

3-29-2004

Arbiter, March 29

Students of Boise State University

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MONDAY
MARCH 29, 2004

The Arbiter

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VOLUME 16 ISSUE 52

Morriss cleared of violation charges

BY CHARLIE CLAYTON
Investigative Reporter

ASBSU President-elect, David Morriss was cleared of three complaints regarding his campaigning practices after two hearings by the ASBSU Judiciary.

If Morriss had been found responsible for the complaints in the repeal process, the ASBSU presidency would have been voted upon a second time.

Opposing candidate, James Skaggs, brought the charges against the Morriss campaign.

The charges were:

Campaigning door to door in the Driscoll Hall, parking an RV bearing campaign signs on campus and violating BSU's mass e-mail policy.

Morriss plead responsible for the parked RV violation and not responsible to the other charges.

Morriss admitted to being in Driscoll Hall, but denied campaigning.

"The intention was to allow students the opportunity to vote," Morriss said.

Morriss and running mate Tom Labrecque allegedly went to 20 doors with a laptop com-

puter and offered its use to dorm residents so they could cast a vote for any candidate.

Morriss admitted to sending multiple e-mails through the BSU web addresses, but claimed he did not violate Boise State's policy.

An ASBSU Judicial branch hearing, headed by Senior Justice Michael Clifford, found Morriss's campaign responsible on all charges.

Morriss requested an appeal hearing, convened by other members of the Judicial Branch of ASBSU, Chief Justice Joseph Kalange, and two Associate

Justices, Baxter Maxwell and Marc Morris. They cleared the Morriss campaign of any wrongdoing.

Morriss was able to change his initial responsible charge because the RV was attended at all times and thus, by definition of policy, not parked.

The repeal hearing offered Morriss more time to acquire a rebuttal of the charges brought forth by Skaggs, but caught Skaggs off guard. The timing of the hearing wasn't made clear to Skaggs until earlier that day, leaving him little time to pre-

pare. Skaggs believed the repeal process was unjust.

"It was an elicited response to a preconceived decision; they heard what they wanted to hear," Skaggs said.

Skaggs believes the justices set an unfavorable precedent by not holding a student leader accountable for the three complaints.

Skaggs cited the Boise State Code of Conduct, section 21, concerning student housing complaints. Skaggs said he had evidence of a grievance against Morriss but his appearance in the dorms was inadmissible in

the repeal.

Moments after Morriss learned of his nomination to ASBSU President, he offered Skaggs a position on his staff.

"If he [Skaggs] applies for any position, he will be considered as will the other applicants," Morriss said.

Skaggs said he didn't file the charges as a tactic to win office, only to ensure the process was fair - adding that if the judiciary decided to hold new elections, he planned to support the Wolfe/Green ticket

TAI CHI IN THE GARDEN



PHOTO BY KRISTA ADAMS/THE ARBITER

Tai Chi, a meditative practice incorporating slow movement, is often described as poetry in motion. The Idaho Botanical Gardens is offering Tai Chi sessions every Saturday morning at 10 a.m., led by local practitioner Jo Hamell - a student of the art for over 20 years. No reservation is needed, and the sessions are free with Garden admission.

NATIONAL

Republicans
claim Bush's
efforts to offset
Clarke stymiedBY MIKE ALLEN
The Washington Post

CRAWFORD, Texas - President Bush's intense efforts to neutralize the revelations of former national security official Richard A. Clarke have yet to succeed, leaving White House officials struggling to regain political momentum after a tumultuous week, according to interviews with Republicans both inside and outside the administration.

One Bush aide, who refused to be identified because the administration limits who may speak on the record, acknowledged that the White House had underestimated the political and media firestorm that Clarke would ignite. Beginning with interviews in connection with his new book and continuing with Capitol Hill testimony, Clarke said he had watched Bush repeatedly ignore warnings about al-Qaida before Sept. 11, 2001, then diverted resources from the broader war on terrorism for an attack on Iraq.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who rode in Bush's limousine during a presidential visit to Phoenix on Friday, said the Clarke counterattack was "the most vigorous offensive I've ever seen from the administration on any issue."

"These attacks go to the heart of the strength of the president, and they felt it had to be put down and put down quickly," McCain said. "Whether they'll succeed or not is unclear."

Bush officials said they had hoped to use his public events during these weeks to overhaul his economic message

and raise public awareness about indications of a burgeoning recovery. Instead, the White House has been consumed by defending Bush's handling of the war on terrorism, the bedrock on which he planned to build his case for re-election.

Polling has shown that Clarke's assertions have resonated as more than mere Beltway sniping and that voters are beginning to question the president's handling of terrorism.

A Newsweek poll released Saturday found that public approval of Bush's handling of terrorism and homeland security had eroded, with his approval rating on those issues dropping to 57 percent from 65 percent just over a month ago. It was 70 percent two months ago. However, 65 percent said Clarke's testimony had not affected their opinion of Bush.

Officials in both parties agreed that if Sen. John F. Kerry, D-Mass., were able to pull even on those issues, the president's prospects would dim considerably. But Bush-Cheney campaign officials expressed relief that the Newsweek poll, taken Thursday and Friday, found that Kerry had failed to capitalize on Bush's woes. Bush's overall approval rating was statistically unchanged, at 49 percent, and he remained in a dead heat with Kerry. The poll, of 1,002 adults, had a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The poll showed Bush maintaining a strong showing on the intangible qualities that have always been his biggest appeal. When asked which phrases describe Bush, 62 per-

SEE BUSH page 2

Standing up for children

BSU organization pushes
for endowment to fund
after-school programsBY MONICA PRICE
News Reporter

Michelle Butler first became involved with Stand for Children in Moscow after her mentor got her interested in the child advocacy group.

"It's upsetting working in childcare because a lot of children are looked over...things aren't happening for them," Butler said, adding, "Stand for Children gives us a chance to create change on the local level."

The Moscow chapter worked with the Moscow City Council

to enforce childcare regulations, and created a part-time job to check up on childcare providers.

"It wasn't being enforced, we saw that as a real need and, we got it," Butler said.

Butler is helping with the Boise Children's Initiative, a \$10 million endowment to fund after school programs. Stand for Children is pressing to have this initiative on the August ballot.

Stand for Children currently has two chapters in Boise with over 100 members.

"The idea for the Boise Children's Initiative came from

our members," said Stand for Children Organizer Laura Binger. The initiative would create a \$10 million endowment in Boise to fund local after school programs and projects that improve readiness for kindergarten.

Close to 60 percent of Boise's grade and junior high schools don't have consistent after-school programs Binger said.

"No transportation is provided between schools that have after-school programs and those that do not"

Stand for Children is working with Boise Mayor David Bieter and the city council to get the Boise Children's Initiative on the August ballot.

"Our organization has provided the idea, we are just a catalyst, we wouldn't receive any funding," Binger said. Currently the state is turning away federal matching funds, for every three dollars Idaho spends, the federal government kicks in eight,

Binger said. "They're turning that money back to the federal government which is like giving that money to other states."

The Boise City Council appointed a task force last fall that is in the process of pinning down the details for the initiative

"We are very close to having things wrapped up," said Binger.

The next step is to go back to the city council with the task force's recommendations.

Once the incentive is on the ballot, Stand for Children will start work on other concerns

"Building this BSU team is about making lasting change for children," Binger said. The Boise State chapter is holding an introduction meeting 7 p.m. April 5 in the Gibson room at the SUB. Anyone interested can contact Laura Binger 761-1505 or laura@stand.org.

Campus Involvement

Spring Pow Wow April
10 and 11 at Boise
State

The Boise State University Intertribal Native Council is hosting the 11th Annual Spring Pow Wow from 10 a.m. -midnight on Saturday, April 10, and 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 11, in the Student Union Grace Jordan Grand Ballroom. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 859-2500.

The weekend will feature Sweet Sage as the host drum, Cedric DeCory as the arena director, Ray McConville as the master of ceremonies, Francis Dionne as the head male dancer and Nita One Bear Personius as the head female dancer. Saturday afternoon there will be a performance by the Oela Hispanic dance group and a men's traditional dance special sponsored by the Red River Pow Wow Association. Saturday evening there will be Hawaiian Dancers sponsored by Hui-O-

Aloha. Sunday will feature the Easter Crow scramble. For more information, contact Lee Boyle at the Intertribal Native Council at 208 859-2500

Automotive Engineer
Peter Bryant to Speak
at Boise State

Veteran automotive engineer Peter Bryant will deliver a guest lecture on his prestigious career in the sport of auto racing at 6 p.m. March 30 in

Room 103 of the Engineering & Technology Building at Boise State University.

The presentation is part of the Society of Automotive Engineers Industrial Lectures Program and sponsored by the Mechanical Engineering Society at Boise State. The event is free and open to the public.

Bryant, 66, began his career in auto racing in 1957 working for Lotus cars. He then went into Formula One racing as an engineer/mechanic for several well-known drivers, including

two world champions. In 1964 he moved to the United States from Great Britain to work on the redesign of Indianapolis-style cars.

He later went to work for the Shelby Cobra team that won the 1965 world racing championship. The highlight of his career was the design of the Titanium Ti22 cars raced in the Can-Am sports car series from 1969-72. Bryant's lecture will focus on the design of those cars.

In 1973 Bryant retired from active participation in racing

and became an independent automotive design and engineering consultant. In 1995 he was named director of engineering for Shelby American and designed the concept Shelby Series One car that was recently built at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Working now as an independent automotive engineering consultant, his most recent projects include the design of the Concept Shelby Series1 sports car and a trophy truck

SEE INVOLVEMENT page 3

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LEGAL

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DR. DECAEUR REED
Legal Columnist

Margie usually drives her car to campus since her apartment is over two miles from the university. As she was driving to campus one day, her car was hit by another vehicle driven by Brandon. The police responded and investigated the accident. Always prepared for such unexpected events, Margie supplied the police with the three mandatory documents required by law: driver's license, vehicle registration, and proof of insurance. Brandon pretended that he couldn't find his proof of insurance. The police concluded that Brandon was at fault for this accident for failing to yield to Margie's right of way and issued citations to Brandon for the driving violation and for not having proof of insurance. Later that day, Margie called Brandon to get his insurance company's contact information to submit a claim for her injuries and the damages to her car. Brandon reluctantly admitted that he didn't have any insurance on his vehicle because he let his policy lapse. Margie was furious, but Brandon was an opportunist who thought that he could assuage Margie's anger so he asked her out on a date. This unexpected shift in topic took Margie off guard and it changed her mood. She accepted because she thought Brandon was cute and she believed that something good could be gleaned from every situation. However, Margie still wants to know her options regarding her injuries and the repairs to her car.

Uninsured motorist coverage is mandatory in about 18 states. The remaining states require the coverage to be offered, but allow policyholders to either reject the coverage or accept lower limits. If a UM policy is purchased, it is done through an endorsement to the policy. The purpose of a UM policy is to compensate the policyholder in an amount equal to the liability of the uninsured motorist, also known as the tortfeasor. Thus, the policyholder's insurer pays what the tortfeasor's liability carrier would have paid if the tortfeasor had a policy. There is no deductible for UM policies.

The type of UM endorsement purchased depends upon the coverage the policyholder seeks. If coverage for medical and personal injury is sought, then the standard uninsured motorist endorsement is purchased, but some states have a separate uninsured motorist bodily injury (UMBI) endorsement. Medical coverage under a UM endorsement is usually secondary to other medical coverage un-

der the same policy. If coverage for property damage is sought, then an uninsured motorist property damage (UMPD) endorsement is purchased. Some states cover all damages under one UM endorsement.

Most states grant insurers the right to seek reimbursement for the money paid under UM endorsements, called subrogation. However, most state statutes require that the policyholder establish a substantive right to recover damages from the uninsured motorist before benefits will be paid. This legal right to recover may be limited in some jurisdictions through interspousal immunity, parent-child or child-parent immunity, workers' compensation exclusive remedy limitations, and a policyholder from a non-no-fault state unable to recover from another motorist in a no-fault state. The reason a policyholder must prove a legal right to recover from the tortfeasor is to avoid frustrating the insurer's right to subrogation.

