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The Arbiter

THURSDAY MARCH 11, 2004 **POSTSEASON PREVIEW**

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ASBSU ELECTIONS

Candidates play hardball

Morriss and Labrecque partially succeed in overtaking quad

BY ANDY BENSON Editor-in-Chief

David Morriss, candidate for ASBSU president, and his running mate, Tom Labrecque, raised the bar for competitiveness in student government elections with a controversial strategy that effectively monopolized key locations in the Quad during the crucial voting period,

which ends today. Morriss and Labrecque coordinated with three student organizations to reserve all available locations in the Quad, but denied any attempt to limit their opponents' access to the Quad - considered to be most effective location for campaigning.

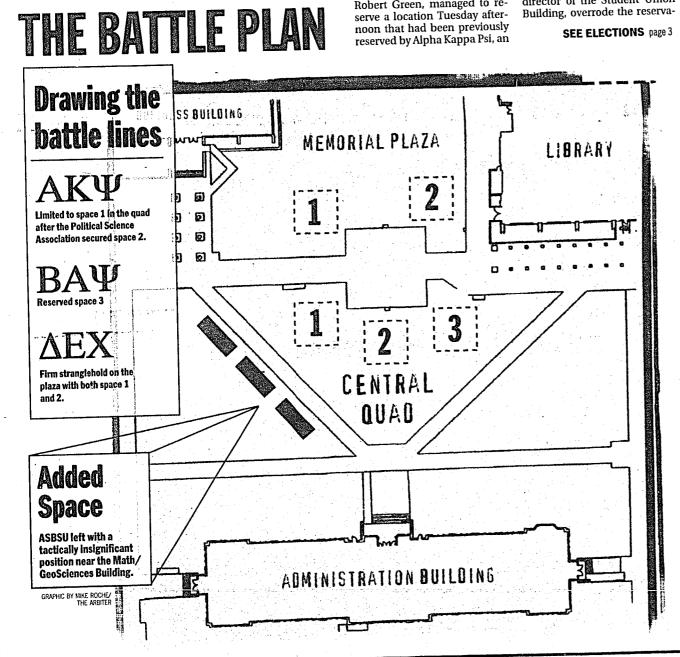
"That wasn't necessarily my intent," Morriss said. "We wanted to create the biggest

presence on campus...there wasn't some evil plot.'

Intentional or not, however, the tactic effectively blocked one opposing ticket --James Skaggs and Heather Campbell -- who instead decided to set up at a location outside the Multi-Purpose Classroom reserved on their behalf by the College Republicans. However, the Political Science Association, which supports Jim Wolfe and Robert Green, managed to reserve a location Tuesday afternoon that had been previously organization endorsing Morriss. The change created confusion Wednesday morning when candidates arrived to set up, each with reservations in hand. The dispute was resolved by Rob Meyer, associate director of student activities, who determined that Green and Wolfe had the most current reservation.

Morriss said Alpha Kappa Psi did not cancel their reservation, and claimed that Leah Barrett, director of the Student Union Building, overrode the reserva-

SEE ELECTIONS page 3



Law enforcement to target campus crosswalk violations

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

Law enforcement officials will be conducting directed patrols enforcing citations for crosswalk violations in the area of Boise State during the month of March and early April, the university

announced recently. The increased enforcement is a combined effort among the Office of University Security at Boise State, the campus police team and the Selective Traffic Enforcement Team of the Ada County Sheriff's Office in partnership with the Idaho Transportation Department's Office of Highway Safety.
"We have enjoyed a fairly low pedestrian-involved accident

rate at BSU, however, with the ever-increasing student population and additional vehicle traffic, we want to ensure that this trend continues," said Bob Seibolt, director of University

Law enforcement agencies will have numerous patrol motor-Security. cycles and cars around the BSU area to stop individuals who fail to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks, as well as pedestrians who fail to utilize crosswalks when appropriate.

Top students snag top media internships

BY JENNIFER TOBIA Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

Every year 10,000 students apply for a mere 700 positions at MTV. The draw? The priceless opportunity to make connections and gain job experience.

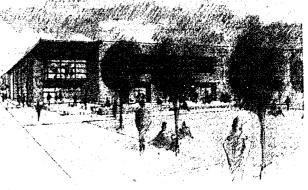
But MTV intern applicant Sheila Keys is undaunted: "Someone Most people figure that in order to land that dream job at Rolling

Stone magazine it's going to take a lot of time and resume-building before you can get a byline. But internships are created just for that reason. You're not up against that guy who has been covering rock and pop at The New York Times for 10 years. Instead, your only competitors are other

The applicant pool for these unique internships has become extremely competitive, with unpaid positions in the entertainment industry going to only the most qualified. With jobs in Hollywood as scarce and coveted as they are, it should come as no surprise that ambitious young people should see these internships as an opportunity to make the contacts to get ahead.

Since January, Columbia College of Chicago student Michael

SEE INTERNS page 3



VOLUME 16 ISSUE 47

IMAGE COURTESY LEAH BARRETT, STUDENT UNION DIRECTOR. An artist's rendition of the proposed SUB expansion provides a glimpse into e future for BSU's social center.

SUB director hopes union expansion in the works

BSU has plans for new Health, Wellness, and Counseling Center and Student Services Building. Is a SUB expansion next?

The last substantial expansion of the student union building occurred close to 13 years ago, in 1991. Barrett said the need for expansion

An expansion of Table Rock Café is

needed to support growing numbers of students living in residence halls.

More space needed for student organization offices and storage in the SUB.

An addition of more ballroom space. Barrett said the SUB turns down over 20 requests for use of

meeting space per month due to lack of room.

An outdoor performance and activities space for mid-day events. The Quad cannot host performances during the day because of noise restrictions.

Expanding retail food services. Barrett said surveys indicate students want a botter variety in the SUB. Additionally, dining areas have not been increased since 1998 (Subway added 35 seats) despite enrollment increases of over 2,000 from that year to present numbers.

with the recent addition of a laptop

computer checkout program in the SUB, there is a need for a printing lab for students.

Providing adequate space for the Women's Center and The Arbiter.
 Barrett said the Women's Center is important to student needs but is lo-

cated on the edge of campus.

still exists, listing several: • The bookstore is about half the size it should be for the student population.

KYLE GORHAM **Investigative Reporter**

As Boise State enrollment continues to soar -increasing pressure on the university's physical capacity -- the Student Union Building may be next on the expansion list.

wım for a revamped Health Center. Wellness along with a new Student Services Building, Leah Barrett, director of the Student Union and activities, said expansion of the Student Union Building might be next.

"I am optimistic that, with the decision to support the Health, Wellness, and Counseling facility, the expansion of the union will be a university priority," she said.

Barrett said new plans for expanding the SUB are in a formative stage, and was unclear if or when expansion would take place. However, she said university administrators acknowledge the need for expansion and have began talking about forming a timeline for the project and its funding.
Provost Daryl Jones said

there have been long-term discussions within the administration about expanding the SUB.

There are a number of needs we are aware of, it's simply a matter of resources and where they might come from," he said.

Jones said he wasn't aware of any concrete discussions lately about the expansion but said, "Eventually it's going to have to be addressed." He said the most likely source of funding for an expansion would be student fees. But creating a fee to fund a student union expansion has been tried

In 2001 a \$25 student fee was approved for the expansion of the Student Union Building. However, in 2002 the Executive Budget Committee, chaired by Jones, voted to suspend the fee and instead add it into the matriculation fee. The decision occurred amid a tightening state budget. The move was met with some criticism and at one point was thought to possibly violate the Idaho Constitution. Money from matriculation fees help fund the physical plant, institutional support

and student services at the university.

Jones said the university's need to devote most of student fees to matriculation has left little room to fund a revamped SUB. However, Barrett remains confident the union could

be next to grow. Barrett said the next step is change the original 1999 expansion plans and reassess the needs at the SUB. Once preliminary design developments are drawn and the cost of the project is known, determining the method of funding would fol-low. Barrett said it hasn't been decided if the original \$25 fee would be reinstated or a new fee would be created. The fee must first be approved by the Executive Budget Committee and then by the State Board of Education.

PAGE 2

Committee considers printing fee for computer labs

BY MARY GRACE LUCAS Special to The Arbiter

Each week, biology major Elise Conger calmly waits her turn to print at least 20 pages of notes for her cell biology and organic chemistry classes. Unfortunately for Conger, printing class notes could become more expensive if a new campus group gets its way.

A group comprised of student government, faculty, library staff, Office of Information Technologies staff and several other campus organizations has convened to sort out the printing problems at BSU, and one likely solution will be to charge students for computer lab printer use.

The Student Computer Lab

Printing Fee Group, as they are tentatively calling themselves, stated that their mission to make it easier, faster, and, most importantly, more economical to print at BSU. Despite the use of "fee" in SCLPFG's title, members say any new charges will present little threat to students who are not abusing their printing privileges.

David O'Neil, the executive director of the OIT, says the group hopes to find a way to personalize printing fees, but remains committed to protecting students from being overcharged.

"To penalize the average student by raising the general fee, it just didn't make sense," says O'Neil. Instead, the extra charge will be geared towards students who print "well beyond the normal amount."

But Conger is not sure she'll have the forebearance to cough up extra cash at computer labs in order to make the grade.

"The amount of printing that teachers require us to do makes it unfair," Conger said.

The SCLPFG has been studying lab use since October. O'Neil said the average student prints around 300 pages per semester, whether the pages are for academic or personal use -- at an overall cost of less than five cents per page. But "average" includes students required to print hundreds of pages and students who rarely even set foot in the labs.

In addition, students already pay a \$27.25 computer lab fee.

This fee was originally intended to cover printing, but the SCLPFG has determined that printing needs are becoming more and more complicated, with colored ink and other specifics upping the overall cost.

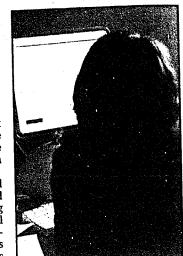
"I pay enough in student fees already to pay for the paper I use," said senior Trevor Smith. Smith said he prints far less than the 300 pages per semester average.

The group has found many factors to consider, and are examining several printing charge models used at other universities. One model would require students to log-in on the computer network, allowing BSU to record the number of pages and bill accordingly through the mail. Another

model includes a student printing debit card. The group has also looked at letting students pay with Bronco Bucks or prepay into a student ID card account.

