

1-10-2005

## Arbiter, January 10

Students of Boise State University

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# The Arbiter

## Tamarack Opens



## Quest for repeat begins

culture p.7

sports p.5

## Broncos finally gain respect despite loss in the Liberty Bowl

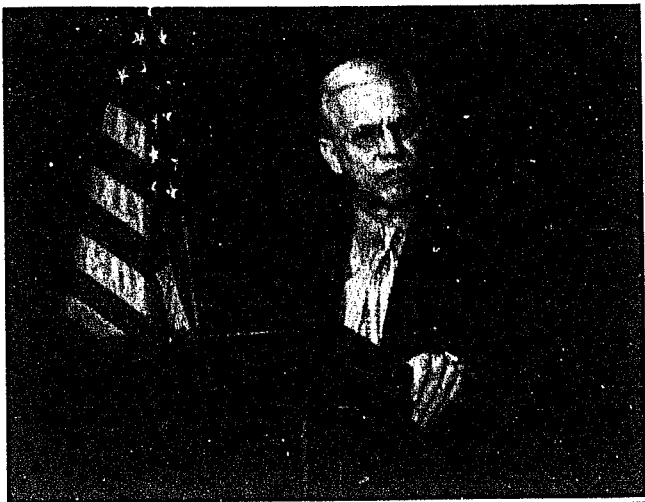


PHOTO BY GREGORY RUTTY/THE ARBITER

## Kustra focuses on academic support in Spring Address

BY GREGORY RUTTY  
News Editor

President Robert Kustra updated students, faculty, and staff on the state of the university and his vision for it in his Spring Address Wednesday, Jan. 5, in the Jordan Ballroom.

Kustra spoke about BSU being at a "tipping-point" where the decisions made today could determine whether or not BSU will emerge as a prestigious metropolitan research institute.

"This is clearly a very exciting time for the Boise State family," Kustra said. "We seem to be writing a chapter in Boise State history."

Kustra compared BSU to other public metropolitan universities that have become prestigious and projected that in as little as three to five years BSU could move from a classification of a level one master's university

to an intensive doctoral/research university classification by The Carnegie Foundation.

While Kustra says the successes of Bronco football have thrust BSU into the national spotlight, he says, "Our tipping point is so much more than football."

Citing both internal and external approaches, Kustra outlined many initiatives designed to increase academic support for students and increase the role BSU plays in the economic development of the Treasure Valley.

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retains just 59 percent of its full-time, first year students.

In addition to the book program, a 14-member Task Force on Freshmen Success has been created to study what factors help determine whether first-year students return for a sophomore year.

Kustra also said BSU will place a renewed emphasis on recruiting the best and brightest high school scholars. Two initiatives will target Idaho high school students who have demonstrated excellence in academics with scholarships intended to bring them to BSU.

The Capital Scholars program will offer Idaho high school juniors in the top 10 percent of their class and with ACT scores of over 27 or 1,220 on the SAT \$1,000 scholarships to attend BSU.

BSU will also try to recruit some of Idaho's roughly 80 annual National Merit Scholars by offering them full-fee paying scholarships for four years of undergraduate work in addition to an annual stipend.

Beyond the academic initiatives, Kustra expressed his desire that BSU play a more central role in the economic development of the Treasure Valley. Kustra says there is a wealth of resources at BSU in its

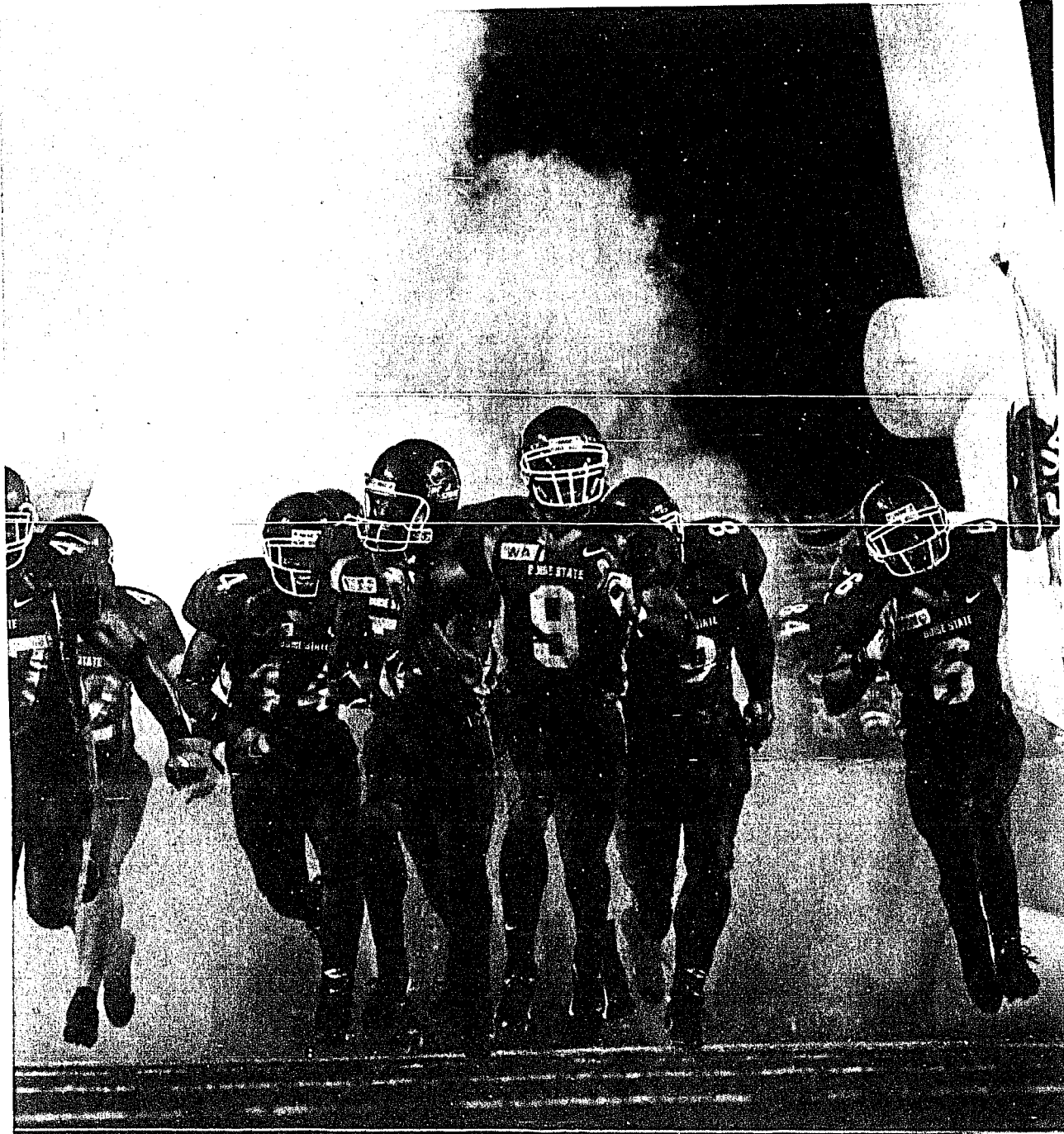
students, faculty, and staff but BSU has to be more coordinated in offering its resources.