Some states allow policyholders to 'stack' UM benefits. If Margie had two separate policies on two different vehicles, she may be allowed to recover UM benefits under both policies (interpolicy stacking). If Margie paid multiple premiums under a single policy for multiple vehicles, she may be able to recover UM benefits multiple times (intrapolicy stacking). However, stacking of policies does not allow a policyholder to recover more than their proven damages. Thus, if Margie's damages exceed the UM benefits of one endorsement, she may be able to stack UM coverages until she is fully compensated for her loss.

Margie's policy may contain an "other insurance" clause which transfers liability to any other applicable insurance. Or it may contain a "pro rata other insurance" clause which transfers a portion of the liability to other insurance policies according to a calculated share. These types of clauses are aimed at interpolicy stacking.

Some UM policies grant insurers the right to apply an offset against UM benefits equal to benefits a policyholder receives from other insurance sources. So, if Margie were to receive benefits from a policy that is not related to her automobile coverage, the amount she receives could be deducted from her UM benefit.

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

Bush

from page 1

cent said he has strong leadership qualities, 65 percent said he is personally likable, 61 percent said he says what he believes rather than what people want to hear, and 55 percent said he is honest and ethical. Bush was 6 to 18 percentage points ahead of Kerry in each category.

Clarke's accusations "will not have an impact because nobody believes that George Bush isn't wholly focused on preventing attacks like those of September 11th," said Nicolle Devenish, the Bush-Cheney campaign's communications director.

National security adviser Condoleezza Rice is scheduled to appear Sunday night on CBS' "60 Minutes," in an interview with Ed Bradley that is to be taped earlier Sunday at the White House.

Several Republican officials said they have warned the White House about the risk of smearing Clarke if independent voters wind up finding him believable, or if other evidence emerges that bolsters his contentions.

A senior official said the current strategy calls for Rice's interview to be "close to the end" of White House television appearances on the subject. "The goal is not to keep selling Clarke's book," the official said.

But Democrats said they will continue pressing Rice to testify under oath and in public before the independent commission looking into the attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. Rice, who has agreed to further private testimony, said she is refusing to go public to preserve the separation of powers between the executive and legislative branches.

Mary Matalin, a former White House official and a senior adviser to the Bush-Cheney campaign, said that what she called "normal people" will wind up focusing on the larger issues of whether the attacks were an act of war and how the country will continue the global war on terrorism.

"The dramatic moments were dramatic moments, but the hysteria is a Beltway phenomenon," she said. "It was a draw on Clarke, and a net positive for the president because he had the opportunity to speak out on what he did and why he did it. People may know who Richard Clarke is now, but they also know that the president couldn't do in eight months what wasn't done in eight years."

Bush is spending the weekend at his ranch in Crawford, Tex., before heading into a week built around celebrations of achieving a campaign treasury of \$170 million, a political record.

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Unalloyed Joy: Remnants of the Steel Age

BY GEOFFREY MOHAN
Los Angeles Times

If you ride with Chuck Schmidt and friends, it's best to bring a bicycle built before Greg LeMond won the Tour de France.

"Anything before click shifting or click-in pedals," Schmidt says, explaining the accepted ground rules for the small group of retro-bike fanatics who meet every first Sunday of the month at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

It's not that the last good bicycle was made in the mid-'80s. Andy Schmidt, a graphic designer and teacher, quickly dispels the notion that he's a Luddite. But to his artistically tuned eye, and to the hearts, legs and bottoms of an increasing number of cycling fans, something got lost in the sprint toward the 16-pound bicycle that began roughly when LeMond lifted his arms on the Champs-Elysees.

With even the storied Italian frame makers -- Faliero Masi, Ugo De Rosa, Ernesto Colnago -- giving in to aluminum, carbon and titanium frames, the craft of welding steel-alloy tubes into ruggedly elegant geometry of a bicycle frame survives mostly in a niche of custom frame builders.

But there is more than grumpy nostalgia for bygone days driving serious racers back to their first love. "The thing that has people coming back to lugged-steel frames is that they ride nice, they look neat," says Schmidt. And for all but the most serious riders, Schmidt insists, a few extra pounds of bicycle frame don't make much difference.

A robust 60-year-old with a tanned Jack La Lanne build and youthful grin, Schmidt often chooses to lead the Sunday ride on his fixed-gear 1959 Mercian, a delightfully spare bike with

no derailleur or brakes. He restored the Key-line frame and outfitted it with rare GB parts made by Gerald Burgess, a post-war British manufacturer whose family now makes furniture.

By coincidence, Greg Townsend, 45, pulls up with a red Mercian that he dates to 1962 or 1963. A skeptical Schmidt silently looks it over, then suggests it's from the 1970s -- a suspicion confirmed when Townsend flips it over and finds a 73 in the serial number.

Townsend, who still races on a thoroughly modern bike, says he fell in with the retro crowd by accident of time. "It turns out that I just got old and still have lots of parts," he explains.

Another rider interrupts: "Gosh, those hubs are great, are they Campagnolo?"

"No, they're Airlites," Townsend says.

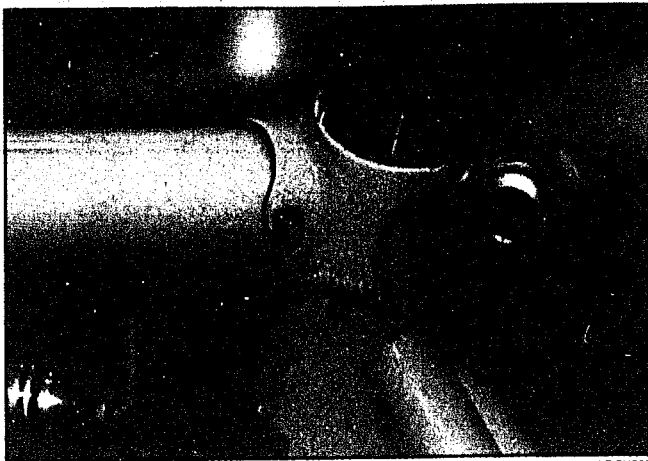
A British transplant who grew up in the Midwest, he recalls going to races where riders who had been extras in the 1979 movie "Breaking Away" were introduced at the starting line as if they were stars.

Looking back at the film, there are details that now seem as quaint as driving goggles: toe clips, baggy cotton shorts, loose wool jerseys. All are de rigueur for the Sunday ride.

Steve Maas, who looks like what he is -- a 54-year-old electrical engineer from Long Beach, Calif. -- promenades his Hetchins Magnum Opus, 1981, with its baroque embellished lug work, filigreed along the tubes at every joint (don't overlook the twin-plate fork crown, either).

"It's fairly new by the standards of this group," says Maas, who bought the ride in December from a guy in Scotland for \$1,200, complete with a full "gruppo" of Campagnolo parts.

"Oh, you stole that thing!" exclaims Fred Crane, a Los Angeles



They just don't make them like they used to. Ornate joining like this is what brings riders together in Pasadena.

area accountant who shows up astride a Space Age carbon-fiber Kestrel but quickly explains that he meant to bring his vintage Gitane, which had an unexpected flat.

The belle of the ball on a recent Sunday ride, might just be actor Scott Smith's 1974 sky-blue Masi Gran Criterium, built in Carlsbad (yes, California) during the brief time when frame craftsman Faliero Masi licensed out his production there.

These are highly prized bicycles that can sell for many multiples of their original price.

From that shop sprang arguably the best craftsmen in the trade in California, including the late Mario Confente and Brian Baylis, who still builds custom bicycles.

"This is No. 670," Smith boasts, showing the serial number on the bottom bracket.

"I think I have 363 and 4-0-something," adds Matthew Gorski, co-founder of the Sunday retro-bike ride and proud owner of seven classic Masi bikes.

Smith, 42, is a new collector, with the Masi and a 1982 Colnago Super. "I keep my collection focused," he explains. "It keeps the wife from getting crazy."

Two bikes are nothing. Even Maas is bashful about his own stable. "I don't call myself a collector," Maas says. "I have about a dozen old bikes."

Faces turn to Schmidt, and there are jokes about the proverbial "cat lady" who dies and leaves behind dozens of animals. Schmidt is coy about his collection: "I don't know. No one knows. Somewhere

around 50." He has long since stopped inviting guests to his South Pasadena house, which is reportedly crammed with bicycles and parts. If you want to see them, you have to ride with him.

They push off at 11 a.m., at a conversational pace (mostly about eBay vintage bike auctions) that takes them through Southern California's South Pasadena, San Marino, Temple City and eventually to Sierra Madre. There are only two strict rules to the ride. First, no one is dropped from the pack. And second, Schmidt explains, "The ride goes on, even if nobody shows up."

When the ride winds down in Sierra Madre, riders bypass the busy Starbucks that dominates the downtown square. They settle up the street, at Bean Town, a local coffee shop, instead.

The place has been around for decades, a length of time Chuck acknowledges with a slight grin.

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Involvement

from page 1

for racing in the Baja 2000 by Collins Racing of Las Vegas. Recently he invented a new stabilizer technology for Amtech Corp.

For more information, contact Rudy Eggert at 426-4810

Boise State Seeks Information on Missing Nest Boxes

Boise State University is seeking information about what happened to more than 75 nest boxes used for research on American kestrels, also known as sparrow hawks, that have been removed from electrical power poles in the area north of Kuna over the past two weeks.

The boxes, mounted about 10 feet up the poles, have disappeared without a trace, said Boise State biology professor Alfred Dufty, director of the research project. Several graduate students who are currently conducting studies of the nesting sparrow hawks are in jeopardy of losing the next year's worth of research if the nests are not replaced, he said.

"Time is critical because the birds are now prospecting for

nest sites, and if we don't have the boxes up they will go elsewhere to breed," said Dufty. "This would be a significant setback for our students, who are supported by state-funded assistantships."

The nest boxes were located along roadways in the area north of Kuna and south of Interstate 84, Dufty said. They were clearly labeled as property of Boise State University, and installed with the permission of Idaho Power Company. Idaho Power officials contacted by Dufty were unaware the boxes had been removed, and told him it was very unlikely that anyone at the company was involved in the boxes' disappearances.

Boise State researchers first began mounting the nest boxes on the power poles about five years ago, Dufty said. Only a handful of the 87 original nest boxes remain. Graduate students have constructed new nest boxes to replace the missing ones, but Dufty is concerned they might also disappear after they are mounted.

"It's expensive in terms of both time and money to have to replace all these nest boxes.

If we're going to have to do that, we want to make sure that they don't disappear again," Dufty said.

Anyone with any information about the missing nest boxes is requested to contact the Ada County Sheriff's Office at 377-6790 or 426-1453.

Boise State Honor Society Sponsors Blood Drive March 30

The Boise State University chapter of Psi Chi, the national psychology honor society, will host a blood drive from 3-7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 30, in the American Red Cross Bloodmobile, which will be parked behind the back entrance of the Student Union Building.

Donors -- students, faculty and community members -- are encouraged to sign up ahead of time by calling Kim Markowski at 426-8094. Walk-ins are also welcome. Psi Chi will serve refreshments to the participants. Donors may also enter a drawing to win a Red Cross goody bag of prizes.

Service Saturday

March 13

Meet at 9 a.m. by the Food Court in the SUB

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ANDY BENSON
Editor-in-Chief
345-8204 ext. 105
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So, anyway*

BY TRAVIS ESTVOLD
Columnist

A One-Legged Man Ran Off With My Tickets!
Well, I got hosed again.

Here's the story. I was walking home from school two weeks ago when ... Okay, wait. Let me start over. So I bought tickets to the Maroon 5 and John Mayer concert like way back in December. I know what you're thinking. Is he? Y'know? And the answer is no. No, I'm not. So I'll keep telling my story, if you're quite through interrupting. So there I was, walking home from school that Monday. It was the day before Valentine's Day. I was still about two blocks away from my house when my girlfriend called in a frenzy. Apparently, 103.3 Kiss FM was having a contest, and the winner would get two backstage passes to Maroon 5.

The radio station's idea was this: It's February 13th. Let's put a disc jockey on the corner of Fairview and Curtis at 8:30 in the morning (when it's ass cold out), dress him in a diaper and have him collect Valentine's gifts from people. And the "nicest" gift collected wins the passes. So I offer to my girlfriend: "What could be a nicer present for a freezing, diapered man on a street corner than the clothes off your back?" She agreed. I rushed home and changed into my oldest, most unused shirt and pants, and she sped over to pick me up. We literally had about three minutes to get from Broadway to Fairview and Curtis. To say we drove quickly from my house to the DJ's location would be a gross understatement. Remember that part in Apollo 13 during liftoff when the g-forces are making Tom Hanks' head jostle around like he was a bobble-head doll? Well,

it wasn't at all like that, but trust me, we were going fast.

