriculum doesn't fit within your beliefs, speak up, and if you're really offended, don't take the class," Thomas says. "It's an elective class, and it always has been."

Still, when the state pays the bills, a public university can't dismiss lawmakers' views.

"They fund us, and they have the right to look into what we're doing and whether it's appropriate," says Blake Shuart, director of the Student Legislative Awareness Board. But Shuart and other students say they were concerned about the prospect of legislators micro-managing class content.

While Wagle's attempts to freeze state funds failed, she succeeded in compelling the Legislature to adopt a policy on the use of explicit materials in the classroom.

# Idaho Suicide Prevention to offer workshop for volunteers

MONICA PRICE  
News Reporter

Despite its reputation as a great place to live filled with boundless activities and pristine wildlife, the state of Idaho suffers from one of the highest rates of suicide in the U.S.

According to a recent study by the American Association of Suicidology, Idaho has the seventh highest rate of completed suicides in the nation. From 1999-2001, there were 14.4 suicides for every 100,000 versus the national average of 10.7 suicides per 100,000 in 2000.

"We are constantly in the top ten," said Cindy Clark, professor of nursing.

Limited suicide prevention resources, as well as the stigma attached to mental health issues, make suicide prevention a difficult problem to resolve. However, state leaders have created a comprehensive suicide prevention plan.

One part of the effort to address the issue is the Idaho Suicide Prevention's crisis intervention-training program that begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23 and runs through Sunday, Jan. 25. The training will take place in room C138 of BSU's Communication Building and will provide valuable information in an attempt to help curb Idaho's suicide rate.

The program is aimed at training possible volunteers for the state's suicide hotline, but any interested individual is welcome to attend. There is no cost to attend, but all participants will be asked to complete a confidential questionnaire and interview, as well as sign a code of ethics before completion of the training program.

Those participants that are interested in volunteering for the hotline will also be asked for a one-year commitment to the program.

The program will cover both facts and myths surrounding suicide, identify warning signs and instruct on intervention strategies. In addition, ethical implications in dealing with suicide will be addressed.

Idaho's suicide hotline operates from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. each day and is staffed entirely by volunteers. Each call is confidential. The number is 1-800-564-2120.

# Jones

from page 1

challenge -- that three-fold challenge is what we're going to have to face...We're being asked to do everything, but we're really not being given the resources to do it. That's one of the reasons we have to focus."

Jones also discussed the newly implemented ways in which BSU can work to refine its focus, such as raising the academic admission requirements:

"I think it's a necessity and I think it's good for the institution in the long run. Obviously, we don't want to dilute the quality of what we're doing and if we have more people than we can handle, we're doing an injustice to everyone. The difficulty, of course, is that it means that some people are not going to have that open access to education in the valley that historically Boise State has provided."

In his recent state of the university address, President Kustra focused on BSU's current five year graduation rate of 26% and the need to make improvements. Jones pointed out that while the current graduation rate is low, BSU has already "...implemented a number of things to improve the graduation rate—not the least of which is increasing the admissions standard."

"If people come in who are more qualified, more of them are going to graduate faster. Some of that [the current rate] is a function of the kind of student who attends BSU...We have large numbers of working students and as a result, they work more and take fewer credits...However, part of it

gets back to a variety of retention techniques that we can employ here...You find out, for example, that if students are active in student organizations they're much more likely to stay in school to graduate and to graduate faster. So there are a variety of things like that—building a sense of community, changing the admissions standards, having various support mechanisms for students in place, greater faculty engagement with students—all of those things can help us enhance those graduation rates. We've made a good start and they've been improving but we still have farther to go..."

Dr. Jones also expressed his enthusiasm for the Boise State programs:

"We're a very young institution and we've had lots of challenges to meet with limited resources. In light of that we have made absolutely astounding progress...if you look at how rapidly we've been changing and improving that's pretty exciting. For example, in the area of research -- which

is another way of bringing resources into the institution -- we have made extraordinary strides in increasing the research funding. We've hired lots of faculty who are active in research; they have sophisticated research agendas, they are well-known in their fields --nationally and internationally -- and they are bringing in funds that help the entire institution. Another great strength at this institution is...good teaching and a very strong commitment to students and to high quality teaching. In the last 10 years, 8 out of 10 years we've received the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching Idaho Professor of the Year..."

One of the other programs that Dr. Jones is particularly proud of is the College of Engineering in which he had a role in creating. The College of Engineering attracts excellent students, as well as funding and reputation for Boise State. "It has really positioned us to that first rank of educational institution."

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# STUDENT ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

## Sold-out comedy act blows away Boise audience

BY DAN MCNEESE  
A&E Writer  
The Arbitrator

After a sold out performance last year, the Second City comedy troop returned to Boise State for another sold out show Tuesday night. Slicing and dicing hypocrisy, SC opened the show with several sketches mocking the state of the union, terrorists in church and a hilarious medley about the terrorist alert system called "terrorist rainbow".

Toning down the political issues but still pushing the envelope, the six traveling improvtroups acted out an array of characters and skits with the manic energy of children. With many of the sketches rehearsed, almost half of the performance was improvised. A fifteen-minute encore that included the audiences' ideas was acted out with the quickness and humor of anything that could be on *Whose Line is it Anyway?*

Primarily known for their alumni which include former SNL cast members John Bulushi, Chris Farley, Dan Akrold and Tina Fey, to name a few, The Second City let on to how talented one must be to act in this traveling leg of the Chicago

based group. Conversely, seeming un-phased at the idea of being in the shadow of their former casts' limelight. Doing what is considered by some to be a more rigorous job than SNL, the sextet performed a wide range of comedy that went beyond the range of television. From intro to encore, the troop foot lighted in a comedic fashion from borderline controversial to inane simple.

The most noticeable of talents being the chemistry between them, it was evident they were having as much fun as the audience. At one point during the 'movie night' sketch, cast members Ithamar Enriquez and Jenny Hagel giggled as Enriquez mimicked a movie projector. The pana-mime wasn't intended to make Hagel laugh, nor intended for the sketch. Regardless, neither broke character and played off each other's cues professionally.

But the star of the night was possible Farley follow up Frank Caeti. With the energy and charismatic quality Chris Farley, two-thirds the size and more established, Caeti ripped up the stage with a variety of Characters.

Sweet heart Niki Lindgren had the most diverse of characters. And a great time was had by all.