As the legislative session draws near, Kustra said it is absolutely necessary that Idaho universities sell the importance of public higher education to legislators and citizens alike.

In addition to lobbying the legislature for more funding, Kustra hopes to begin a capital campaign by next fall. Currently, four firms are in consideration for the job that will have one of them helping raise well in excess of \$100 million for BSU.

Throughout the address, Kustra reiterated his seriousness about achieving the goal of transforming BSU into a major metropolitan research institute.

"I'm sure skeptics will accuse me of hyperbole..." said Kustra "[but] I am very serious about this, dead serious about this."



The Boise State football team runs out for one of their seven home games. The Broncos have won 25 straight games at Bronco Stadium.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BILWISER/THE ARBITER

BY TREVOR HORN  
Sports Editor

It's hard to swallow a loss, especially when you can't redeem yourself for eight months.

The Broncos' unbelievable run fell short by four points in the loss to Louisville in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl on New Year's Eve, but the defeat didn't come as a total loss as the team gained national recognition for their strong team effort in a game that most across the country were predict-

ing to be a blowout.

The 2004 season for the Boise State Broncos will go down as the most successful as a Division I-A school.

The first top-10 ranking in school history, a third straight Western Athletic Conference Championship and a season attendance record. None of these accomplishments will be forgotten by a heartbreaking loss on the last day of the year.

Despite the loss, the Broncos finished the season with their

highest ranking ever to end a season. The Broncos finished 12<sup>th</sup> in the Associated Press and 13<sup>th</sup> in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches Polls. The previous high in a final poll was 15<sup>th</sup> in 2002, and 16<sup>th</sup> last year—all three seasons finishing with just one loss.

Fans right here in Boise also took notice. All but one of the seven home games this season for the Broncos were sold out. The season opening game versus Idaho set an attendance record, only to be broken the next week

versus Oregon State. The Hawaii game was the only non-sellout, mainly due to a confusion of student tickets not sold. The average attendance this season was 30,499 per game, eclipsing the 2003 season by over 2,000 fans per game.

The Broncos became the darlings of ESPN this season. Coming into the Liberty Bowl, the Broncos had a perfect 15-0 record on ESPN televised games, including six wins this season going into the Liberty Bowl. The

## Immigration process discussed at forum

BY LIZ HALE  
News Writer

About 30 individuals attended the Perspectives of Immigration Forum held at the Boise Public Library last Thursday night. Les Bock of the Idaho Human Rights Education Center served as moderator for the two speakers.

Refugio Nolasco of the Catholic Charities of Idaho and Robert Mather, a caseworker for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, were the guest speakers for the night.

According to Bock, many people are moving to the U.S. because it is a wonderful country yet immigration remains a big issue. He added that it takes most applicants many years to attain a green card as well as U.S. citizenship.

The Department of Homeland Security determines eligibility for green cards and the process is much longer post-9/11. Naturalization can take six to eight months and obtaining a

green card can take up to eight months. These procedures can be more time consuming as the USCIS department processes eight to 10 million applications a year compared to 2 million applications four years ago, Mather said.

A long wait isn't the only factor in obtaining legal status in the United States. An applicant must have a petition or a formal written request from a spouse or a parent, pass a medical screening, background check, have all required documents and pay thousands of dollars to have these services completed, Mather said.

"For example, if I filed for my sister in '82, she might just be immigrating today... it takes 20 or more years because the process is extremely time consuming," Mather added.

Today, it is very difficult for illegal immigrants to obtain a green card and in some cases, their chances are slim to none. Although the process is very long, once a person acquires a green

card or becomes a U.S. citizen, he or she can petition for a spouse, parent or unmarried sons and daughters as long as they are under 21 years old, Mather said.

Nolasco said the Catholic Charities of Idaho offer their services to all people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion or inability to pay. Through this non-profit organization, Nolasco has seen and helped over 700 people and said their biggest barrier is language.

Nolasco said some of the cases he sees are heartbreaking.

Some cases include families being separated from their children and U.S. citizens abusing their immigrant spouses. Some families could be separated for 15-20 years from their infant sons and daughters and then see them again as adults.

Abuse cases are very common as U.S. citizens marrying immigrants may hold immigration status to their advantage. These immigrant spouses may feel discriminated and with nowhere to

seek help, the abuse continues, Nolasco said.

"Some legal immigrants fear being deported, even if they do have their green card because they don't know their full rights," Nolasco added.

Many immigrants seek help from a "notario," which is interpreted as a government official in Mexico only to find out this so called public notary is out to take advantage of innocent people, Nolasco said.

The forum came to a close by allowing people in the audience to ask questions and offer opinions. Some had personal questions of how to help their families come to the U.S., others were simply curious about the entire process.

