

2-23-2004

Arbiter, February 23

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

MONDAY
FEBRUARY 23, 2004

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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 43 44

Report offers new details

Investigation by sheriff's office provides professor's account of sexual assault

BY ANDY BENSON
Editor-in-Chief

An Ada County Sheriff's report investigating the sexual assault charge stemming from a band trip has provided additional details into allegations that a Boise State professor attempted to cover up the incident.

The supplemental report, redacted to avoid disclosing the identities of the professor and the female student who reported the incident, made statements provided to investigators by the professor public. The professor answered charges of attempting to bribe a witness and offered a defense of the incident involving Eric Turner, the student responsible for the incident. The faculty member characterized the incident as "illegal touching."

The investigation stemmed from a complaint that Turner used the hand of a female student to masturbate himself on the return trip back to Boise after a performance at the Rose Parade Jan. 1.

The music professor stated that he considered Turner one of the most "jovial, dedicated young men" he has worked with and a "big teddy bear," who probably never had a girlfriend. In addition, he said he believed Turner's account of the incident. Turner stated he was asleep at the time of the incident and didn't realize what was happening. When the professor was asked if he thought Turner could have grabbed the student's hand, put it on his penis and masturbated in his sleep, he said he thought it was possible due to emotions running "rampant at that age," and that it was conceivable for such an event to take place in a "semi-conscious state of affairs."

The female student told in-

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Kerry organizer hits BSU campus

BY ANDY BENSON
Editor-in-Chief



Mike Rossi

Mike Rossi, field coordinator for the John Kerry presidential campaign, arrived at Boise State Feb. 6 with the goal of organizing students in support of Kerry's bid for president. In addition, Rossi hopes to generate a large turnout in support of Kerry for the Ada County Caucus tonight in the Jordan Ballroom.

"Our goal is to have a great showing for John Kerry in the caucus, and to help the Democratic Party here build up their base," Rossi said.

Rossi, age 27, is a relative neophyte to politics. He worked as a commodities trader for a Fortune 100 food company in the Midwest until the economic downturn forced a change of plans.

"A little over a year ago, I was downsized and I decided to travel and immerse myself in a Spanish language course in Buenos Aires, Argentina," Rossi said.

While in Argentina, the war in Iraq broke out, offering Rossi insight into how America's newfound unilateralism and muscular foreign policy was perceived by other countries.

"Public opinion in much of the rest of the world doubted

SEE ROSSI page 2

Possible decrease in ASBSU matching funds for clubs

BY KYLE GORHAM
News Reporter

Talk has been circulating around campus about informal suggestions within the Financial Advisory Board to decrease the maximum amount of money ASBSU matches the university's clubs and organizations from \$3,000 to \$2,000.

This could seem peculiar given the fact that ASBSU was granted a student fee increase used to help the funding of clubs-the logic in student government appears to be backwards. So what is going on?

ASBSU Senator Robert Green said even though ASBSU was granted an increase, it will take some time for them to see the money in the account. He said there is a process after a fee increase that could cause delay in getting the money. This has sparked concern among some of

SEE ASBSU page 2

Cultural Center celebrates new digs

BY BETHANY MAILLE
News Reporter

Students, faculty and staff of all nationalities gathered to celebrate the Cultural Center's grand opening, Friday, Feb. 20.

Peg Blake, vice president of student affairs, conducted the ceremony and underlined the importance of understanding different cultures represented on campus. "Finally we have a dream come true," Blake said. "It will quickly become a place where people walk in and feel comfortable. [We are] learning to better live in this multi-cultural world we're a part of." Blake encouraged all students to come to the center to eat lunch, socialize, and understand different cultures.

Cultural Center representatives did the honor of cutting the ribbon and the festivities extended for several hours. All afternoon and into the evening, differences among cultures were celebrated with food, music, door prizes and raffles.

The opening of the new center, a goal set five years ago, hosted a large crowd of children, parents, students and staff as Blake dedicated the new facility. A large, Mexican-style mural hung behind Blake reading, "This painting is dedicated to all the former, current and future members of OELA."

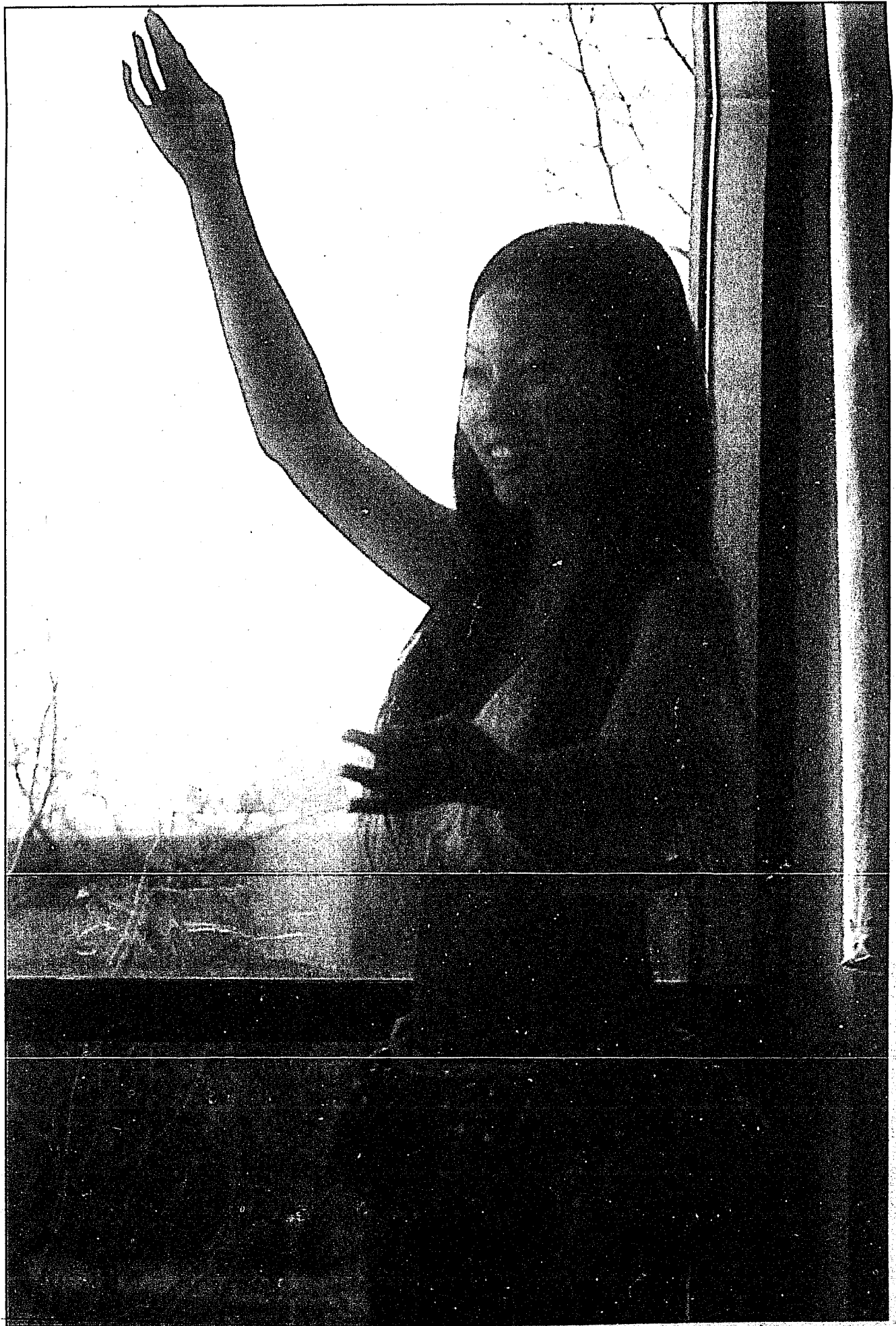
The new facility is located in the upper level of the Student Union Building above the ASBSU offices and the Student Involvement Center.



Above: Electrical engineering student from Hong Kong Chong Chow, 21, enjoys the festivities and food at the grand opening of the new Cultural Center with sophomore Rebecca Ames, 18, international relations major.

PHOTOS BY EMILY DESLER/THE ARBITER

Below: Pro-med student Rosanna Sablan dances the hoola during the opening ceremonies of the new Cultural Center. Sablan is the vice president of the hoola troop Hulo-aloaha.



9th Annual 'Women With Bait' Tournament

BY MICHELLE SELLS
Outdoor Columnist

Riggins, ID is known for three things: rodeo, hunting and fishing. According to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, spring steelhead season runs from Jan. 1 through Apr. 30 (with some exceptions). It is during these four months that Riggins becomes a magnet for the diehard fishermen of the world, myself included.

Tucked into the deep canyons where the Salmon and Little Salmon Rivers converge, the city of Riggins is in a unique geographic position to accommodate steelhead fisherman. The elevation of approximately 1,800 feet produces a slightly milder climate than the area surrounding the town itself. It is the combination of the climate and river convergence that make for excellent fishing.

The month of February has been designated "Women with Bait" by the River Adventures Ltd. crew. For the last nine years, this company has held a unique all-women's steelhead tournament, now the largest of its kind. River Adventures owner Sam Whitten originally thought that women might enjoy a break from the home/family scene and opt for a day of sport fishing. It has been an outrageous success. At the tournament's inception, six women competed. This year, the number had grown to over 350 participants.

Included in the tournament is a captain/guide to operate the Coast Guard approved jet boats and find the good holes,

a baitboy/deckhand to assist the ladies, and all the gear necessary to fish. All a lady needs to bring is a fishing license/steelhead permit and a lunch. No experience is necessary and these ladies have a great time.

As the contest grows in size and popularity, so do the prizes and recognition. This year the grand prize (for most fish caught) is a 1993 Subaru Legacy, sponsored by Oasis Auto. The participant that catches their largest fish will get their catch professionally stuffed and mounted. And, each contestant goes home with a T-shirt and hat.

Steelhead fishing can be tricky business. These fish lay low in holes or troughs saving energy for their next upstream run. You can often fish one hole all day, waiting for the fish to make their next run, with no luck. This is a patience game, and it often takes more than twenty hours of fishing before you catch a steelhead.

There are three basic methods for catching and landing steelhead. Almost every veteran relies on some variation of these methods.

To begin, flies need to be weighted so that they sink to the bottom of the hole and red, yellow, pink, black or orange are the traditional color preference. Some experts also bait their hook with a worm or other tasty treat.

Second, is the bobber-and-jig-combo or just-jig-choice. Some folks prefer to place a bobber on their line to keep the jig from getting caught in the bottom debris. If you do use

a bobber, position it so that it keeps your jig about six inches from the bottom. On the other hand some fishermen, knowing that the fish tend to "hug" the bottom of the hole prefer to cast into the current and allow the jig to float along the bottom and risk the snags. Regardless of your choice, jigs should also be within the traditional colors named above.

Finally, eggs and sinkers: roe or steelhead eggs are another popular option. Place the roe into a little red mesh package and tie it to the hook. Position a weight about a foot and a half up the line up the line so that the roe will float just off the bottom.

While fishing for steelhead is a challenging sport, it is also fun that anyone can handle, if you can muster enough patience. A three day, non-resident fishing license/steelhead permit is \$28.50. Resident fishing permits are \$23.50 and a steelhead tag is \$11.50.