We made amazing time, but got stuck at a stoplight right next to our destination corner, so I jumped out of the car and bolted across the street, my legs trembling slightly with anticipation. Would the diaper guy take my clothes? Could I win backstage passes? Well, in case I had actually succeeded in building any suspense, let me quash your questions. The answer to both was no.

As I approached, it looked as if the DJ and his crew were packing up to leave. "I want tickets," I said. "Does he need some clothes? He can have mine." It wasn't exactly the eloquent plea that I had hoped for, but I was at a loss. "He's already got some," I was told, and they continued packing up. They were nice enough to write my name down, though, saying that I could qualify for a drawing later that day. My hopes were dashed, but oh well. At least I didn't have to get naked on some random street corner.

My girlfriend finally rounded the corner and picked me up. I hopped in and had to tell her the bad news. No backstage passes. They wouldn't take my gift. I had been thwarted. All the rush for nothing.

Well, we made our way to her work place so she could wrap up some last minute job details, and we kept our ears tuned to the radio in hopes a miracle would happen.

"Some guy offered to give me his clothes! And even though he was way late, and we didn't take them, and they were terrible clothes, and for some reason his legs were shaking, we still feel he deserves the tickets." Something like that would have been adequate. But as we kept hearing updates on the judging of the contest between songs, I felt more and more as if a hokey gift was going to take the prize. Like the guy who gave us disco underwear. Those aren't a 'nice' gift. Interesting, sure. Disturbing, yeah. Creative, you bet. But nice? Eh. Not so much.

The time arrived and they announced their winner. Was it the guy with the underwear? Was the guy who offered his clothes? (That would have been me, if you haven't been paying attention.) No. The winner was, and I'm not making this up, a one-legged man, who had the gall to give up his crutches. I am not joking here. It was an, apparently, authentic one-legged man who gave the DJ his only walking support as a Valentine's Day gift, for the sole purpose of getting backstage concert tickets.

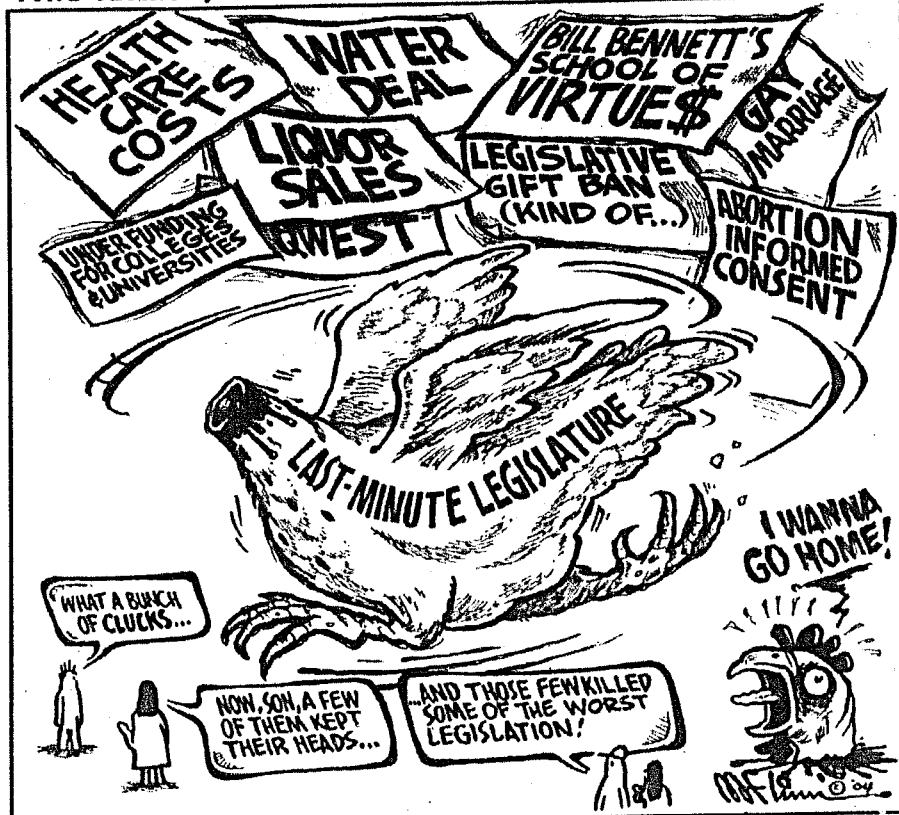
Am I the only one blindingly disturbed by this image? The DJ claims that the man offered them up, and said that his wife's birthday was coming soon, and she would like nothing more than passes for the show. The nerve of this guy! I mean, I'm as sympathetic as the next guy. One-leggedness is by no means a fun way to go through life, I'm sure. But let's look at this thing on a larger scale. I've been listening to Maroon 5 since before they changed their name from Kara's Flowers. What kind of a 'nice' gift is it that leaves you unable to walk, anyway? The DJ seemed to be able to get around just fine.

So, anyway, I'm calmer now. I've learned a valuable lesson from this whole ordeal. And I feel better now because of it. From now on, I won't complain when those less fortunate than myself end up with things that I deserve. I won't whine if I don't win everything. And I won't belittle radio stations and their rigged contests. No, I won't do those things. From now on, I will plot. I will cheat. I will play sympathy cards. I will do whatever it takes to get tickets. Then I will smirk. And I will feel great about it.

Of course it will be really hard to part with my wheelchair on those occasions. But I'll make do.

This Island, Idaho

By M.Filinn



Outsourcing— threat or opportunity?

SACHIN RUIKAR
Special to The Arbiter

If you've picked up a newspaper in the last six months, watched CNN, followed presidential campaign, or even glanced at Slashdot.com, you have already met the pissed-off programmer. He is the guy standing on the streets in Silicon Valley holding placards WILL CODE FOR FOOD and running feverish campaigns against outsourcing with websites like yourjo bisgoingtoindia.com and nojobsforindia.com.

What is the truth behind the hype and tales? Let's face the facts. A good offshore programmer is not trying to steal your job, but if s/he ends up taking the job anyway, s/he would do the \$70,000-a-year job for \$11,000, the wages of a Taco Bell counter jockey. This is a story about two countries and one profession, and it is also about the free markets, new politics and ancient wisdom.

According to Gartner, a research group, one in 10 U.S. technology jobs will go overseas by the end of 2004. In the next 15 years, more than three million U.S. white collar jobs, representing \$136 billion in wages, will depart to places like India, with IT industry leading the migration. The latest U.S. job figures report that 21,000 jobs were created in Feb. 2004 as compared to the 125,000 predicted. Anti-outsourcing campaigns develop their ammunition with these figures and reports. The real culprit, ironically, is the word 'productivity.' American companies have been churning out productivity gains of five percent every year over the past five years. At that stunning rate, they can keep growing without adding the jobs at all. Indeed, the very focus of info-tech investments was on eliminating human involvement in tasks ranging from data entry to report generation; actually doing away with massive swaths of people in the middle management and low-end clerical work. Why would they bother to hire in that case? Can they be expected to reinstate those indulgent practices requiring more man-power now that the customers are buying again? No way. According to Forrester Research, only 300,000 out of the 2.7 million U.S. jobs lost over the past three years are on account of outsourcing. That is just a shade over 11 percent. Within four years, outsourcing will be a \$57 billion market, a meager 0.5 percent of U.S. GDP.

Outsourcing? Sure, it's there. But India and the similar low-salary high-skills countries are taking away only a fraction of the jobs that the U.S. is losing. But try telling that to a programmer who has recently lost his job. In 2003, the unemployment rate among computer scientists, for instance, was 5.2 percent in 2003 compared to an average of no more than two percent over the previous two decades. That is an awful lot of jobs lost and these are the people who have felt the brunt of outsourcing. The average salary for info-tech workers in the U.S. was \$67,440 in 2002, versus only \$36,520 for all private-sector workers. Clearly, the axe has fallen where it hurts most. What makes this upheaval so disorienting is the speed. Agricultural jobs lasted 80 years; industrial jobs lasted 40 years, before the rules changed. This upheaval is occurring not across generations, but within individual careers.

It all sounds so familiar 20 years ago - when the threat to economic prosperity was not Indian coders but Japanese autoworkers. And the prescriptions were the same, trade sanctions and 'Buy America' campaigns. The only difference this time is that the protagonists are forging pixels instead of steel. If today's cry of the displaced is 'They sent my job to India!' yesterday's was 'I was replaced by a computer!' As computers have reshaped the workplace, they have also proved remarkably

effective at creating jobs. Of course, anxiety is the part of the cycle, and transition is never easy. So what is next for the knowledge workers? It's inevitable that certain things - fabrication, maintenance, testing, upgrades, and other routine knowledge work - will be done overseas. But that leaves plenty to do here. After all, to outsource, something first must be imagined and invented. And these creations must be explained to customers and marketed to suppliers and entered into the swirl of commerce in a fashion that people notice, all of which require aptitudes that are more difficult to outsource - imagination, empathy, and the ability to forge relationships. In future, the white-collar jobs with any lasting potential in the US won't be classically high tech. Instead, they'll be high concept and high touch. The answer, perhaps, is an update of the slogan that appears in giant steel-and-neon letters on the Trenton Bridge, which reads "TRENTON MAKES - THE WORLD TAKE". Now that the rest of the world is acquiring knowledge, the more appropriate slogan will be "AMERICA DISCOVERS - THE WORLD DELIVERS."

Everyone knows that globalization is a careening juggernaut that is impossible to stop. So is protectionism the answer, as some politicians argue? As Chris Sattolo of The Philadelphia Enquirer points out, free-market capitalism is neither all good nor all bad; it is what it is, at once creative and destructive. The job of the government is not to run the economy, nor is it to worship the free market capitalism. In a democratic republic, some goods like justice, equal opportunity, stable communities, education, health care, clean air should be valued more than wealth. Transforming government jobs to outsourced labor is going to cost \$70,000 a year for a job that can be done in \$11,000 a year. Is this trade-off worth it in order to protect one job? The people and law-makers should decide this together sensibly. Government's job is to defend and expand these public goods. Free markets make that job harder, because their mania for efficiency and innovation creates victims and inequalities. Yet free markets also make that job possible, by generating wealth and innovation which government can tap to heal the victims and foster the public goods.

"Who Moved My Cheese?" is, of course, one of the best-selling books of the past decade. It's a simpleminded - and, yes, cheesy - parable about the inevitability of change. The book is a fable about two mouse-like critters, Hem and Haw, who live in a maze and love cheese. After years of finding their cheese in the same place every day, they arrive one morning to discover that it's gone. Hem, feeling victimized, wants to wait until somebody puts the cheese back. Haw, anxious but realistic, wants to find new cheese. The moral: Be like Haw. If you are among the pissed-off, such advice may sound annoying. The similar advice comes from the Bhagavad Geeta, a book of ancient wisdom from India. The Geeta opens with two armies facing each other across a field of battle. The book relates the dialog between Krishna - the God, and Arjuna - the Warrior, about how to survive, and more importantly, how to live. "Your very nature will drive you to fight," Lord Krishna tells Arjuna. "The only choice is what to fight against."

Based on the articles:
1) The New Face of the Silicon Age - Daniel H. Pink
http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/12.02/india_pr.html
2) Center Square | Econ 101: Duality of Hinduism could help - By Chris Sattolo
http://www.philly.com/mld/inquirer/news/special_packages/sunday_review/8179381.htm
Ruikar is a graduate student from India pursuing his masters in management information systems in the College of Business and Economics at BSU. He arrived in U.S. in 2002 and his area of interest is IT project management in geographically separated teams.