The SCLPFG hopes to have a proposal ready for students and the Faculty Senate sometime this spring, at which point a course of action would be set with the goal of having the smallest monetary impact on non-abusers.

In the meantime, O'Neil wants students to understand that the SCLPFG is promising to explore the issue from all sides before making any printing fee changes. So, at this point anyway, Conger's cash is not in danger.



WHAT THE BIBLE REALLY TEACHES

Before the Earth, planets, and the stars were ever created, there was the Almighty God Jehovah, who always was. Then Jehovah God created His only begotten Son (Jesus Christ) the Word, and they Together created the Heavens, the Earth, and the angels.

-Colossians 1:15-18

One of these angels was appointed to rule over man. He was a high-ranking cherub called Lucifer. Lucifer rebelled and misled Eve. After this, Lucifer was known as Satan, Serpent, Dragon, and Devil. -Ezekiel 28:13-15

After Lucifer's rebellion and the downfall of mankind through disobedience of Adam and Eve, the Almighty God Jehovah promised to bring forth a Holy One who would rule the universe and mankind under Jehovah God in righteousness. That Holy One is the Only Begotten Son of Jehovah God, the Word, Jesus Christ, who was sent to Earth to become flesh and choose his government from among mankind, consisting of those who would believe upon Him. The world, however, hated Him. They crucified Him, and He returned to the right hand of His Father Jehovah in Heaven until the appointed time of His second coming. —Acts 3:20-23 & Luke 4:43

At Christ's (Jehovah's Son's) second coming, this wicked system of things will be destroyed, and His righteous, faithful followers will be resurrected from their graves to live forever, some in Heaven and some on Earth. -2 Peter 3:7-13

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TECHNOLOGY

Internet companies launch legal attack on spammers

BY JONATHAN KRIM The Washington Post

The nation's four largest e-mail account providers Wednesday announced a coordinated legal attack on spammers, using a new federal law to file six lawsuits in courts around the country.

on spanners, using a new receral law to life six lawsums in courts around the country.

The suits by America Online, Earthlink Inc. Microsoft Corp. and Yahoo Inc. target what their lawyers called some of the largest spam operations, accounting for hundreds of millions of e-mails hitting their networks every month.

networks every month.

By combining investigative resources, spammers should be on notice that ``we're going to locate you and we're going to sue you,'' said Randall Boe, AOL's general counsel, at a news conference with his counterparts at the other companies.

The firms said that the lawsuits are the first major fruits of a consortium they formed last spring to battle spam. The companies also are working on technology solutions to curb unwanted e-mail, but they have so far not agreed on common standards for changing how e-mail is identified so that spam can be more effectively weeded out.

Each company has filed dozens of suits against spammers over the past several years, using state anti-spam and fraud statutes. But their counsels said that the new federal law makes it easier to sue regardless of jurisdiction.

Several of the suits filed last night named defendants only as "John Doe," meaning that further investigation is needed to identify the owners and operators of the operations.

One group, known to Yahoo as The Head Operation Group, is allegedly a Canada-based operation accused of soliciting Yahoo e-mail users' data and then selling the information to other marketers.

Other alleged spammers are accused in the suits of selling mortgage schemes, organ-enhancement products and services to help other spamm





Hogan has interned at "The Daily Show with John Stewart.'

Hogan, 22, got the internship one of about 10 a semester - by writing to the show, including a cover letter and resume, and saying he was interested in interning for them. A few weeks later Hogan was called for an interview.

The experience is a lot more than what I thought it was going to be. I've done four internships in Chicago before I moved to New York and there were a couple of places where all I did was get coffee and lunch for people," Hogan said. "I do my share of answering telephones and stocking refrigerators, (but) 'The Daily Show' staff really gives their interns a look at what it's like to work at a television show.

Half of Hogan's time at "The Daily Show" is spent working in the post-production department. "I help find footage for segments, pick up tapes from other news sources and sit in on edits. I find it really fascinating to see how it all comes together before the final product is put

Hogan is studying television production but focusing more on post-production such as editing and graphic design. "I'm not exactly sure what's next for me," he said. "I may get something in Los Angeles, but I would really like to stay in New York at `The Daily Show' if a position happens to open up.'

If you live in or near any major city - New York or Los Angeles especially - applying for an internship with your favorite late night talk show, magazine or radio station may not be as hard as you thought it would be. Of course actually getting the internship is another matter. And getting paid is almost unheard of.

The Princeton Review online gives contact names and internship information for more than 50 internships available throughout the country. The site also gives a detailed description of "the work," "the perks," an "FYI" and information on the amount of people who apply verses the amount who are accepted.

Julie Gordon, 21, a senior at The George Washington University, got an internship at the USA Today New York bureau last summer. Gordon said the internship was quite fulfill-

"On my second day, one of the reporters asked me to cover a memorial service for IMG founder Mark McCormack,' Gordon said. "I was extremely excited - this was what I had wanted, to cover city events. I went to the service and interviewed colleagues and friends of McCormack's. I also covered (last) summer's shooting at City Hall, which was really intense. I went behind police lines near City Hall and interviewed people who were inside the building at the time of the attack and city council members. I called my editor and relayed the quotes I collected and my observations to her. It was real

on-the-spot coverage.

Gordon also got the chance to write about entertainment, books, the New York smoking ban and school dress codes. She was the only intern hired for the summer. She admits there was some grunt work, but Gordon said that is an understandable part of being an intern. She was not paid, but received 3 college credits.

At one of the few paid internships available, interns at Hallmark can make from \$1,500 to \$5,000 a month at the 10- to 12-week summer program and get the chance to work in the corporate or creative side of the job.

Shaneka Stuckey, internship coordinator for HBO in New York, receives thousands of applications for various departments each semester. "We hire based on the needs of a department - usually about 15 college interns a semester.

How can she distinguish one resume from another with such a huge pool of applicants?

"We realize that, in college, students may not have had the ability to really stack their resumes. A lot of our decision is based on an applicant's area of interest. We are pretty flexible as well; we'll hire a business major for a human resources position.

Thirty to 50 people are invited back for interviews, where Stuckey says she can get a much better feel for the candidate. Once hired for a position in original programming, marketing, production, media relations, finance, accounting, human resources or film program-

ming, interns at HBO receive college credit for their 10-week

program. "We invite interns to meetings and give them hands-on training," Stuckey said. So what are the chances you'd get a job there after your internship is over? According to Stuckey, who has been at HBO for three years, "We've hired ten of our interns as full-time staff."

Jeff Dagley, career center adviser at George Washington University, tells students seeking these competitive internships to "be creative. Do something that sets you apart from the rest. If you are applying for a spot on the Conan O'Brien show, send in a tape of your best Conan impression. Make yourself seem like the perfect fit."

The possibilities for internship opportunities are endless.

Said Dagley: "It's unpaid labor; everyone loves to hire interns these days. You just have to get out there and apply."







Elections

tion, allowing Wolfe and Green to move into the spot.

Barrett denied Morriss' accusation and said she didn't know who made the changes, but that the issue had been worked out with the candidates.

"Folks are accepting what's going on," Barrett said. "They might not be happy about it, but they are working with what they got.

Barrett also said that her office created temporary locations in the Quad for candidates unable to obtain a spot. However, those temporary locations experience less pedestrian traffic then the permanent spots.

Green said he and Wolfe offered to share their location with rivals Staggs and Campbell. However, Skaggs said he and Campbell didn't want to share a table with an opposing campaign and will stay at their location near the MPC.

At issue are five reservable spots between the Albertson's Library and the Business Building. Boise State's open space policy restricts events expected to draw at least 25 people to those locations. The policy doesn't prevent candidates from campaigning outside designated areas; however, candidates would not receive free institutional support such as table and chairs. Additionally, candidates could be removed from the Quad if they drew a crowd of 25 or more.

The election board gener-

ally reserves spots in the Quad for use by all candidates; however, Morriss and Labrecque were able to outflank ASBSU by reserving the locations in February. Morriss and Labrecque, both business majors, were able to pull off the land-grab with the assistance of three business student organizations -- Alpha Kappa Psi, Beta Alpha Psi and Delta Epsilon Chi. Candidates are not able to reserves spots, but may solicit the support of clubs interested in sponsoring campaigns.

All three tickets in the presidential race have ties with student organizations involved with the campaigns. Labrecque is vice president of Alpha Kappa Psi, Green is president of the Political Science Association and Campbell is president of the College Republicans.



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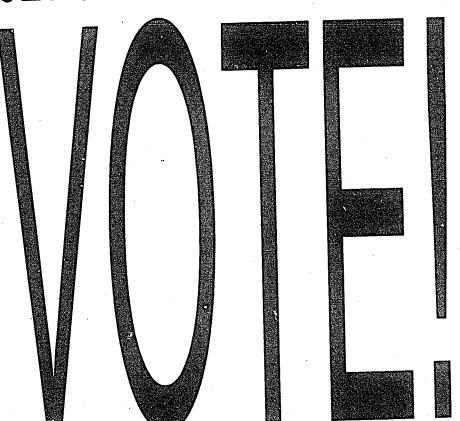
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ANDY BENSON

This Island, Idaho

By M.Flinn



LETTERS TO HE EDITOR

We encourage readers to voice their opinions for publication. Please sub-mit letters to the editor to editor@arbiteronline.com and include name, conmit letters to the editor to eaitor@arbiteronune.com and include name, contact number and standing at Boise State University. Letters may be subject to editing. The Arbiter cannot verify the accuracy of statements made in letters to the editor; they reflect the opinion of the writer. Readers may also post their comments at www.arbiteronline.com

To the Editor

We are writing in reference to the front-page article in the March 4 issue of The Arbiter. We cannot speak for any other organization and we are not taking a position regarding the current debate over funding of student clubs. We would, however, like to take exception to the Mechanical Engineering Club being included in the 'Requests Denied' list accompanying the article. The implication of including our organization is that we were not approved for the full amount our organization is that we were not approved for the full amount we requested because of some looming budget crisis. In fact, our funding was restricted solely by the 150 percent rule in ASBSU's constitution. We were given every indication by FAB that, if their hands were not tied by this rule, they would have been happy to find us for the full amount of the request.

fund us for the full amount of the request.

Our club's relationship with ASBSU and FAB has been extremely positive and we look forward to continuing that relationship in the

To the Arbiter we suggest that they fully investigate information future. before using it to support an argument. As any engineering student will tell you, it's better to draw conclusions from the facts that you find, rather than fit facts to the conclusion you prefer.