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID HABBEN

Niki Lindgren joined the Second City cast at the start of this year. With a BA in theatre, she has appeared at ImprovOlympics and Upright Citizens Brigade doing her one-woman show, "Photosynthesis of God and Man." Speaking with a nurturing voice, her persona is extremely pleasant, and she is an honor to talk to.

DM: The chemistry between you guys [SC cast] seems really good, are there some off nights some times?

NL: Um, I wouldn't say off nights, sometimes things

just don't flow as well, and that could depend on a million different things. But for the most part everyone is really on their toes and we love watching each other.

DM: It seemed like Frank [Caeti] was going to bust up a couple of times, he had to move off stage a little bit.

NL: Yeah, it's so funny... We're so thrilled to perform with each other. We really respect what each person has because you can tell with the group there are six different energies...we all have our pluses and minuses. You

### BACKSTAGE

know, the things we're really good at. Like the things were really good at might be different from somebody else. Like character work. Everybody's there for each other.

DM: Your guys' energy level was really high. How do you get prepared before you go on stage every night and change characters just like that?

NL: It's something we're trained to do; all of us just love. It's our passion, you know. The way we change characters comes from with-

in. The main thing with improv is just having fun.

DM: Do you consider, up until now, this to be your pinnacle? Or are you aiming for, dare I say it, SNL?

NL: Everybody's different. This was one of my goals, moving to Chicago and being on the touring company. I am absolutely thrilled to be a part of it. I think I speak for us all when I say that we all want to aspire to something after this. It's kind of like, if we are proud of what we do and we are working with people that we love we're going to keep put-

ting stuff out there that makes us feel good.

DM: Is it hard to not push the envelope too far? Have you guys gone over the edge sometimes?

NL: One of the things Second City tries to do is push the envelope. Some people squirm in their seats but there is a tolerance, especially touring. But we do try to push the envelope, to get people to think and have an opinion about the issues going on in the world.

### POETRY

## Mechanistic Lover Part 2 The Virgin has Become Extinct

BY BRANDON FOLLETT  
Special to The Arbitrator

Sex shops pop up across America

Web porn watched on toilets, at the state capitol, in the bed. The porn gets thinner, laptops get slimmer, while you get fatter.

Those who shy away from Larry Flint dream through Hollywood. They forget the stars don't own their bodies and the sex choreographed.

The mind compromised for electric toys, air brushed computer-generated bodies and good acting coaches in the name of boredom and insecurity.

Technology has homogenized sex. There are standards now, people! A conversation: Your stomach feels pudgy, tongue doesn't taste like Scope, breasts look better in the bra. Your orgasm intensity fails to compare to the scene in *Monster Ball*.

Wait Wait Stop the Sex!!!!!!  
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Images bombard even the innocent. On a conscious level, how many times have you made love think the moment special and original but subconsciously performed a scene from a block buster movie or worse yet a 30-second NYPD Blue commercial.

Yes folks have you been A+ students? Show me how much you can regurgitate or sadly how dead your imagination, creativity, and personality has become.

Technology has made the VIRGIN extinct.

Brandon Follett is the author of "Mental Foreplay for the Classics," subtitled "Always Remember When the Heart's Cold the Bladder is Full of Warmth." You can purchase his book, plus "Veronica" and the "Mental Foreplay" cds at the following locations in Boise: Flying M Coffee House, Log Cabin Literary Center, Record Exchange, Hastings on Fairview Rd., and the Book and Game Company. You may also purchase them online at [www.emeritusrecords.com](http://www.emeritusrecords.com) or [www.nexusunderground.com](http://www.nexusunderground.com).

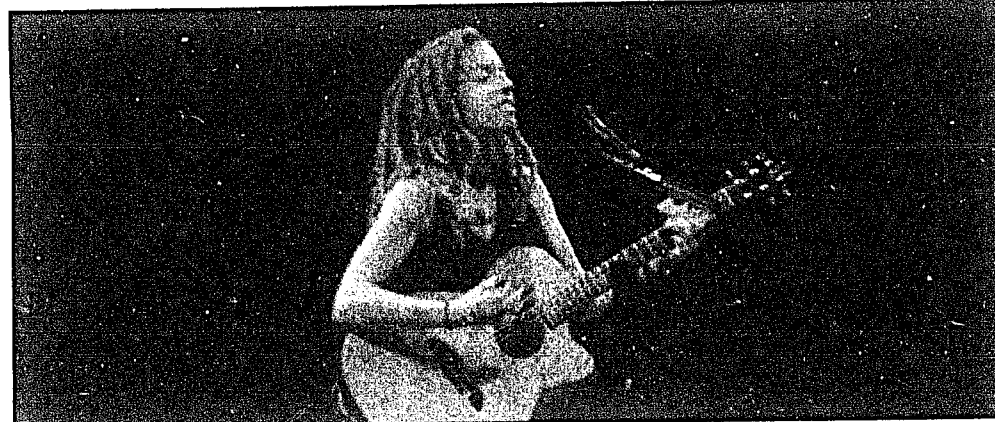


PHOTO BY MARY DAWSON/THE ARBITRATOR

Ani DiFranco breaks her own musical barriers with *Educated Guess*, an album that speaks to listeners about life's constant irrationalities.

## Righteous babe Ani DiFranco salutes the "f-word" with new solo record

BY JESSICA ADAMS  
Managing Editor  
The Arbitrator

### CD REVIEW

"Life knocked me off my platforms / so I pulled out my first pair of boots ... and suited up for the long walk / back to myself." Simply titled, "Platforms," the first track on Ani DiFranco's latest CD *Educated Guess* is reflective of her most recent diversion.

From the raw folk/punk tunes of her early performances, through the jazz/funk grooves she created while touring with a five-piece band - to the twists and turns of her current work as a solo artist - singer/songwriter/guitarist Ani DiFranco's restless creativity continues to lead her listeners into new territory.

DiFranco created her twenty-third release almost entirely solo - right down to the handcrafted insert featuring her own poetry and paintings. She does all of the playing, singing, recording and mixing on *Educated Guess*. Her latest work of art is more honest, more down-to-earth (if you can imagine), than anything previously delivered by the self-

scribed "Little folksinger."

The ever-evolving musician fans have become so intimate with has blossomed once again, her compelling delivery of poetry a little more open each time. DiFranco has arrived.

She is assertive on political grounds, an all-powerful Amazon warrior who refuses to be treated as some sniveling girl.

With all her righteous rage, DiFranco delves as deep as the listener dares to go. With regard for all the women and men who came before us who have worked hard for equality, DiFranco salutes the feminist struggle in what is perhaps the most important track on this album - a track titled, "Grand Canyon."