One last word of caution: for every IDFG rule there are exceptions and it is important that you check them out before fishing. If you have questions, do not hesitate to visit or call your local Fish and Game office - I am sure that you will come to appreciate their expertise.

Important Contacts:

Riggins Chamber of Commerce 1-208-628-3441
River Adventures Ltd. 1-208-628-3952 or www.riveradventuresrestltd.com
Idaho Department of Fish and Game Headquarter 334-3700

ASBSU

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the members of the Financial Advisory Board (FAB). He said a lot of senators believe there won't be enough money in the budget next year. Green said these concerns have led some members to believe a cap of \$2,000 is needed to meet the budget. He also stressed the cap is unofficial, FAB has not reached consensus on the issue yet. However, the senators on the board do not have the final say.

"It's really important that student organizations and everyone understands that all FAB does is make recommendations, they do not get to decide," he said.

"Just because FAB said one thing, that's not the end of the story for them (student organizations)."

The board submits recommendations on the amount allocated for clubs to next year's president and vice president. It is up to the president to draft the budget - including the amount doled out to clubs - and it must also be approved in the senate.

Another factor behind the informal recommendation is the ASBSU's weakened con-

tingency fund. Student government is constitutionally required to keep 10 percent of the budget in a savings account - the contingency fund. Green said over several years ASBSU has been using money out of the account to keep the amount of funding for clubs constant. Additionally, he said each year new clubs and organizations require new funding. The problem, he said, is the contingency fund has got down to the point where they can no longer take any money out.

"That's what we dealt with this year, we knew in next year's budget the money wasn't going to be there to do that again," Green said.

He said some members on FAB are still working under a "fiscally conservative" mindset, which has influenced the idea of a decreased cap. However, Green is confident the increased fee money and possible cuts in other spending will prevent clubs from seeing decreased funding.

ASBSU Chief of Staff Jerilyn Grow said senators are having a hard time coming to an agreement on the issue. She said the problem stems from mixed feelings on the board about decreasing club funding - some feel the cut is needed, others don't.

"The problem is trying to anticipate what the amount of money is going to be, and how we are going to fairly divvy that money up," she said.

But FAB and ASBSU are working to smooth things out. Grow said it's possible they might have to re-examine some of the clubs. Grow said she has been working to try and get the senators to come to an agreement, however, she is not a voting member. Nonetheless, she remains confident.

"I think the senators will work it out," she said.

On the executive side, ASBSU Vice President Jim Wolfe said he doesn't think the dropping the maximum cap is necessary. With the fee increase, he said, student government will be able to give the clubs what they need. Wolfe said if FAB recommends decreasing club funding, next year's president would probably not follow it. He said most people who run for president do so on the fact that club funding will not be cut.

"I think in the end everything will be okay, because once the president is elected I think the clubs will get what they deserve," Wolfe commented.

Week highlights eating disorder awareness

BY GRETA KRANZ
News Editor

Monday, Feb. 23 is the start of National Eating Disorder Awareness Week as well as Boise State's own "Every Body is Beautiful" week, an on-campus event organized by Health Wellness Counseling Services. The week serves as a reminder that while the existence of eating disorders like anorexia and bulimia nervosa may not be news itself, it is important to remember that these are only two examples of a whole host of eating disorders, many of which are just as common and dangerous as their more famous counterparts.

As with all mental diseases, eating disorders are defined using criteria from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition (DSM-IV), which is used by

health professionals to ensure consistency in diagnosis.

And, in addition to anorexia and bulimia, the DSM-IV lists "Eating Disorder Not Otherwise Specified" as a diagnosable food disorder, citing that "The Eating Disorder Not Otherwise Specified category is for disorders of eating that do not meet the criteria for any specific eating disorder." An excerpt of included examples includes criteria involving, "The regular use of inappropriate compensatory behavior by an individual of normal body weight after eating small amounts of food (e.g., self-induced vomiting after the consumption of 2 cookies)." Or, "repeatedly chewing and spitting out, but not swallowing, large amounts of food." As well as, "binge eating disorder, recurrent episodes of binge eating in the absence of the regular use of inappro-

appropriate compensatory behaviors characteristic of Bulimia Nervosa." The inclusion of these examples is not intended for self-diagnosis, but rather to illustrate that the scope of eating disorders is very much beyond simple starvation or binge-and-purge tactics.

The treatment for eating disorders varies, obviously, from individual to individual but the most effective treatment plan often includes coordinating care between a physician, nutritionist/dietician, and a therapist.

For their part, Counseling Services will be hosting a number of events body image, healthy dieting and eating disorders. A complete listing of events can be obtained at www.boisestate.edu/healthservices

Rossi

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the administration's motives," Rossi said. "I grew tired of defending myself for being an American and I wanted to restore our national standing around the world."

After returning from South America, Rossi spent time

in Des Moines, Iowa visiting friends. During the day while his friends worked, Rossi began his new role as political activist in October by volunteering his time at Kerry's campaign office in downtown Des Moines. Rossi said he thinks political participation is vital this year.

"This is an important election year," Rossi said. "Whether you agree with the incumbent or want to see a change, you should be getting involved."

Rossi said he looks forward to the challenge of organizing a Democrat movement in Idaho, one of the most conservative states in the Union.

"I have been to Idaho in the past for business, and have enjoyed it," Rossi said. "I think the challenges here lie in supporting the Democrat Party by spreading our message to some of the constituency groups that are traditionally Democratic."

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

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STUDENT ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION

ACLU attorney to speak on same-sex marriage rights

BY MONICA PRICE
News Reporter

Tamara Lange, an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, will speak Monday, Feb. 23 in the SUB's Jordan D Ballroom at 7:30 p.m. on the topic of same-sex marriage.

Lange, who has been working both in Nebraska and San Francisco to fight for gay marriage rights, will be giving a speech, entitled "Live and Let Marry," and will address the recent national events surrounding this topic. According to Idaho ACLU Executive Director Jack Van Valkenburgh, Lange's timing is no coincidence. Instead, her visit is a direct response to House Joint Resolution No. 9, the bill introduced by Rep. Henry Kulczyk (R-Dist 21) that adopts a ban on gay marriage into the state constitution.

Kulczyk has already conceded that HJR9 will not change Idaho law; rather, he views it as an "insurance policy" against future litigation.

The ACLU views it differently.

"Constitutional amendments - like Nebraska's and the one proposed in Idaho - discriminate against gay people by taking them out of the political process.

"The fact is, we have no plans to litigate against Idaho's so called 'Defense of Marriage' statute that bans gay marriages. But litigation...is much more likely against Idaho's anti-gay constitutional amendment," Van Valkenburgh said.

The issue of gay marriage is fueling debate across the nation. And, with no end to the controversy in sight, it could be a hot topic in the upcoming presidential election.

A handful of Boise-based organizations are sponsoring Lange's speech. Two campus organizations, the Idaho Progressive Student Alliance and BGLAD, are among the supporters.

"We support people...all types of people," said Lea Sweat, president of the Idaho

Progressive Student Alliance. "We want justice for all and the anti-gay amendment is unjust and discriminatory. This is an unnecessary amendment to the constitution," said Sweat.

The Idaho Progressive Student Alliance is an issue-based organization and it is for that reason that they want to engage people in discussion. "We hope to bring some light to the issue," said Sweat. "Live and Let Marry" is a perfect opportunity for people to participate in discussion of gay marriage.

Jessi Strong, president of BGLAD said, "We are sponsoring her speech because we believe she is a very prominent force in fighting anti-gay legislation." Strong added that it is hoped people would listen to Lange and come away with questions about the status quo.

The Idaho ACLU will be hosting a pre-event reception for Lange from 5-7 p.m. For additional information contact 344-9750 ext. 201.

Report

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Investigators that the professor informed her that the incident could have possibly occurred if the faculty member had been sitting next to her that night. When questioned about that comment, the music professor acknowledged that he had made the statement, explaining that such events are an "emotional thing." The professor added his opinion that,

when a male is "tired and fatigued and everything else, you might lose control of your system, that you weren't really sure of what you were doing."

The professor was also questioned about the allegation he attempted to bribe the female student by offering money to pay for a date. He admitted that he pulled out a \$50 or \$100 bill and gave it to Turner, telling the students to have a nice time and try to work things out. However, the faculty member denied any attempt to cover up the incident, stating that he knew students don't have

much money and that he always gives money to his students.

The investigator concluded the interview by informing the professor that the charges probably wouldn't result in criminal charges, but that the incident would be forwarded on the Ada County Prosecutor's Office. The prosecutor declined to press charges after reviewing the evidence. Turner, who no longer attends Boise State, will face a jury trial regarding the charge of misdemeanor battery in late March.

LEGAL COLUMN

Submit your legal questions to dreed@boisestate.edu

Admiralty Law

DR. DECATEUR REED
Legal Columnist

Jim is an avid sailor and likes to take his 26 foot ketch on long sails along the Pacific coast. He has been dreaming of taking one of his girlfriends with him on a summer sail down to South America where he believes he can secure some medicinal herbs from the rainforests. As summer approaches he decides to ask Marie to go with him because she's loves to sail as much as he does, and, always looking to maximize his benefit in any decision he makes, she looks great in a swim suit, too. Preparations are made and the two leave port flying the United States flag from the aft pole. They dock on the coast of Tumaco, Columbia and begin the trek into the rainforest. After gathering the plants they want, Jim and Marie begin sailing back to the United States, but are stopped by the Colombian naval police. The rainforest materials are confiscated and they are charged with illegal gathering and possession of endangered plant materials. Jim and Marie desperately want to know more about admiralty law and have contacted Dr. Reed for an overview.

Initially, admiralty or maritime law developed and functioned separately from

courts of law and equity. When Congress enacted the Judiciary Act of 1789, it gave exclusive jurisdiction to the federal courts to hear all maritime issues. Article III, § 2 of the U.S. Constitution also granted maritime jurisdiction to the federal courts. In 1938, the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure placed law and equity under the same jurisdiction for most courts, but it wasn't until 1966 that this applied to admiralty courts. The Supplemental Admiralty Rules take precedence over the Federal Rules whenever the two are in conflict and the common law is used as persuasive evidence only (it's not binding on the court). The courts that hear maritime issues hear only maritime issues and nothing else, so they are called courts of limited jurisdiction.

Admiralty law applies to any navigable waters and addresses waterway issues of shipping, navigation, commerce, seamen, towage, wharves, piers, docks, canals, recreation, and piracy. Today, authority to hear maritime issues remain the exclusive jurisdiction of the federal courts with two exceptions. First, state courts may have limited jurisdiction when the issue is overwhelmingly local and, second, state courts may have concurrent jurisdiction so

that non-maritime remedies remain available.

Though there is a lack of uniformity in maritime law worldwide, international law has made a notable attempt at uniformity. Under international admiralty law, the flag a watercraft is flying will determine the source of the law to be applied to the craft, cargo, crew, and passengers. The only requirement is that there must be "more than insubstantial contact" between the watercraft and the flag being flown in order for the law of the country's flag to apply. This is known as legitimacy of color. U.S. federal courts have the authority to refuse to hear a maritime issue if the court is required to apply the law of a foreign country.