Sincerely,

Stephen Klick, president Jeremy Bateman, secretary Zach Balley, special projects coordinator Paul Williams, community service coordinator Mechanical Engineering Society

Atheism Does Not Equal Intolerance

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

I was very excited when I picked up the March 1 issue of The Arbiter and saw the opinion column entitled "Atheist Homeland: The Rebuttal," as I thought it might be the beginning of a serious discourse on the role of religion in the public square. Sadly, my hopes were dashed after reading only the first sentence of the article. It soon became clear that, rather than a rebuttal, the article was going to be nothing more than a series of personal attacks on me and a selective presentation of what the author believes to be the facts. I have no problem with The Arbiter publishing a rebuttal to my piece, it was meant to stimulate debate and present a minority perspective. However, I was very dismayed that The Arbiter chose to publish one so full of invective and vitrio Sandmeyer degrades my education, calls me stupid, clueless, a whiner, accuses me of intellectual fraud, of believing that the world is flat, and suggests that I read History for Dummies, and take some Prozac. He stopped just short of insulting my mother. I don't see much value in comments like these, and if Mr. Sandmeyer intended to provide a true rebuttal he severely undermined his own credibility as a result of these ad ho-

minem attacks. The author claims that I do not respect the opinions of others and show contempt for democracy. This is not true. I cherish democracy and am deeply disturbed by how it is being undermined by the neo-conservative agenda. As for the opinions of others, I believe that all people should be free to act in accordance with their own values and beliefs. It is, in fact, the religious right who demonstrates no respect for the opinions of others. That is why I want an atheist homeland: to escape their intolerance. For example, I believe that a woman should have the right to choose, based on her definition of when life begins. If a woman thinks that abortion is taking a life then she should not have one. Does the religious right respect this opinion or the democratic way in which it was arrived at in this county? I believe that two people of the same sex who love each other should be entitled to the same rights and protections under the law as heterosexual couples. If you don't believe in gay marriage then don't marry someone who is gay. Does the religious right respect this opinion? I believe that a terminally ill adult should have the right to choose if and when to take their own life with the aid of a doctor. Does the religious right respect this opinion? I believe that people have the right to erect a fifty-foot rendition of the Ten Commandments if they like, just not in public parks or courthouses. If I don't like it, I don't have to look at it, as long as it is on private property. I could go on and on with examples like this demonstrating that it is the religious right and people like Mr. Sandmeyer who do not respect another's opinion, not atheists. We realize that everyone has different beliefs about what is right and wrong. That is why we want to live in a society where people are free to make their own choices, based on their personal beliefs, and not be told what is acceptable by the right-wing government or an ancient book. Mr. Sandmeyer incorrectly equates democracy with "majority rules" such that if you are in the minority in a democracy your voice counts for nothing. On the contrary, in a free society those with differing opinions should not be subject to what John Stuart Mill called "the tyranny of the majority." This would truly be an open and democratic society, and it is what Mr. Sandmeyer seems to fear, not me.

Mr. Sandmeyer writes as if he is an expert on democracy while somehow claiming that he cannot believe that his tax dollars go to pay my salary. Mr. Sandmeyer should know that in our democracy we actually have little say in where our tax dollars go and that they often go to support programs or policies that we as individuals do not believe in. For example, my tax dollars (and my grandchildren's) are going to support the war in Iraq, which I do not believe in. My tax dollars are also going to a program sponsored by the Bush administration to develop new tactical nuclear weapons, which I do not agree with and which seems contrary to the proposal of our government to rid the world of weapons of mass destruction. How do we expect to rid the world of such weapons if we keep producing them? And finally, my tax dollars also go to fund a variety of faith-based programs and abstinence-only sex education programs (the latter being the only social program in the latest budget not to have its funding slashed, it actually increased), which I also do not believe in. So I guess Mr. Sandmeyer and I are in the same boat when it comes to not liking where our tax dollars are going.

Apparently, Mr. Sandmeyer didn't like my comment about mindlessly pasting American flags on our SUVs while chanting "God Bless America." While this indeed may be some people's idea of patriotism it is, in fact, empty patriotism in that it costs nothing. And that is the problem: it makes people feel like they are doing something when in reality they are doing nothing. Since 9/11, what sacrifices (myself included) have most Americans made to end our dependence on fossil fuels and lessen our involvement in the Middle East? Have we engaged in a nationwide campaign for conservation and exploration of alternative energy sources? Have we voted into office leaders with dynamic

new energy policies? No. Those acts would be a lot more patriotic, by protecting the future viability of our nation, than putting stickers on our cars, but they would also be a lot more difficult too. Instead, many in our nation have backed leaders who send young Americans to die in a foreign land so we can privatize the oil resources of the invaded country for our own gain. Mr. Sandmeyer claims we debate our addiction to fossil fuels on a daily basis. The only debate on fos-sil fuels in this country is how and where to get more, being it invading Iraq or drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. It is interesting to remember that this great debate Mr. Sandmeyer is referring to led Congress to veto a bill that would have required higher fuel efficiency standards on automobiles, and this occurred just days before 9/11. Finally, if any debate is going on the American people are not privy to it because has been fighting tooth and nail to keep the meetings of his energy policy task force secret. Why would the vice president of the U.S. want to keep his policy meetings on

energy secret from the American people? Mr. Sandmeyer further claims that we seriously debate foreign policy on a daily basis and that I am misguided in saying that we don't. True, foreign policy occupies a considerable amount of our government's time, but the only debate that actually occurs is how to best maintain global dominance and preserve a steady supply of oil. Does anyone in our government seriously look at U.S. foreign policy and examine the misery and suffering that it inflicts on millions around the world? Was the root cause of 9/11 ever seriously discussed by Bush, Cheney, Perle, or Rumsfeld? No, the president came on T.V. and said 9/11 happened because the terrorists "hate freedom." This is a simplistic explanation but one easily digested by the masses. Did he suggest that perhaps the terrorists hate us because of our long-term support of Israel despite their oppression and slaughter of the Palestinians? Did he suggest that they hate us because we have been interfering in Middle Eastern affairs forever, doing such things as installing the former Shah of Iran as our puppet dictator or providing Saddam Hussein with the technology to produce chemical and biological weapons while also propping up the brutal regimes of Egypt and Saudi Arabia? Did he suggest perhaps that it angers people that while the U.S. government claims to want to promote democracy what they really want are governments that are sympathetic to them, democratic or dictatorships alike, as long as they serve U.S. interests and keep the oil flowing? For example, how many people know that in recent years the U.S. has been covertly working to topple the democratically elected government of Venezuela? Why, you might ask, would the U.S. want to topple a democratically elected government when they claim to want to spread democracy throughout the Perhaps because president Hugo Chavez is trying to nationalize the oil industry so all Venezuelans can benefit from it not just a few multinational corporations? This, I believe, is why other countries hate us, because we oppress and manipulate them to serve our own interests while claiming to be benevolent. And this is why terrorism oc-curs: it is the desperate act of an exploited people. And nobody in our government is mentioning this, let alone debating this. It has been nearly three years since 9/11 and I have not seen any serious debate on these issues, but according to Mr. Sandmeyer this debate goes on every day.

Mr. Sandmeyer attempts to further bolster his argument with quotations from the framers of the constitution and the founders of this country related to their ideas about God. Furthermore, he claims that I am ignorant of history when, in fact, it is he that shows little knowledge of the subject. He quotes the Declaration of Independence, Washington, and Jefferson, apparently to demonstrate that there is some sort of historical link between the U.S. and God and that we live in a Christian country. First, you can find just as many quotes from the founders/framers against an established religion as those that supposedly support it (see, for example, the treaty with Tripoli in which it explicitly states that the U.S. is not a Christian nation). Mr. Sandmeyer is selectively presenting quotes to support his argument. Additionally, I am always amazed how religious people trot out the use of the word "God" in the Declaration of Independence to justify the non-separation of church and state they desire. Based on this, Mr. Sandmeyer claims I am ignorant of the true intentions of the founder/framers. In fact, I am well aware of their intentions, such as their intention to count blacks as two-thirds a person and to deny voting rights to them, women, and Native Americans alike. Conservatives are fond of trotting out the parts of historical documents that support their agenda while denying those portions that signify cruelty, intolerance, and discrimination. Answer me this, if the founders/framers were truly interested in forming a Christian nation why did they include the First Amendment to the Constitution? The point is, we don't allow early constitutional ideas about slavery and the subjugation of women and minorities to dictate social policy in this country today and the same should hold true for ideas about god as well. But that is not the way the religious right sees it, and that is why I am a proponent of reason and tolerance in the name of freedom and not bigotry and intolerance in the name of a supreme being.

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Editor-in-Chief ANDY BENSON x105

Sports Editor
ANDREA TRUJILLO x103
sports@arbitercelling

Advisor DR. DAN MORRIS x107

Managing Editor JESSICA ADAMS x106

Investigative Team Leader JESSICA ADAMS x106 letters@arbiteronline.com

REPORTERS Jason Bright Michelle Sells Monica Price

Mandy Dance Danaka Oliver COLUMNISTS

ASST. PHOTO EDITOR

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS

A&E Editor
CRYSTAL THOMAS x104
diversions@arbiteronline.com

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No easy answer to the no-jobs recovery riddle

BY JAY HANCOCK The Baltimore Sun

The U.S. economy rolled deeper into unknown territory last week. For those of us on board, things getting more than a little weird and scary.

On Friday, the nation posted another month of miserable job growth, the Labor Department reported. Payrolls expanded by only 21,000 jobs for February, a puny portion of the 125,000 jobs expected by some very smart Wall Street economists.

America is no stranger to meager employment gains and occasional jags of overall employment loss, but we're supposed to be in a recovery, for crying out loud.

Gross domestic product, which tracks the output of goods and services and is the most widely accepted gauge of economic health, has been growing at a scorching, 1999-

But corporate hiring departments have turned out the

The official "recovery" from the 2001 recession is more than two years old, but the United States has 718,000 fewer jobs than when the recession ended.

What recovery?
We've never seen anything like this. Not since the govern-

ment started counting jobs in 1939 has the nation grown its gross domestic product by this amount and for this long with so little to show in putting people to work.

Frodo, I don't think we're in Hobbiton anymore.