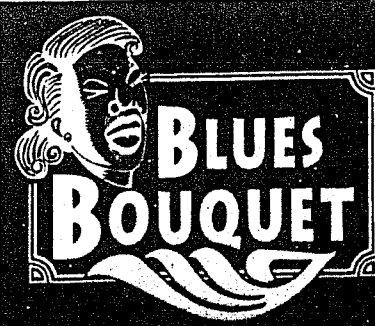
Listeners would be wise to raise a toast to feminism as DiFranco calls out, "coolest f-word ever deserves a fucking shout / I mean why can't all decent men and women call themselves feminists? / out of respect / for those who fought for this..."

Part of who she is as an artist means to write poetry and songs that reflect real life. She addresses the life of the streets, the life of nations, the lives of people coping with power or its absence, and looking for joy through the loneliness and complexities of human relationships. And she does so with two basic instruments, both of which are constants in the musician's ever-changing world: her trusty acoustic and her unique voice.

DiFranco recorded *Educated Guess* partly in New Orleans, La. and partly at home in Buffalo, N.Y. DiFranco has just finished restoring a long-neglected church in her hometown where she will relocate Righteous Babe's headquarters.

In addition to DiFranco's own prolific career, her indie label has produced several other artists, including Hammel on Trial, the opening act in her 2003 tour.

DiFranco's latest release *Educated Guess* is slated to appear on record store shelves Jan. 20.



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# Big Fish reels in the ratings

BY DAN MCNEESE  
A&E Writer  
The Arbitrator

Not knowing what a movie is about before viewing can be a good thing. Knowing too much often ruins the experience of the film, and knowing which actors and directors are associated with a film can lead to high expectations. In the case of *Big Fish*, I knew little, other than that Tim Burton directed it.

The opening credits revealed Mr. Pink himself, Steve Buschmi, to be among other major names in the cast. I usually go in to a movie with the intent of being a critic, and with Burtons' and Buschmis' resume in mind I automatically had high expectations.

If *The Movie Forrest Gump* started a new cinematic genre

of Southerners-lounging-around-reflecting-back-on-their-story-filled-lives, then *Big Fish* is a close follow up.

*Big Fish* stars ex-heroin addict/Jedi Ewan McGregor and my sophomore English teachers' double ganger, Albert Finny. Both play the roll of Dad, with McGregor as the younger adventurous lead, only betrayed in flashback. Finney is the older, dying/lying father conducting most of the flashbacks on his deathbed. The rest of the flashbacks are left up to the son, played by Billy Crudup and Marla Singer.

Director Tim Burton does not let up in his comic book/Goth style undertones that he has been known for in the past. With music by the ever-employed Danny Elfman, *Big Fish* maintains its enchanting rhythm.

Reminiscent of *Forrest Gump*, but separate in format, *Big Fish* is a movie recounting the fantasy-esque events in the main characters' life. As a frustrated son gets sick of hearing his father's lies, Dad boastfully explains to anyone who will listen about his adventures. Instead of historical situations that could have been real as in *Gump*, Burton does a great job of making the audience guess as to how tall of a tale the stories are.

With all reenactments done in flashback sequence - sans the wavy lines - a wonderfully written story is played out. So well, that it takes away from the predictable ending several times with semi-misleading foreshadowing. The absurdity of the stories becomes a bit much at times, but one is to remember that they're supposed

Quality of movie:  
★★★★  
How well I liked the movie:  
★★★★

to be farfetched. Weather Burton intended on this unclearity isn't known until the end, when it's least expected.

I had a very hard time finding things wrong with this film. With two cups of coffee before hand I had to pee the whole time. I watched the movie start to end (and 25 minutes of previews). I held it in because I was so intrigued by the story line, I didn't want to leave and miss what happened next. After a while the urged subsided and I forgot I had to go because I was so lost in the film. When it comes right down to it, that's what a movie is supposed to do, put the viewer into the movie. Even with the high expectations, I was truly impressed with *Big Fish*...If anything, because of Mr. Pink.

# Local musicians expand talent nationwide

BY DANAKA OLIVER  
A&E Writer  
The Arbitrator

I know its hard to believe, but the BOI (a.k.a. Boise) has its very own music production company in its midst. The entity that I refer to has actually been slowly moving up the ranks for about 10 years. A rap trio you may already know as Mad Ro runs Uthasyde Productions/Media. But did you know that they produce and record music for many local and national artists as well as provide graphic design for web sites? I didn't think so! Here is a run down of what's up with this creative crew.

The major players include Acturus and L.C., both in charge of the production and recording, and Hacim, the graphic design artist. All of

them are Boiseans and are extremely talented.

You can take a listen to some of their work on albums put out by Brokin Silence, Inferno and Sincere of 168 entertainment (featured last week). Other artists incorporate Uthasyde sounds, such as Pop Du Rilla out of New York, Gater of Seattle, and Nocturnal Rage, the house band for Premium Blend on Comedy Central hosted by D. L. Hugely. They even produced some cuts for D-Goddess (That's me. Shameless plug, I know). In addition, Uthasyde Productions is the main Production Company for Noc on Wood records out of Seattle. Seattle Rain Volume 3 is a mix CD that was recently released; watch for free copies of it on campus cuz you know I'm going to hook ya'll up!

Uthasyde has worked with legendary producers such as Philly Bluntz of the Bay area who produces E-40, as well as Daddy-O of Stetsasonic. For those of you that are into old school, you'll remember Stetsasonic as one of the first few rap groups out of New York around the time of the Sugar Hill Gang. These cats are doin' big thangs!

If you're interested in the graphic side of this group, you can check it out at [www.uthasyde.com](http://www.uthasyde.com). Hacim has done the Mad Ro album covers as well as mine, D-Goddess (plug #2), Manu J,

L.C.'s first release, and a whole lot more. Acturus has agreed to bless y'all with "the digits" for those of you who are in need of their services. Keep in mind though that these are some very busy men and make sure that you come proper or don't come at all!

Well that's it for now, but watch this spot for upcoming information on what you need to know to get into the music industry, including interviews with local studios and some bands with the major labels. Until then, keep it real.

Uthasyde Productions:  
1-877-515-0701.