Jim's sailboat was legitimately flying the U.S. flag and has legitimacy of color. As such, Jim and Marie will likely be tried in a Colombian court, but under the admiralty laws of the U.S.

This article is intended as a general review of various legal issues. It should not be relied upon as a substitute for comprehensive legal advice. The information contained in this article is strictly the opinion of the author and not necessarily the formal position of Boise State University or The Arbiter.

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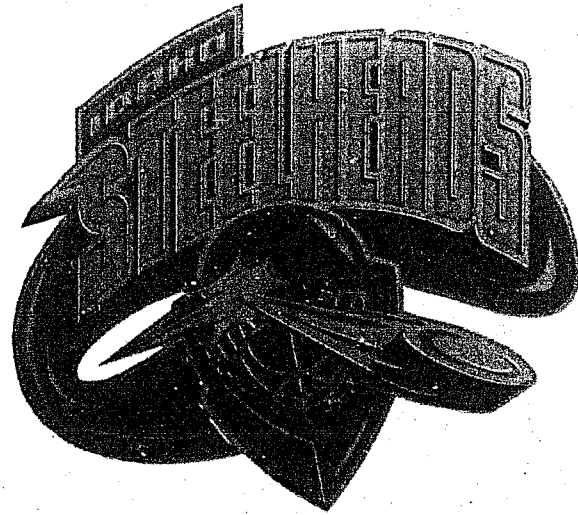
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This Island, Idaho

By M. Flinn



Idaho Democrats need a new game plan



BY AUBREY SALAZAR
Columnist

Recently, our state legislators have been conjuring up some interesting and divisive policies. The assault on Idaho's business owners through the public smoking initiative and the even more hurtful legislation concerning gay marriages and common law couples has been difficult to swallow. There are seven Democrats in the Idaho Senate, compared to 28 Republicans, and only 16 Democrats in the House, among 54 Republicans. Both initiatives, which were proposed by the conservative right, have passed easily through the first stage, and have some wondering what is next. Lines are being drawn in the sand and liberals everywhere are wondering where their advocates are.

What is worse than a conservative Republican to me is a conservative Democrat, one who wants to help people, but only certain segments of the community, like white people, or straight people, or those upper-middle class people who call themselves liberals must have carte blanche to smoke a joint once in awhile and complain of being marginalized. Democrats in the legislature need a new plan of action, because their current one is certainly not working.

Football legend Vince Lombardi once said, "The best defense is a good offense." The state's Republicans have token Democrats up against a wall with this garbage they call legislation. Maybe the Democrats need to be doing the same. How about introducing a bill to legalize marijuana, legislate public nudity, or strike the word "God" from our constitution? The more unexpected and defeatable, the better. The reasoning is twofold. For one, the media is a powerful administrative tool Democrats should learn to manipulate, and the other reason is the fact that rocking the boat is not going to make it sink any faster.

Liberal Democrats are tired of waking up to

headlines that scream intolerance, like "House ok's gay marriage ban amendment" or having to passively recognize 'Ronald Reagan Day,' or watch Idaho Republicans urge the President to withdraw the U.S. from the United Nations.

In discussing my frustration with this year's legislative session, my friend in opposition replied, "I think you are confusing a politician with an activist." After I stopped laughing, I told her that the only difference between the two in my mind was that politicians have more money and resources with which to champion their causes. Our elected officials are our activists. If our Democratic legislators are slipping into a deep depression over this successful right-wing smack down we are observing, then they should remember that there is not enough Prozac in the state right now to cure their constituents.

Idaho Democrats need to stop moping around the Statehouse, and wallowing in the self pity they've become accustomed to. Stop the chit-chat at these pathetic fundraising opportunities, and disseminate information on important issues, put down the canned soda and cocktail weenie, and rally the troops. I recommend setting some goals with their administrative assistants, interns, and supporters. Try using the more than 160 student organizations at Boise State to sponsor causes, chances are there is at least one that cares about their legislation. Get the ACLU, the Human Rights Commission, the Snake River Alliance, or Women of Color Alliance to stage an ideological coup. This is the legislative Olympics, and Democrats are not running any victory laps, in fact, they are not even placing.

Idaho Republicans are overly confident at this point which is evident from the nonsense they are successfully passing through the legislature. They are scrounging for conservative refuse to call an issue. Republicans have been numbed by the outcries of Democrats on the legislative floor, they are immune to the familiar strategies, their eyes roll back into their head when Democrats argue their principles, and they only gain consciousness long enough to snicker.

Word to the Idaho Democratic Party officials: If you are ineffective, if you cannot sustain results on the issues that are deeply affecting Idahoans, then you must evolve or move aside. In response to the latter, Charles Dubois framed this sentiment perfectly when he asserted the following: "The important thing is this: To be able at any moment to sacrifice what we are for what we could become."

A plea for an atheist homeland

BY CHRISTOPHER A. DUVA, PH.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology

The recent episode with Judge Thomas Moore and the 5,000 pound Ten Commandments monument he placed in the rotunda of an Alabama courthouse has garnered international attention. Now it seems that a similar controversy is developing, on a smaller scale, over the Ten Commandments monument in Julia Davis Park. It is interesting to juxtapose these two cases, which ostensibly focus on the constitutionally guaranteed right to religious freedom, with another, albeit less noticeable, case involving personal displays of religious freedom.

For 16 years, up until last spring, Florida resident Steven Miles had a vanity license plate on his car that simply said "ATHEIST." One would assume that such a plate is protected by the First Amendment. After all, many people express their religious convictions with vanity license plates all across the country. The Florida Department of Motor Vehicles, however, saw it differently and informed Mr. Miles that his license plate was being revoked because twelve people had drafted a letter in which they complained that they found the license plate "offensive." Which is more offensive: A 5,000 pound concrete rendition of the Ten Commandments in a public courthouse, a smaller representation in a public park, or an 8 x 12 inch license plate on a personal automobile? And, which is most likely in violation of the constitutional guarantee of a separation between church and state? Thankfully, the Florida DMV relented, after being threatened with a lawsuit by the ACLU, and Mr. Miles was allowed to keep his license plate.

Episodes such as these make me wish that there was somewhere to escape the religious fervor that appears to be gripping this nation: from the White House to the schoolhouse and everywhere in between. Secular humanists and atheists, such as myself, are beginning to feel overwhelmed and a bit worn down, as it appears that a vast majority of Americans have cast aside reason in favor of superstition and are doing their utmost to make sure that these irrational beliefs become intertwined with every aspect of public life. Even more troubling, voices of reason and rationalism are often met with disdain and scorn, both by the general populace and those in positions of power. Atheists, it appears, are the only group whose debasement is generally tolerated and even encouraged.

I once talked to a Jewish friend of mine who had moved to Israel and had returned to the U.S. for a visit. I asked him how he liked living in Israel, where the constant threat of random acts of violence seems overwhelming. He replied that, despite the instability in the country, he loved living there and had no plans to return to the U.S. When I asked him what he liked best about living in Israel he replied, "being Jewish is not an issue there." "Almost everyone is Jewish," he said, and as such he didn't have to think about it the way he did when he lived in the predominantly Christian U.S.

I have been thinking about my friend's response more and more lately and I have realized that what I want is what he has in Israel: I want to live in a country where religious beliefs (or lack of religious beliefs) are not an issue. In short, I want an atheist homeland, a place where my lack of belief in a "supreme being" or organized religion does not put me at odds with 90 percent of the country and its most powerful political leaders.

I would like to live in a country where the response to a major terrorist act is not to go around mindlessly repeating "God Bless America" and pasting American flags on our SUVs but one in which a serious dialogue concerning foreign policy issues and a perennial addiction to fossil fuels could take place.

I would like to live in a country where religious leaders do not blame these same acts of terrorism on homosexuality and abortion (as Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell did shortly after 9/11) but rather where secular leaders would assign blame to the true source of much of the terrorism in the world today: religion itself.

I would like to live in a country where doctors who perform legal surgical pro-

cedures are not harassed, intimidated and even gunned down in their homes by people claiming, ironically, to protect the sanctity of human life. Viewed as heroes and "instruments of God" by some, the only thing that separates their acts from those that occurred on 9/11 is the number of victims. For the perpetrators of both acts believed to know the 'truth' and to be guided by the hand of God.

I would like to live in a country where its president does not propose an office of "faith-based" programs to be located in the White House, in which public monies would go to support religious indoctrination, in clear violation of the Constitution. Moreover, it is ironic that in this country, which was founded in part on a separation between church and state, that an atheist could never be elected president. Pundits muse as to when the country may elect its first Jewish, black, or female president. No one, however, speculates as to when we may have the first openly atheist president. That, I think, has about as much chance of happening as the country electing an openly gay president. Maybe less.

I would like to live in a country where our children are not coerced into pledging allegiance to "One Nation Under God" and where the idea of removing this phrase from the pledge is not met with the response of potentially adding a constitutional amendment to ensure its continued use.

I would like to live in a country where we do not have "In God We Trust" on our currency and where it is not common practice to swear with one's hand on the Christian bible before testifying in a court of law.

I would like to live in a country free from the rancorous debate between science and religion. There, school boards would not try to ban the teaching of evolution in schools nor would they sticker science textbooks with warnings about the 'controversial' theory of evolution while simultaneously trying to reinstate school prayer.

In the country of my dreams, there would be no creation 'museums' with displays showing dinosaurs and humans co-existing or religious groups that organize 'biblically correct' tours of public museums and zoos, twisting science to fit their personal creation myths. There, no one would pry the Darwin fish off the bumper of my car and replace it with a sticker that says "Smile, Jesus Loves You" as someone did to me last year, apparently unaware of the Christian philosophy that implores us to turn the other cheek.

I would like to live in a country where when I turn the T.V. on and an athlete who has just won the Super Bowl is asked what he attributes his success to doesn't reply with his "faith in God." As if god, if one exists, would give a damn about the outcome of a football game.

I would like to live in a country where, when I sneeze, the person sitting next to me does not say "God Bless You," as if I must certainly believe in their god and require his blessing.

But most of all, I would like to live in a country where I do not feel like a second-class citizen because of my lack of religious beliefs and a country where I would not be viewed by its president and attorney general as a sinner and a heretic. In short, I want to live in a country where an atheist could be elected president, where science is unquestionably taught in science classes, and where we would not have to work so hard to keep religion from where it doesn't belong, such as our courthouses and public parks.

But, alas, there is no such place, and there is not likely ever to be one. The founders of this country left Europe and crossed the Atlantic to escape religious persecution. But for us atheists, there are no oceans left to cross, no promised land beckoning us with the hope of freedom from religion. There is no atheist "Zionist" movement, such as Israel had when founding a nation where an individual's 'Jewishness' does not matter. We atheists are on our own, with only the thin paper of the Constitution to protect us from the never-ending onslaught of the religious right. And, remarkably, at the dawn of the 21st century, that paper appears to be wearing thin.