What would the jobs picture look like if GDP were shrinking?
Many people expected some

Many people expected some sort of "jobless recovery" as the nation recuperated from the popped stock bubble and the terrorist attacks, but this is ridiculous.

The term, "jobless recovery," was coined a decade ago after corporations seized on computerized productivity improvements to increase output without adding proportional numbers of workers.

But the jobless recovery of the early 1990s lasted only about a year and a half -- from the recession's end to when the economy started adding at least 150,000 or 200,000 jobs a month, which is the minimum analysts believe is needed for sustainable growth.

This jobless recovery is 27 months old with no end in sight. At February's rate of growth it'll take until 2013 before the United States boasts as many jobs as it had in March 2001, at the peak of the previous expansion.

"This is bad news. I don't even know where to begin," University of Maryland economist Peter Morici said Friday after looking at the job report. "We're not getting the normal multiplier effect" that usually comes with economic expan-

Some 8 million people were jobless in February. It would have been higher, but many folks are so discouraged they've given up looking for jobs -- "left the work force," in government parlance. They are not counted as unemployed, which is why the jobless rate stayed at a deceptively low 5.6 percent.

The average duration of unemployment in February was more than five months -- the longest since 1983.

Everybody's confused. The stock market first fell on Friday -- no jobs. Bad for consumers. Than it soared -- low interest rates forever! Then it slumped into bafflement.

The National Bureau of Economic Research, the semi-official arbiter of business cycles, doesn't even know what a recession is anymore. First it decided job growth was the hallmark of business expansion. Then last October it declared GDP growth was what really mattered. Don't be surprised if it starts having third thoughts.

One explanation for the jobless riddle is technology-driven productivity. As in the early 1990s, automation and centralization are allowing companies to churn out more products with fewer workers.

But there can be little doubt that the transfer of U.S. jobs overseas is part of the equation. Manufacturing positions have been moving to Mexico and Asia for years. But now, thanks to the Internet, service jobs such as insurance processing and tech support are shifting overseas, too.

That's surprising and worrisome. Service jobs were supposed to be more or less bulletproof against foreign competition.

But then, what else is new? Surprising and worrisome are what this economy is all about. Non-importable products have become importable. Output grows while employment doesn't. Wage and salary growth is almost flat. Profligate government spending and the lowest interest rates since the 1950s haven't helped.

We need a map to tell us where all this goes. But there isn't one.

Hancock is a financial columnist for



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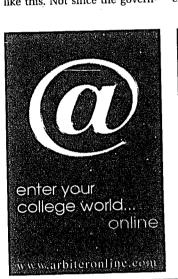
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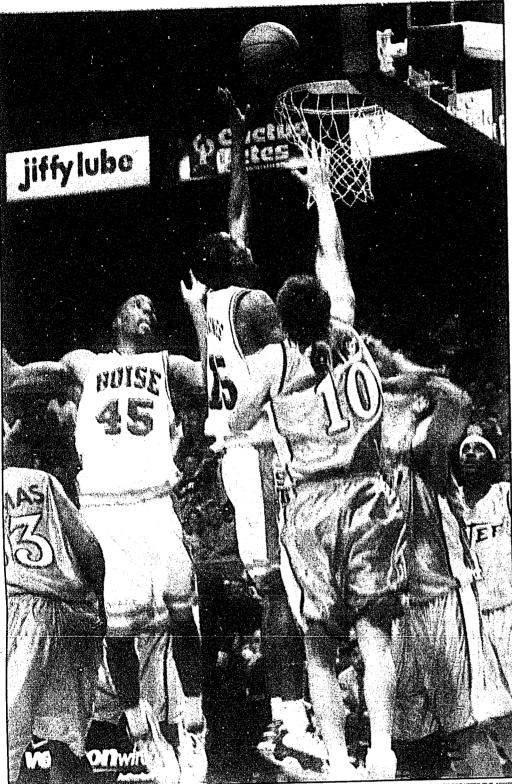
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ANDREA TRUJILLO Sports Editor

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SPORTS THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2004

Broncos head to Fresno for WAC Championships



The Boise State men's basketball team enters the WAC tournament starting against the Fresno State Bulldogs.

BY TREVOR HORN Sports Reporter

The Boise State men's basketball team begins its quest for a postseason berth tonight at the WAC tournament in Fresno, facing the hometown Fresno State Bulldogs at 9:

The Broncos are in the midst of a six-game win streak and are looking to claim the school's first WAC title, and solidify a bid to the NCAA tournament.

"It's been a big season for us so far. We just want to keep it going and play against Fresno," senior forward Aaron Haynes said.

The 2004 McCaffery WAC Tournament will be held at the Save Mart Center, and the Broncos will be playing the host team in the quarterfinals. The Bulldogs are led by Shantaey Legans, last weeks' WAC Player of the Week. Legans, a senior guard from Goleta, California was also named to the second team All-WAC team.

Coach Graham understands the difficult task at hand as the Broncos will face the only team with a home court advantage.

'Ít's a big one. That's why you try to get the tournament at your site," Graham said.

The Bulldogs won their final two games of the regular season, but are still without three of their top scorers, who were suspended from the program. The team members, Renaldo Major, Terry Pettis and Jonathon Woods, all averaged double-digits for the Bulldogs before their suspensions, and are ineligible to play in the conference

tournament. The two teams split the regular season meetings, both wins coming for the road team. The Broncos easily played their worst second half of the season versus the Bulldogs on Jan. 15. The score was tied at halftime at 37, but the Bulldogs went on a 12-1 run to start the second half, and the Broncos never found their groove. The win improved Fresno State's WAC record to 5-0, but they have won only five of their last 14 games since. On the flip side, the Broncos have won 11 of 14 since they lost to the Bulldogs, including a defensive stand against Fresno State on the road on Feb. 14. The Broncos held the Bulldogs to a seasonlow 44 points at the Save Mart Center.

The 20-win season is the first since the Broncos went 21-8 in 1998-99, and the Broncos tied a school record with 9 road victories. Boise State is the hottest team in the WAC currently, and they are doing it opposite their normal style of play. Defense been the determining factor for the team over the recent win streak, which was apparent last Saturday versus UTEP. The Broncos held the Miners to a season low 45 points, 34 points below their season average of 79.4 points per game.

But don't get confused about the mentality of Coach Graham's strategy. The team will play an up-tempo style, something that

has hurt their opponents in the past. "That's our style, that's what's got us the record we have now. Playing high tempo, teams have trouble keeping up with us, so that's going to be the plan," freshman guard

Eric Lane said.
When the Bronco's leading scorer, Jermaine Blackburn, went down with a shoulder injury last month, the Broncos knew they needed to step up their defense to ensure they could stay competitive in the WAC. Over the six-game win streak, the Broncos have held opponents to only 51.8 points per game, nearly 13 points below

their season average. One of the reasons for the improvement of the defense comes from down low with center Jason Ellis, who was selected on Sunday to the first team All-WAC squad. Ellis leads the Broncos in rebounding with 9.1 per game, despite being relatively undersized. At only 6'7" and 211 pounds, he usually gives up nearly 40 pounds per game to his opponents. Yet, the junior from Kent, Washington goes down low and keeps the

big men out of the paint. Another key to the defense this season has been point guard Joe Skiffer. The senior from San Francisco has been assigned night after night to guard the top scoring guards on the opponents' teams. Skiffer was not nominated to the All-Defensive team, but his efforts have been recognized by his teammates.

"He's the best defender on the team. He usually guards the best guard player," Ellis

Senior forward Aaron Haynes was also recognized for his performance this season. A preseason all-conference first team pick, Haynes backed up that accolade by being named to the postseason first team All-WAC team. Averaging 16.5 points per game in conference play, Haynes led the Broncos to a 12-6 record in the WAC, and a 6-1 record without leading scorer Jermaine Blackburn

for the end of the regular season. "I just went out and played like I did last

year," Haynes said. Haynes will be able to play in front of his family wearing a Bronco uniform, and the Fresno native will try to help the Broncos

take home the WAC championship. "I'm excited because my family gets to come and watch me play in my last year. It's been a big season for us so far. We just have to keep it up and play against Fresno, Haynes said.

Om the sidelimes with Skiffer; Joe takes time to talk hoops, hair, and the honeys

BY ANDREA TRUJILLO Sports Editor

So what's a Cali boy doin' way out

here in Boise? Wow. What's a Cali boy doin' way out here in Boise? Goin' to school and playin' basketball.

Earlier this year you were sportin' some longer hair. Was that the "natural look?

Um... No, change is good. I just wanted to grow it out a bit and go natural. Change is good. Those were my

nappy roots. I just let it go. Now you're cleaned up, clean cut. Why the change?

Well after the team was struggling, one of the assistant coaches said we had too much style- that we were too concerned with style. We started talking about my hair, and he said it used to be clean. And my dad, he was like, "clean it up." And I knew... it'd be getting warmer.

Does the look work better with the ladies- do the ladies of Boise like the preppy look?

I don't think it matters what my

hair is like. It just matters 'who I am.'

(laughing) Are the rumors true about the hoop team- y'all do pretty well in the female category?

Are you putting this in the newspaper? Is it true what they say... I think we just do well in an assortment of

Better than the football team? Isn't their motto "sharin' is carin?" Umm... long pause... How do I

want to word this right here? That's their motto huh? We respect women more than to just to say, "sharing is caring." We're just trying to survive. They're the champions, we're trying to be champions.

Anybody on your team need some

help with women? I need help. I don't have any game. So you're graduating this semester. Gotta be a nice feelin' after five,

or is it eight years up at BSU? After five years, it's a lot of emotion. Knowin' that my career is coming to an end. But I am ready to take the

next step in that journey. You're the old fella on the team,

kinda the elder statesman if sorts. Any words of wisdom for the up-

and-coming players? Yeah. There's a lot to say. Don't take anything for granted, 'cause you never know what the next day may bring. In sports, be the best player you can possibly be. And knowledge is power, so stay down with the

You drive a Volvo- right? That's kinda a family wagon. You got kids

No kids. Not for a while. And it's still sporty, and it's got leather.

You mean kids 'that you know of?' I don't have any kids.

Right, right. No little Joe Juniors running around, big pimpin' in

My dad is Joe Junior, I'm Joe Skiffer the third. And no surprises... trust

You still livin' alone- no roommates wanted? Still livin' alone, like I have been for

the last four years. Still enjoying it. It's all good over here. That's how players do it, right?