Anyone seeking guidance for immigration services can visit the nearest Catholic Charities of Idaho, located at 4202 W. Emerald St. in Boise. Refugio Nolasco can be reached by email at [rnolasco@ccidaho.org](mailto:rnolasco@ccidaho.org) or by phone at (208) 345-6031 x114.

world

**Iraq's insurgency continues at fierce pace**

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi reportedly took responsibility for a suicide car bomber who on Monday killed at least nine Iraqis and injured 22 at a checkpoint outside the U.S. stronghold in Baghdad. The stronghold is home to Iraq's interim government and the U.S. Embassy. In northern Iraq on Monday a second car bomb hit a Humvee convoy injuring three soldiers and an Iraqi. The Iraqi insurgency has remained fierce with fighting continuing even in areas where the U.S. military has launched large-scale operations. Since the recapturing of Fallujah in November, U.S. air strikes and fire-fights have continued. At least 15 troops have been killed in the province since December.

world

**Powell calls for more NATO involvement**

BRUSSELS, Belgium - As President Bush tries to mend fences, trans-Atlantic relations remained strained as Secretary of State Colin Powell accused France, Germany, and four other European nations of "hurting the credibility and cohesion" of NATO. The accusations come as a result of those nations not allowing their soldiers to go to Iraq and help in training the new Iraqi army. Powell's trip marked his last as America's top diplomat. The North Atlantic Council, consisting of 26 NATO foreign ministers, recently agreed to increase support staff to train the new Iraqi army from 60 to 300. The Bush administration argues that to prevent further chaos and bloodshed in Iraq NATO must expand its role there.

local/bsu

**Boise State to fundraise for tsunami victims**

Boise State University has begun fund-raising efforts to help Tsunami victims of South Asia. The response comes after President Bush's announcement that former Presidents Bush and Clinton will head a national fund-raising drive, university officials said. President Robert Kustra said the fund-raising shows that BSU understands its responsibility as a member of the global community. In order to keep the donation timely, President Kustra said he wants to wrap up the efforts at the end of February, and a check will be sent to the American Red Cross. University officials encourage students, faculty and staff to donate. Donations can be made in person at the Payment and Disbursement Office in the Administration Building, by credit card over the phone at 426-4148, or online at www.boisestate.edu/tsu-

local/bsu

nami. Employees can commit to a payroll deduction to contribute year long, donations may be tax deductible. Donation containers will be placed throughout campus with the official BSU tsunami relief logo.

**Three Boise State employees pass away over break**

Boise State suffered the loss of three employees over the winter break. Joe Hartman, 62, professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, passed away Dec. 25 after a brief illness. Gary Rosine, professor in the Art Department, passed away Dec. 16. Rosine had been with BSU for over nine years. Ray Sparkman, 51, passed away Dec. 28. Sparkman was the supervisor at the Campus Sign Shop.

local/bsu

**New Chief of Police starts job**

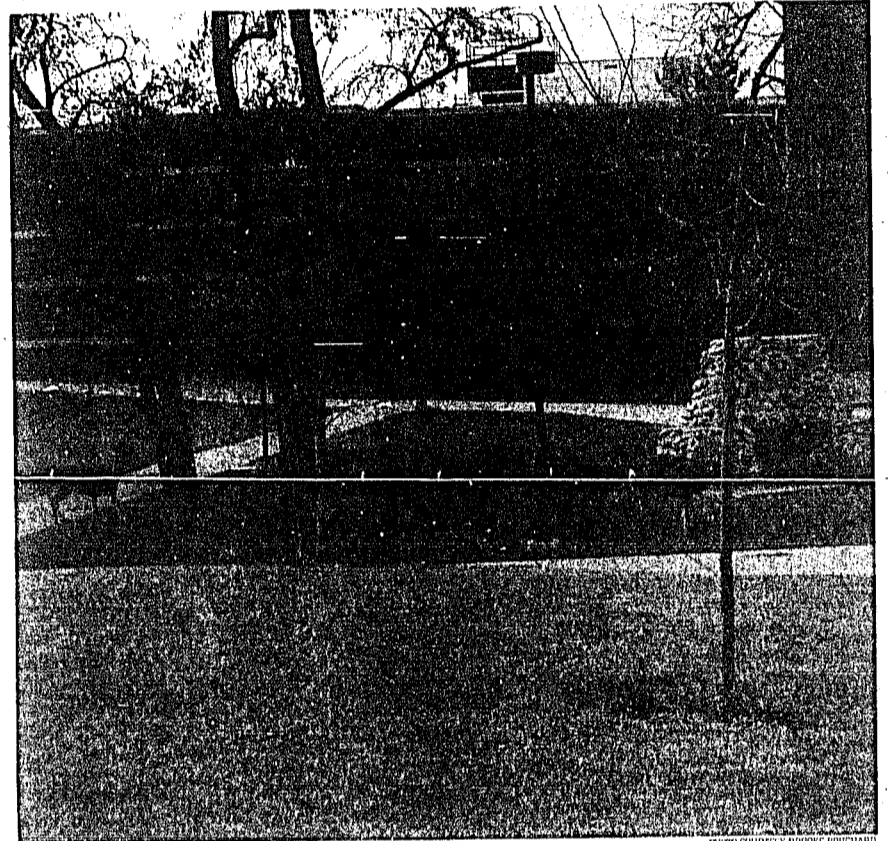
Michael Masterson started his first official day as Boise's new chief of police on Monday, Jan. 3. Masterson, a 27-year veteran of the Madison, Wisc. police force, said in a letter on the BPD's Web site that he was excited to assume the important leadership position. As one of the country's fastest growing cities, Boise residents and police are faced with tremendous opportunities and unique challenges, according to Masterson. Masterson says he is committed to neighborhood policing and a progressive police department. "The Boise Police Department will continue to strive for excellence by working on partnerships with you, city leaders and our service partners," wrote Masterson. "Working together, we can and will make a difference."

**Campus Calendar**

- 1/11/05**  
ASBSU Senate meeting, Senate Forum, SUB. 4 p.m. Senate kicks off spring semester.
- 1/13/05**  
ASBSU Senate meeting, Senate Forum, SUB. 4 p.m.
- 1/14/05**  
Vagina Monologues auditions. Cataldo Room, SUB. Noon to 4 p.m. No acting experience necessary. Idaho Mental Health Coalition luncheon for lawmakers. Hall of Mirrors East Conference Room. 700 W. State Street, Boise. Noon.
- 1/15/05**  
Vagina Monologues auditions. Cataldo Room, SUB. 10 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. No acting experience necessary.
- 1/16/05**  
Vagina Monologues auditions. Cataldo Room, SUB. 10 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. No acting experience necessary.
- 1/17/05**  
March to Idaho State Capitol. Jordan Ballroom, SUB. 9 - 10:30 a.m. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Human Rights Rally 2005. Idaho State Capitol steps. 11:15 a.m.
- 1/18/05**  
Registration deadline for "Mental Health and Illness," as part of 3rd Annual Idaho Mini Medical

School. Registration costs \$35. Call St. Luke's at (208) 381-1200 for more information.