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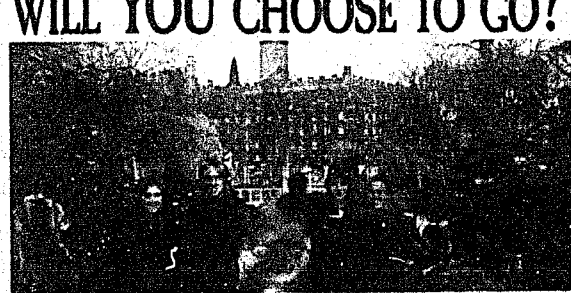
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## THE SIDEBAR



### Panthers-Patriots? No Problem

BY STEVE ZIPAY  
Newsday  
LA Times-Washington Post  
News Service

So the Cats and the Pats aren't exactly the Cowboys and 49ers of old. And Super Bowl XXXVIII doesn't have the star power of Peyton Manning or the old-school appeal of the Eagles, a matchup that TV executives would have preferred.

Instead, CBS, which is televising the Super Bowl on Feb. 1, has been handed the teams in the No. 6 U.S. TV market and the No. 51 market. Is CBS worried? Nah. In-game ads are more than 90 percent sold, as usual, and barring a blowout, the teams don't matter that much. The Super Bowl, in the words of CBS Sports President Sean McManus, "to a certain extent, is bulletproof."

He's right. The hype will kick in. It will still be the most watched program of the year, with about a 40 rating and 130 million people tuning in.

"If I had a choice between a really competitive, close game that went down to the last play with two smaller-market teams, or large-market teams in a blowout, I'd take the competitive and good game any day," McManus said.

Three years ago in Tampa, Fla., the last time CBS televised the game, the Baltimore Ravens blew out the New York Giants. The rating?

A 40.4. Although fans -- including this writer -- could do without the two-week wait for the game, McManus says that for CBS, the extra time is a luxury for planning the four-plus hours of pregame programming. It also opens the doors for NFL fans to catch up with the golf tours, the NBA, the NHL and college hoops.

Kudos to CBS and Fox for cutting back on the cablecams (CBS) and skycam (Fox) for live action during the AFC and NFC Championship Games. A week ago, the above and behind-the-QB angles were making me dizzy and, on some live shots, lost the ball. Memo to CBS: Please don't use the camera on long field goals in the Super Bowl. Limit it to replays for a different perspective.

On Sunday, Fox kept up quite well with the biggest story of the NFC title game: Donovan McNabb's painful rib injury. There were numerous close-ups of a grimacing McNabb on the field and a sideline shot of the quarterback, unable to raise himself from the bench, being helped up by teammates. And the replays of two Eagles -- wide receiver Todd Pinkston and running back Duce Staley -- changing pass routes that led to interceptions were underscored by scolding from Cris Collinsworth and Troy Aikman.

CBS' announcers weren't affected by the snowy weather in Foxboro, but the equipment was, causing several transmission problems in the AFC championship telecast. Example: With 2:26 left in regulation, CBS missed the start of the Colts' inside kick. CBS also was forced to use a high stadium shot, rendering a second-quarter kickoff microscopic.

Games -- college sports especially -- are running longer, stretching over allotted time. ESPN and the rest of the networks with potential overlaps need to build in more time.

# Sandmire sees silver lining in Broncos season opener, despite loss

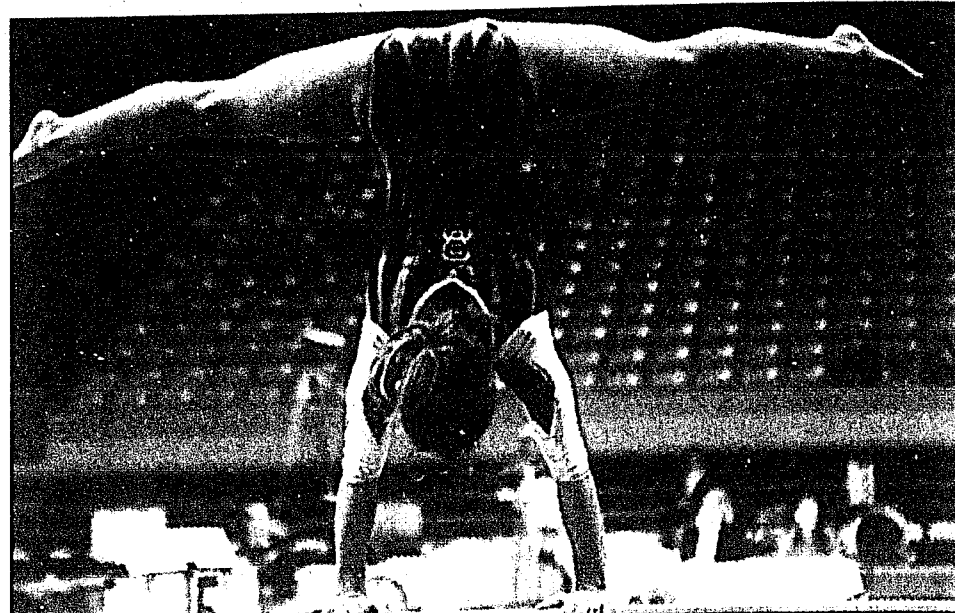
BY AMBER FUGER  
Sports Reporter  
The Arbiter

The Bronco gymnastics team lost the 2004 season opener Friday night but still managed to come out on top, with the second highest opening score since 2000. The BYU Cougars scored a strong 196.275 to beat the Broncos and win the Boise State-BYU dual. Bronco head coach Sam Sandmire isn't discouraged by the loss, and sees this loss as an opportunity to see where the team is and what they need to do to improve.

"Just about everyone stuck vault and we did very well on the floor routines," said Sandmire. Carla Chambers, a.k.a. "the stud," scored a 9.9 on vault to finish in first place for that event. Chambers scored a 9.825 on floor and was full on beam with only one error. "Chambers is well on her way to breaking the all-around school record" Sandmire said. Kea Cuaresma stepped it up for the Broncos scor-

ing a 9.9 on floor and a 9.825 on vault. Sandmire anticipates a break out season from Cuaresma, feeling confident that she will witness a perfect 10.0 vault score from her talented gymnast. Lindsey Thomas, the Broncos anchor on beam, finished with a 9.8 on her beam routine and a 9.7 on bar. Sandmire said Thomas' floor routine was beautiful and exciting. Heidi White, who just returned after having surgery on a torn ACL, only had one break in her bar routine scoring an 8.650. The Broncos counted three falls on beam losing a half of a point for each. Sandmire said that in practice the team will work on upgrading beam routines as well as putting pressure on hitting their bar routines with cleaner precision. "Improvement will come. And on the bright side, we've got those first meet jitters out of the way," said Sandmire.