No, that's how people who just like to have a little space- freedom you wouldn't necessarily have if you had

a roommate. Okay, enough about your skills off the court. Let's talk about the hardwood. You gonna keep playin' ball after college?

Yeah, I will play in some form or the other. It's up in the air. But I will definitely be around the sport.

So when you're long gone from Bolse, say 2010... What will be said of Joe Skiffer? Good guy, nice guy. Played tough,

Leader on, and off the court, by example. Still single in 2010? Never gonna

settle down? Can I call you back then?

No. None of that.

played smart.

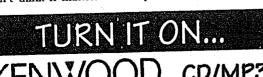
Nope. All right then. That's six years from now, that makes me 29. Possibly single, but not for too much longer.

Definitely settled down. Married Skiff? No more 1-800-Joe-Love?

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PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER Senior guard Joe Skiffer and the rest of the 20-win Broncos look to beat the hometown Fresno State Buildogs tonight in WAC tournament action.





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JesseBrock said he was never on a winning team before he came to Boise State, and that is something that will stay with him-even after he leaves Boise behind. "Being a part of a good team that does well at a National level, year in and year out, is what I'll remember most."

Jesse Brock a piece of BSU's Pac-10 puzzle

BY JEREMY RASMUSSEN **Sports Reporter**

The BSU wrestling team's loss to Cal-Poly back in January was a turning point for the squad. From that point on, they have looked unstoppable. Lead by a cluster of consistent top performers, along with the occasional surprise victory, the Broncos finished the 2004 season winning eight in a row. They sealed the deal on a great season by takin the Pac-10 Championship last week.

One individual who could be credited for aiding in the Broncos' success this year is senior leader, Jesse Brock. Brock wracked up a 28-6 record wrestling at 141 pounds, along with winning his second individual Pac-10 Championship. He won his first championship during his sophomore season as an unseeded 133-pounder. He has had a very successful career in his four years as a Bronco. However, Brock considers the success of the team more memorable than individual victories.

"I was never on a winning team in high school," Brock said, "Being a part of a good team that does well at a national level year in and year out is what I'll remember most."

Brock grew up in Wasilla, Alaska and began his wrestling career in the third grade at the age of eight. Brock credits his dad for sparking his interest and keeping him involved in the sport.

"He was my coach from the get go. He was always in my corner, and he always made sure I was having fun doing

it. He made sure I took a step back and thought about it if I started losing interest," Brock

As a junior at Wasilla High School, Brock won his first state championship in the 112-pound weight class. He then repeated as state champ his senior year at 125 pounds. Following his successful senior season, recruiting offers started coming in from several colleges. Most offers came from Division II schools, but Brock turned them down, feeling confident he could succeed in a Division I program. Enter Boise State. When BSU provided an opportunity, Brock jumped at the chance to wres-

tle for top program. Brock began his career at Boise State as a red-shirt freshman in 2000. He sat back and learned as much as he could in that first year. In his first active year, he saw limited mat time. His chance to shine came his sophomore year in the 133-pound weight class in 2002. After a solid season, he went on to win his first Pac-10 Championship. The title was particularly noteworthy as it culminated his first year as a Bronco starter. Last year, Brock finished his junior season with record of 19-7. He went on to defend his Pac-10 title at 133 pounds, but fell short in the championship match and was left with a 2nd place finish. This year, Brock will be making his third trip to the NCAA Championships. He is currently ranked 20th in the nation in the 141-pound weight class by Intermat. He hopes to prove that the third time really is a charm as he prepares for this

year's tournament in St. Louis

beginning a week from today. T'm pretty confident right now. I haven't wrestled well there the past two years, but I'm going in with the mindset that I can beat whoever is put in front of me," Brock said, "I am preparing myself right now fro the number one seed.'

One of the main things Brock does to prepare for an upcoming match or tournament is visualization. He constantly visualizes different scenarios he might encounter in a match, such as getting the winning takedown in overtime or catching a guy just right to get the pin. Immediately before a match, he will clear his mind, get a sweat going, and simply let his body take over.

"At that point, I have done all the mind preparation necessary, now its time to let my body do the rest," said Brock about the moment he steps onto the mat.

Brock has always been a leader by example. You may not see him stand up in front of his teammates and deliver an award-winning speech before a match, but you will see him very focused on the task at hand. You will see him helping out any teammate he notices needs it, and you will see him putting in extra time in the wrestling room before and after practice.

Off the mat, Brock is majoring in civil engineering. He hasn't ruled out wrestling after college, but it's not something he is planning on. When asked where he is heading after grad-uation, he responded, "Good question. Wherever I can get a job I guess."

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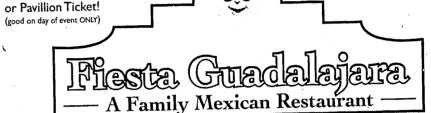
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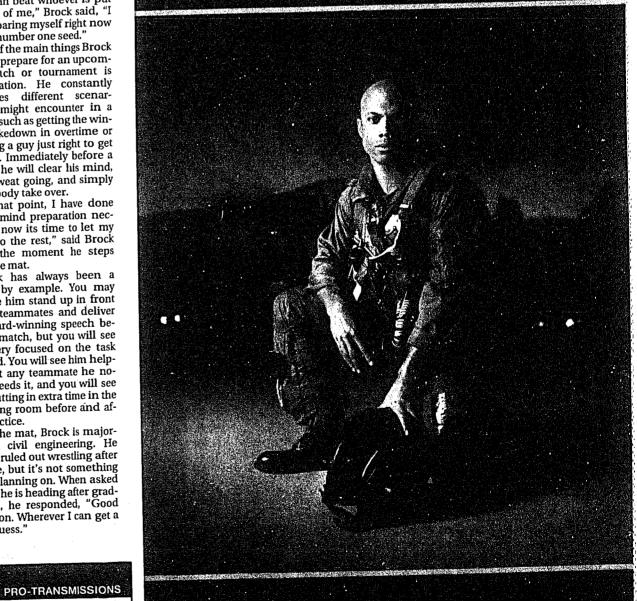
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BSU gymnastics season winding down

Sandmire hopeful of NCAA regional berth

BY AMBER FUGER Sports Reporter

After a weekend of traveling from meet to meet, the Bronco gymnasts hit the road once again en route to Seattle. The No. 8 Washington Huskies will play host to the No. 36 Broncos and the No. 56 Seattle Pacific Falcons, Friday in Seattle.

This past weekend Boise State placed fifth at the Salbasgeon Suites Invitational in Oregon, scoring a 195.025 and marking the highest road score of the season. The finish also challenged their season-high score of 196.925.

The last time the Broncos met the Huskies was at the Pavilion on Feb. 6, when the Broncos took first. The Huskies were then ranked eleventh and are now ranked eighth due to a big win against No. 1 UCLA on Feb 27. Although on Friday, March 5 the Huskies couldn't pull out the win against No. 6 Utah State even though they recorded their second best score of the season.

The Broncos may have had a long weekend but they are focused on the meet ahead. Head coach Sam Sandmire said that in practice the team is going to be focused on sticking their vault landings, working on "wobble-free routines on beam," hitting their handstands on top of the bars, and sticking all dismounts. Sandmire said that the team will continue to showcase their talent and confidence on the floor, adding that the dance routines have been solid and elegant throughout

We are just going to keep on keeping' on," said Sandmire.

The traveling squad will consist of twelve gymnasts,

Head coach Sam Sandmire

including junior all-around gymnast Carla Chambers, Kea Cuaresma, Lindsey Thomas and Lindsay Ward. Cuaresma has been nursing a sprained ankle but has been competing on vault and on bars and received an award for gymnast of the meet Sunday against Michigan. Thomas earned a slot on the traveling squad based on her strong performance Sunday against Michigan. Thomas was one of three team members awarded gymnast of the meet

by the Bronco coaches and scored a personal career high in the all-around competition. Ward won all-around Sunday and was another gymnast of the meet.

Kristin Aldrich and Katie Dinsmore plan upgrade their vault routines from a half twist layout urchenko to a full twist layout urchenko in time for the road trip. In addition, Sandmire said that Corinna Lewis will be working on improving her landings for the meet.

Megan Andrews, Heidi White, Tiffany Putnam, and Tara Oberg will finish out the roster for Seattle. All of these girls will be traveling but the girls chosen to compete will be decided based on practices this week.

As the season winds down, the Broncos are focused and determined to win in order to qualify for the regional championships, which are right around the corner. The Broncos will need to clinch three of their best scores of the season on the road, which can prove to be a challenge. However, Sandmire is confident in her team's ability, and Seattle is just considered stop number one in the team's quest for a spot in the champi-

Lady Broncs are moving on

Win over Hawaii advances Broncos to WAC tournament quarterfinal round

BRONCO SPORTS

The Boise State women's basketball team defeated the Hawaii Rainbow Wahine, 59-56, in the first game of the 2004 WAC Women's Basketball Championship Tournament. The Broncos now advance to the quarterfinal round of the tournament to play first seed and sixth nationally ranked Louisiana Tech, Wednesday, March 10 at 1 p.m. The Broncos,

BSU vs. HAW

59-56

who had never before beaten the Rainbow Wahine, were down at the half by four, 24-28, and fought back to go up by as many as five in the close second half. With 6.2 second left to play in the game and the score tied, Boise State's Cassidy Blaine hit her only three-pointer of the game to put the Broncos up by the final score of 59-56.

The Broncos were led by freshmen Michelle Hessing and Nadia Begay. Hessing, named to the All-WAC freshmen team

earlier this week, scored 16 points and grabbed five rebounds. Begay was 3-of-6 from three points range to give the Broncos a boost from outside with her 13 points and three rebounds. Other scorers for the Broncos included Blaine with nine, Jamie Hawkins with six, Lynnette Grondin and Cariann Ramirez with five each, Denise Hill with three, and Heather Little with two.