- 1/19/05**  
Nonviolence in Action, Part I. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 2:40 - 3:30 p.m. Workshop on how to organize peaceful protest. Nonviolence in Action, Part II. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 3:40 - 5 p.m. Workshop on the prevention of violence in Boise. Status of Women in Idaho. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Discussion to improve the status of Idaho's women.
- 1/20/05**  
Books not Bars. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 1:40 - 3 p.m. Discussion on funding for prison system and public education. Women's Rights are Human Rights. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 3:15 - 4:30 p.m. Discussion on human rights and the role it plays in the women's rights movement. Beyond Vietnam: Beyond Iraq. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 4:40 - 6 p.m. Reflection between Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech "Beyond Vietnam" and its relevance on the war in Iraq. The Invisible Idahoan: 200 years of Blacks in Idaho. Farnsworth Room, SUB. 6 - 7 p.m. Workshop on Black history in Idaho. Racism and Immigration: Here and Now. Hatch Ballroom, SUB. 7 - 8:30 p.m. Discussion on America's immigration system.



Dear enjoy the student-free campus Sunday Jan. 2 as they stroll in front of the Student Union building.

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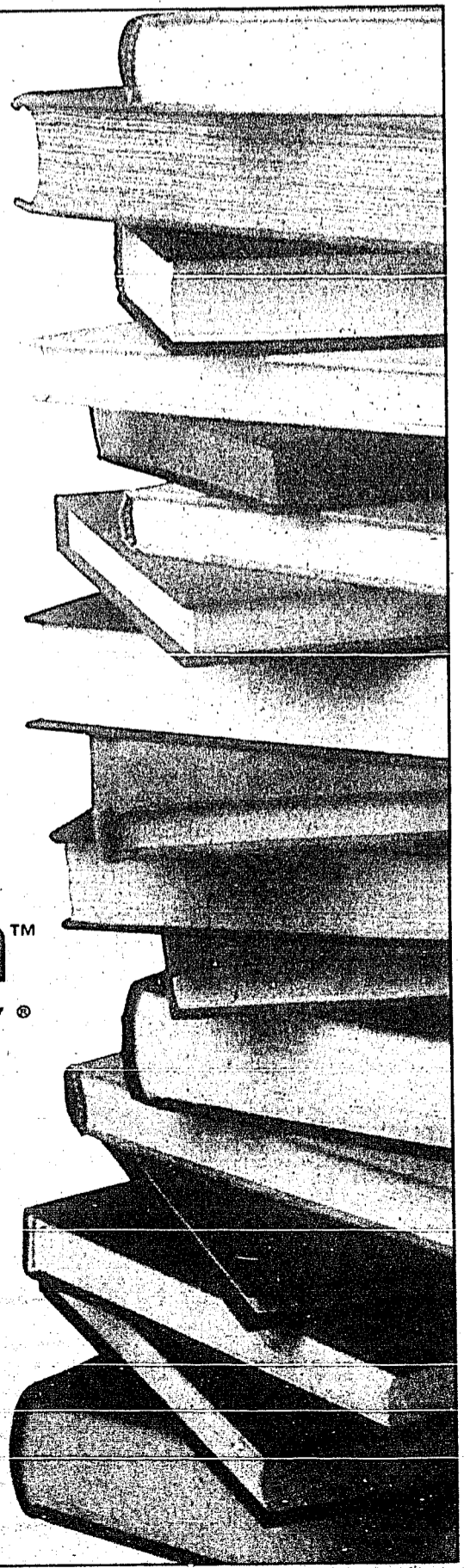
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## Local Democrats discuss Idaho health care

BY RANDALL POST  
Assistant News Editor

Ada County's seven Democratic legislators met with the public at the Boise Public Library Jan. 5 to seek their input on how to improve Idaho's health care system.

The forum, "Improving Health Care in Idaho," gave the public an opportunity to voice concerns and provide input on health care in Idaho. Groups from around the state were there to give information about how to access health care at little or no cost.

"We organized the forum to gath-

er information for the public so they can access health care," Sen. Anne Paisley-Stuart said. "We are not looking to give handouts."

Sen. Elliot Werk said Democrats are not looking to socialize medicine and the issue is not a partisan one.

"The answers to people's problems are not partisan issues. Problems with health care cross Republican and Democratic lines," Sen. Werk said.

Several citizens in the audience called for universal health care. Dr. Bill Whitaker, a social work professor at Boise State, spoke on behalf of Health Care For All - Idaho.

Whitaker said the time has come for a single payer, single risk health care system in Idaho.

Health Care For All - Idaho says Americans pay more and get less on health care because of insurance bureaucracy and government subsidies for drug companies.

Insuring the uninsured was a major theme at the forum.

"The plight of the uninsured is the greatest tragedy facing America today," Boise resident Tom McCready said.

According to the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, in 2003 more than 242,000

Idahoans were uninsured.

Other issues discussed at the forum included the rising cost of health care, obtaining pharmaceuticals from Canada, how to effectively spend health care dollars, substance abuse, suicide and mental health.

"There isn't a one stop fix, but it's definitely something we as policy makers need to be dealing with both at the state and national level," Sen. Kate Kelly said.

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## Survey: economy, education lead Idahoans' concerns

BY GREGORY RUTTY  
News Editor

The economy and education led this year's list of issues Idahoans consider to be the most important problems facing Idaho. Thirty-three percent of respondents to the 16th annual Idaho Public Policy Survey said the economy is the single most important problem facing Idaho, followed by 21 percent who said education is.

The IPP survey is conducted annually by BSU's Social Science Research Center to help identify public policy concerns.

The 531 adults polled were asked questions ranging from their confidence in local, state, and federal

governments, their political ideologies and affiliations, and their positions on issues from taxation to water rights.

Overall, the survey painted a picture of a conservative (52 percent) and Republican (47 percent) Idaho where a majority feels the state is moving in the right direction (70 percent) and that state sales and income taxes are "about right" (63 percent and 60 percent).

According to James Weatherby, director of the SSRC, other responses expressed the "libertarian inclinations of Idahoans."

A majority of Idahoans (60.8 percent) feel that fighting terrorism should not impede on citi-

zens' constitutional rights and that women should have the right to choose to have an abortion (59 percent).

Among environmental issues that concerned Idahoans were drinking water contamination (23.9 percent), water pollution (17.3 percent), solid waste treatment, storage, and disposal (16.3 percent), and air pollution (11.1 percent).

The survey was conducted by Clearwater Research between Nov. 3 and Dec. 1, 2004 and has a margin of error of 4.3 percent with a 95 percent confidence level for the total population. To view complete survey results, visit <http://sspa.boisestate.edu>.