The Arbiter

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Quintin Mikell; Former Bronco graduates from rookie season in NFL



Former Bronco Quintin Mikell went from undrafted rookie free agent to playing in the AFC Championship against the Carolina Panthers. His lone regret after his first season in the NFL - not making it to the Super Bowl. PHOTOS BY EMILY DESLER/THE ARBITER

BY ANDREA TRUJILLO
The Arbitrator

What a difference a year can make. Quintin Mikell has gone from Boise State's top defensive player, feared safety, and respected leader in 2003 to recent rookie-graduate of the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles.

But the road wasn't easy. Rewind to Draft Day on Apr. 24-25, 2003. Mikell sat in his parent's home in Eugene; eager to see where he would fall in the draft. He sat, anxiously awaiting his fate. But the draft came and went, and Mikell's name remained uncalled. This was not how he had envisioned his future. This was not part of the dream.

But things have a funny way of working out. Mikell signed with the Philadelphia Eagles, and made the opening day of a 53-man roster, as one of six undrafted, rookie-free agents.

Now, just 10 months later, Mikell knows that it doesn't matter how he made it to the league - only that he is there.

He knows that the term "undrafted, rookie-free agent" is all in the past, and is not indicative of his future. Mikell wanted his crack at the NFL and he got it. And, from the sound of it, he's not going anywhere.

"I want to get my name ringing around the league in the next couple of years, by continuing to make big plays, and becoming a player people want to sign. I believe I could start next year, but I am behind a young safety who is pretty good," Mikell said. "So, I'll have to wait for my time. But believe me, when it comes, I'm gonna snatch it and never look back."

Last season, Mikell took the necessary steps toward eking out his position in the league. First and foremost, he made the team. Step one, completed. Second, he started to make a name for himself within his organization. Mikell set out to show Philly what Boise already knew - that he's got mad skills.

In fact, Mikell developed into a vital special teams contributor, finishing third on specialty teams in production points, and recorded 22 tackles.

Not bad for a guy from a school, that Mikell himself acknowledges, receives less than its fair share of respect in the pros.

"We don't have a lot of respect in the pros as far as producing great players, even though we do have great players," Mikell said. "And we don't get a lot of respect in the NCAA either. So I think when nobody believed I could make it, I was used to it. I said to myself, 'I know I'm better than most of the safeties out there,' and I was gonna prove it."

But again, the road wasn't easy. Mikell played his part, doing just what rookies do - strapping

it up everyday, taking his licks, and dishing some out. He hung with Duce Staley, and took his shots at Donovan McNabb. He lobbied for playing time each and every day - with every hit, with every tackle. Eyes began to open.

But the Eagles were off to a rough start, dropping their first two regular season games to the Buccaneers and the Patriots. So while Mikell's new team sat 0-2 in mid-September, his former Bronco teammates sat a comfortable 2-0 back in Boise. This was tough to take. Mikell was not accustomed to losing. Boise State finished 12-1 during his senior year, was 40-10 through Mikell's last four years, and was the fourth most winning 1-A program over that period of time. The term "losing season" was not even part of Mikell's vocabulary.

Not to worry. As it turns out, the phrase was not in Philadelphia's vocabulary either. The Eagles went on a tear, literally kicking ass and taking names. They won 12 of their next 14 games, finished the regular season at 12-4, and qualified for post-season play. Then Philly went on to beat the Green Bay Packers in an overtime game of 20-17, moving the Eagles into the NFC Championship game for the third straight year.

Forget Timmy Chang - Mikell was taking shots at Brett Favre, who, unlike Chang, is a proven quarterback that actually leads his team to championships.

Mikell admits in hindsight, his new found surroundings were fairly surreal.

"During play I was just trying to kill whoever I was against. I didn't care who it was; I was going at them. That's how you have to be," Mikell said. "You can't be in awe on the field, it'll only get you hurt or cut. But I will admit that when the game was over I would be like, 'Wow, that's Ricky Williams I just tackled!' I felt a little star struck."

So, Mikell discovered that there is indeed life



"You can't be in awe on the field, it'll only get you hurt or cut. But I will admit that when the game was over I would be like, 'Wow, that's Ricky Williams I just tackled!' I felt a little star struck."

-Quintin Mikell

after Boise State. And Philly is no different than anywhere else - when you're winning, everything is smooth. But the Eagles did eventually lose, falling to the Carolina Panthers by a 14-3 margin, ending their season and their bid for Super Bowl trophy. That alone is Mikell's only regret from his rookie season.

"Not making it to the Super Bowl was disappointing, because you never know when you will get another chance to go," Mikell said. "But some players play their entire career and never make it as far as I did in my first season, so I guess I can be happy about that."

So for a short while, Bronco fans had the best of both worlds - watching Boise State's squad climb the national rankings with every Saturday afternoon victory, and tuning into NFL action on Sundays to catch Mikell and his new teammates battle their way into the playoffs.

Life was good for the former Bronco, although Mikell said he missed his friends, teammates, and coaches.

"It's hard to move all the way across the country alone, especially someone like me. I don't make new friends often, I love my boys. It was tough," Mikell said. "I talked to my best friend, Tim Gilligan, a lot. And I talked to D. Mike a lot. I kept up with them during the season and they kept up with me. I gave them a little guidance with dealing with agents and workouts and trying to make it

to the draft." From this, Boise State fans can presume that Mikell will not be the last of the Broncos to make their way into the NFL. We may very well be looking at the NFL's 2004 rookie class, seeing more Broncos than ever drafted or signed as free agents. Mikell said he expects to be joined next season, by at least a few members of the Bronco program.

"I think the top players on the team will get a shot. I've talked to them and they know who they are. I have even had coaches asking me about some of them," Mikell said.

So this is not the last we will hear of the Broncos, and it is certainly not the last we will hear form

Mikell. When asked what he wants people to think of when they hear the name, 'Quintin Mikell?'

"I want people to think that I am an intense, physical player, who makes big plays and will do whatever it takes to win. Period."

Enough said. Mikell might have arrived in the League as an undrafted free agent, but that's of no matter now. He's there, and he's set on staying.

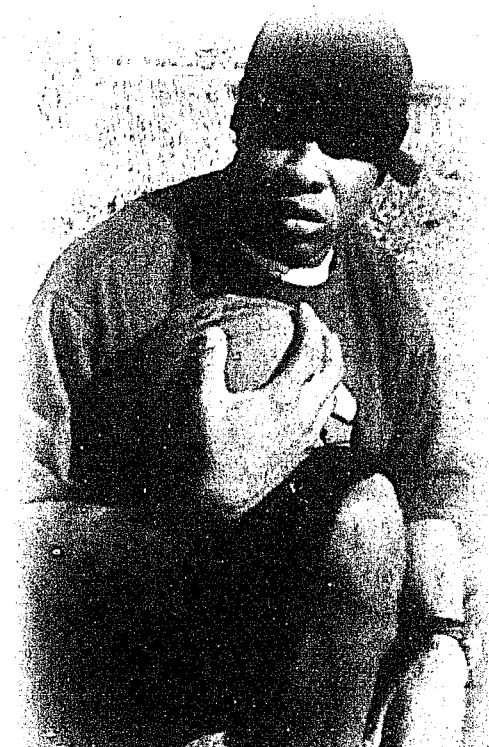
He's there to right a few wrongs. He's there to show each and every team that took a peek his way, and then passed on the safety from little respected Boise State - just exactly what they're missing.

He's there to show Philly what they got, and show the nation that the Bronco program produces quality players.

He's there to prove to those who doubted his ability that he's got game to spare.

But most importantly - he's there. He's living the dream.

And if he gets to take a shot at Brett Favre along the way - well... that's just a perk.



Mikell acknowledges that Boise State players don't get much respect in the NFL, or even in the collegiate ranks for that matter. But he made it there, and now he's bound and determined to show that he belongs.

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Chambers wins all-around competition

BRONCO SPORTS

The 10th-ranked Missouri Tigers won a three-way meet at Utah State with a 196.350 total, while host Utah State was second with 195.350 and Boise State took third at 194.050. Boise State was led by Carla Chambers who scored a 39.325 in the all-around to win that event. Lindsay Ward tied for second on floor with a 9.925. Heidi White tied for third on beam with a 9.85. Lindsey Thomas and Chambers tied for second on vault with 9.85. As a team the Broncos scored a 49.00 on vault, 48.2 on bars, 47.375 on beam, and 49.475 on floor.

Women's Gymnastics at Utah State

Feb. 20
 Team Scores: 1. Missouri 196.350, 2. Utah State 195.350, 3. Boise State 194.050.
 All-Around - 1. Carla Chambers, BSU, 39.325; 2. Alex Martin, USU, 39.025; 3. Gretchen Goerlitz, USU, 38.975.
 Vault - 1. Alisha Robinson, MU, 9.900; 2. (tie) Carla Chambers, BSU, Lindsey Thomas, BSU, 9.85.
 Bars - 1. Alisha Robinson, MU, 9.925; 2. Ashley Barr 9.875
 Beam - 1. (tie) Miranda Boeckman, MU, Rachel Bridges, MU, 9.875; 3. (tie) Liesel Kohler, USU, Heidi White, 9.850.
 Floor - 1. Liesel Kohler, USU, 9.950; 2. (tie) Ashley Barr, USU, Lindsay Ward, BSU, 9.925



Senior guard Bryan Defares and the Broncos beat up on visiting San Jose State Saturday afternoon, with a convincing 72-51 win at the Pavilion. Boise State only has three conference games remaining before they travel to Fresno to play in the WAC championship tournament in early March.

Broncos seal another win

BY MANDY JO DANCER
 The Arbitrator

Anyone who has seen the men's basketball team play this season should have noticed some changes: different players, different coaches, and change of outcomes. Overall, it has been an altered experience.

After a big conference win against first place Hawaii this last Thursday night, the Boise State men's basketball team has another conference win to add to one of their best seasons in 20 years. The Broncos defeated San Jose State 72-51 Saturday afternoon in the Pavilion, putting them at 17-8 overall, and 10-6 in the WAC.

Although the Broncos were expected to bring in the win against last placed San Jose (6-18 overall, and 1-13 in the WAC), they still surprised the 4,595 fans with their offensive efficiency, and a few players who haven't been given much

credit, or playing time, this season.

"The guys that play a lot were anxious to see some of the other guys step it up," said head coach Greg Graham.

Graham was referring to sophomore Josh Bates, who came off of the bench to contribute four points for Broncos, and junior Franco Harris, who led the team with 14 and was named player of the game for the team.

"Franco did a good job for our team, and Bates hit a few big shots," Graham said. "Our guys were excited for Bates because we all see him work so hard."

The game had a slow start when the officials made a few poor calls, causing repeated fouls by both teams and disagreement from the crowd. It wasn't long however, until freshman Eric Lane got the team going when he stole the ball from San Jose's Bim Okumrinboye and finished with a dunk at the other end of the

court with only a minute left in the first half. Lane ended the game with nine for the Broncos, while teammates Bryan Defares and Aaron Haynes added 11 for the team. Marquin Chandler, who scored 19 points for the Spartans, led San Jose.

Even with the obstacles the team has faced this season, the latest being the loss of leading scorer Jermaine Blackburn to a dislocated shoulder, Boise State continues to use their strong team chemistry to pull in the upsets.

"We have good chemistry, everyone plays together," senior guard Defares said.

Defares, along with teammates Kostas Augerinos, Haynes, Booker Nabors and Joe Skiffer, only have a few more games to play as Broncos, but they appear to be ending things on a good note.