The Broncos will travel to California Friday to compete against Cal-St. Fullerton. Sandmire will be choosing the Bronco traveling squad based on which gym-



ARBITER FILE PHOTO  
The Bronco gymnastics team might have lost the 2004 season opener, but coach Sandmire still looks for her squad to bounce back with a win- and more importantly, yet another conference title.

nasts step it up in practice, and those who stick their beam routine with no falls. Fullerton is the teams first road opponent, and Sandmire said she antici-

pates strong, clean, and precise performances from the Bronco traveling squad. "The team handled their first meet very well, and I am excited about their potential," said

Sandmire.

After working hard against the Fullerton squad, the Broncos can look forward to a well-deserved day off on the beaches in sunny California.



Brittany Biggs climbing on 'Equipose' route. Competed in intermediate class  
PHOTO BY AUDREY DESLER/THE ARBITER

Twelve and under female winners:  
1. Emily Filkins  
Twelve and under male winners:  
1. David Arnold

Beginner female winners:  
1. Chelsea Hutchinson  
2. Audrey Desler  
3. Kendra Greene  
Beginner Male winners:  
1. Jeremy Smith  
2. Mike Perterson  
3. Mitch Haralson

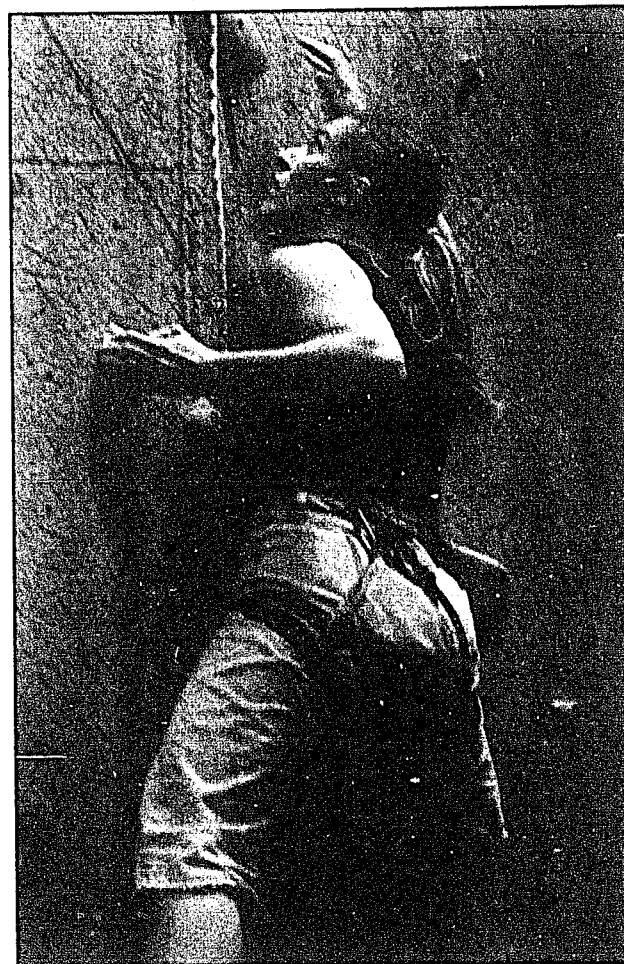
Intermediate female winners:  
1. Erin Bergery  
2. Gretchen Gast  
3. Brenda Carey  
Intermediate male winners:  
1. Garret Meuser  
2. Brad Hutchison  
3. Ian Dobie

Advanced female winner:  
1. Ali Andres  
Advanced male winners:  
1. Conrad Piper-Ruth  
2. Mike Rishel  
3. John Lavey

Tracy Wilson, 23, English & Communications major. Hometown: Boise  
"I think the wall is good, it's a great facility."  
Competed in Advanced category  
PHOTO BY EMILY DESLER/THE ARBITER

## 2004 BOISE STATE BUCK OFF CLIMBING COMPETITION

Carria Fife, 28, Attending the ISU Boise Center for her second degree in nursing. Her first competition. Competed in beginner category  
PHOTO BY EMILY DESLER/THE ARBITER



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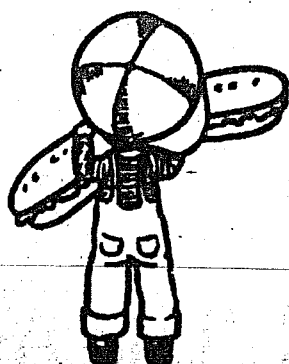
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## Doctors try to trace disease that killed Cal basketball player

BY MARTIN SNAPP  
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

BERKELEY, Calif. - The disease that killed University of California Berkeley basketball player Alisa Lewis on Monday probably is not a risk to those who had contact with her, but university health officials who don't know where or how she was exposed, aren't taking any chances.

As a precautionary measure, the antibiotic Cipro has been given to her boyfriend, teammates, coaches, roommates, family - even players on the Stanford squad, which Cal played Friday.

"She didn't play, but she shook hands with them after the game," said Dr. Peter Dietrich, medical director of University Health Services. "It seemed like the prudent thing to do."

That players may have been sweaty after the game contributed to the decision.

Lewis, a 20-year-old reserve forward, felt fine during the game. But over the weekend she experienced the sudden onset of what Dietrich called "classic symptoms of bacterial meningitis" - headache, skin rash, high fever, stiff neck and vomiting.

Her boyfriend took her to Kaiser Medical Center in Oakland, Calif., early Monday morning. She died a few hours later.

About five percent of the general population carries the bacterium without showing symptoms and will never get sick, said infectious diseases expert Dr. Arthur Reingold, chairman of epidemiology at University of California Berkeley's School of Public Health. But the carriers can spread it to others, usually by sneezing, coughing, kissing, or sharing cups and eating utensils.

Both doctors said the public has little to fear. "This bacterium can't last outside the body longer than two minutes," Reingold said. "It doesn't get spread by casual contact."

# The best in the west: BSU track runs circles around competition

BY TREVOR HORN  
Sports Reporter  
The Arbiter

Coming off an impressive performance at the Bandanna Invitational last weekend, the Bronco indoor track and field team will take part in the Western Indoor Classic Saturday at the Idaho Sports Center in Nampa, beginning at 10 a.m.

Boise State isn't wasting any time this season, jumping right in, taking on some top-notch schools in only the second weekend of regular season competition.

Stanford and the University of Arizona will be two of the top teams coming in, along with Northwest Nazarene University, Mt. San Antonio College, Idaho State University and CSLA.