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## Police learn the art of patrolling on a college campus

BY GEORGINA GUSTIN  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Officer Thompall Gibson was patrolling the campus of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville last month when he came across a message scrawled on a sidewalk in chalk.

"Some of it got a little obscene or insulting," Gibson remembered, "so I just got rid of it."

But as he was washing the words away with water, a professor approached.

"He said, 'Hey, what're you doing?'" Gibson recalled. "I said, 'This is offensive to some people and I'm trying to wash it off.' He

said, 'Haven't you heard of free speech?' and then started to lecture me."

Gibson isn't a rookie cop, but he is new to campus policing. And, as one of 35 officers on SIUE's police force, Gibson has had to adjust to the subtle differences between campus law enforcement and law enforcement in the "real" world. Only on a campus, he had learned, would graffiti - as some might consider it - be so readily defended as free speech.

The differences in policing a college campus and a municipality extend beyond questions of the First Amendment.

"First of all, we're dealing with

a population of 18- to 22-year-olds in an environment where they're learning things for the first time," said SIUE police chief Regina Hays. Hays was the first female officer with the Edwardsville Police Department but left after two years to start a family. She joined SIUE's campus police in 1988.

"There's a bigger picture than the legal aspect," she said. "It's the guidance, the learning. We're much more involved than a municipal agency. When a student comes to us with a problem, we'll never say 'That's not a police matter.'"

-Please visit [www.arbitron-line.com](http://www.arbitron-line.com) for the rest of the story.

## Forum calls for change in ESL program

BY MARIANA BEKKER  
News Writer

Over 300 students at Boise State are international students with visas, and about another 400 students speak English as a second language, according to Gail Shuck, coordinator of English language support programs.

"There are probably many more students, but there is just no way to tell," she said.

The rising number in non-native students prompted Shuck and the ESL advisory board to hold a forum last Thursday to brainstorm with BSU faculty for ideas on improving ESL students' collegiate experience and to ensure the BSU campus is ESL friendly.

The discussion concentrated on problems faculty and ESL students face and the feasible solutions available.

Shuck said the current ESL program is not sufficient and lacks adequate tutoring, staff and budget.

"There is all kinds of things we could be doing, but I am it."

Shuck said budget constraints limit the services the ESL program can provide, making this forum vital for generating creative solutions to the issues the program faces.

"We need to close the gap," said Tetsuya Ehara.

Ehara teaches Japanese at BSU and was once an ESL student.

He sees the main problem as the lack of support for students.

"When I was a student, I felt like a failure because English wasn't my native language.

I felt like I couldn't compete with American students," he said.

According to Ehara, it takes non-native students six times

longer to read a sentence than an American student because they have to translate it back to their language.

He said taking tests takes even longer because they also have to translate their answers from their native language to English.

"My GPA suffered, not because I did not know the material, but because I did not have time to read and answer all the questions."

Ehara suggested the faculty should allow ESL students at least 30 percent longer to take tests.

"Professors are not familiar with how to work with second language learners," Shuck said.

She suggested BSU professors should change their pedagogy to accommodate ESL students and encourage student communication.

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# Opinion

4 THE ARBITER JAN 10 2005



## Bush response to tsunami a sign of the times

BY TAYLOR C NEWBOLD  
Opinion Editor

"The greatest source of America's generosity is not our government; it's the good heart of the American people." This from President re-elect George W. Bush prior to announcing his father and Bill Clinton as spear headers of a campaign to help raise private donations for South Asian tsunami relief. George's admin-

istration received much censure after dedicating only \$15 million initially to the cause. Following this, the number was changed to \$35 million, and eventually was raised again by adding a zero. \$350 million? When we live in the richest country in the world should we be second in donations to such a disaster? Japan continues to out-donate us by \$250 million. No, this is not a competition but should we not have shown the

monetary power that our country possesses and showed just how generous our country can be?

Secretary of State Powell responded to critics, telling the Associated Press, "...you can't just throw a number out. You have to get some sense of what is needed, some analysis of what is needed." Was it not clear enough within 24 hours of the tsunami's hitting that this was going to be a human catastrophe? Perhaps \$15 million

is the usual amount given in cases of tsunamis hitting continents besides our own. Dolling out an initial \$15 million to this cause is tantamount to tossing a glass of water on a bonfire. This sum is an insult to the families of those affected. This is just another example of the conceitedness some of our leaders possess. The U.S. has a long history of not doing all it could to help other nations unless the issue is of "national inter-

est." Even \$350 million is pennies compared to the cost of war in Iraq, which now stands at nearly \$150 trillion according to the National Priorities Project.

Had an earthquake occurred off the coast of California, causing tsunamis to devastate the Hawaiian and Californian coastlines, you better believe our government would dedicate more than \$350 million. President Bush had a great opportunity to im-

prove ties with Muslim countries and he remained silent about the disaster for three days straight. I think he was busy finishing "My Pet Goat." Instead of dedicating more government money he has chosen to rely on American generosity. Perhaps someone will kindly remind Mr. Bush of where a large percentage of the government's money comes from.

## Taco Bell, causing a rift on campus

By Robert McCarl  
Guest Opinion

On Nov. 30, 2004, the ASBSU Senate defeated a resolution that called for breaching the contract between Taco Bell and Boise State. At that meeting, President Kustra made a number of statements that need to become part of the public record surrounding this issue. First, he stated: "The single most destructive thing I could do to Boise State University is to breach this contract." He went on to state the following: 2) that protests over the Taco Bell issue have harmed the university and in at least one case caused a major donor to rescind a donation; 3) that the size of student fee increases "could" be affected by a decision to breach the contract; 4) he has not heard a single negative comment from the community about his decision to sign a contract with Taco Bell; and 5) "The CIW picked the wrong university as a target for their efforts. The residents of this community all support the Taco Bell decision."

From the point of view of a faculty member who has been active in opposing the branding of Boise State by the Taco Bell decision, let me take each of these statements in order. First, the reason Boise State is in this controversy is due to a decision by President Kustra with the encouragement of Mr. Bleymaier, to sign this contract in the first place. Taco Bell as a corporation has refused to address the working conditions of farm workers in its supply chain, yet it is the largest restaurant corporation in the world. It has buying power that literally sets the prices for food commodities and therefore the wages of the growers and farm workers who produce and harvest the tomatoes, lettuce, and onions. In terms of human rights, institutional responsibility, corporate ethics and the working conditions of the poor, I would agree that the Taco Bell decision is and will continue to be "destructive" to Boise State University. President Kustra has already made that fateful decision and he made it quite clear that he will not change his mind.