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1910 University Drive
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Editor-in-Chief
ANDY BENSON x105
editor@arbiteronline.com

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
Amber Fuger
Bethany Maille
Joy Fugate
Kyle Gorham
Trevor Horn
Jason Kauffman
Jeremy Rasmussen

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Danaka Oliver
COLUMNISTS
Autrey Salazar
Dr. Decatur Reed
Esther Tolson
Karl Drew

ASST. PHOTO EDITOR
Krista Adams

Sports Editor
ANDREA TRUJILLO x103
sports@arbiteronline.com

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

Photo Editor
MARY DAWSON x121

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Stanley Brewster
Emily Dester
Dan Wolf
James Orr

INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS
Kyle Gorham
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Justin Jerry

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University attempting to educate about, and comply with, smoking policy

Dear Editor,

This letter is in response to the recent letter to the editor about Boise State's smoking policy and receptacles. During the fall 2003 semester, Health, Wellness and Counseling Services (HWC) and Center for Health Policy was awarded a tobacco grant from Central District Health Department to implement and evaluate an awareness/compliance campaign regarding the Boise State campus smoking policy. The current university policy states that at least one designated entrance to all university-owned or leased buildings and facilities shall be designated and posted as "This is a SMOKE-FREE

Entrance." Smoking is prohibited within 30 feet of each smoke-free entrance and within university buildings. HWC Services has been working with building managers and the Facilities Operations and Maintenance Department to post signs, move existing receptacles and place new stainless steel models in accordance with this policy.

In January 2004, a "Ciggy Buttz" campaign was launched, which included posters, flyers, table tents and Arbitron ads to inform students, faculty and staff about Boise State's smoking policy. Ciggy Buttz (a life-size cigarette) has also been on campus to issue violation citations and provide information

about smoking cessation programs and resources.

If you would like to see more building entrances become smoke-free, contact building managers and ask. You have the right to breathe clean air! Something else to be aware of is that there is currently a no smoking legislative bill awaiting the Governor's signature, which includes a 20 foot smoke-free perimeter at all entrances to public education buildings.

Healthy regards,
Christina Berg,
Health Promotion and Prevention Services
Coordinator
Hannah Sedivy,
Wellness Services Intern

An open letter to college students:
Preparing for a tough job market

BY LEO I. HIGDON JR.
(KRT)

This spring 1.2 million of you will graduate, says the National Center for Education Statistics. By 2008, that figure will double. However, the economy is offering you few easy opportunities for your first job. Normally the recovery from an economic downturn is accompanied by an increase in jobs. Not this time. Two years into this recovery and we should be up by seven million jobs; instead we're down 2.5 million.

Yet productivity is soaring, which suggests that the economy is undergoing a long-term fundamental change. After all, previous upturns created jobs, so why not this one? You've been reading about this "jobless

recovery" and no doubt wondering why this is happening, and whether you will be able to find work.

Here's what you have to keep in mind. Companies are contending with an intensely competitive business climate and with little control over their prices for goods and services, the solution to protecting their bottom line is to boost productivity while cutting costs. In the hard-hit manufacturing sector, for example, new technologies have enabled firms to produce more goods with fewer workers, or to shift operations to less expensive labor markets overseas (only to decline there as well).

Now, however, more service-oriented "office" jobs are being outsourced to foreign companies, wages are being reduced,

higher-paid personnel are being laid off, and part-time positions are increasing. This economic condition is unlikely to change soon. In addition, those of you entering the job market will be competing with laid off people who have more experience. And even though productivity levels tend to fluctuate, and the ratio of labor input to production output cyclically stabilizes and produces higher employment, in most fields the creation of new jobs will never return to historical levels.

So, what do you do?

Make yourself more marketable while in school. But being marketable doesn't always mean you must adhere to pre-professional programs or forsake other academic areas simply because they may not be related to your career. By focusing now on acquiring a sound well-rounded education that encompasses a wide range of key skills, attributes and experiences, you will have a much stronger chance of success in the job market. And there are certain things you can do that will be immensely helpful in improving your marketability, regardless of what you major in or the profession you pursue. But the most important thing you can do now to increase your marketability is to take a broad-based, challenging and varied curriculum. Adhere to the highest standards in your studies and activities. By not limiting yourself, you'll better develop your critical thinking skills and creative approaches to problem solving. In this increasingly unpredictable world of work, you'll be better prepared for change, complexity and ambiguity if you learn how to learn rather than just what to learn.

Apply what you learn through internships or other work-related activities. These experiences can help you learn what you like and don't like, where your greatest talents lie and what you're truly passionate about. So learn about different careers and the type of people they attract, and see if there's a match between their values and your own.

Take these combined experiences and build your resume while you're still in college. Along with your resume, include the activities you've organized or volunteered for, the jobs you've undertaken or artistic works you've completed. Demonstrate the broad-based creative thinking that organizations look for, and provide a clear picture of who you are, what you've chosen to do and the experience, talent and potential you possess.

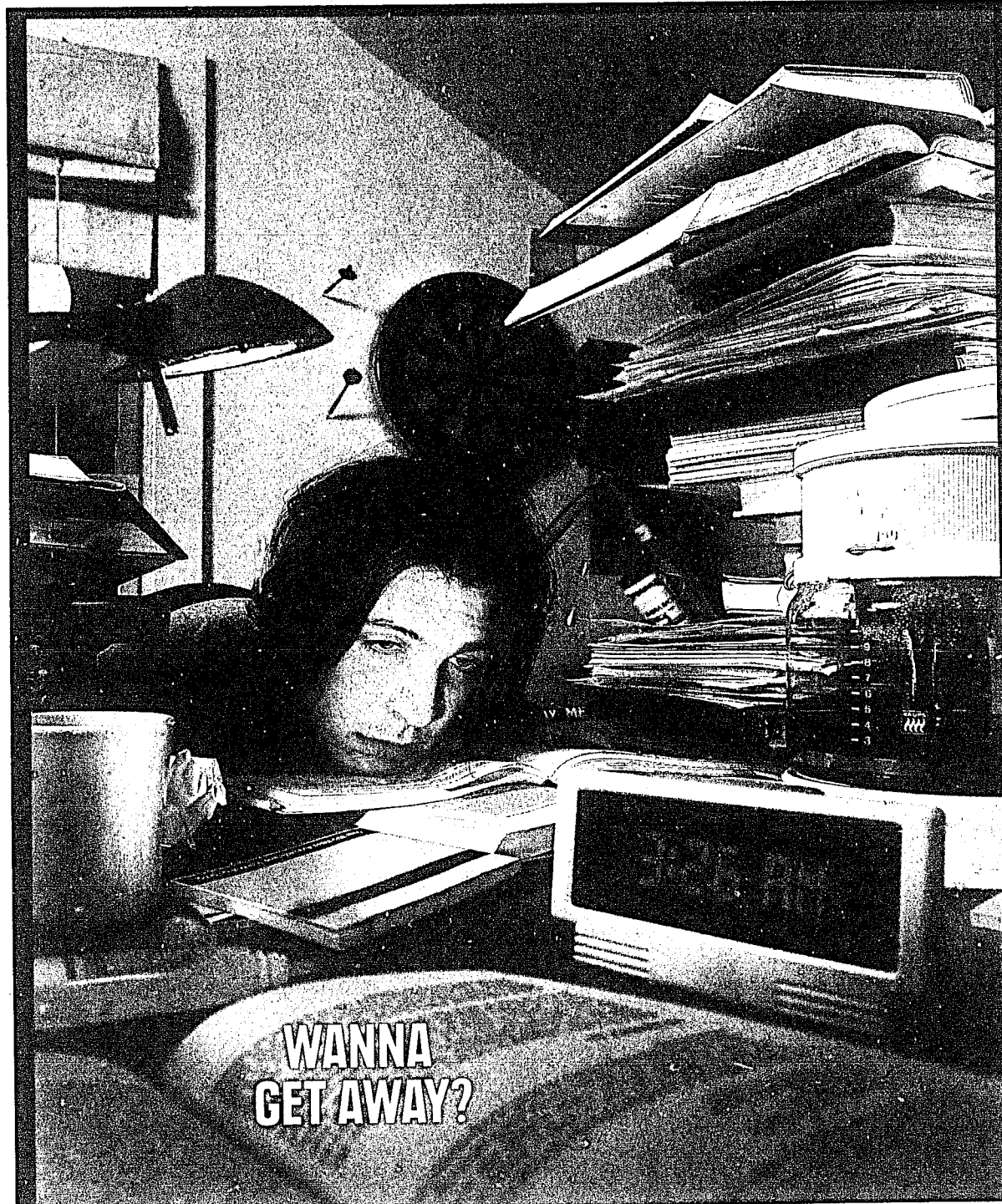
Hone your technology skills. You will need them. Technological proficiency provides you with an immediate advantage, regardless of the career.

Learn to network. This is a skill that will prove invaluable as you enter or move throughout the job market. Do your homework when job hunting, and use your school's career office and alumni network for contacts and information about different careers.

Learn how to work as part of a team, and develop solid team-building skills. And the more diverse the team members, the better — you might even consider an overseas experience to broaden your perspective. But remember that this experience should be seen as meaningful and educational — not as just another vacation.

Develop your communication skills to the highest possible level. Internships, for example, are one area where you can gain experience in making presentations; but regardless of the circumstances, learn to write and make presentations where you'll be critiqued. Try especially to put yourself in situations where you have to communicate with all types of audiences.

What these steps define is a well-rounded academic and co-curricular program. Follow these steps and you will learn much about yourself — what you're good at and what you enjoy doing. Follow them well, and you will build exactly the right experiences that will qualify you for any entry-level position in a tough job market, regardless of the career you choose. In the final analysis, it will be your education, your ability to think creatively and your willingness to try new and difficult things that will enhance not only your marketability, but the quality of your life.



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ANDREA TRUJILLO
Sports Editor

345-8204 ext. 103
sports@arbitronline.com

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Troy McClain from NBC's "The Apprentice" made an appearance to hand out the awards for the Boise State gymnastics team.

PHOTOS BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Conference Champs!

Bronco gymnasts defend Western Gymnastic Conference Title

BY AMBER FUGER
Sports Reporter

The Bronco gymnasts made it back-to-back conference titles after winning the Western Gymnastic Conference Championship for the second straight year. On Friday, March 19, the Broncos successfully defended their title, winning by more than a two point margin. The Broncos hit all four events with a team score of 196.675. Southern Utah finished second with a 194.5. Utah State took third with a 194.3. Cal-State Fullerton scored a 194.1 to finish last.

The Broncos head coach Sam Sandmire said that repeating as conference champs was even better the second time around.

"Winning was even better this year because we hit all four events," said Sandmire. Sandmire was also extremely proud of team captain junior Carla Chambers and junior Heidi White. White came back this year, after recovering from an injury, to reclaim her title on beam. She won the competition in 2002 and made an amazing comeback to clinch the title once again.

Chambers tied for first on vault with Southern Utah's Molly Bauer with a 9.875. Chambers won the bar event with a 9.95. The highlight of the meet for Chambers was repeating as the all-around WGC Gymnast of the Year. Sandmire said that Chambers is a very

head-strong and talented young female who is a great team leader.

Kristin Gaare claimed the title as conference champion in the floor event with a 9.95. Sandmire said that Gaare had been hitting on floor all year long.

"She came out and won it all," said Sandmire. Gaare had not received enough recognition for her amazing floor routines, but Sandmire said she thought Gaare had been deserving of the recognition all along. Now Gaare is representing with a conference title.

Lindsey Thomas and Lindsay Ward came out strong for the Broncos on bars tying for third place with a pair of 9.85's. On beam behind White, Ward tied with fellow Bronco Corinna Lewis for fifth with 9.825's. Chambers and Ward both took third on floor behind Gaare with 9.9s. In the all-around competition, Ward came in fifth with a total score of 38.75 and Thomas came in sixth with a 38.725.

It was not a bad night for the Bronco gymnasts. The season is just about to pick up again with regional competition coming up. Unlike many Boise State students, who were off for some fun in the sun, members of the Bronco gymnastic squad planned a week of practice over spring break. There is truly no rest

on the quest to be the best. On March 19, the Broncos held an inner-squad meet to keep the momentum going.

"We are peaking at the right time," said Sandmire.

The Broncos already qualified for regionals even before the conference championship. Still, the title was a definite highlight for the team. The Broncos can already adorn themselves with rings and trophies, but the big wins are yet to come. In order to move on to compete in the NCAA Nationals, the Broncos need to place first or second at regionals. Individually, members of the team can move on if they win their given event. Scores are out the window. It is a winner-take-all situation, and the Broncos are determined to win.

With the conference title in the bag, the Broncos have their sights set on the future and they look ahead with confidence.