Cassidy Blaine led the team in assists with four. The Broncos shot 36 percent from the field (21-58), 33 percent from threepoint range (6-18), and 65 percent from the free throw line (11-17). Hawaii shot 33 percent from the field (20-61), 29 percent from three-point range (9-31), and 100 percent from the

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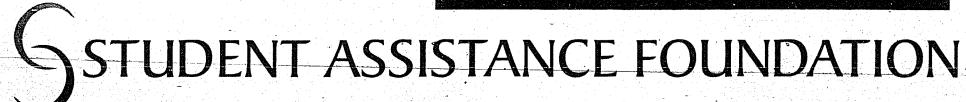


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COFFEEHOUSE CONCERT SERIES-TAMARA J. BROWN

What: Politically charged music for the mind. Presented by Student Activities. Where: Student Union Brava! Stage When: Thursday, March 11, 5 – 7 p.m.
Free parking in the Student Union Visitor's lot. Admittance is also free. Call 426-1223 for more infor-

HEDDA GABLE

What: One of the most frequently revived of Henrik Ibsen's plays, "Hedda Gabler" was first produced in Germany in 1890. With its exploration of marital incompatibility and emotional dependence and predation, the play has influenced playwrights from George Bernard Shaw (Candida) to Edward Albee (Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?). Note: Adult Content Where: Morrison Center Stage II

When: Thursday - Saturday, March 11-13 and Friday and Monday, March 19-22 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday and Tuesday, March 14 and 23 at 2 p.m.

Tickets through Select-A-Seat. Admittance free to BSU full-time students, faculty, and staff. \$7 for non-BSU students, BSU alumni, and seniors. \$9 general admission.

FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF

What: By Ntozake Shange. From its inception in California in 1974 to its highly acclaimed critical success on Broadway, the Obie Award-winning "For Colored Girls who have Considered Suicide when the Rainbow is Enuf" has excited, inspired, and transformed audiences all over the country.

Passionate and fearless, Shange's words reveal what it is to be of color and female in the twentieth century. First published in 1975 when it was praised by The New Yorker for "encompassing...every feeling and experience a woman has ever had."

Directed by guest artist, Rhoma Spencer. Featuring: Katrina Bermudo, Georgette Dashieli, LaShawn Harris, Wanda Lynn Riley, Karin Rose and Maria Sermonia. Where: Special Events Center

When: Thursday & Friday, March 11 & 12 at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, March 13 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for students, faculty, and staff, \$10 for Available at Select-a-Seat and www.idahotickets.com

JERRY SEINFELD

What: New York comedian Jerry Seinfeld's career as a nightclub comedian led him to star as himself on the popular sitcom "Seinfeld." Where: Morrison Center

When: Friday, March 12 at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Unfortunately, this event is SOLD OUT

ALL MOZART

What: Concert presented by the Boise Philharmonic Association.

Where: Morrison Center Main Hall When: Saturday, March 13 at 10 a.m. and 8:15 p.m. Tickets \$9 - \$48 through the Boise Philharmonic

HENRY ROLLINS - SPOKEN WORD

What: Henry Rollins' long, fascinating career has included lengthy stints in the legendary noise-rock group Black Flag and his decade-old Rollins Band. He has recorded numerous spoken-word albums, many of which Laugh out loud hilarious. He's acted in movies, from Lost Highway to Johnny Mnemonic, to the forthcoming Jack Frost. He has traveled and performed all over the world. He runs a record label, Infinite Zero, with Rick Rubin, focusing on reissues of out-of-print albums by Devo, Gang Of Four, and more, as well as new releases by his favorite obscure musicians. Rollins is also a successful author and publisher, having released books of essays and poetry through his independent, award-win-

Where: The Big Easy When: Saturday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20 through Ticketweb.

POETRY SLAM

What: Come and see blistering poetry performed like you've never seen it before. Competition is hot-this is next to the last slam before national team qualifying finals in May. Come with a wad of cash so you can take your favorite official Boise, Idaho national Poetry Slam team member home (or at least out on the town). Pay to play! Come to cheer your favorites and watch as the judges make 'em squirm. It's a night of heart-stopping. jaw-dropping, laugh-out-loud cerebral entertainment you

Where: The Funny Bone in the 8th Street Marketplace, across the alley from Happy Fish When: Monday, March 15. Doors open at 7 p.m., show

\$5 at the door. Call 331-2663 for more information.

VOICES IN EXILE: STORIES OF

LESBIAN MORMONS What: A documentary exploring the issues Mormon women face when they recognize, and then act on, their romantic feelings for other women. Most of the eight participants are from Eastern Idaho, an enclave of LDS culture. The video was first shown in Salt Lake City in October 2003 at a Family Fellowship Forum, a group of Mormon parents and friends of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people. This was part of the National Affirmation Conference, a group of GLBT folks raised in

Where: Bishop Barnwell Room in the Student Union

When: Tuesday, March 16 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Ms. Randall 426-3468

Boise punk band The PirkQlaters plan for summer Warped Tour

DAN MCNEESE A&E Writer

Most of us have heard about the local ska band The PirkQlaters. Maybe vou've seen their name on a flier at the Record Exchange or Moxie Java. Even then, you at least know or have met one of the many band members over the years, even if you didn't know it at the time.

The PirkQlaters have been one of the most influential local bands in recent years. The Boise based punk/ska combination has been a favorite at local clubs, bars, garages, houses and tree forts for the past five years. With ten different lineup changes, The PirkQlaters are now at their strongest and most broadening point. A recent loss of a former band member last summer only brought together a closer knit and newly reformed band, and it shows in the love and sincerity of their music.

The PirkQlaters are proving they can play as well as any commercial band. Their most recent show was this past weekend at the Rock Against Racism benefit concert, where they were the highlight of the evening. They also opened for the semi-punk legends Teen Foot Poll. Even if they don't want to go mainstream, they'll continue to put out ska rhythms for the near future. With a spot on this summer's Warped Tour and on the cusp of signing with a major punk label, the band is only concentrating on the next thing: practicing and

At last weekend's benefit concert at the Big Easy, The PirkQlater's set was viewed by close to a full house and had the highest attendance as people packed the dance floor even before the band played the first note. A strong horn section mixed with the distorted up strumming of the guitars can stand impressively when done correctly, and no one does it more kosher than The PirkQulaters. The show was a good indicator of things to come, and the band and

With an upcoming show in Spokane, the band gets one step closer to insuring a bigger name, and with a well-deserved reason. If you haven't yet seen The PirkQlaters,

"As soon as we got on stage everyone in the place came onto the floor. It was very high energy, the band is full of energy, and it makes the crowd go wild...it was just amazing."

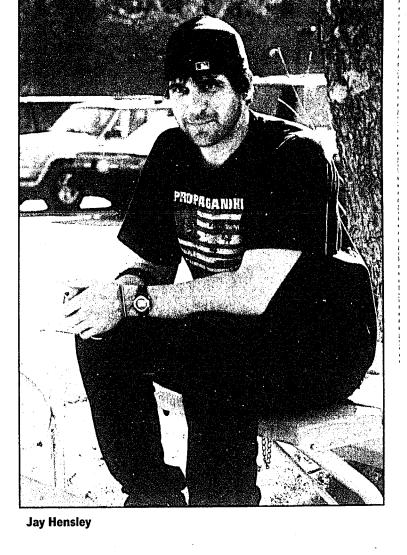
-Jay Hensley

you're missing out.

Jay Hensley is the newest edition to the band. With a drumming style comparable to that only of Blink's Travis Barker, Hensley is the perfect fit to the band's repertoire and is responsible for keeping the band's beat up-tempo. He is also responsible for the breakup of the Spin Doctors, but no one seems to care. We met up for coffee in the wee hours of Sunday morning, and here is what Hensley had to say.

DM: So how long have you been in The PirkQlaters?

JH: [Looks at watch] I've been in The PirkQlaters for seven days now. They said, "We got a couple of big shows coming up next week and we need someone to fill in for our drum-



mer since he can't make it."

DM: Who are "They?"

JH: Samson [guitar and vocals] and Justin [saxophone] and the rest of the guys...So they says to me, they says, "So do you want to fill in for him? Cuz we can't cancel these shows." So I says, "Yeah, I'd love to."

DM: And what's with the drummer...their old drummer?

JH: Stuff.

DM: Stuff?

JH: Stuff... We had band practice on Sunday and they all agreed and said, "he's out, you're our new

DM: How did that make you feel?

JH: Better than anything I have felt in my entire life. DM: Remember when we hung

out with Rancid? JH: Do I! I can't get that out of my

head. **DM:** Can I use your lighter?

JH: Yeah... I forgot I have one... cuz I like to burn down houses.

DM: So how long has the band been together?

JH: You know what, I think five any time soon? vears. I think I heard them say five years.

DM: How many dead PirkQlaters

are there? JH: One...Mike Sanchez.

DM: RIP [raises coffee mug for a

Haphazard rants that can be suppressed no longer

JH: RIP (raises coffee mug for a

DM: How many PirkQlaters have there been total?

JH: 10, I think. There have been 10 line-up changes. I am not quite sure of all the people who have been in the band, but this is their tenth line-

DM: Was last night's show at the Big Easy the biggest one you've

JH: Oh, bar none. It was last night at the Big Easy. Playing that show was the biggest one I have ever done.

DM: Most of the people there were there to see you guys, right?

JH: Yeah, as soon as we got on stage everyone in the place came onto the floor. It was very high energy, the band is full of energy, and it makes the crowd go wild. You know by the third song I was completely drained. I just couldn't go on anymore, but the feeding off the crowd energy...it was just amazing.

[Mustang drives by, revs engine] DM: That guy must be cool.

JH: He is cool.

DM: So, you guys going on tour

JH: Yeah, We're going to play at the Big Easy in Spokane in a few weeks and then this summer we're signing on to the Warped Tour, we also might sign on to Volcom.

BY CRYSTAL THOMAS **A&E Editor**

People say and do the darnedest things. Just when you think you know someone, they completely contradict everything you thought they stood for. The thing is, we're all guilty of uttering ridiculous statements and behaving bizarrely one time or another. Call it being twofaced, fake, out of touch, ditsy, or a simple case of the Monday blues; I call it humorous. So to pay homage to some of the people who have inspired my love for the senseless things in life, I have compiled a list of my favorite quotes regarding their absurdities. I'm sure you'll recognize some of these, and hopefully they make you feel a little bit smarter.

"A record company is suing a 12-year-old girl for downloading over 100 songs by 'N Sync and the



Aniston: The mid-east peacemaker

Backstreet Mv Boys. God, hasn't she suffered enough?" -Craig Kilborn on "The Late Show"

'You love my " stinky ass

Jessica Simpson to Nick Lachey, after she stunk up the house on "Newlyweds"

"I'm struggling pretty much with everything I do in my life." -William Hung on "American

"I would marry you even if I didn't like you very much--because you're **Dave Navarro to Carmen Electra**

on "Til Death Do Us Part"

"And if Michelle Pfeiffer in "Dangerous Minds" taught us anything, it's that it's so much easier learning from attractive people.'