"This is the best we've played since I've been here," Defares said.

"It reminds me of when I was in high school, on a winning team."

The Broncos wish to continue their winning season as they get closer to tournament time, but they are also keeping in mind that it's not quite time to rest.

"I'm almost afraid to relax just yet," Graham said. "We can't afford to this time of year."

The team only has three conference games remaining until they travel to Fresno to play in the WAC championship tournament in March.

"We've worked too hard to get where we are, we have to continue," Graham added. "Let's not let it get away from us."

After a week on the road to face SMU and then the Techsters from LA Tech, the Broncos play their final home game against UTEP on March 6. It will also be senior night for the five Boise State seniors.

Broncos sweep weekend tennis tournament

BY TREVOR HORN
 The Arbitrator

The Boise State women's tennis team finished off their Friday-Saturday sweep at the Boise State inside the Boas Indoor Tennis Center. The Broncos beat UC Santa Barbara on Friday 5-2, and finished off Colorado State with the same score Saturday afternoon.

The two combined team wins for the Broncos brought the team record to 7-2 for the 54th ranked team.

Friday's action against the Gauchos brought four individual singles winners along with a sweep of the three doubles

matches. 6th ranked in the central region Jemima Hayward, beat Marielle Gruenig in straight sets, 6-2, 6-2. Carolina Pongratz took straight sets over Amy Vyhnis for the Broncos, along with Tiffany Coll and Anna Curtolo.

In doubles action, the 7th ranked doubles team of Hayward and senior Erin Polowski defeated the team of Andrea Pintar and Jen Kuhle. Both members of the Gauchos team had won their respective singles matches versus the Broncos earlier in the day. Also posting doubles wins for the Broncos were Alissa Ayling and Pontgratz, beating the Gauchos

team 8-4. And the team of Coll/Curtolo also posted an 8-4 win to finish off an impressive day for the Broncos.

Fans saw some of the same action on Saturday afternoon. All three doubles team took a complete sweep versus Colorado State. Jemima Hayward once again showed why she is also ranked 50th in the nation when she took Dasha Zhurin in straight sets, 6-4, 6-4. Alissa Ayling beat Alexandra Paganetti in straight sets, along with Jelena Koprivica and Carolina Pongratz. In the doubles competition, the tandem of Hayward/Polowski won again, but the two other wins

were with completely different teams. Ayling and Megan Birkman won 8-2, and the duo of Curtolo and Pongratz won by the same score over the Rams.

In other action this weekend, Colorado State beat Montana State 7-0, and the Bobcats found themselves on the opposite side of happiness when they were shut out again on Saturday versus UCSB.

Next up for the Broncos will be on the road March 5 when they travel to New Mexico to take on the Lobos. The team will be on the road until April 2 when they will host the Barbara Chandler Classic.

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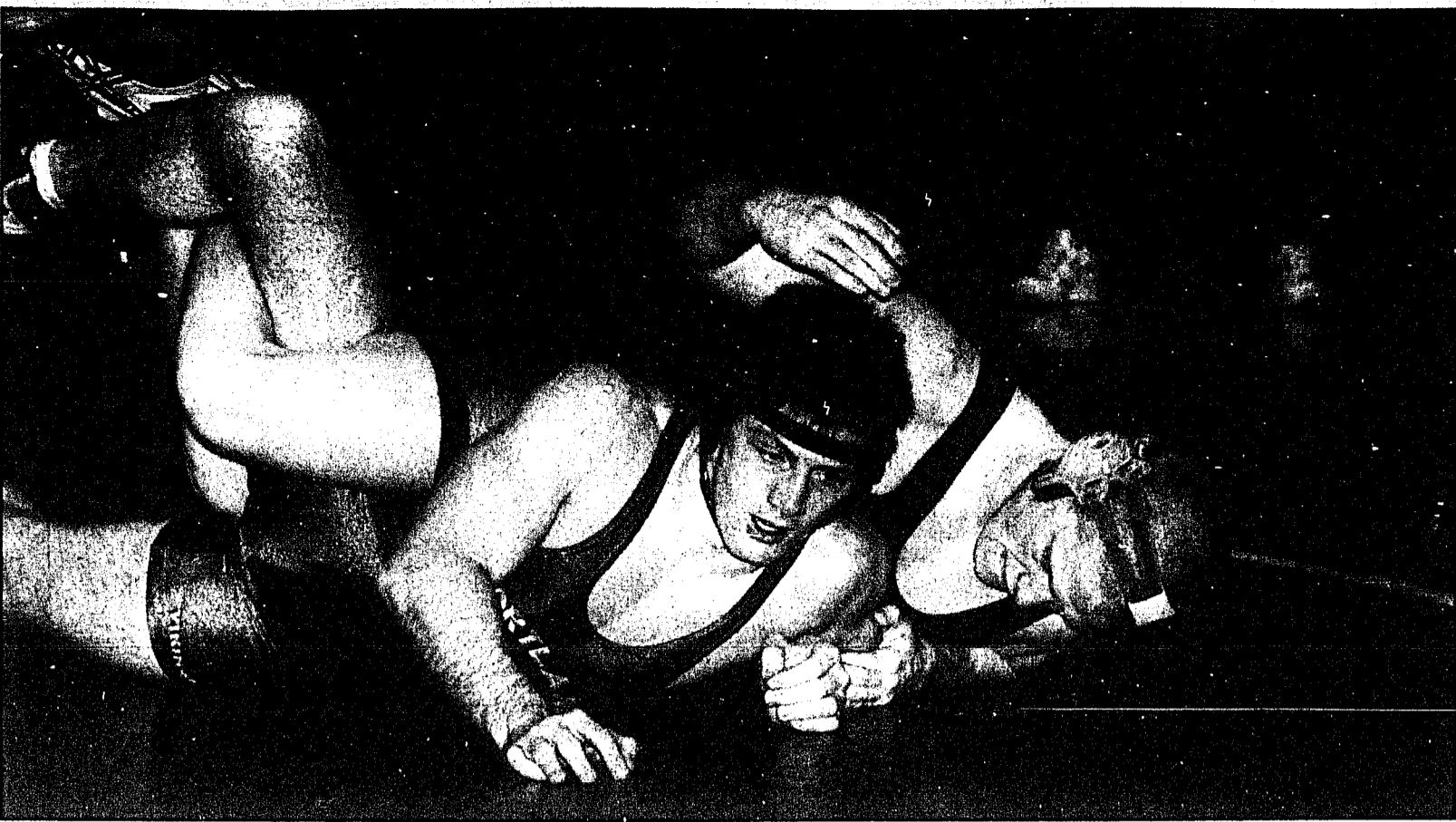
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The Boise State Wrestling team finished the regular season Friday night, capping off an impressive eight-match winning streak with a 21-13 victory over Oregon State.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Men's tennis team continues to win

BRONCO SPORTS

The Boise State men's tennis team closed out its week-end with a second straight road win in Utah, as the Broncos defeated BYU 6-1. The Broncos are now 7-3. All three doubles teams won for the Broncos with Guillaume Bouvier and Thomas Schoeck at one, Matias Silva and Mahmoud Rezk at two, and James Ludlow and Nils Klemann at three. At number one singles, BYU's Erik Nyman defeated Boise State's Guillaume Bouvier 6-2, 7-5, for the Cougar's point. The remainder of the Bronco singles line-up won with Schoeck at two, Silva at three, Klemann at four, Rezk at five and Ludlow at six. The Broncos next compete Feb. 27 and 28 against New Mexico and Colorado in Albuquerque.

Wrestlers beat conference rival OSU

BY JEREMY RASMUSSEN
The Arbitrator

The Boise State wrestling team capped off an impressive eight match winning streak with a 21-13 victory over Oregon State, finishing the regular season Friday night. It was déjà vu for the Broncos, as they finished the season in the same style as last year, 9-3 in dual competition.

Prior to the match with the Beavers, who were ranked 22nd a few weeks back, the Broncos found themselves back in the top 25. Internat had ranked Boise State 23rd after last week's back-to-back wins on back-to-back nights. The final push to get there came last Friday when they beat another former top 25-ranked team, the Wyoming

Cowboys, 24-11. The next night, they traveled to Orem, Utah, and demolished the Utah Valley State Wolverines 31-4. The Beavers were coming off two solid wins of their own, including last week's win over Oregon and a rough five-point win over Cal-Davis the week prior.

The match between the Pac-10 rivals began with tough one point loss for Boise State's Clint Wolfley to Eric Stevenson of OSU. Wolfley narrowed the gap to one point with a reverse in the final round, but ran out of time after that. The Broncos proceeded to take victories in the next four matches, three of which were major decisions, to go up 15-3.

One of the most impressive matches of the night was in the 149-weight class that

pitted BSU sophomore Nick Budeski against OSU's Tony Hook, ranked 19th in the nation. Budeski dominated most of the match, and picking up a huge 17-6 win and four points for the team. Boise State picked up two other major decision victories with wins by Jesse Brock and Ben Cherrington, after Scott Jorgensen put the first points on the board for the Broncos.

Another strong individual performance - to go along with Budeski's - was the solid wrestling of junior Russell Brunson, as he faced 12th ranked Matt Ellis. Brunson held his own for all three rounds, but fell to a tough 4-3 loss.

Oregon State roared back within two points with victories in the next three matches, which included Brunson's loss,

to make the score 15-13. 12th ranked K.C. Walsh put a stop to OSU's momentum, when he knocked off Jed Lowe 13-6. Senior Jacob McGinnis finished off the Beavers he came away with a 2-1 victory over Jaime Rakevich in a back and forth match that closed with a stalling penalty on Rakevich.

The victory by Boise State handed Oregon State only their third Pac-10 loss, dropping the Beavers to 7-3, and the Broncos improved to a conference record of 4-2.

Confidence is high in the wrestling room, as Boise State prepares for the Pac-10 Conference Tournament, which begins Sunday, Feb. 29 in Tempe, Arizona.

Barnett must have known, should be gone

BY RICK MORRISSEY
Chicago Tribune
(KRT)

CHICAGO - He once vowed in an e-mail to his Northwestern players to take "the Purple back to Pasadena," then bolted a few days later for what was supposed to be a better job at Colorado. Apparently, he did this with the idea of bringing "the Bawdy back to Boulder."

There have been questions of character with Gary Barnett before. E-mailing his players with the news he was staying at NU and then leaving days later is not what you would call honorable. Breaking an unwritten rule by taking Northwestern recruits with him to Colorado added another layer of slime.

But that was child's play to what has been going on at Colorado. There are allegations of rape and sexual assault against some of his players and recruits, in addition to reports of women who take their clothes off for a living being used as recruiting tools. We're learning that the ladder to success in college football sometimes looks more like a stripper's pole.

So far, there have been six allegations of sexual assault at Colorado since Barnett arrived in 1999. Even by the sordid standards of big-time athletics, it's a shocking number.

imagined a program he ran sinking to these depths.

Before us stands the former Our Gary, and you can't surf through cable channels these days without seeing clips of Barnett talking from his attorney's office on "Larry King Live." Trust us, it's never a good sign when somebody appears on TV with a wall of law books behind him. Most of the other reports have been variations on the theme "Is College Football Out of Control?"