The Bronco squad is coming off a very impressive outing, winning 12 events during the Bandanna Invitational.

Junior College transfer Mattias Jons set a Bronco record in the men's 35-pound weight throw. His record-breaking throw was an impressive 60' 11.25". Jons, a native of Sweden, broke a Bronco record that had previously held for three years.

Two-time WAC champion Abbey Ellsberry will be looking to post another stellar performance Saturday. Ellsberry, a Meridian native, helped the women's team to four victories, winning the 20-pound weight throw.

The other winners on the women's side were Miruna Mataoanu, who set an NCAA provisional qualifying mark of 5'-10", and Stacy Bolstad. Bolstad posted a time of 9.20 in the second heat of the 60-meter hurdles, and in the 4x400-meter relay, with a time of 3:52.75.

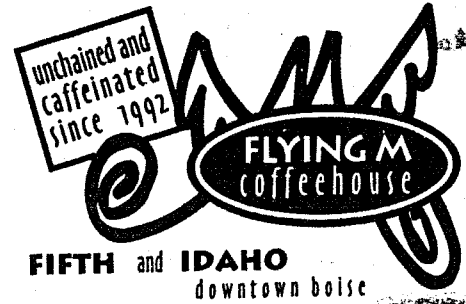
The Bronco men's team ran circles around the competition, posting eight wins,

along with the record setting performance by Jons. Antoine Echols came away as the only double winner last weekend, taking away the top spot in the 200 and 400-meter dashes.

However, the level of competition will be much stronger this weekend, as Stanford, and head coach Robert Weir come to town. Last month Weir was invited to be a coach on the U.S. team for the 2005 World Outdoor Championships in Helsinki, Finland.

Arizona's team will be seeing their first action this season, but their pole-vaulting team did travel to Reno two weeks ago to compete in the Northwest Pole Vault Summit.

The Bronco squad will look to improve their times in the familiarity of the Idaho Sports Center, while showing that they indeed belong with the best in the west.



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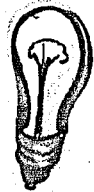
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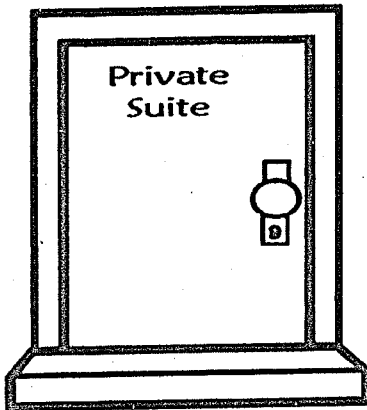
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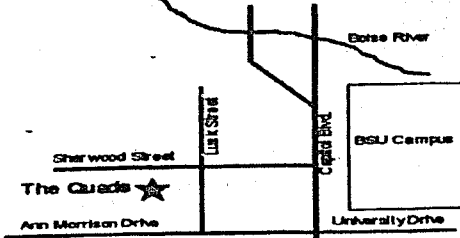
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**The Arbiter**







**ANDY BENSON**  
Editor-in-Chief  
345-8204 ext. 105  
editor@arbiteronline.com

# OPINION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2004

PAGE 8

## Bush's salvo from the right

LOS ANGELES TIMES

It's an election year: For an incumbent president, that usually means a shift to the middle of the political spectrum. Bill Clinton, running for re-election in 1996, edged rightward with his declaration that the era of big government was over. But Bush broke those expectations Tuesday. He brought forth an unapologetic conservatism. From his defiant defense of the invasion and occupation of Iraq to his unabashed push for tax cuts that create billions of dollars in deficits, Bush was unswerving.

His real accomplishment was a persuasive delivery of a good speech that sent a steady message: "I'm the boss. I'm unafraid to do what needs doing. Stick with me." And the less a listener let the facts get in the way, the more effective the speech became.

On Iraq, he focused on the removal of Saddam Hussein, which of course drew heavy applause -- but he didn't mention that U.S. weapons inspection teams have failed to find nuclear, chemical or biological weapons; their imminent threat was sold as a major reason for going to war. In last year's State of the Union speech, Bush said U.S. intelligence estimated that Saddam had materials to produce "as much as 500 tons of sarin, mustard and VX nerve agent" and had "upwards of 30,000 munitions capable of delivering chemical agents."

"We will never seek a permission slip to defend the security of our country," Bush said Tuesday. Again, a powerful line -- but America never has and never should ask permission to defend itself. The question was whether a preemptive strike in Iraq was the best way for the United States to defend itself.

Beyond its constitutional requirement, Bush's State of the Union speech was the unofficial kickoff of his re-election campaign. He returned to the theme of "compassionate conservatism" that he sounded in his 2000 campaign -- only this time, he redefined it. In 2000, it meant pushing for education reforms to aid poor children. In 2004, it means more than good schools, it also means elevating the imagined threat of gay marriage to a priority worthy of a specific mention in the president's annual address, then quickly adding that everyone has "dignity and value" -- code for: Gays are people too.

How unfortunate that gang wars in urban centers or the crushing financial burdens being felt by state and local governments in fighting the war on terrorism went unmentioned in Bush's speech and thus were seen by the president as less critical to the national well-being.

There were recommendations on education, health care and prisons worth further discussion. But those issues weren't the point of Tuesday's speech. As Bush and his advisers recognize, the unexpected win by Sen. John F. Kerry in the Iowa caucuses may well portend a protracted battle among the Democratic candidates that will produce not only a seasoned contender but also a clearer, more persuasive opposition than exists now.

Bush's address was the start of what should be the most serious, substantive debate over domestic and foreign policy in 20 years. Bush offered himself as the president who slays terrorism, kills taxes and saves traditional values. While the facts of the matter may get in the way, it's a smart strategy for re-election.

This editorial appeared in Wednesday's Los Angeles Times:

### This Island, Idaho

By M. Flinn



## Students take back seat when it comes to parking

"Looking on the web page of the Parking Department under reservations you will find it costs the BAA about \$150 dollars to reserve the Stadium lot. It is disappointing to see Boise State sell out the students for such a small dollar amount."

BY JAMES SKAGGS  
Special to The Arbiter

Students often complain about the parking situation, which continually gets worse as Boise State's enrollment climbs. However I don't see the students protesting in masses or drafting petitions seeking any type of change. The students let out a collective sigh every time the price of permits increases, but I wonder where the students were during the decision process.