Secondly, if students, faculty and community members cannot protest a significant decision like this without "harming the university" and causing a major donor to rescind his donation, then Boise State is well on its way in becoming a corporate-controlled university. In my mind, the purpose of a university is to open up debate and create discourse about the issues of the day, placing these issues in wider intellectual and cultural frames of reference through all disciplines. Perhaps that notion is old-fashioned. If Boise State becomes known as a university where corporate contributions from anyone with a big checkbook can buy complicity and silence, then I as a faculty member and a citizen have not only failed in my job, I would seek other employment.

Third, the size of the student fee increase has very little to do with support or rejection of the Taco Bell agreement. I think it was disingenuous for the president to link the two. More relevant to the issue of student fees is the

realization that the Pavilion is still being paid off by student fees and will be for another few years. Student fees have gone to fund many of the buildings on campus and there are plans underway to refurbish the student union with another increase in those fees. I would simply state that in addition to using the buildings once they are constructed, students (and faculty) should also have a more active role in their design, use and identification. President Kustra would not be making a concession to the university community by inviting student and faculty participation in this process, he would be taking a small step toward avoiding situations like this in the future.

Four, I would ask the president who he has talked to about the Taco Bell issue. Certainly athletic supporters and major donors would probably support his decision. What about alumni, members of the Latino and other ethnic communities, the religious community, and small, locally owned restaurant owners who

have to compete against the fast food giants that line Broadway? Interestingly, around the country many of the local franchise owners of Taco Bell restaurants have themselves had to organize in order to fight the predatory practices of the Taco Bell corporation. Cross-branding, refusing brand use to low paying franchisees, punishing franchisees for organizing and even building newer outlets next to older ones to make more money, are common practices in the cutthroat world of global franchising.

Finally, the president is mistaken if he thinks the CIW picked Boise State as a specific target. The people mounting this campaign are farm workers who were asked here by concerned students and members of the university community. They have neither the time nor the resources to select universities as destinations for their boycott. The boycott follows the excesses of the corporation that most controls their hopes for a liveable wage. President Kustra put Boise State on the map by

signing this agreement. He is responsible for making, in my opinion, an error of judgment regarding income that is derived from a questionable source. Local, regional and national news organizations are busily plastering Boise State's name around the country as the football team gains honors and notoriety in the Liberty Bowl. Yet each time the name of Boise State is flashed, each time a prospective student logs on to the web site to check out our university, and each time someone walk onto this campus, they will see that Boise State has sold itself for a few million dollars. In the next few years Boise State can become the major metropolitan university of the intermountain west and beyond. Or, it can become just another outlet for mass produced consumables offered without concern for the human costs of their manufacture.

Robert McCarl is an Associate Professor for the Anthropology Department

### The Arbiter

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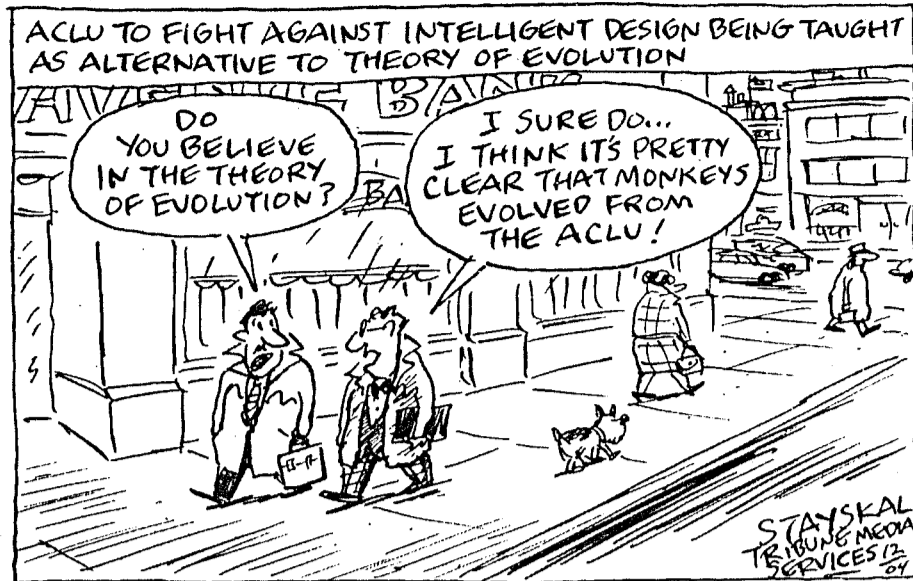
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# Ask Captain RibMan

BY CAPTAIN RIBMAN  
(AKA JOHN SPRENGELMEYER AND RICH DAVIS)

Captain RibMan,  
Have you ever played badminton? If I asked you to impose your glorious wrath on the president of USA badminton would you? (It's a just cause, you'll make a lot of people happy).  
-Willing-to-give-you-some-

thing-shiny in IN Dear Willing,  
Badminton is an ancient and noble sport. In Rome, large chickens often swooped in and stole the children from their cribs. The parents would fend them off with sticks called "cock-whackers." Eventually, the parents would have so much fun shuttling off the birds, they would bathe their children in chicken feed and pheromones. By the rule of Julius

Caesar, the chickens were referred to as "shuttlecocks" and the sticks had a larger paddle shape.  
Families would try to knock the shuttlecock over the fence into their neighbor's yard. The winner kept their children! Today, although the sport no longer uses live chickens or children, it continues at the highest levels. Many of our athletic heroes got their start in badminton - Anna Kournikova, Michael Jordan and

Seung Min Ryu.  
Good Luck!  
-Captain RibMan

(John Sprengelmeyer and Rich Davis are the creators of the comic strip, "Captain RibMan" and the humorous advice column "Ask Captain RibMan." Questions for Captain RibMan may be e-mailed to AskCR@supercomics.com.)

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# Why the left is dying

BY HANS ZEIGER  
Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

The National Abortion Rights Action League's youth coalition, Generation Pro-Choice, dispatched an e-mail this week with the headline "Rumors of Gen Pro-Choicers demise are greatly exaggerated." Interestingly, it didn't say that the "rumors" were false, only that they were exaggerated. It is increasingly clear to NARAL, though subtly expressed, that the demise of the left is imminent.

I am convinced that the political strength of conservatives, so evident in the gains of the 2004 election, is a reflection of a more permanent conservative impulse that runs deeply in the American character. But conservatism is not the chief threat to liberalism; the left is its own worst enemy.