All of it means Barnett is as gone as the wind and should be.

He's under administrative leave for the crime of being stupid. He insisted that Katie Hnida, a former Colorado kicker who says she was raped by a teammate, never belonged in the program. He might as well have said, "She was asking for it by lacking range on her field-goal attempts."

Barnett reportedly had told a woman another player allegedly had sexually assaulted that he would stand by the athlete 100 percent if she pursued charges. What a team player.

But those are issues of sensitivity and don't answer the question of whether Barnett knew what was going on in his program. Three explanations are possible, and each of them should lead to his firing:

One, he didn't know about the problems. It's a coach's job to know these things, specifically incidents that occur while high school players are visiting

campus on recruiting trips.

Two, he didn't want to know. Three, the worst of the sins, he knew and looked the other way.

It's one thing to have a point-shaving scandal on your watch, as Barnett did at Northwestern, and it's another to have alleged sexual assaults on your watch, as well as strippers and binge drinking during recruiting visits.

It's easy to see how Barnett might not have known some of his players were trying to affect the score in games at Northwestern.

But recruiting visits are not secrets. Players talk. Players brag.

Understand this about most coaches: They're the micro-est of micromanagers. They want to be in control of everything. The thought is, if they know every insignificant detail of their football programs, then they have less chance of losing their jobs.

Understand one other thing: College football is an arms race. If other programs have state-of-the-art weight rooms, then a coach believes he needs one to stay competitive.

If other programs are making sure their high school players are having a good time on official campus visits, then a coach doesn't want to be left behind in the Taste of College experience.

Put that all together and it's hard to believe Barnett didn't know what was going on in his program, not necessarily all the rape charges, but at least the at-

mosphere of reckless abandon.

When he was at NU, nobody needed to be wanted more than Barnett. Does that have anything to do with the mess at Colorado? Maybe not. But it does point to someone who is desperate for the big time and everything that goes with it.

See you later, Gary. You'll find work again because this stuff happens at most big programs. What a proud business.

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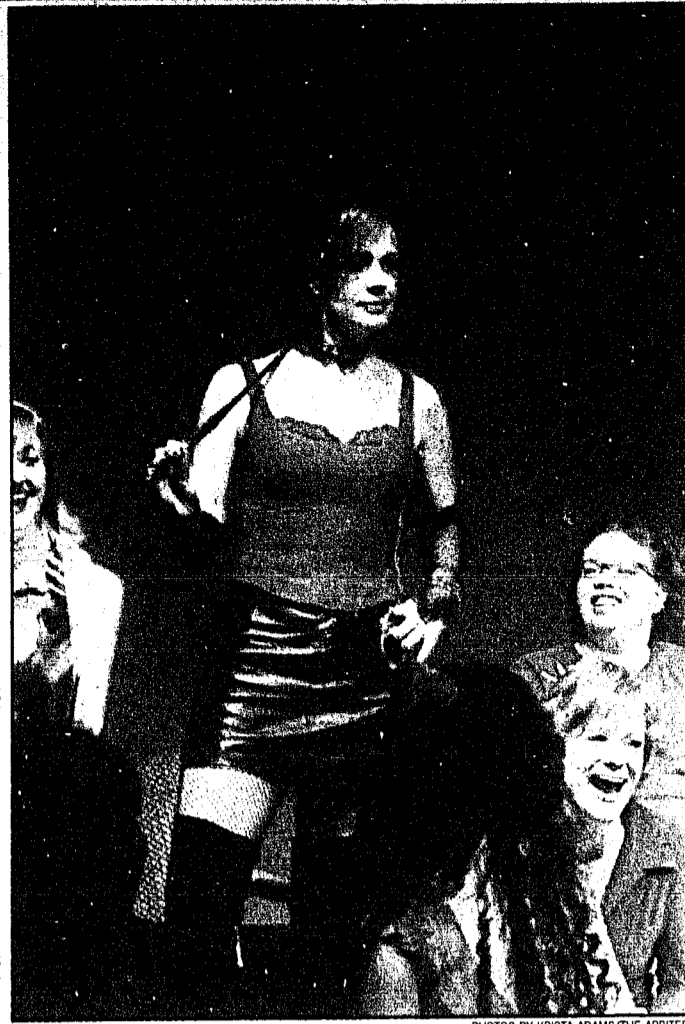
Box talk: The Vagina Monologues

BY MARY DAWSON
The Arbitrator

The "Vagina Monologues," presented by the Women's Center to bring awareness of female sexuality, opened at the Special Events Center Feb. 19. The play, based on interviews by playwright Eve Ensler with numerous women, focused on the responses of everyday women to their sexuality. The monologues argued that many women are

uninformed when it comes to female sexuality, and accordingly, have low self-esteem. Gloria Steinem was quoted in the play's introduction: "As a girl she was taught the functions of every single part of her body--except one." The use of the quote called upon the audience to question suppression of female sexuality. Additionally, the play examined how not talking about the female body drives female sexuality underground.

"I love and support the Vagina Warriors everywhere! I'm thrilled to be part of this, and it reminds me that when I graduate in May (knock on wood), I'll desperately miss the amazing support system I've had here at BSU," Maureen 'Mo' Clark said. Clark recited the "My Angry Vagina" segment of the monologue.



PHOTOS BY KRISTA ADAMS/THE ARBITRATOR
Left: Communication student Maureen Clark (left) relaxes after the shows opening. The monologues were sold out for the tenure of their appearance at Boise State. Above: The diversity of costumes and women in the Vagina Monologues is one of the pulls of the show; here one of the women flaunts her costume.

Pride and Prejudice, from book to movie

TREVER ALTERS
A&E Writer

"Pride and Prejudice" may be just what the date doctor ordered. No, not the six-hour archaic bore, but the new LDS comedy independent film. "Pride and Prejudice" is a modernized version of Jane Austen's famous novel of the same name.

The movie is about Elizabeth Bennet, a hard working college student and aspiring novelist who is determined to ignore the frenzied dating scene in her town. But when Elizabeth meets Wickham, a charming pretty-boy, and Darcy, a sophisticated businessman, she discovers everything she really wants is what she thought she could only hate.

The movie ties many interesting details of Austen's novel into the quirky single Mormon lifestyle of the characters. For instance, rather than having five sisters living on an estate looking to get married, the movie is about five roommates going to college, church, and always looking for dates in the process. This is a must see for the single LDS girl, but much of the humor is geared towards the guys as well. If you are not LDS, you may need a Mormon friend to clear up some of the jargon such as 'mission president' and 'temple marriage.'

Much of the humor in "Pride and Prejudice" is funny in a sort of cheesy sort of way, but it works because it is supposed to be cheesy. Charles, an aloof rich boy, is charmingly humorous with his strange sense of fashion and boyish antics. He is sure to make you chuckle, and his business venture with classical music for dogs is oddly funny.

Some of the movie does seem a bit rushed. Many of the side relationships in the movie seem to have little premise. However, the transformation of Elizabeth and Darcy's relationship is subtle and believable.

This is a delightful date movie and a fun adaptation of the original novel.

Not your average Joe: John Mayer to the rescue

CRYSTAL THOMAS
A&E Editor

Since most of us didn't even know that John Mayer existed a year and a half ago, it's somewhat unexpected that he would deliver a compelling live performance this early in his musical career. Yet, if there's one life lesson we could all stand to learn, it's to expect the unexpected.

John Mayer, singer, songwriter, and gifted musician, performed in front of a nearly sold out audience last Tuesday night at the Idaho Center in Nampa. Along with his melodic mastery and

bluesy guitar style, Mayer employed quite an eclectic crew to back him up - including computerized keyboards, bass, drums, saxophone and trumpet, and proved his artistic capabilities all while managing to sound even better than on any of his albums.

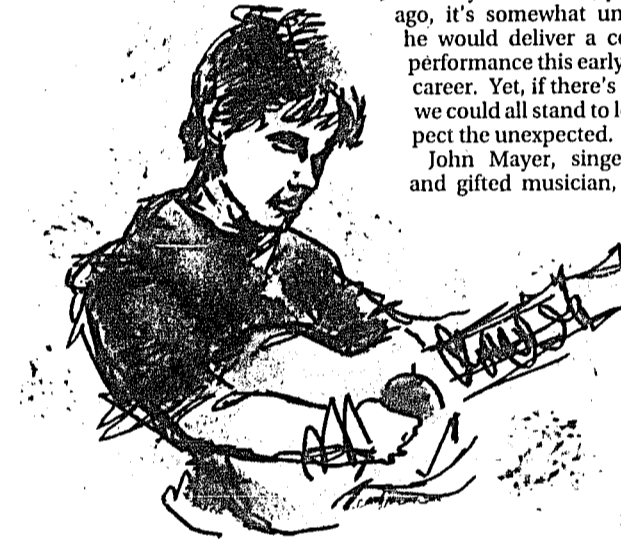
Although panic settled in at the start of the show when I discovered four teenage girls sitting in front of me sporting t-shirts that spelled "J-O-H-N," the crowd consisted of a draw from just about every demographic: from teeny boppers and hopeless romantics to twenty-something yuppies and couples of all ages.

Mayer himself was, again, unexpectedly candid and full of witty remarks between songs. He gave the Boise Towne Square Mall a rating of 7.5 out of 10 and commented on his bafflement with the abundance of stores in town devoted entirely to one product, such as the Wide World of Golf and Tennis. Judging from Mayer's songs about love, loss and loneliness, the average fan wouldn't take him for a comical cynic. Yet with the introduction of the much-anticipated ballad, "Your Body Is A

Wonderland," he humored the spectators by claiming it was a song he wrote about his childhood feelings for his neighbor's mother.

Contrary to those who think "Your Body Is A Wonderland" is his only track worth listening to, Mayer received mass amounts of applause for many others throughout the night, such as "Come Back To Bed" and even his latest creation, "Hummingbird." Even though he kept his eyes closed for most of the performance (my guess is it's a trick to calm the nerves: If he can't see us, we're not there), he was usually bouncing and strutting around the stage with acoustic guitar in tow, bobbing his head side to side like a pigeon while he wailed with that amazing voice box of his.

Many may argue that Mayer is simply a Dave Matthews sound-alike, but after his live performance I'm convinced he is very much a deserving artist, not just another unskilled, pretty-boy pop star. No, Mayer is a long-lasting, formidable songwriter who delivers a stirring show with no strings attached.