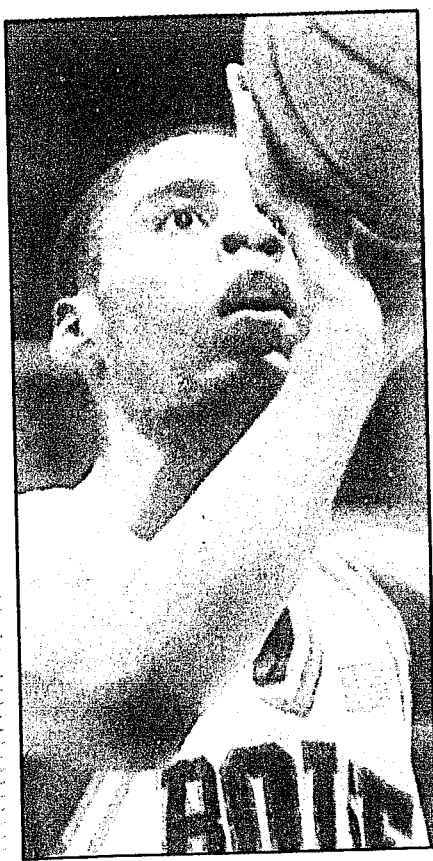
"These girls are focused on hitting in all of the events. They are a dedicated, talented, and unified team," said Sandmire.

The Bronco's next step will be to travel to Corvallis on April 3, where Oregon State will host the NCAA Regional Championships.

Gymnast Carla Chambers was awarded the title of gymnast of the year.



The Boise State Gymnastics team is conference champ for the WGC.



The highly effective habits of Jason Ellis

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Reporter

A collegiate athlete's life can be hectic, to say the very least. But there is one student-athlete at Boise State who takes the cake when it comes to time management -- men's basketball player Jason Ellis.

Try this on for size. It's well before 7 a.m. and you know that you have a basketball game later that night. But, you find yourself tip-toeing your way from your bedroom to your bathroom so you can brush your teeth in the dark to ensure you don't wake your 16-month-old son.

Welcome to the life of an All-WAC defensive first team member/father. Ellis is a junior on the men's basketball team, but he has a just as important team at home. Ellis married Christine Hofstra last June, and the two raise their son, Quincy Bernard -- who shares the same middle name as his father. The

two of them met during the first weeks of Ellis' freshman year.

"She was after me," Ellis said.

Jokes aside, he realizes the team effort, and the need to appreciate each other.

"She does an excellent job. Doing all those intangibles that I'm not able to do," Ellis said.

During a season that has taken the Broncos program somewhere they have not been in ten years, Ellis has been one of the strongest forces on the team. There is something to be said about a man who is in the midst of an outstanding run as a college basketball player, yet knows where his heart really is. And he knows he's a completely different man on and off the court.

"I'm good at channeling it once I am off the court. It's over and done with," Ellis said.

With that mentality, you can see how he can maintain

the ability to be a great floor presence when he is wearing the Bronco orange and blue, and when he is trying to get Quincy to fall asleep.

"That's something special to do before he goes to bed. I get to rock him to sleep to-night," said the proud father.

"But there is a different side to Ellis once he gets on the court.

"I do some pretty uncharacteristic things on the court. I won't get into that, but it's totally different once I am not on the floor," stated Ellis.

He is a quiet floor general for the Broncos. He leads the team in rebounding with nine rebounds a game, which is also second in the WAC during the regular season. Standing at 6' 7", and weighing in at just around 200 pounds, he is doing something else that shows his ability to rise above the adversity given to him. On almost a nightly basis on the court, Ellis is matched up with his opponent's big man, and

holds his own.

"I think people recognize that I work hard and my teammates work hard. So they make my defensive job a little easier," Ellis said.

Once again, he does not take full credit for his accomplishments. He bangs down low ever night and will not give up. But he knows what he has to do. He scraps in and finds a way to get the rebounds. And going into the stretch run late in the season he found his shooting touch again. Hitting hook shots, and finding a crafty way to ensure the Broncos fight against the bigger teams.

Giving up that much and still being the best makes for some painful nights on his body, but being home with his family is his top priority. Ellis not only does his job on the hardwood and at home, but he excels in the classroom also. He was one of two players on the team to be named to the All-Academic team.

"It's a big honor. Especially because I feel my plate is pretty full," Ellis said.

And he knows that he didn't accomplish the feat alone. There is a presence about him that you can realize after talking to Ellis for just a few minutes that he appreciates all the good in his life, and he makes sure to express it, especially about his wife.

"It's a tight schedule, but she's a big part of that," Ellis said.

Tight schedule might be a big understatement, but that is what you get from Jason Ellis. He is humble off the court, but he is the man the Broncos look to for a defensive stop when they need it. And he delivers. Then when it comes to his family, his heart and desire delivers. And his words speak true for both aspects of his unbelievable accomplishments on and off the court.

"It not how big you are, but the heart you have."

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Bronco wrestlers wrap up 2004

BY JEREMY RASMUSSEN
Sports Reporter

The Bronco wrestling team's successful season finally came to a close at NCAA Championships in St. Louis. The Broncos sent five competitors into the tournament, and the last of the five to survive, 133-pounder Scott Jorgensen, was beat the second day of competition to end the Bronco's season.

Joining Jorgensen at the tournament were Jesse Brock at 141 pounds, Ben Cherrington at 157, K.C. Walsh at 197, and finally Jacob McGinnis at the heavy-weight classification. Each of the five Bronco representatives recorded victories in the first round of competition early Thursday except McGinnis, who had the toughest draw in third seeded Matt Feast of Pennsylvania. McGinnis lost in a major decision to Feast 19-7. The Pac-10 Heavyweight champion was then knocked out of the tournament in the first round of the consolation bracket by Ramel Meekins of Rutgers 10-6.

The highest seeded Bronco in the tournament was Walsh in the 197-pound weight class. Walsh kicked off his tournament with a 9-5 victory over UNC's Venroy July. He was then upset in the second round of the championship bracket by Josh Birt of Pittsburgh, who had upset the number eight seed in the first round. Birt defeated Walsh by a score of 8-2. Walsh was then upset again and knocked out of the tournament with a 10-3 loss to Matt Delguyd of Northwestern.

Cherrington, the sophomore out of Granby, Colorado, started the tournament strong with a 12-2 major decision over Brett Vanderveer of Pennsylvania. He then was matched up with the number one seed in the

157-pound weight class, Alex Tirapelle of Illinois, in the second round. Cherrington kept up with the top seeded Tirapelle for the duration of the match, but couldn't snag a takedown and lost the match in a close one, 4-1. In the first round of the consolation bracket, Cherrington found himself caught up in another heated battle, this time with Brian Cobb of Cal-State Bakersfield. Cobb handed Cherrington a tough 6-5 loss, which ended the Bronco's season with a 28-9 record.

Boise State's Jesse Brock, at 141 pounds, began with 9-6 victory over Doug Withstandley of Purdue in the first round. Brock was then matched up with the number three seed in the tournament. Oklahoma's Teyon Ware owned that third seed and became one name on a very short list of people who have pinned the Bronco senior. Ware recorded the pin on Brock with 42 seconds remaining in the final round, sending Brock to the consolation bracket. In the first round of consolations, Brock chalked up a 10-2 major decision over Juan Mora of Cal-State Fullerton. Brock then saw his wrestling career come to an end, when 11th-seeded Andy Simmons of Michigan State picked up the 4-0 win. Brock finishes his Bronco career with an overall record of 83-32, three appearances in the NCAA Championships, and two individual Pac-10 titles.

The last Bronco standing in the tournament was Jorgensen, the sophomore from Eagle, wrestling at 133 pounds. After winning his first Pac-10 championship just a few weeks before, Jorgensen came into the NCAA tournament ranked 12th in his weight class. He started his tournament off with a victory over Josh Pniewski of Gardner-Webb, 6-1. Jorgensen

then bumped heads with the fourth-seeded Foley Dowd of Michigan. Dowd was able to snag the only takedown of the match in the first round and was able to fend off Jorgensen for the duration. Jorgensen lost in a close one 3-2 to send him to the consolation bracket as well. In his first consolation round, Jorgensen made short work of Adam Benitez of Duke winning in a 12-5 major decision. He then knocked out Quincy Osborn of Minnesota in a close one, 4-3. Jorgensen's season was then ended by Johnny Thompson of Oklahoma St. Jorgensen nearly came back after being down 3-0, but was held off by Thompson and was handed a 3-2 loss. A victory over Thompson would have given Jorgensen All-American honors. Oklahoma State went on to win the NCAA Championships.

Although this was the first season in six years that the Broncos did not have a wrestler receive All-American status, that should not put a damper on what the young team did this season. This was Coach Greg Randall's second year as head coach of the Broncos, and he led his team to season closing eight-match win streak to finish with a 9-3 dual record and a team ranking of 19th. His team also captured their third Pac-10 Championship in five years.

The Broncos will lose two key assets from this year's team—Brock and McGinnis, the team's two seniors. But that's all the Broncos will be losing. The other three NCAA competitors were sophomores, who will join the rest of their young teammates next season. The Broncos will reinforce their position as some of the most elite collegiate wrestlers in the conference and the nation.

Bryant's accuser asks for speedy trial date

BY MARCIA C. SMITH
The Orange County Register
(KRT)

EAGLE, Colo. — The mother of the woman who has accused Lakers guard Kobe Bryant of sexual assault wrote an emotional letter to the judge in the case, pleading with the court to set a trial date as soon as possible.

"Her life is on hold and her safety is in jeopardy until this case is over," the mother wrote in the 400-word letter released as part of a court filing Thursday while the pretrial hearing continued at the Eagle County Justice Center.

The correspondence is the first statement from the family of the 19-year-old accuser since the case began.

Since accusing Bryant of the June 30 sexual assault at the Lodge and Spa at Cordillera in Edwards, the woman has been hounded by the media and defense-team investigators, received hundreds of death threats and thousands of obscene messages, and has been forced to live in four states since October, the mother wrote.

"No one else involved in this case has had to make the life changes and compromises that my daughter has had to make and will need to continue to make until this case is over. Even the defendant is able to continue living in his home and continue with his employment," the letter said.

No trial date has been set and pretrial hearings are scheduled well into May.

Bryant, 25, returned to Eagle for the 7 a.m. PST court session Thursday via private jet from Los Angeles, where he scored 36 points in the Lakers' 115-91 victory over Sacramento on Wednesday night.

Bryant claims he had consensual sex with the woman who had worked as a front-desk agent at the Cordillera. He has yet to enter a plea on the felony charge. If convicted he faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation.

The court filing, which referenced the letter, came from the

accuser's attorney John Clune. Clune urged state District Judge Terry Ruckriegle to bring a "swift resolution" to this case in "the interest of the victim's safety and to prevent even further harm as a consequence of reporting criminal conduct."

Clune cited the Victim Rights Act that guarantees the woman a "swift and fair resolution" and referenced another statute that "an unlawful sexual offense shall take precedence" so "the court shall hear these cases as soon as possible."

"This is a very persuasive and genuine letter that will leave people saying, 'Why would this woman go through this hell if she weren't telling the truth,'" Denver attorney Norm Early said.

But Denver criminal defense attorney Craig Silverman believes Clune is misrepresenting or misreading the Colorado law regarding the precedence that "unlawful sexual offenses" should take, saying that the provision applies only to crimes against children, not adults.

"This sounds like an attempt to embarrass the judge on his knowledge of the law," Silverman said. "That's not the way to get your way in the case."

Silverman and other analysts considered the timing of Clune's court filing, which came a day after the accuser testified in court for the first time. "This letter might also be the first sign of retreating," Silverman said.

The woman opened testimony Wednesday and was questioned about her sexual past, information Bryant's attorneys want admitted at trial. If allowed, that would be an exception to the rape shield that presumes an accuser's sexual history to be irrelevant.

Defense lawyers Pamela Mackey and Hal Haddon believe the woman had at least one sexual encounter with another partner around June 30. They claim that encounter could have aggravated or caused the woman's alleged genital-area injuries.

Two former female room-

mates of the woman, two young unidentified men and the Cordillera bellman who the defense believes has a sexual relationship with the woman followed the accuser on the witness stand Wednesday.

Matt Heir, the woman's former longtime boyfriend at Eagle Valley Senior High, testified for 75 minutes as the rape-shield hearing resumed Thursday. It will be continued April 26.

"The letter comes out the day after the prosecution learned what she (the accuser) says on the stand and what all those witnesses say about her sexual history. Maybe there were some inconsistencies," Silverman speculated.