A group of students has formed the Campus Parking Alliance and are working on becoming an officially recognized club. I was elected by the current members to be president and work on improving the current situations.

I have a couple of questions, which should be asked by students. Why does the Parking Department charge a special rate for the garage permit when they built the structure on top of general permit spaces? Why does the Bronco Athletic Association get a standing invitation on just about every parking lot east of the Administration lot during the football season?

The second question is the first problem the club address. I don't see the logic in selling resident parking permits to students and tell them they have a reserved lot in front of Chaffee Hall, except for the days the Parking Department decides to have them moved in order to cater to large events like football.

Looking on the web page of the Parking Department under reservations you will find it costs the BAA about \$150 dollars to reserve the Stadium lot. It is disappointing to see Boise State sell out the students for such a small dollar amount. This fee covers an area where the resident students of Driscoll, Morrison, and Chaffee Hall park their vehicles.

During a game the spaces allotted to the dorm parking is cut in half forcing the residents to play musical parking spaces. Those who don't find a space are forced to take their vehicle as far away as the administration parking lot.

When you compare the difference in sources of revenue for the Parking Department it breaks down with seven home games next year bringing in \$1050 for the use of those resident parking spots.

According to Director of Parking Jared Everett, earlier in the fall semester the department had sold 379 permits for a lot, which only has 351 spaces. 100 of those spaces are currently being used for the construction of the new dorms leaving only 251 spaces for the 379 cars that have permission to park in them.

About 100 cars are forced to move so the BAA can use part of the residents parking for each home game. The permits for those 100 cars brings in \$6,900 in revenue for the Parking Department, which is over six times the amount the BAA brings to the picture.

The students need to rally and join the Campus Parking Club and challenge the BAA for their territory. This year the BAA was able to handle the games without those 100 spaces being used by the construction crew. I say if the students rally we can get those 100 spaces added for resident use on game day.

If students join the Campus Parking and we are able to gain support, than we can make recommendations to the parking advisory board to have a few rules changed which would make students first priority - not second-class.

Skaggs is president of Campus Parking Alliance and student lobbyist for ASBSU

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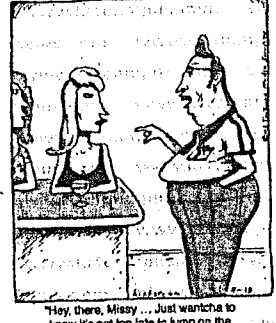
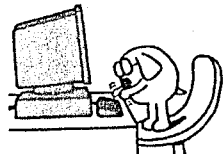
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Crossword

- ACROSS 1 Valley 5 Post-game summary 10 Kuwaiti leader 14 Had on 15 Make joyful 16 Creeper 17 Stocking shade 18 Discover by chance 19 Icelandic saga 20 16th-century astrologer 23 Performed 24 Art stand 25 Slo-mo event 27 Down for punting 30 Lover of Eros 32 Arbor, MI 33 List-ending wds. 35 Like a fork 38 Shore 41 Put into shackles 43 Recorded 44 Take the bus 46 Adult males 47 Spinal-column support 49 Blood conduit 52 Pocketbooks 54 Playful mammal 56 Ike's WWII command 57 Differentiate 62 Opera star 64 Earth model 65 NYC area 66 Suit toppers 67 Backs of necks 68 Gemini half 69 Fellas 70 Reverses a deletion 71 Tug violently DOWN 1 Dancer Verdon 2 Plumb crazy 3 Goofs up 4 Neither active nor passive 5 Went over again 6 Slur over 7 Indian bean tree 8 Particle 9 Extreme poverty 10 Adam's mate 11 Alva or Delano, e.g. 12 "Gunga Din" setting 13 Prepared for action 21 Word before or after pack 22 Offshoot groups 26 Comic Silvers 27 Observe Ramadan 28 SSS classification 29 Lacking sanction 31 Coaster 34 Actress Garr 36 At any time 37 Contradict 39 Views 40 Loafed 42 Apple-pie order 45 Form of a chemical element 48 Churchillian gestures 50 Exec. order 51 Reliable 52 Plano piece? 53 New York city 55 Land of lamas 58 Blind strip 59 State of two of the Quad Cities 60 Front of the calf 81 Hit the horn 83 Pom-pouf-puff

Crossword grid with numbers 1-71 indicating starting positions for across and down words.

Solutions

Grid of solutions for the crossword puzzle.

HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (Jan. 22). You'll have to endure a lot of stress this year, but it will cause you to become more decisive and more determined to succeed. You'll win in the end. But don't take on this challenge alone. Get help from a creative team.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today is an 8 - You and your friends completely understand each other now. Make plans and schemes and lists of what you want to accomplish. You're hot.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7 - This time, you'd do best to use a roundabout route to reach your goals. The gate you want to go through is being guarded by a big monster. Soften him or her up first.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is an 8 - You're full of vim and vigor. That's good, but the path ahead isn't clear. Be careful not to hurt a sensitive person's feelings. And don't talk too much.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 7 - Paperwork may not be your favorite way to spend your time, but the more of it you untangle now, the better off you'll be. Think of it as a game.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 7 - You may be tucked out by now, but that's nothing to be ashamed of. Hand over the reins to an expert, and let him or her care for you for a while.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7 - Your focus should be entirely on the job in front of you, and on the other work you'll get from that. Don't waste any time.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8 - This could be a remarkable day. The topic is falling in love. You could do it many times, in many ways, even with some folks you don't like. This is good.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 6 - Focus on a household project. Let your family's needs take priority. Do it for them, and you'll be doing it for yourself, too.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8 - Let your boss and your financial advisor tell you what to study next. They'll have a broader perspective on what's going to be profitable and what won't be.