-Jack (Sean Hayes) on "Will & Grace"

'People buy cargo pants in the Midwest not to say, you know, like, Oh, I can wear these with stilettos and a really cool, sexy top--like I was going to do tonight. They buy them because they have a lot of pockets, because they work in the fields and they need them."

-Jaime Lee Gleicher on MTV's "Rich Girls"

"You know what I find as weird, kind of, Ally? People pay money for clothes, okay? But shouldn't it be, like, a free necessity like water--because you need it?"

-Jaime Lee Gleicher to shopping pal Ally Hilfiger on MTV's "Rich

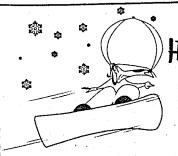
"Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston traveled to the Middle East to try to bring Israelis and Palestinians closer together. And it seems to be working, because Israelis and Palestinians keep going up to each other saying, 'What the hell are they doing here?'

-Conan O' Brien on "Late Night" 'They sure do punch each other a lot in Orange County.' -Ed (Tom Cavanagh) to Carol

(Julie Bowen), while watching an episode of "The O.C.," on "Ed" "Maybe [the world] would be bet-

ter if people didn't hate so much and kill animals. At the same time, it's like, whatever. It's just a planet.'

-Craig Nicholis of the "Vines" "She may be racist and ignorant, but I still might have sex with her." Jordan, sizing up Mary, on "Forever Eden"



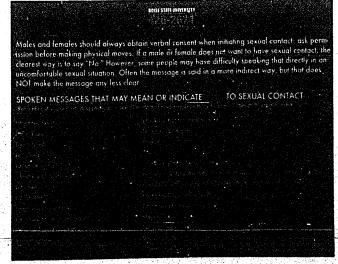
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Hey, professor: Assimilate this

BY PETER CARLSON

Look out, folks! Samuel P. Huntington has kicked up a major cultural firestorm, and unpleasant things could start flying at any moment.

Writing in the March-April issue of Foreign Policy magazine, Huntington--the noted au-thor, scholar and chairman of Harvard University's Academy for International and Area Studies--has identified a "major potential threat" to this great nation's "cultural and political integrity."

The threat is: Mexicans. Other Hispanics, too, but mostly

They're overrunning the country, they're multiplying like bunnies, Huntington says, and they threaten our "Anglo-Protestant culture.'

The single most immediate and most serious challenge to America's traditional identity," Huntington writes, "comes from the immense and continuing immigration from Latin America, especially Mexico, and the fertility rates of these immi-

The problem is that unlike earlier immigrants, Hispanics won't assimilate because they're comfortable with their own culture and often contemptuous of American culture," he says. The result will be a polarized America composed of "two peoples with two cultures."

Angry Hispanics and liberals have attacked Huntington as xenophobic or bigoted or un-American. Not me. As a proud, native-born American patriot, I understand that the professor's views come from a long line of "Anglo-Protestant" thought:

Back in colonial days, Benjamin Franklin denounced

German immigrants as "generally the most stupid of their nation" and grumbled that "few of their children know English."

In 1855, Massachusetts Gov. Henry Gardner denounced the Irish immigrants then swarming into his state as a "horde of foreign barbarians."

In 1906, H.G. Wells, the British novelist and futurist, warned that the influx of Jews, Italians and Eastern Europeans threatened a "huge dilution of the American people with profoundly ignorant foreign peas-

As it turned out, all those distinguished gentlemen were wrong. The Germans, Irish, Jews, Italians and Eastern Europeans have assimilated into America's melting pot. So did the Chinese and Japanese, who were so hated by Anglo-Protestants (among others) that they were barred from the United States for decades.

But just because opponents of immigration were wrong decades ago doesn't mean Huntington is wrong now. So let's take a calm, dispassionate look at his reasons for believing that "the assimilation successes of the past are unlikely to be duplicated with the contemporary flood of immigrants from Latin

America."
First, Huntington says, it's too easy for them to get here. Earlier immigrants had to cross "several thousand miles of ocean" but Mexicans and Cubans are nearby. He's right about that. All Cubans have to do to get here is sneak past Castro's goons, hop on some leaky old boat and drift across shark-infested waters. Illegal Mexican immigrants have it even easier. All they have to do is cross the Rio Grande or hike across the Arizona des-

Second, they won't assimilate. Hispanics stick to their own kind, Huntington says, clustering in places like Miami and Southern California, where they find lots of their compatriots. This is true, too--and downright un-American. Why can't they expand their horizons and move into Chinatown or Little Italy? As we all know, Huntington's beloved Anglo-Protestants were always eager to share their neighborhoods (and their country clubs) with folks of other colors and creeds. In fact, before the Civil War, many Anglo-Protestants were so eager to meet folks from other cultures that they actually purchased them. That's an act of brotherhood that today's Mexican immigrants just can't match.

Hispanics Third, Spanish. Huntington finds this very upsetting. He acknowledges that "more than 90 percent" of second-generation Mexican Americans speak fluent English. But they also speak Spanish, he says, and they fail to "look down on and reject their ancestral language." In fact, he notes with alarm, "many second- or thirdgeneration Mexican-Americans who were brought up speak-ing only English have learned Spanish as adults.'

Good Lord! Third-generation Americans voluntarily learning a foreign language! Now that is truly un-American.

Forgive my sarcasm, but I just can't buy Huntington's absurd argument that Hispanics are incapable of assimilation. In fact, I'm absolutely certain Huntington will be proved wrong. Here's how it will hap-A crisis somewhere will send

ert while dodging the Border a new flood of immigrants to

America--Uzbeks or Zulus or Tajiks. At that point, some fully assimilated Hispanic politician or pundit or Harvard professor will denounce these newcomers, citing their ignorance, their barbaric customs, their willingness to work for peanuts and their congenital inability to assimilate.

At that moment, Prof. will find his Huntington Hispanic soul brother at last.

The director of the cadaver program at the UCLA medical school was arrested Saturday for allegedly stealing corpses and selling them piece by piece to research labs.

shocking--unless That's you've read the March issue of Harper's, which contains "The Resurrection Men," Annie Cheney's eye-opening expose of what she calls "the cadaver trade." "Like stolen cars and personal

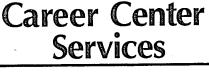
computers, cadavers are worth more in pieces than they are intact," Cheney writes in this astonishing article, which is definitely not for the squeamish. "A good technician can strip a human body in a little less than an hour and sell the parts to university researchers and surgical equipment companies for close to \$10,000."

Cheney reports what happens to these hacked-up corpses and it isn't pretty. In deference to readers who might be eating breakfast right now, I won't go into the gory details, such as the story of the dripping FedEx packages.

I'll just say this: If you have a strong stomach and a macabre mind, you'll love this story. More than any article on newsstands today, it'll give you a reason to go on living.



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I-Max NASCAR 3D a lousy attempt to document sport

BY MARY DAWSON The Arbiter

NASCAR fans decked out in their favorite driver's jackets and baseball caps cheered and whistled as Debbie and Rich of the Q-waking crew prepped the crowd for the screening of I-Max NASCAR 3D at Edwards Theater Tuesday night. Unlike the average movie-going pubed as they waited for the show to start. The theater smelled of popcorn and body odor.

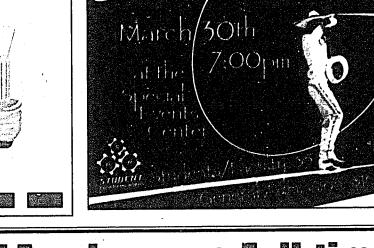
At first the sensation of watching cars race up close and personal was invigorating. But once the novelty of the 3-D screen wore off, all that was left was a cheap, poorly executed documentary about the sport of professional racing. The film was saved only by the cheap footage of the thrills such as

production and racing from the prospective of the pit crew. The plot loosely followed the

history of NASCAR starting with bootleg runners escaping the police with their coveted cargo. It then morphed into a publicity tool for the sponsors of NASCAR and the sport itself. The founder of NASCAR Bill France was briefly named as were a few of the greats such as the Dale Earnhardt family.

The movie was obviously created for fans and had no other objective other than allowing them to see the action up close and personal. However, the production quality ruined the effect for the most enthusiastic fan. The narrative voice repeatedly made passionate statements such as "NASCAR is like being in church with speed as the sermon and heaven as the checkered flag.

The organization of the documentary was choppy, jumping from racers to announcers attempting to give a brief history of each, but failed miserably. In a few months the show will fall into the video graveyard. It has nothing to offer other than the cheep thrill of seeing cars race around in 3-D.



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'The Sopranos' are back, with a vengeance

BY JOANNE WEINTRAUB Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"The Sopranos" began five ayears ago with a minor mob rboss having an unexpectedly remotional reaction to the deinparture of some wild ducks from his suburban back yard.

Its fifth season opens Sunday with the visitation of a very different kind of wildlife: A bear has lumbered into the same yard, as bears sometimes do in wooded suburbs, to look for food.

Tony (James Gandolfini) has hmoved up in the world from mivnor boss to major player. But, 2'as you'll remember from the oconclusion of the fourth season in late 2002, all is not well in a Mondo Soprano.

e: As that visitor from the woods essuggests, something dark and othreatening is out there _ someothing even more threatening 1than the formidable Tony him-

It Is it the FBI, which is more rigrimly determined than ever to bring the crime family down? Is it Tony's confederates, whose loyalty is not beyond question, Aor the rival New York mob, whose disloyalty is a given? Is nit his acrimonious breakup with Carmela (Edie Falco), which blooks unlikely to be repaired any time soon?

It's all of those _ with, in all probability; worse yet to come. D In a class by itself among TV odramas, "The Sopranos" comapetes only with its own record of brilliance. And the fifth season lives up to the standards

BY SCOTT COLLINS

Los Angeles Times

First the outcry over Janet Jackson's bared breast dur-

ing CBS' Super Bowl telecast

compelled producers to trim

set by creator David Chase and television's most extravagantly gifted group of writers, directors

In fact, watching the first four new episodes only increased my admiration for Chase.

His decision to end "The Sopranos" after one more season, the sixth, has allowed him to draw us ominously close to what is not likely to be a comforting conclusion. With each new hour, you can feel your skin prickle with apprehension.