"This letter about the tough toll this case is talking on her life might be the beginning of the gentle exit strategy."

The remainder of Thursday's court proceedings involved the defense's motion to suppress the 75 minutes of statements Bryant made to police July 2 and the physical evidence collected as a result of those statements.

Rich Sanders, a University of Colorado at Denver music professor and the defense's expert in acoustic forensics, was in the courtroom for five hours along with Eagle County Sheriff's Office Detective Daniel Loya. Sanders previously analyzed the sounds of explosions in the Oklahoma City bombing, 911 telephone recordings from the Columbine shooting and evidence in the Jon Benet Ramsey case.

Loya is believed to have played for the court the tape from the microcassette recorder he concealed in a front shirt pocket during an early morning interview of Bryant at the Cordillera on July 2.

The 60-minute recording contained unexplained clicking noises, pauses and unclear voices throughout, which the defense claims makes the tape suspect.

The suppression hearing will resume April 2. Bryant, who remains free on \$25,000 bond, is due to appear in court on April 2.

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Prep stars the curse of NBA's future

BY SAM SMITH
Chicago Tribune
(KRT)

CHICAGO - Dwight Howard, the 6-foot-11-inch high school star from Atlanta who is projected to be one of the top two picks in this June's NBA draft, wasn't able to practice for Wednesday's EA Roundball Classic because of back spasms.

With dozens of NBA team officials back at the Moody Bible gym, Howard arrived late after massage treatment and watched about 20 fellow high school players dribble between their legs and shoot flat jumpers for about an hour.

The only thing Howard was missing to be ready for the NBA was a request for a contract extension. "We have a load of talent," Howard said of the high school class of '04. "Everybody out here can play and do different things. I love my class to death. Probably nine (will declare for the NBA draft). I think most of us can handle it. We handled our high school careers great."

Actually, Howard is one of the most decent kids in recent years with NBA aspirations, a good student from a solid family with an excellent work ethic.

Perhaps a half-dozen of these kids with NBA aspirations were among the 22 who have been working out before the likes of Larry Bird, Pat Riley, Danny Ainge, Chris Mullin, Kiki Vandeweghe, Billy Knight, Jim Paxson and Isiah Thomas. No one actually saw it, but they had to be rolling their eyes.

You can't run an NBA team with these young players. Ask the Chicago Bulls. Tyson Chandler and Eddy Curry ruined the franchise. Well, actually, Jerry Krause did that by drafting them. It's not their fault, and there is hope for Curry. But no one ever will put two high school kids together again like the Bulls did. They're finishing their third seasons and the Bulls are no better than in their first. If a general manager is going to invest in one of this year's crop, he'd better have patience and a long contract.

Howard said he's leaning toward jumping to the NBA, although he hasn't decided for sure. And if you believe that one ... he says he would love to play for his hometown Atlanta Hawks.

"The Hawks were my favorite team growing up," said Howard, who quickly added he would play hard and enthusiastically anywhere. "It would be a good feeling. It would live up the (basketball) area."

Instead of choosing teams, these kids should be choosing majors.

The NBA wishes they were. But there's this thing about passing on the next Kevin Garnett. That gets you fired even faster than taking one of these kids.

Yes, there was LeBron James last June. The next four high school-age first rounders were Darko Milicic, Travis Outlaw, Ndudi Ebi and Kendrick Perkins. James Lang went in the second round. They play less than Marcus Fizer.

Everyone got scared off by the 2001 struggles of Curry, Chandler, Kwame Brown and DeSagana Diop. So Amare Stoudemire slipped to No. 9 in 2002 and was rookie of the year. But for every one who succeeds on the court like Kobe Bryant there are more who don't like Darius Miles.

A couple of the big-name kids leaning toward the NBA draft, LaMarcus Aldridge and Al Jefferson, haven't been here. It was explained they are Nike guys who didn't want to participate in a game Reebok sponsors. They probably didn't like the offense the coach was going to run anyway.

There's Shaun Livingston, the 6-7 Peoria, Ill., guard with long arms reminiscent of Scottie Pippen, passing skills like those of Penny Hardaway and a body that makes Jamal Crawford look like he's on steroids.

Livingston, who is committed to Duke in the college rent-a-

player program, says he hasn't decided on going pro. Don't believe that one, either, although the first screen he runs into could keep him out until his senior year.

There was Robert Swift, who is said to be not so swift with questions about academic qualifications at Southern Cal. For what it's worth, he may become the first white high schooler to go pro, which only means race is not a factor in being unprepared for the NBA.

The kid supposedly going to DePaul, Dorell Wright, has one of those lean, super athletic builds with the shot selection of Ron Artest. You know, if the ball's in his hand it's a good shot. Josh Smith, from Oak Hill Academy, which may apply for an NBA expansion franchise, is said to be the second-best prospect behind Howard. But he often looked like he was waiting for a late train. Tardy commuters run faster.

Joakim Noah, the son of tennis star Yannick Noah was there along with West Aurora, Ill., Justin Cerasoli, who didn't seem to know you didn't have to dribble between your legs, and A. J. Price, a nice-looking guard, who is going to college.

One can understand why most of these kids won't. There were no college coaches in attendance because this is not an official recruiting period, another of those moronic NCAA rules that pushes the best kids away from college. All the kids see are NBA executives and scouts.

The NBA doesn't want them, and they shouldn't be there. It's a marriage made in basketball purgatory, sad mostly for fans because everyone else is getting rich.

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Lucas III is a guard who gets the point at Oklahoma State

BY GORDON JONES
The Morning Call (Allentown, Pa.)
(KRT)

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. - Always, it seems, John Lucas III has found himself on the fringes of crash sites. Always, it seems, he has been able to pick up the pieces and move on.

There was his famous dad, John Jr., whose life at one point was spiraling out of control because of a cocaine addiction.

There was Baylor, beset by murder and scandal.

The younger Lucas, now the starting point guard at Oklahoma State, has distanced himself from his former school while at the same time embracing his dad, now a fixture at his games.

He was there Thursday night, when the Cowboys beat Pitt in

an East Rutherford Regional semifinal in the Meadowlands, and will be there Saturday night, when they face Saint Joseph's for the right to go to the Final Four.

It is, John Jr. has said, the only way he can repay his son for standing by him, even in his darkest days.

The son bears some resemblance to the father, at least facially. But at 5-11 and 152 pounds, John III is nowhere near as big as his dad, who spent 14 years as an NBA point guard after starring at Maryland.

Still, John III seems to be made of some sturdy stuff. He talks openly about his past. He laughs easily. He discusses his faith and credits his mom, Debbie, for keeping the Lucases together when things were bleakest.

But in the end, don't things always come back to the point guard? Aren't they the ones who have to shoulder the burden, run the show, adapt to changing circumstances?

That's how he has always looked at it.

He can remember that, when he was young, his dad would head out the door on another dead-end night. This despite his son's protests; he would grab the bottom of his coat, tell him he wanted to come along.

Didn't matter. And as John Jr. left, he would tell his son: You're in charge. You have to be the man of the house.

"I used to take that to heart," John III said.

In time John Jr. cleaned himself up. He became an inspiration to other recovering addicts, and a coach. John III developed into a promising player, the top point guard in Houston, everybody said, by the time he was in middle school.

Then John Jr. was hired as the Sixers' coach, and the family moved to Philadelphia. His son was thrust into a new environment, which was nothing new; he ticked off the names Friday of seven cities where he has lived, and said he has always made friends easily.

But basketball-wise, Philadelphia was an altogether new environment for a skinny sixth-grader, who because of his reputation was put into the Sonny Hill High School League his first summer in town.

"I was cocky and didn't think anyone could stop me," he said. "I ran into Dajuan Wagner."

Forty-five points later, the younger Lucas had a firm understanding of what was what. He would get back in the gym, he said. He would work with his dad.

And he did. He starred at a high school in Houston, then went on to Baylor, there to perform unevenly for two years. He was a shoot-first guy, to such a degree that he was benched late last season.

Then the summer hit, and the shocking news accumulated: a Baylor player named Patrick Dennehy, found dead ... his ex-teammate, Carlton Dotson, accused of murder ... a coach, Dave Bliss, disgraced.

John III said it was really surprising how little he really knew anyone there. Then again, it's not like anyone tried.

"Even at pregame meals," he said, "everyone sat at different tables."

All the Baylor players were allowed to transfer and play immediately in the wake of the scandal, and Lucas vowed to get to know all his new teammates as well as possible. That has accelerated his adjustment, enabled him to make an immediate impact.

It has enabled him, really, to take control. Just like always.

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PHOTOS BY KRISTA ADAMS/THE ARBITER



Andrea Lewis violinist in the band Clumsy Lovers.



Trevor Rogers lead singer of the Clumsy Lovers performs during spring break at the Big Easy, Friday 19.

Madly in love with Metallica

CRYSTAL THOMAS
A&E Editor

With over five dozen shows, a vigorous new bass player, and the first studio release in a little under six years, it's indisputable that the past year has been a great one for Metallica. Many people, even so-called die-hard Metallica enthusiasts, feel the "St. Anger" album is too much. However, in order to really catch the 40-something performers at their best, you absolutely — and I mean absofreakin'lutely — must see them live. And for those of you who missed the opportunity to catch the band during their "Madly in Anger with the World Tour," here's your eye candy, minus all the 80s paraphernalia.

Many claim they never caught wind of Metallica's appearance at the BSU pavilion over the break, and the show seemed to come and go faster than Lars Ulrich's tom rolls. Yet the band performed in front of a sold-out audience and a perfect gathering of quality fans.

My only complaint of the evening was the borderline painful anticipation of the show's start. After almost an hour of waiting post-Godsmack, the crowd only grew more energized (the beer played a key role as well). Then, as with every Metallica show, "The Ecstasy of Gold" intro tune finally began, the stadium grew loud with applause and chillingly dark. Somewhere in the middle of my excitement I lost track of whether the four band members had even emerged. Then suddenly, the stage lit up, flames erupted, and James, Lars, Kirk and Rob turned the BSU pavilion into a hard rock utopia.

Metallica proved right away that they were in top form. To show they hadn't completely forgotten about the "Loads" era, they played "Fuel," a favorite among many. As well, they highlighted key songs from "Master of Puppets," which would surely amuse even the strongest cynic.

The show wouldn't have been complete without the song "Creeping Death." From my point of view (and under the circumstances, it was a little warped that evening), it was breathtaking and a little eerie to see thousands of fists raised in the air while everyone yells "Die, die, die!" along with James Hetfield.

The band mixed the evening up well, and highlighted songs from the new release such as "Frantic" and "St. Anger." Honestly, there was no highlight of the evening, as everything was equally worthy of attention. The use of pyrotechnics gave the show an edge that implied "this is what a real concert looks and feels like." From the second Lars began stomping on the double bass, I was thrown back to the age of twelve, sitting directly in front of the television watching the "Enter Sandman" video and rocking out with a bandana while my best friend and I decided how, exactly, we were both going to be married to Lars someday.

Metallica demonstrated that the stage is their domain, and there's nothing else they'd rather be doing but sweating it out live. They played a diverse set list and seemed to enjoy the Boise crowd. And although I have, finally, grown out of my Lars crush phase, I will be forever in love with Metallica's flawless performance that evening.

Clumsy Lovers bring spring energy to Boise

TREVER ALTERS
A&E Writer

Gas prices high? Short on fossil fuels? Don't worry, The Clumsy Lovers came to town on Friday, March 19 and they had enough alternate energy to power the valley for months.

Opening for The Clumsy Lovers was local act, Jarvis. They played crisp Matchbox 20ish music, and though people enjoyed it, they were definitely anticipating the Canadian five-piece Clumsy Lovers. When this danceable rock/folk/Celtic group took the stage the dance floor filled up. From the first note to the final encore, Boise loved the Lovers. They played a lot of songs off of their newest album, *After the Flood* and surprised the crowd with many fun covers including a Marley ballad and a deep country version of AC/DC's "You shook me all night long."

Lead singer and guitarist, Trevor Rogers said the band was expecting a good response from Boise. "We have played in Idaho for the last seven or eight years and in Boise for the last five years," he said, "we always have a good response from the fans in Boise."