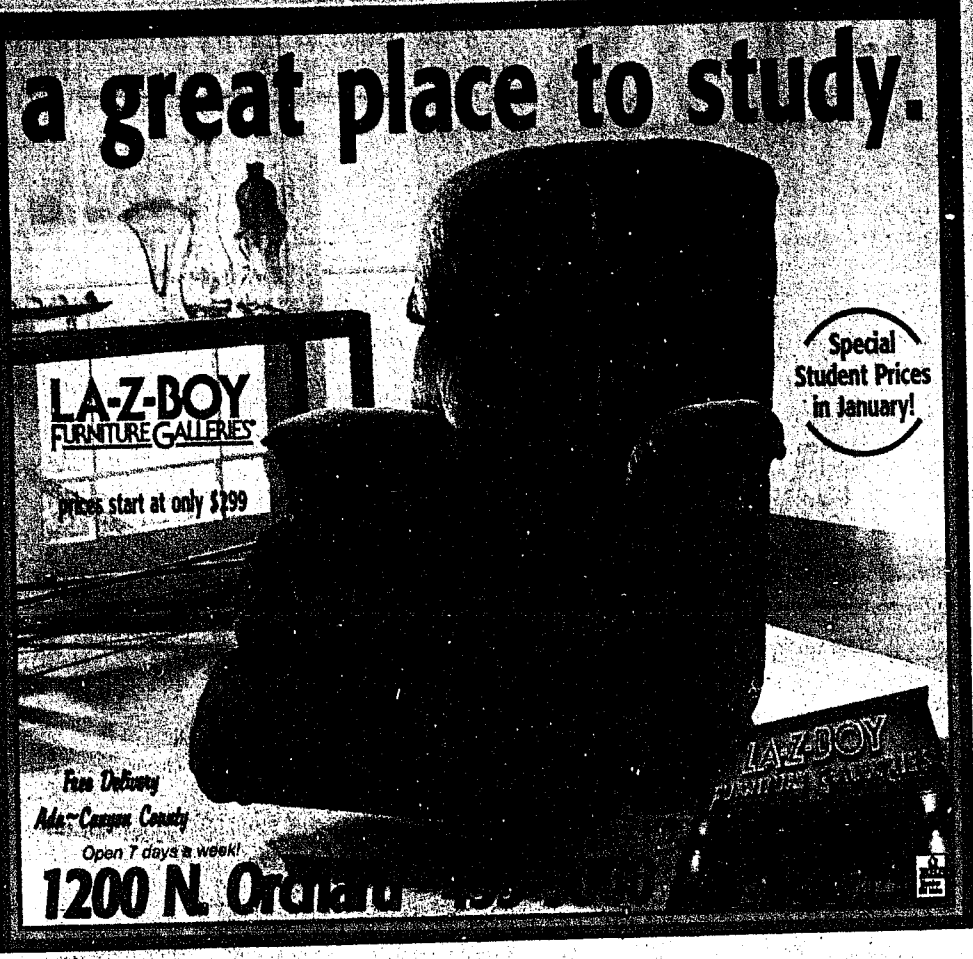
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 6 - Valuables could pour into your coffers through no extra work of your own. Graciously accept the paycheck you have coming.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8 - Remember your habit of thinking things over. Don't be too impetuous. You're getting a lot of attention now. Don't let it go to your head.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 6 - Hide out in your room and do paperwork. Get that stack of stuff whittled down. Your subconscious is trying to send you a message. It's hidden in there.

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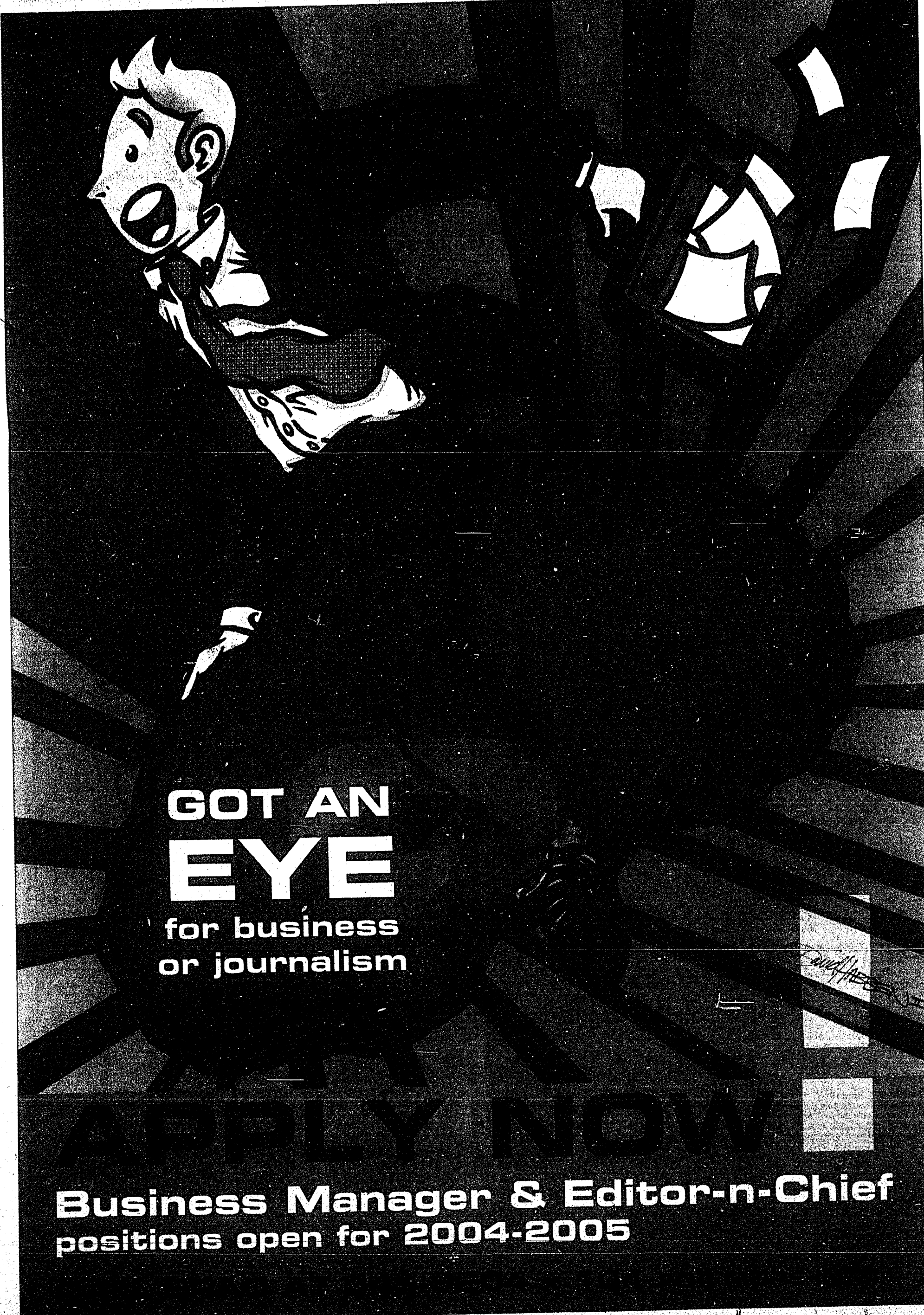
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