That's not to say the mood is unrelievedly heavy. There's a wickedly funny early scene where the now-legendary incident with the Russians in the snow is retold by Christopher (Michael Imperioli) and Paulie Walnuts (Tony Sirico).

A Jewish wedding goes haywire in a boisterous few minutes of black comedy, and the Mob guys are as likely as ever to offer bits of half-baked philosophy and mangled cultural references.

There's even, among the many television and movie references, a nod to another HBO series that's just too good to spoil by revealing it.

Yet darkness and foreboding prevail. Tony and Carmela claw at each other so viciously you can practically smell the blood. With his father's departure from the house, A.J. (Robert Iler), never a happy kid, has turned into a permanently sullen presence _ and, like Tony, an accomplished liar and con artist.

Christopher is on the wagon,

Animated debate over nudity

sent to critics recently. But

network executives apparently

will not budge, saying that the

Jackson incident has created a climate of heightened sensitivi-

ty toward sexand foul language,

even in cartoons.

which has not improved his ugly temper. Girlfriend Adriana (Drea de Matteo), meanwhile, has become so guiltily distraught over her role as an FBI informant that _ in a bravura scene that had me holding my breath for what seemed like a full minute _ she comes close to making a suicidal mistake.

Tony wants to resume his relationship with his shrink, Dr. Melfi (Lorraine Bracco), but on terms she can't accept. His behavior in the matter isn't pretty, yet hers hints at a secret conflict, to say the least.

Tony's sister Janice (Aida Turturro), who spreads trouble like an emotional typhoid Mary, has finally snagged widower Bobby Bacala (Steven R. Schirripa). Listen for the way her voice rises in barely suppressed triumph when she introduces him as "my hus-BAND."

Two new characters _ longtime Soprano associates just released from 15-year prison terms _ are so smoothly integrated into the story it's as if we'd known them for years.

Michele "Feech" La Manna (Robert Loggia) has the weary cynicism of Uncle Junior, the explosive rage of Furio and the insatiable greed of Tony himself. It's a dangerous combination, played to blissful perfection by wily old pro Loggia, who seems to have been marinating for years in wine vinegar to prepare for the role.

Slower to re-establish himself in the clan is Tony Blundetto Buscemi).

Soprano's cousin and cherished boyhood friend. Tony B. makes what for this crowd is an inexplicable career choice: He's going to go straight. The tension this brings to his relationship with Tony S. and the others seems likely to keep Tony B.'s life from becoming tranquil.

The grace notes that have always ornamented "The Sopranos" continue to delight: an erotic dream that seems predictable until we find out who the dreamer is; a guidance counselor's (David Strathairn) clumsy flirtation with a not unwilling Carmela, capped by his suggestion that she read "Madame Bovary"; Tony's fas-cination with "The Prince of Tides," "Band of Brothers" and 'The Honeymooners"; his offhandedly poetic comment that seeing his kids grow from lovable children into cynical young adults is "like watching an angel

The reference to Lucifer, the angel who fell the farthest from God, may not be incidental. Lately on "The Sopranos," there's brimstone in the air.



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brief nudity from such shows as "ER," "NYPD Blue" and The decision has forced the producers to scramble to reedit the episode and possibly recall "Without a Trace." Now even one of the actors, Artie Lange, to cartoon characters are being forced to cover up.
Viacom-owned UPN has orrerecord some dialogue before

Wednesday's debut. UPN is also closely monitordered the producers of "Game ing future episodes for ques-Over," prime time's first comtionable content, according to puter-generated animated sethe source close to the show. ries, to delete nudity and salty UPN declined to comment language from the pilot episode Friday, as did a spokesman for airing Wednesday, including

Carsey-Werner-Mandabach, one two-second shot in which the studio behind the series. a female character's buttocks The series' creator, former Hare clearly visible, according to "Simpsons" writer David Sacks, a source close to the produccould not be reached for comtion. Executives also want to cut a line in which one character The imbroglio shows how uses a mild scatological epithet

quickly the environment has changed for producers who dare to put edgy or off-color material in their shows.

Once utterly taboo in broadcasting, nudity became hot-button issue for the networks after the 1993 premiere of "NYPD Blue." Yet cartoons seem to have enjoyed more latitude. "The Simpsons," the animated hit that has run on Fox since 1989, has in previous seasons included a number of comic scenes in which bumbling patriarch Homer Simpson had his rear end exposed. A spokesman for 20th Century Fox Television, which produces "The Simpsons," said the network has not recently requested any changes because of explicit or suggestive content.

'Game Over," which UPN ordered for six episodes this season, is being closely watched in Hollywood because computer-generated films such as "Finding Nemo" and "Toy Story" now dominate feature animation.

'Game Over" tells the story of the Smashenburns, a suburban clan whose members' day jobs involve working in videogames. The scene that roused the attention of UPN executives involved Raquel, a shapely housewife

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BYTES: rate my man boobies

BY GISELA GARCIA

The edict has angered the

producers, who are said to have

argued that the material now

deemed objectionable has been

in the episode for months and

was included in review tapes

Knight Ridder Newspapers

to disparage another.

Web site: Rate My Man Boobies URL:

www.ratemymanboobies.com Synopsis: Oh yes. Rate My Man Boobies is real, much to the dismay of all the men out there who do have some dig-

After visiting this site, I have developed a theory that all men have what I have dubbed "breast envy," sort of the male equivalent of the Freudian "penis envy" that women supposedly hold. thanks · to However,

McDonald's super-sized value meals and steady diets of hormone-pumped chicken, some men have been able to fulfill their mammary fantasies, while us women can't garnish a penis unless we pay a surgeon thousands to do that.

And thankfully, because man, do I eat a lot of chicken!

"Man boobies," as I will refer to them henceforth, are deemed. a phenomenon that nature throws at us to let us know she

isn't just some stuck up snob without a sense of humor,

To some of the men stricken with man boobies, it's no laughing matter. But to the guys you'll see on this Web site, man boobies are something to be proud of, like that little league trophy or the day they sprouted their first hair "down there."

And wouldn't you want to witness, and rate, those proud man boobies for yourself?

That's what I thought. Rating: 8 out of 10 bytes.

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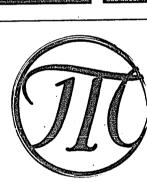
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DILBERT



By Linda C. Black

Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (March 11)

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

stealth is a plus.

common.

You can greatly expand your area of

influence this year, much to your delight.

but you'll end up with a lot more room to

play, so it's worth the trouble. To get the

advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

This assignment won't always be easy,

Today is a 4 - Aries is not usually the

person chosen for a spy mission. You're

more often the fighter pilot, but even then,

Today is an 8 - It's OK to talk indirectly, through friends, if you need to get back in

new person with whom you have much in

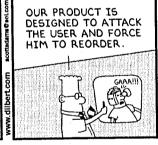
touch. That's also a good way to meet a



IT'S CALLED A 360-

DEGREE REVIEW. YOU GET TO EVALUATE ME

AT NO RISK OF RETRI

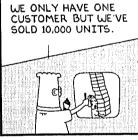


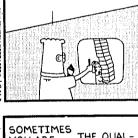
NO MATTER WHAT YOU

SAY ABOUT ME, YOU WILL ONLY BE JUDGED

ON THE QUALITY OF

YOUR WORK.













"Maybe the answer is to stop selling chainsaws in Texas.



Crossword

ACROSS

1 State gambling 6 That girl's 10 Prepare for a

fight 14 Lawyer's

document 15 Toledo's lake 16 One Chaplin 17 Dilbert's

creator 19 This and that 20 Buffalo bunches 21 Buffalo skaters

23 Turkey neighbor "Nothing could

be __..." 27 Brought up

28 Yukon river 31 Lawn tool 32 Queeg's ship 33 Govt. financial

grp. 34 Care for 35 Brings down the house? 36 Payment

voucher Yokohama OK

38 Sonora cash 39 Shipping box 40 Open-air

42 Decanter?
43 Ancient region of Asia Minor

44 In a fatigued manner

Sporty scarves 45 Timeworn Twixt 12 and 20

Towel material Actress Russo

Eye defect: suff. Flood protection Bohemian 58 Male sheep 59 Pizzey and Gray

> DOWN Some wts.
> "The Lord of the Rings" baddle

3 Juan's uncle On a leash 5 More frequent 6 Ibsen's Gable

hearted

11 Name associated with an almanac 12 Pot builder 13 Cheers 18 Dry as a desert 22 Comic Meara

9 Hearings

10 Wept

23 Singer Franklin 24 Distribution do-25 "The __ Seven" 26 Takes to the air

28 Hummer's instrument 29 Actor Harvey 30 Luncheonette 32 Co-conspirato

of Brutus 35 Circuit controll 36 More hard-

38 Closely confined 39 Boat of wicker and skins

Solutions

47 Fedora feature 50 Eco-unit 51 Prefix meaning

52 Half a score 53 Masculine

8 Periphery

41 Andy or Mickey 42 Like an evergreen

44 * Bulba* 45 Gillette razor 46 Clairvoyant

03/11/04

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is a 5 - it may feel like you're working too hard to get relatively little. That's an illusion. Actually, you're building a solid reputation among people who really count. Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 10 - There are a few rules you've

set for yourself in your relationships. Don't be shy about telling the other person exactly what they are, and sticking to them. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is a 5 - Don't let yourself be pushed

into doing something that isn't good for

you. A win-win arrangement is possible, even though it takes compromise. Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is an 8 - You or your partner are liable to have a brilliant insight, and soon.

together. Keep brainstorming.

don't complain.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is a 5 - Although you like to be uninhibited, your incomelow the rules precisely. You'll reap great rewards if you

It could be something you're working on

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 10 - Your intuition is right on target, especially where romance is concerned. The commitments that you make now will last, so choose your words carefully.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 5 - It's easier to talk about your feelings now, though you'd usually rather have your wisdom teeth pulled. It's a pretty

good day for that, too. Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is an 8 - Information received through the grapevine can help you decide

what to do. A friend who won't ask for fa-

vors could need one. It's OK to investigate.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 4 - This is about as low as it gets for a while. By tomorrow, your attitude will start perking up, and so will your aptitude.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 10 - Playing by the rules may inhibit some people, but you should know by now how enormously freeing it can be. Your family brings you strength, love and honor, and you take the same back to

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