Rogers acknowledged that he is not much of a dancer, but he loves to play the music that gets the crowd moving. Violinist Andrea Lewis played a lively and sharp violin for nearly three hours. She hopped all over the stage, and soon the rest of the band members followed suit and all seemed to be having a great time. Their excitement overflowed into the diverse crowd, but throughout the show they insisted that it was the crowd's energy that fueled them.

The Clumsy Lovers have been doing three or four cross-country tours, playing over 300 shows every year. This tour is promoting *After the Flood*. Their newest album is the most hi-tech, and most expensive one they have yet produced, but they still insist that it is all about the live shows. While the album is full of great music, the shiny CD could never harness the fun of their concerts.

The Clumsy Lovers showed how much they appreciate Boise with a free show on Thursday at BSU's Coffee Shop series, and then on Saturday they played an acoustic set and met fans over at The Record Exchange. If you missed The Clumsy Lovers this time around, you won't want to miss them next time.

Death Cab for Cutie

From the L.A. sweatshop district
to Boise's Big Easy

DANAKA OLIVER
A&E Writer

Death Cab for Cutie played the first Sunday of spring break at the Big Easy, and I had the pleasure of sitting down with one of the band members, Chris Walla, for a quick interview on their tour bus before the show. The group released their fourth album, "Transatlanticism," in early October of 2003.

THE INTERVIEW

DO: Some describe your sound as pop-meets-indie in the middle. How would you describe it?

CW: I just think of us as a rock band. It's all pop music really.

DO: Most of your album seems to deal with post relationship fallout, so which one of you did Cupid put through the ringer?

CW: Well, Ben [Gibbard] writes the words and he had been through a few things. You know, false starts. It's just a thing that happens. You try, you miss, and then you miss again. We travel a lot so it's really hard to hold a relationship together. Luckily Ben is in a happier place now.

DO: So the next album will be happier?

CW: Yeah. [smiles]

DO: Where was the video for "The Sound of Settling" shot?

CW: In L.A., the sweatshop district.

DO: I didn't know there was a sweatshop district in L.A.

CW: There definitely is. We shot right in the middle of the industrial wasteland of L.A. But where isn't as important as what we were trying to say.

DO: Who directed it?

CW: A group of directors called Tomorrows Brightest Minds.

DO: Was this video a new experience for all of you?

CW: There are a bunch of Death Cab for Cutie videos, but this is the first we've been in, so yes.

DO: Your band relies solely on music for your stage shows, why?

CW: We're not lighting directors or dancers. It's just the ease-of-use factors. I don't know. We're just a band. We play songs. No real reason. I don't think it would be totally appropriate for what we do, and it's expensive.

DO: Ben's vocals have been compared to Doug Martch from Bullt to Spill, what do you think?

CW: I think there's a little bit of a similarity; maybe the first record more than any. I think a passing resemblance, but not much more.

"I see working with
other artists like
going to school.
You learn from
another man.
I think it's a
necessity."

DO: How do you guys find time to play in other bands?

CW: It's just, we're all music people, and I don't so much as I record other people. I own a recording studio [The Hall of Justice] in Seattle. I see working with other artists like going to school. You learn from another man. I think it's a necessity.

DO: What can we expect from you this summer?

CW: Exactly nothing! We are completely off June until the end of July. I think we may go to Europe in August, but nothing in the U.S. this summer.

DO: Where is your next stop after Boise?

CW: Salt Lake City.

DO: How many times have you been to Boise so far?

CW: This is our fourth or fifth show in Boise but it's the first time at the Big Easy. Nick [Harmer] has some family from Boise.

DO: Where was the most interesting place your band has ever performed?

CW: A club in Spain. It's in the middle of nowhere in a field. It's spray painted to look like an old castle. It's completely bizarre. Spaniards are amazing. They are wonderful people, but their timing is different from ours, they should have their own time zone.

DO: Well thank you so much, where can my readers find your album?

CW: You're welcome. They can find it at Record Exchange or any of the mom and pop shops.

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AFTER RINGS:

Hollywood is charging to film the next fantasy hit

By Steven Rea
Knight Ridder
Newspapers



KRT

Remember the horse-drawn cart that carried Gandalf the Grey into Hobbiton at the outset of "The Fellowship of the Ring"? The wizard had better move over: Hollywood has an army of sword-wielding knights, sage sorcerers, monsters, elves, and Renaissance Faire look-alikes about to jump on the wagon.

It doesn't take an Oxford don to explain more than a dozen big-budget fantasies are in the works. The \$2.84 billion international take for Peter Jackson's "Lord of the Rings" trilogy and best-picture and director Oscars for the "Return of the King" — not to mention kabillions in DVD/video sales, merchandising and ancillary rights — have ignited the formerly disparaged dungeons-and-dragons genre.

"What Peter Jackson did was open our eyes to the bigger world you can create," says Rodney Ferrell of Fox 2000, which is adapting the best-selling young-adult novel "Eragon" to the screen.

"What 'Lord of the Rings' has proved is that (fantasy) can be synonymous with quality drama and storytelling," says Mark Ordesky, the New Line Cinema Productions chief executive officer who presided over the seven-years-in-the-making Tolkien trilogy.

Unlike Ordesky, 40, for whom "Labyrinth" and "Conan the Barbarian" were teenage must-sees, today's audiences are seeing their fantasy literature translated into works with artistic cred.

Many projects in the impending onslaught, such as "Eragon," are intended as first installments in "LOTR"-style franchises.

Ordesky and New Line have two trilogies on the fast track: "His Dark Materials," based on British author Philip Pullman's adventures of a precocious orphan girl, animal demons, witches, and an armor-clad polar bear, and "Inkheart," from German novelist Cornelia Funke, in which another feisty young femme battles characters magical and malevolent.

London playwright Tom Stoppard has scripted the first "Dark Materials" book, "The Golden Compass," and Ordesky is now conferring with director candidates. Production is expected to begin by year's end.

With their kidnik heroes and academic/literary settings, New Line's dueling series fall somewhere between Tolkien's Middle-earth and the world of J. K. Rowling's "Harry Potter." The third Potter picture, "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," is set for a June 4 release.

While Ordesky is understandably upbeat about "His Dark Materials" and "Inkheart" — and the advances in computer-generated effects that make them possible — not everyone is convinced that "quality drama and storytelling" will survive once the afterglow of "The Lord of the Rings" has faded.

For all the A-list fantasy projects, there are bound to be pale imitators — elves with the glue visibly oozing from their pointy-ear prosthetics.

"Star Wars" launched a boom in science-fiction ep-

ics, offers Jeffrey Walker, a Hollywood marketing exec who specializes in sci-fi and fantasy. "It was the same after 'Indiana Jones,' with adventure movies. And the same thing after 'Batman,' with superhero movies."

Predictably, Walker says, "there was mixed success."

Viggo Mortensen, the reluctant monarch Aragorn in the "Lord of the Rings" movies, agrees: "What usually happens with any fad (is) there may be one or two that are halfway decent. But (then) it will just decline until they make such horrible ones that ... we'll go into some new genre or fad."

"I'd be surprised if anything will be as good as 'The Lord of the Rings.'"

Tell that to the studios. Two weeks ago, Walt Disney Pictures and Walden Media announced with great fanfare the coming of "The Chronicles of Narnia," an adaptation of C. S. Lewis' seven-book series about a quartet of English schoolkids who step inside a closet and emerge into a realm of witches, elves, dwarves and a Christ-like lion king. "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe," based on the first volume, begins production this summer in New Zealand. Andrew Adamson, who codirected "Shrek," will steer the \$100 million-plus production toward a Christmas 2005 release.

In the pre-"LOTR" days, the rights to "Narnia" belonged to Hollywood producers Kathleen Kennedy and Frank Marshall. But despite a strong track record — "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial," "Back to the Future," "Who Framed Roger Rabbit" — the pair couldn't find a backer.

"Every single studio in town passed, some of them twice," says Kennedy, who tried to develop the project in the mid-'90s and later reluctantly let go of the property. "Things are all about timing and luck, and this was certainly a very good example of both: bad and bad."

Part of the problem was the film's \$116 million budget.

"There hadn't been any movie made for \$100 million," recalls the producer, who had director John Boorman on board. And "this wasn't a movie that anybody was willing to break the \$100 million barrier for, either: no stars ... a children's book."

Fantasy, with its lavish production and effects, is still a big-ticket undertaking.

"The 'ante-up' ... isn't in nickel chips," New Line's Ordesky says. "No one's going to sit down at the fantasy table who isn't prepared to spend at least a moderately high, if not high, amount of money."

If there's a plus to that, he says, it's that "a lot of bad-intentioned imitators" will be weeded out.

"Eragon," the story of a boy and his dragon (and dwarves, elves, Neanderthal armies, and an evil king), "has elements of 'Lord of the Rings,'" says Rodney Ferrell, the Fox 2000 exec. "And that's attractive to us because it makes the movie big" and adds to its blockbuster potential.

Ferrell has the first installment in Christopher Paolini's planned trilogy, written when the home-schooled Montanan was 15, out to screenwriter Peter Bushman, who has worked with Martin Scorsese and Peter Weir. Fox 2000 hopes to have a director within a month or so, and production ("most likely not New Zealand") under way by year's end.

The studio is looking at a Christmas 2005 opening, opposite Disney's "Narnia" debut.

Set to start shooting this summer, in the Czech Republic, is "The Runelords,"

an \$80 million adaptation of the first book in the four-volume series credited to Dave Farland — a pseudonym for David Wolverton, a sci-fi author ("Star Wars: The Courtship of Princess Leia") and developer of video games. Wolverton's story deals with a prince who must battle magical and human forces and giant insectlike creatures in order to save Earth.

French-Canadian director Christian Duguay, who has experience with castle sieges and knights on horseback thanks to the TV miniseries "Joan of Arc," has been signed to the picture, due out next summer.

"It's really a moral tale," says Wolverton, one of the film's producers. "It addresses, in this fantasy vernacular, what it's like to live in our world."

Wolverton acknowledges the influence of Tolkien on his early career. "I probably started (in this field) because of him," he says. But now, "the only similarity may be (their books') sort of medieval fantasy settings."

Asked if he worries that others will accuse him of jumping on the Gandalf bandwagon, Wolverton sounds like one who has kept the faith for a long time. "There will be some people who think that," he says, "but I've recognized for years that fantasy was on the cusp, and that (eventually) the audience would be ripe for it."

What remains to be seen is whether the audience will over-ripen and lose interest when faced with so many offerings.

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Jim Carrey thrives on roles in that gray area between comedy, drama

BY BARRY KOLTNOW
The Orange County Register

LOS ANGELES - When first-time visitors entered the Carrey family home in Canada 32 years ago, they routinely were greeted by the spectacle of a 10-year-old boy flinging himself down a flight of stairs.

As they were recovering from the shock, the youngster would jump to his feet, take a quick bow and then throw himself down the stairs again - this time in slow motion.

"I went down the steps on my chest," a smiling Jim Carrey recalled recently in a hotel room at the Four Seasons in Los Angeles, "and I could make it seem as if my chin was bouncing off every step."

"Each time down the stairs, I would be planning my next fall. I could fill an entire half-hour just falling down the stairs."

Carrey loves to tell that story. It not only offers a glimpse into the early development of a comedy icon, but it reveals a lot about how focused he was on a show business career, even as a 10-year-old boy.

"It was all I ever thought about," he said. "I never really considered doing anything else, except for maybe a week when I wanted to be a veterinarian so I could save animals."

"I didn't know how you got to have a show business career," he added, "or what you were supposed to do to get there, but I knew I wanted that life. Even if I wound up just telling jokes in a lounge, that would be OK with me. I just wanted to perform in front of somebody."

Carrey did get to tell jokes in lounges, but that was just the beginning of a career that made a quick stop in television before scaling the heights of



JIM CARREY
KRT PHOTO

Hollywood.

He returns to the big screen in the offbeat love story "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," in which Carrey and Kate Winslet play former lovers who undergo a radical procedure to erase their memories of each other.

The movie was directed by Michel Gondry, an innovative French video director, and written by Charlie Kaufman, who is best known for the Oscar-nominated "Adaptation" and "Being John Malkovich."

"I love this movie, even separate from anything I did in it," Carrey said. "It is a truly original film and I feel lucky to be a part of it. I feel like I just won the lottery."

"That's how I felt the first time I read Charlie's script. It's so intellectual and, at the same time, so rock 'n' roll. It's not just a movie about memory. It's a movie about being erased, and how it would feel to be erased. It's so different than your standard lose-your-memory

movie."