EMERGING ARTIST

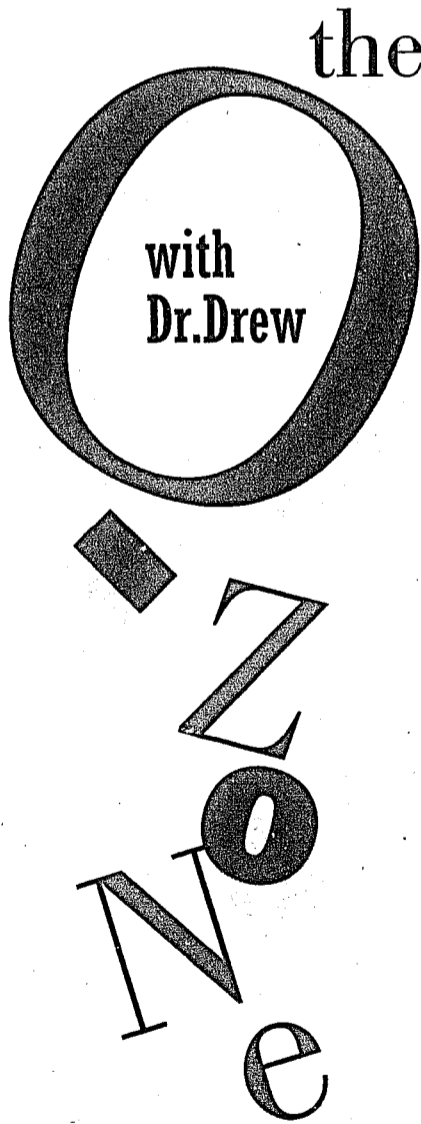
Mindy Smith:
"One Moment More"

BY MATTHEW SONSROEM
The Hartford Courant

People are falling over themselves to anoint Mindy Smith the Next Big Thing. With her promising debut, "One Moment More," the preacher's daughter and her beautiful voice just might prove them right.

She's unabashed about her faith on songs such as "Come to Jesus" and "Angel Doves," but Smith proves adept at the tricky task of delivering her potent and spiritual lyrics without hitting you over the head with the message.

"One Moment More" is a pretty and pleasing album that explores some dark themes, which give the sense that Smith, like Julie Miller and Lucinda Williams, has had to walk down some dirty corridors. Highlights include "Raggedy Anne," a moving song about the death of Smith's mother, and "Train Song." On the latter, her backing band steps out from the considerable shadow her voice casts. The guitars are allowed to grumble, and the Hammond organ rolls with a little more thunder. It's not a bad template for her next record.



Dear Dr. Drew,

I have been having this problem with my girlfriend and the descriptive way in which she refers to my manhood. I often hear of things like "Is the 'Little Fellow' ready to come out and play?" Or, "How is your 'Little Guy' doing?" I'm no horse, but believe me I'm in the running and I can't for the life of me get her to understand that it's part of the game to have your unit recognized as Hercules or Goliath or 'how is that Giant Anaconda doing these days?' Instead all I get is "come on little boy," like she is talking to a French poodle!

Help,

Ego twisted

Ego Twisted,

Ego is a delicate thing; one word or phrase can deflate it, and conversely, one well-placed endearment is all it takes to blow the ego out of proportion. There is no easy way to talk to your girlfriend about the fact that her calling your manhood 'little guy' is crushing your ego. Referring to one's member in these terms might actually make some guys feel like it is true, even when it is not.

The problem that I found when talking to a few of my male friends on the subject is this: When a guy has to ask his girlfriend to stop calling his manhood 'little guy,' it can create a fear of performing. Neither person in the relationship wants that to happen, but I don't see anyway around having a con-

versation with your girlfriend about the way she describes your body. You may not want to, but it is a discussion that needs to take place. Just tell her how it makes you feel. Let her know what you would like to hear and what would turn you on when it comes to the way she talks about 'Paul Bunyan.' Since it is a touchy subject to bring up, and if you do not prefer having a conversation about it, try dropping hints. Say things such as 'My anaconda is waking and wants to explore the jungle.' Or, 'You make Tarzan crazy and he wants to yell to the world exactly how he feels.'

The only other way I see you changing her mind on the subject is to give her the best night of sex she has ever had. More than a 'wham, bam thank you ma'am,' and by that I mean put some thought into the marathon you are going to seduce her with. Do the little things that women (at least most women) want men to do: open the car door, pull her chair out, take her flowers, give her that back rub (which if done right, will lead to more). Most of all, when you are with her take your time and make her feel like the only woman in the world. If you do that she is not going to care what size condom you need.

There are women that care about size (and create problems for those who know better). But there are also those women that don't care about size because they have found the guys educated on how to use what they were given, and use it very well. I had a partner

that, lets just say, is a 'little' smaller than average. Before this guy, I was with men who were extremely endowed. After my experience with 'less-than-average Joe,' I was left in awe. Knowing that his creator must have been pissed to bless him with less, he was forced to use technique instead of his size, or lack thereof. The reason that the sex was so good with him was mostly on part of the positions he used. They allowed for the greatest penetration for his size. It felt as if there was more of him than there actually was. To this day, when his name is mentioned at girls' night, my response is always, "Talk about good sex." To learn more on the positions for a smaller unit, buy a copy of "Kama Sutra"; it is well worth it.

Don't get me wrong, size does matter, but only for those not caring if their partner is going to reach climax. Just for clarification, I must also add that if you are in tune with your partner's most erogenous zones, your size doesn't matter. All that does matter is if you are able to be aware of those zones and use them to your advantage.

With Unsizable Lust,
Dr. Drew

The O Zone is changing names. Any suggestions? Email them to bsudrdrew@yahoo.com. And like always, send your questions in.

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No Eminem, just sweat and Po Boyz

Las Vegas rapper produces record in Boise

DANAKA OLIVER
A&E Writer

Rapper Willie BoBos recently arrived to our fair city from Las Vegas on a mission to introduce his music to a new crop of fans. The 24-year-old emcee is working along side the producers of the Po Boyz studio to finish his much anticipated second release.

D: How long have you been doing this rap thing?
W: Uh, since high school. Writing songs really. I don't

freestyle, I write. Ever since I was like 16 or 17.

D: What brought you to Boise?

W: Exposure, we can get in the club scene, do some shows, and there are more opportunities out here.

D: Do you sing?

W: Try to, but no, I sing off key.

D: Some say singing rappers like Missy and Andre 3000 are a deathblow for the mc, what do you think?

W: It could be, if you can get other people to sing though I think it's better.

D: Have you ever written R&B lyrics?

W: Yeah, some

D: Do you write all of your

own songs?

W: Yeah, no ghost writing, it's all me.

D: Who is producing your upcoming album?

W: Lo from St. Louis, one of the producers at Po Boyz.

D: So does your album sound like Nelly's then?

W: Naw, the last album we recorded in the dungeon. I got three already but I only released one and I'm workin' on the fourth one.

D: When can we expect that one?

W: Um, I couldn't tell ya, you gotta talk to the producer. (Nods towards Lo) It should be soon. Hopefully by summer, or fall...damn, could be winter,

you know how dates get pushed back!

D: What's in your CD player right now?

W: I don't listen to other artists; I focus on strictly me.

D: So then how do you keep up on what's going on?

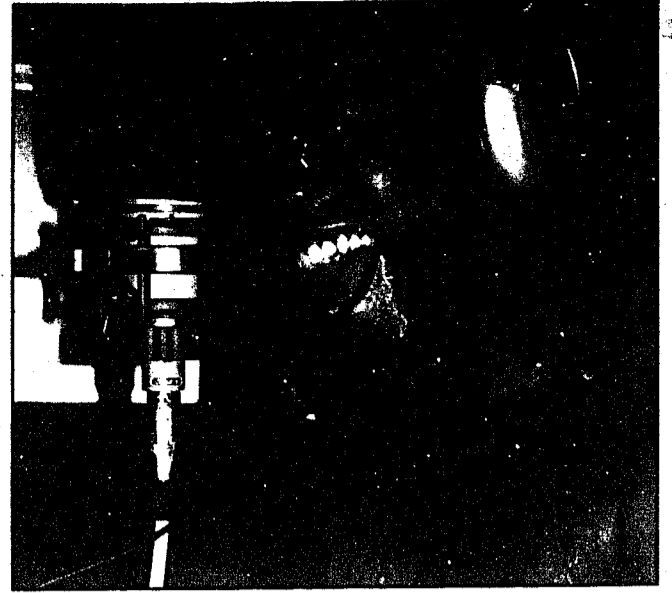
W: I listen to the radio some.

D: Do you have a personal take on Eminem?

W: I don't keep up on it. Those are his problems. I do read Vibe and stuff. You know controversy always helps album sales.

D: Andre 3000 brought a lot of fashion to the game, what's your daily attire like?

W: Jeans and a t-shirt, nothing too flashy. No wild stuff cuz' it's just a little too rich for my taste.



Local rapper Willie BoBos, 21, has no qualms giving it his all, in the studio. PHOTO BY EMILY DESLER/THE ARBITER

Annual Oscar Awards: Destined to be annual upset

DAN MCNEESE
A&E Writer

It's Oscar time again, and time to take a close and appreciative look at this year's nominees for best picture. If the past few years of Oscar winners have taught us anything, it is that the worst movie up for the award will always win. Moreover, the movie that should win doesn't, instead the award is always given to a movie like "Shakespeare In Love" or "Titanic." For example, previous nominees such as "Pulp Fiction," "L.A. Confidential" and "Saving Private Ryan" have been shot down by the academy though clearly superior to their victorious competitors.

Cold Mountain

With a star-studded cast including Nicole Kidman, this movie is the favorite amongst the SAC community and is picked to win.

This movie has a redundant plot and extended character development, but due to the large name actors it has become the front-runner. There is lots of talk

about Rene Zellweger's performance winning best supporting actress; but those people must have forgotten what a lousy job she did in the movie.

The cinematography is excellent - as is the sound, but when it comes down to it the story line in "Cold Mountain" is largely useless, and very predictable. The movie is basically about going AWOL for your really hot girlfriend. Yet because it's dubbed under the title of a war epic (which it is not) this movie will more than likely win.

Mystic River

"Mystic River" has a star-studded cast as well, but it also has a great story line and plot to boot. With Sean Penn (best actor nominee), Tim Robbins (best supporting actor nominee) and Kevin Bacon (separated by 5 other degrees), and directed by the ever-living Clint Eastwood (best director nominee), "Mystic River" is what a movie is supposed to be. Eastwood pulls off the feel of a Boston neighborhood in the mist of a homicide/drama, where cops are always

present except when a crime happens. The acting by the entire cast places the viewer straight into a murder mystery. However, because this movie is ten minutes too long and there's a subtle-but-still-pointless subplot between Bacon's character and his estranged wife - which has absolutely NOTHING to do with the film - this movie will lose out.

Master and Commander

Another war/battle movie nominated for the Oscar is "Master and Commander." Unlike "Cold Mountain," "Master and Commander" has more to do with fighting as opposed to draft dodging, but because it stars Russell Crow, little can be expected in the way of a little gold statue. This movie has Crow being, well, a Russell Crow character. Not much can be said in terms of character diversity for Crow except that he has none. He plays the same hunky brutish protagonist-type guy he always does. The sound is really good and the lighting is above par, but unless the academy

is made up of fortysomething housewives, the "Master and Commander" people well just be 'Sitter and Applauder' people on Oscar night.

Lost In Translation

"Lost In Translation" stars Bill Murray, whose performance in this movie should get him best actor. Set in Tokyo, where everything is really boring and dull, this movie showcases the story of two similarly jaded Americans. A romantic comedy of sorts, "Lost In Translation" strays from the genre by placing the emphasis on what could have been rather than showing an odd couple living happily ever after. In the first half of the movie barely a word is spoken of any relevance, but it done shows the character development in a queer, yet effective, way. The on screen chemistry between Murray and femme fatal Scarlet Johansson works but is also reminiscent of "When Harry Met Sally." "Lost In Translation" should be the winner of the Oscar because of its new take on an old topic, but it's not that great of a new take.