NARAL's "Generation Pro-Choice" is dying because liberals are birthing fewer children. James Pinkerton recently contended in Newsday that "the left has birth-controlled, aborted and maybe also gay-libbed itself into a smaller role in American society."

Overall, the fertility rate in Kerry states is around 12 percent lower than in Bush states. The Economist reports that in the ultra-liberal state of Vermont, the annual fertility rate is 49 children for every 1,000 women of child-bearing age. But in the heavily pro-Bush state of Utah, nearly twice as many children per 1,000 child-bearing-aged women are being born. Of every 1,000 Utah women, 91 children are born.

Among liberal constituencies, homosexual couples are certainly not having children. Despite the rapidity and effectiveness with which the homosexual movement advances in politics and culture, homosexuals simply don't reproduce.

Abortion has much more to do with the fertility rates amongst liberals. Of the twenty states with the lowest abortion rates according to the Centers for Disease Control, only Maryland, Maine, and Wisconsin voted for Kerry. Of the ten states with the highest abortion rates, only Florida, Kansas, and Virginia voted for Bush.

States that voted most overwhelmingly for Kerry tend to be ranked among the highest abortion rates. Kerry's most impressive lead over Bush was in the District of Columbia where he scored 90 percent. The District also is among the nation's highest annual abortion rate. Of the nine

states with the lowest abortion rates—Idaho, Colorado, Kentucky, South Dakota, Mississippi, West Virginia, Utah, Missouri, and South Carolina—the average winning percentage for Bush was nearly 60 percent. Similar trends were projected by Planned Parenthood's think tank, the Alan Guttmacher Institute, after the 2000 election.

According to the Census Bureau, the 2004 Voting Age Population was 217.8 million. Since the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion in the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, over 40 million documented abortions have occurred. And of those aborted Americans, 18,336,576 would have been at least 18-years-old on Nov. 2. John Kerry lost the popular vote by only 3,461,992 ballots. Kerry could have used another 18 million votes—five times his margin of defeat. That isn't to say that all 18 million citizens would have voted for Kerry, or voted at all, but given the power of parental influence the chances are likely that these aborted Americans would have been a major Democrat constituency.

What's more troubling for Democrats is that by 2008, the deficit in their Voting Age Population will have risen to 24,408,960—those who were aborted between 1973 and 1990. "Liberals have been remarkably blind to the fact that every day the abortions they advocate dramatically decrease their power to do so," writes Larry Eastland in the American Spectator.

Wirthlin polling conducted a recent study of 2,000 Americans to determine political connections to abortion. Democrats reported having a close relationship with someone who had an abortion at 49.37 percent, while only 35 percent of Republicans said that they were close to someone who had an abortion. Projecting these percentages onto the total

numbers of abortion since 1973, Eastland found that there are 19.7 million missing Democrats and 13.9 million missing Republicans. Democrats are at a disadvantage by 5.84 million missing voters.

James Taranto of the Wall Street Journal has referred to these trends as the Roe Effect.

"Abortion is making America more conservative than it otherwise would be," writes Taranto. First, "liberal and Democratic women are more likely to have abortions." Second, "children's political views tend to reflect those of their parents—not exactly, of course, and not in every case, but on average. Thus abortion depletes the next generation of liberals and eventually makes the population more conservative."

Liberal author Philip Longman concludes in a recent Washington Post article that the "empty cradle" is a result of evolutionary natural selection. "When secular-minded Americans decide to have few, if any, children, they unwittingly give a strong evolutionary advantage to the other side of the culture divide."

To suggest that abortion has a very real impact on cultural trends is neither revolutionary nor, from a conservative point of view, worthy of celebration. The murder of a human being is equally wrong whether he or she is born to a liberal or to a conservative, to an anarchist or to a communist. And the survival of certain individuals over others says nothing about the comparative worth of one person over another. The abortion of one child does not indicate that his genes were less favorable than his peer's.

America is built on the principle of equality: that all men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That principle is not predi-

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## COFFEEHOUSE concert

### Coffeehouse Concert Series kicks off this week in the SUB

COURTESY OF STUDENT ACTIVITIES

This semester in the Student Union Building, Student Activities will be sponsoring the Coffeehouse Concert Series. Thursday nights from 5 to 7 p.m. on the Brava! Stage, musicians and poets will bring their musical and spoken arts to the SUB. Admission is free. The scheduled performance dates and artists are as follows:

**1/13/05:** Clayton Bellamy: Brash and gutsy, Clayton Bellamy is a dynamic singer/songwriter whose words and music are a unique reflection of today's storytelling, roots music. Clayton was named "Entertainer of the Year" by the Canadian Colleges and was showcased for this year's Canadian Organization of Campus Activities Convention.

**1/20/05:** Austin Willacy: Austin Willacy is an accomplished vocalist/songwriter who has recorded four CD's with The House Jacks (as well as 3 solo releases) and tours extensively throughout the U.S., Europe and Japan, performing with Ray Charles, James Brown, The Neville Brothers, The Temptations, The Gap Band, The Pointer Sisters, LL Cool J, Run DMC, Starship, Chicago and Crosby, Stills and Nash.

**1/27/05:** John Vecchiarelli: John is a songwriter and multi-instrumentalist based in Portland, Ore. He began his musical endeavors at a young age as the drummer, singer, and collaborator for a wide range of East Coast and Colorado bands, and was an in-demand freelance and session player, and hasn't stopped since!

**2/3/05:** Josh Olswanger w/ Terry Smith: Olswanger is a local piano player just finishing his first album. Check out this up-and-coming performer.

**2/10/05:** Larry Conklin: Larry Conklin is an acoustic guitarist, singer-songwriter, an instrumental finger stylist, a slide guitar-

ist, and interpreter of traditional blues and a music journalist. "Conklin breathes the Blues, without being tied to the genre."