The movie, which is funny at times but could not be considered a flat-out Jim Carrey comedy, follows on the heels of last year's "Bruce Almighty," a flat-out Jim Carrey comedy that enjoyed one of the biggest opening weekends in history.

Traditionally, Carrey's comedies are more popular with movie audiences than his dramas ("The Majestic" and "The Cable Guy," to name just two), but the actor said he has no plans to stop doing either.

"I think the people who criticize me for wanting to do dramas are afraid I might be good at it," he said. "They don't want somebody to be able to do everything because it makes them feel lazy."

He says that with a smile, but he's serious.

"I love doing comedies, and I won't stop doing them. I appreciate that people like my comedies, but I want to do everything. I've never pandered to the audience, and I don't mean that in a bad way. It's just that I want to try new things all the time."

His next film is "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events," in which he plays Count Olaf. It is not a drama.

Carrey says he loves acting, whether it's in a drama or in a comedy.

"It really is an addiction for me," he said. "I don't want to ever not be able to do it, so I'm willing to put up with everything else just to keep doing it. I guess that's the definition of an addiction."

The "everything else" that Carrey mentioned includes the lack of privacy that accompanies any kind of celebrity life in this country, the constant scru-

tiny by critics, tabloids and the gossip columnists and the incessant talking about oneself.

"There are moments of absolute bliss in doing this job, and I treasure those moments. Those are the moments when I'm acting."

"But then come the other moments, the moments like this, when I'm forced to talk about myself. It's such an odd thing to sit in a room and talk about yourself all day. It's not just boring, which it is, but it's also a time of trepidation for me."

"I get really scared before I do an interview because I'm worried that I might say something stupid or that I might reveal something about my personal life. And then whatever you've said goes out on the information superhighway to be used or interpreted in ways that you hadn't planned."

"There may come a time when I can't take it anymore and I'll just quit. But, for now, it helps to sell the movie, which leads to other movies, and I'm just having too much fun to quit."

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FTC says telemarketers rung up a profit on 'Idol' voters

BY LISA DEMORAES
The Washington Post

Now we know what happened to all those votes for Clay Aiken.



The Federal Trade Commission announced last Thursday that some telemarketing firms based in Utah have agreed to pay \$40,000 to settle charges that they scammed "American Idol" fans into paying for what they thought were free calls to vote for their favorite performers during the first two editions of the Fox reality hit.

Three telemarketing firms "took advantage of callers who inadvertently misdialed the 'American Idol' phone numbers by buying numbers that were very close to—but not the same as—the correct numbers," said the FTC.

If an "Idol" fan accidentally dialed one of these bogus numbers, he or she was connected to a recording telling the fan to dial a 900 number that would put the caller through to a "voting line." Anyone who hadn't smelled a rat by then and dialed the 900 number, for a fee that eventually approached \$3, did not get to vote but

instead heard a recording giving the same toll-free number that Seacrest had given in the first place. Those callers had to dial a third time to cast their votes, the FTC explained.

The telemarketers charged "Idol" fans \$1.99 per call during the first edition of the show and \$2.97 during the second edition, according to the FTC.

"This isn't the first case of this type of scam we've seen," FTC spokesman Mitchell Katz told The TV Column. "It's called fat-finger dialing, like when Homer Simpson was fat and trying to use the phone and he kept hitting different numbers."

We love a government suit who makes TV references.

We asked what the FTC's position was on the whole Clay Aiken-Ruben Studdard thing—you know, how Aiken lost to Studdard by only about 134,000 votes when some people thought he was a slam-dunk to win.

"We're objective on the 'American Idol' contestants," Katz responded diplomatically. "We just don't want consumers to be defrauded when they're trying to pick who they want."

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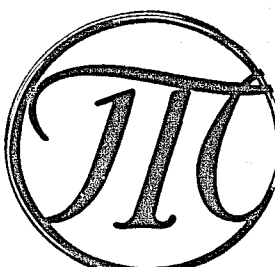
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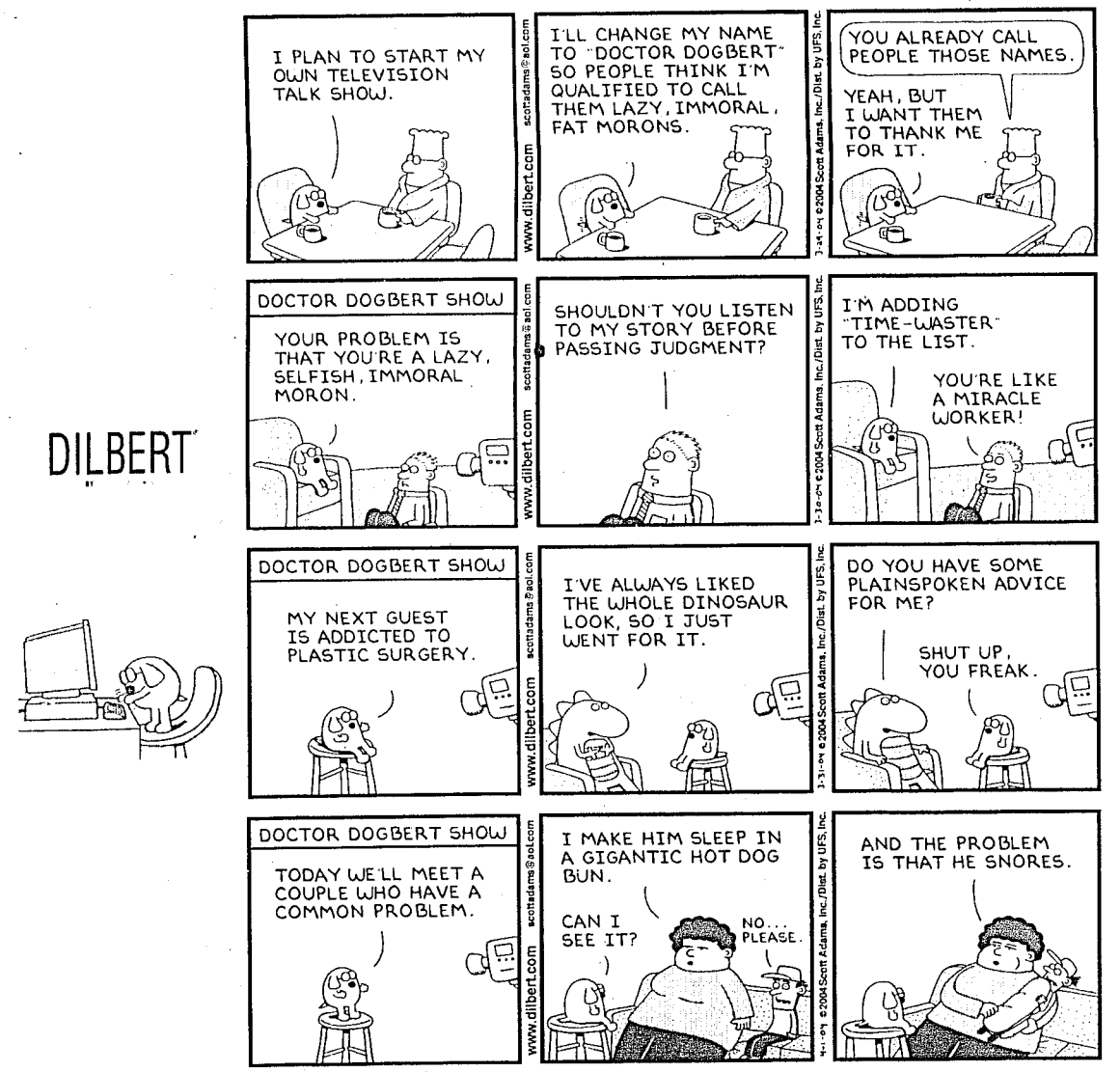
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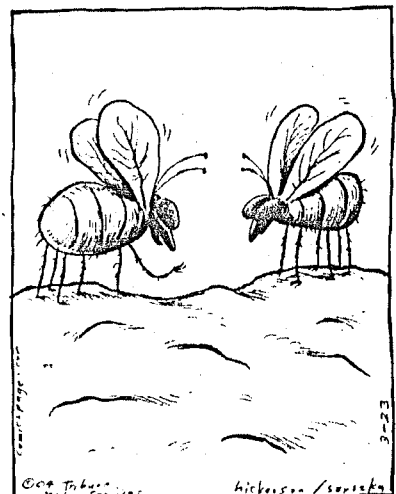
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HOROSCOPES

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (March 29)
A person who's trying to make you live by his or her rules may be quite annoying to you this year, but this person is to you important, too. If you accept the coaching, you'll get much stronger.

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

Aries (March 21-April 19)
Today is a 6 - If you can manage to keep your mouth shut, you'll probably make others think you're the perfect person for the job. Don't reveal your doubts now. Make a list privately.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
Today is a 7 - The odds are good that whatever you're worried about won't end up amounting to much more than a medium-sized hill of beans. Don't stress.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)
Today is a 6 - You can get what you want for your home, possibly at great savings. It's not a good idea to spread this news around, however. Just act on it.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)
Today is a 7 - There's likely to be a misunderstanding, especially if you argue. If somebody orders you to do something, comply if you can. This is not a good time to bring up old hurts. Save them for later.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
Today is a 6 - You sure could use some quiet time. So after you make a few calls to tie up a couple of loose ends, why not take your phone off the hook?

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today is an 8 - A person with more experience can help you find an error or a leak. Don't be embarrassed - go ahead and ask for an expert's advice.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Today is a 7 - You and your partner may feel that all the rules are dumb. You should know, however, that an older person can read your thoughts. Don't lip off. Don't even think about it.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Today is a 7 - It's not your fault, but the best-laid plans are liable to go astray. Traveling is apt to get complicated too, so it's best to stay close to home.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Today is a 7 - Money is tight, but that won't stop you. Stick to your budget and keep making plans. You'll find a way. If not, somebody else will. Don't overlook the possibility of a miracle.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Today is a 7 - A domestic disagreement could be expensive and take up valuable time. Try to work out a compromise to minimize costs and stress.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Today is a 5 - There's always a gap between how you think it will be and the way it turns out. Don't fall into a depression if that happens now. Better yet, plan for it.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Today is an 8 - Curtail your spending for a couple of days. With the help of somebody you love, figure out what you have left and what you still need to get.

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Crossword

ACROSS
 1 Unkempt
 7 Small viper
 10 State with conviction
 14 Immediately
 15 Shad delicacy
 16 Anderson of "WKRP..."
 17 Serving as an omen of
 19 Latch on to
 20 Snoop
 21 Links starting place
 22 Play tricks on
 23 Underestimates the value of
 27 Brando film
 30 "The Joy Luck Club" author
 31 AOL, e.g.
 34 Horse opera
 35 Patsy
 37 Adhesive stuff
 38 Wine sediments
 39 Pointed tool
 40 Compel to accept
 41 High spirits
 42 Mishmash dish
 43 Clarinetist Shaw
 44 Psychic letters
 45 Stage signal
 46 Fully attentive
 48 Of horseback riding
 51 First light
 54 That woman
 57 Neighbor of Europe
 58 Sudden deluge
 62 Puddle
 63 Periphery
 64 Wiped out
 65 Work units
 66 Positive reply
 67 Nonentity

DOWN
 1 Seance sounds
 2 On the apex of
 3 Bloody
 4 Blast letters
 5 Top card
 6 Gradual
 7 Zodiac sign
 8 Peter to Henry Fonda

9 Tent stake
 10 "Ragged Dick" author
 11 Transience
 12 Son of Seth
 13 Coating of ice
 18 Convention attendees
 22 2,000 pounds
 23 Military tactic
 24 Gools
 25 Steadfast supporters
 26 Stetson, e.g.
 27 Sidestep
 28 Some nobles
 29 Trending upward
 32 Everly Brothers hit, "Wake Up Little Suede Shoes"
 33 Rose and Sampras
 36 Have debts
 37 Bridge expert
 40 Roosevelt's dog
 42 Litigate
 45 Drinking vessel

47 Fungus-alga composite
 49 Campus commons
 50 Squads
 51 Rescue
 52 Addict

54 Fair
 55 Tilled soil
 56 Small whirlpool
 58 Young fish
 59 Abandon truth
 60 To and
 61 Research center

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