If the winning movie is somehow an upset on Oscar night, it will be this one.

Lord of the Rings: Return of the King

When the first "Lord of the Rings" came out, the masses were in awe; they had seen a wonderful tale of hobbits and elves running around with lots of special effects everywhere. It was a new era in film making with "revolutionary" battle scenes and unmatchable action.

When the second "Lord of the Rings" came out, again the masses were in awe, for there again were a bunch of hobbits and elves running around doing stuff with lots more "revolutionary" special effects everywhere but now there was that junkie lizard thing, Golumn/Shmugal/whatever.

The third and final installment of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy is up for best picture this year. This latest edition differs from the first two, in that in a revolutionary way, it shows a bunch of hobbits and elves running around doing things with special

effects every where and a junkie lizard thing and battle scenes that are revolutionary and more special effects.

It took ten years to make this trilogy and about five years to watch it. This movie won't win best picture because it's still in its first showing...Viva "Star Wars!"

Seabiscuit

Based on a true story, "Seabiscuit" is the tale of a Kentucky thoroughbred destined to win the Kentucky derby. This should have been a Disney movie because of its predictable yet happy ending and its stereotypical family values tone. Yes, it is a true story and the ending is already known to millions, but that is why it's seems like a Disney movie. Jeff Bridges stars in this film as does Idaho native/former jockey Gary Stevens. When it comes down to it, "Seabiscuit" is the wild card of the group, the runt of the litter and the loser of the Oscar nominees.

Women offer advice on weeding out loser boyfriends

BY JOHN BOUDREAU
Knight Ridder Newspapers

The handsome, sweet date did everything right - up until he admitted to his nightly abductions by space aliens.

Then there's the supportive boyfriend who lent his girlfriend money so she could fly across the country to attend the funeral of her grandfather, then charged her interest.

And how about the guy who showed up for the first date with only a dollar in his pocket and asked if his date had any money.

These tales from the dating front lines, as told by women, are detailed in "You Know He's a Keeper, You Know He's a Loser: Happy Endings and Horror Stories from Real-Life Relationships" (Perigee, \$12.95), by Linda Lee Small and Norine Dworkin.

The book underscores the axiom known to all who are engaged in the mating dance: You don't know how weird someone is until you date him (or her).

The book focuses on the stories of women because, well, females talk about these things, Dworkin says. Male friends have asked her why she hasn't written about the sometimes clueless and strange behaviors of women. "Everyone we have talked to in the business says guys don't buy these books," the author explains.

The book isn't about bashing men, though Dworkin concedes it was easier to find "loser"

tales than "keeper" anecdotes. Actually, it's a lighthearted look at relationships that provides tips, gleaned through anecdotes from women around the country, for helping sort out the good from the bad and the ugly.

"I'm sure guys are hungry for this information," she says. "Guys say they aren't sure what women want. Well, here you have close to 200 women basically laying out the qualities that make for a keeper guy and a loser guy."

The writers interviewed strangers, friends and friends of friends of friends.

"I got a lot of my girlfriends to throw mini cocktail parties and brunches," Dworkin says. "We just got the girls talking. The women would just go on and on and on."

The writer was surprised that not one person said she looked for wealth in a man.

"Money was never mentioned by women regarding what makes a guy a keeper," she says. "No one said, 'My guy is a keeper because he's loaded.'"

In fact, women look for a different kind of generosity.

"One woman told us the story about her husband," Dworkin says. "He's a car aficionado. He dotes on every car. He names them, polishes them. They are like children to him. But she always gets into an accident with his car. And he never gets upset. He always says, 'Are you OK? We can fix the car.'"

Conversely, the men who quickly end up in the loser col-

umn display a "stinginess of personality," she says. "It's this feeling that you don't matter."

One woman recalled a ski trip date. She had explained she wasn't a very good skier and didn't want to go down a challenging run. He promised he'd help her, then abandoned her. Another woman dished about a similar situation. But her man carried her down the mountain - on his back.

The book, Dworkin says, is also a reminder to women like herself. She just got engaged.

"Having dated all these losers, once you find your gem, you really appreciate him."

Expect happy endings with this Romeo.

What makes him a keeper: He takes an interest in something solely because it interests his woman.

He's generous with his time and affection. Taking care of his sweetie when she's sick rates high.

Does the little things that make her feel special, such as buying her - unbidden - a telephone headset so she doesn't have to cradle the phone all the time and get a sore neck.

Even letting her pick the snacks at a movie shows a generosity of spirit and emotions.

He doesn't have to throw his money around but shows a willingness to pay for the meal.

SOURCE: Norine Dworkin, co-author of "You Know He's a Keeper, You Know He's a Loser: Happy Endings and Horror Stories from Real-Life Relationships"



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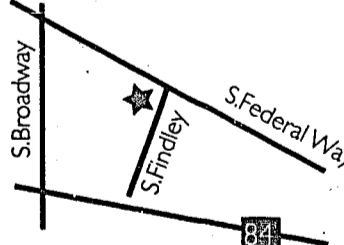
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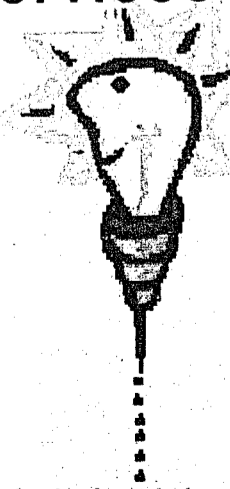
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King size pillow top mattress set Brand new in bag. Must sell \$225. Can deliver. 866-7476

Italian leather couch and loveseat for sale! Brand new, still in plastic. Retail \$2450, sacrifice \$899. Call 888-1464

Room for Rent off Roosevelt. \$350/mo. includes all utilities! \$150/dep. Call James @ 631-7878

King Water Bed with oak frame w/drawers. \$100/obo 866-8597

Queen pillow top mattress set. Brand new, still in plastic. Must sell \$159. Can deliver. 866-7476

Mattress Set, Full Size Brand New in package. Sacrifice \$99. Call 866-7476

Cherry sleigh bed. Solid wood. New-in-box. Value \$850, sacrifice \$295. Call 888-1464

White Couch. 10yrs old. \$200, great condition. 338-5911

rent it

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3 bdrm 2 bath house. 1401 Grant. W/D, D/W included. Yard w/sprinklers. \$695/mo. \$500 deposit. 484-2469

Cottage for rent. 420 sq. ft. w/garage. 8 blocks from BSU. \$450/mo. Call Leif 830-3847

Roommate Needed 1113 Leadville \$265/mo + Util. Call 870-7361 for details.

Roommate wanted \$340/mo. Util. incl. Private bath, walk-in closet, cable internet, W/D, D/W. 284-2401

Really Nice Room & House on Kootenai for rent. \$200/mo. + util. Includes cable/internet. 384-0168

Female roommate wanted to share 2 bedroom apartment. \$250/mo. + util. W/D. 484-6462

3 bdrm 2 bath house. 1401 Grant. W/D, D/W included. Yard w/sprinklers. \$695/mo. \$500 deposit. 484-2469

2 Bdrm twnhse AC, DW, W/D hkp. Outside storage, off st. parking, cov. patio. No pets/smoking. Short drive to BSU. 3127 Jordan. \$480. 384-0438

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DILBERT comic strip panels with dialogue: I CAN MAKE YOUR COMPETITORS TIRED AND UNFOCUSED... I'LL PESTER THEM WITH AN ENDLESS SERIES OF CHARITY REQUESTS... I KNOW IT WORKS BECAUSE THEY PAID ME TO DO IT TO YOU... SO... TIRED. CAN'T FOCUS... ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, OUR EMPLOYEES ARE AFRAID TO TAKE RISKS... WE CAN TRAIN THEM TO TAKE RISKS BY GIVING THEM STRETCH GOALS AND PUNISHING THEM FOR FAILING!... WE DID THAT TO RAISE MORALE... IT STOPPED ALL THE COMPLAINING, DIDN'T IT?... EVERY TIME OUR POINTY-HAIRED BOSS LEAVES HIS OFFICE, I SNEAK IN AND SEAL AN AIR HOLE... I'M TRYING TO SEE IF HE'LL SUFFOCATE WHEN HE CLOSES HIS DOOR... I'VE NEVER HAD A HOBBY BEFORE. I CAN SEE WHY PEOPLE LIKE THEM.

HOROSCOPES By Linda C. Black Tribune Media Services Today's Birthday (Feb. 23) This year, you'll be amazed to find that the ceiling isn't made of glass... Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 5 - Caution is advised for a while... Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 9 - Send an emissary ahead with instructions on what to discover... Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 6 - Others may overestimate how much you have... Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8 - If you empower someone to do the job better than you could... Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8 - Go ahead and let yourself be swept away by another's romantic suggestion... Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 6 - Clean up your nest, throw out the old trash and make the place comfortable... Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8 - Chug away at a tough assignment... Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 7 - Go ahead and apply for the raise or the position of greater responsibility.

Cartoon panels with dialogue: "GOOD IDEA, BOSS... WOW! WHAT A HUMAHARAN!"... "KISSING BOOTH \$1.00" "KISSING UP BOOTH \$2.50" "I'M IN THERAPY BECAUSE I FEEL WORTHLESS. DOC. PEOPLE TREAT ME LIKE I'M BELOW THEM... INSIGNIFICANT." "OKAY, FIRST OF ALL... WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THE COUCH? DOWN, BOY!"

Crossword puzzle with clues: ACROSS 1 Sound of rippling water 5 Metal-shaping stand 10 Fountain drink 14 Surface measure 15 Rolls 16 Severn tributary 17 Small monkey 18 Earth visitor 19 Embraced 20 Rigorous 21 Prohibit 22 Palely 23 Meteor 27 On (without guarantee) 28 Infused with oxygen 32 Leafy quaker 34 Positioned accurately 36 Bustle 37 Nice nothing? 38 Lunch times 39 Trademark swab 40 Pharmacy abbr. 41 Lethal snake 42 City near Helena 43 Exterior 45 Dirt 46 Portland team 51 Lake near Reno 54 Baba 55 Part of a procedure 56 Prophetic sign 57 Garret 59 Frozen fall 60 Links warning 61 Paris river 62 Gymnast Korbut 63 Manipulated 64 Quantities of hair 65 Left DOWN 1 Courses 2 Heaps of Dickens 3 Hindsight 4 Bared 5 Jordan's language 6 Fastballer Ryan 7 Contending 8 Rink material 9 Writer Deighton 10 Most of Mali 11 Stove chamber 12 Child's toy 13 Gibb or Garcia 22 Beaver Cleaver's dad 24 Decimal base 25 Finn's bath 26 PGA pegs 29 Snitch 30 Revise for print 31 Nincompoop 32 End of a buck? 33 In (in position) 34 Actress Marisa 35 Stealing 36 Nothing in Nogaes 39 TV game 41 Bog down 42 Feather scarf 44 Pelted with rocks 45 Pizza portions 47 "Little" Lupe 48 Flash on and off 49 Perfid in power 50 Smacking sound 51 Bean curd 52 Book after Joel 53 Alternative to present 57 Bat wood 58 Earl Grey or oolong