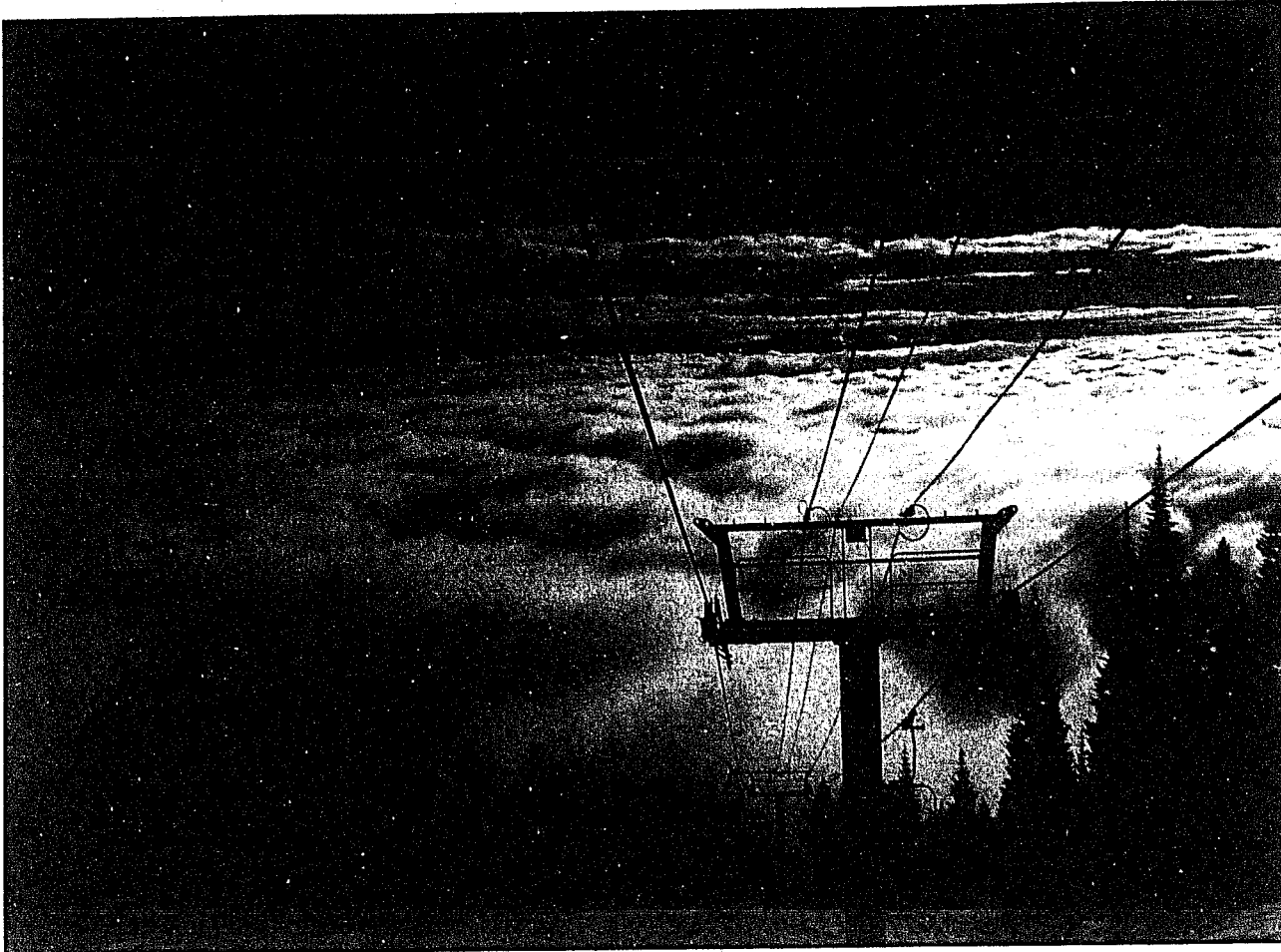
-Audio  
2/17/05: TBA

**2/24/05:** Tammy Carr (Slam Poet): Tammy Carr is one of the best female poets in the country. Her stage show is commanding and remarkable, bringing her audience into the world of relationships, comedy, love, pain, howtos for today's woman (young and old), and the dramas of everyday life. Whether in the studio, a café, a main stage or slam, Tammy Carr's warm presence and fiery delivery gain her instant approval from her audience, leaving her unforgettable.

**3/3/05:** Rochelle Smith: Rochelle Smith performs original, acoustic rock music. Rochelle's music is a combination of sweet finger picking and fearless strumming. Her voice is soothing. Her words are powerful, but few and often have more than one meaning.

**3/10/05:** Jessie Veeder: Possessing a charming, free-spirited personality, Veeder is a natural performer. Behind her unique, beautiful vocals, her lyrics swell with references to her own life experience. Her songs display a deep, soul-touching portrait of life in western North Dakota, the area she knows well and loves dearly. Veeder's life on the ranch provide the muse for her songs, which she's been writing since she was about 10-years-old.

**3/17/05:** Paradigm: Paradigm's melodic alternative-rock sound and live shows have caught the attention of the music industry, and continue to attract a significant fan base. Fronted by female lead-vocalist Shannon Curtis, the band sets itself apart in a genre dominated by male leads, and dark or angry voices. Paradigm draws listeners in with a gripping vocal style and inspiring lyrics expressing both the melancholy and



One of the active Tamarack ski lifts shuttles skiers and snowboarders up the mountain on opening day, Wednesday, December 15th.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KELSEY BROWN

## Opening of Tamarack ushers in new ski season

BY TREVOR ALTERS  
Culture Writer

May I be the fifth person to say, "Welcome back to school." I hope everyone at Boise State had a fantastic break. I, for one, had a Merry Christmas and a happy new...ski resort? That's right. Tamarack resort opened during the thick of finals in December. I was prepared to beg and plead with professors to move their finals to any day other than Wednesday, so I could hit the new, untouched terrain. I begged. I pleaded. I prayed. They all said, "Knock it off. My final isn't on Wednesday anyway."

I was going to take Reasoned Discourse this semester, but I did so well convincing my teachers

that I decided to take Abnormal Psychology instead. All that convincing really paid off, too. Tamarack was awesome. One lift takes you to the base of another lift, so you get super high and can take long runs. Tree runs are phenomenal at Tam, but on a powder day, keep your speed because there are some surprise flat spots that will slow you down. I rode to the top just a few chairs behind Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. I spoke with him at the base and tried to convince him to try snowboarding, but he lamented that he would embarrass himself even on a pair of skis.

Tamarack's opening is a top priority for the Governor, as the state projects \$103 million in tax rev-

enue over the next 15 years from the resort. Donnelly is looking more and more like a resort town, and that means good things for Idaho's economy.

Tamarack is a slow 90 miles north of Boise, just outside of Donnelly. Most BSU students are accustomed to riding to Bogus, a mere 20 miles from downtown Boise. Ticket pricing is nearly the same for both resorts. If you shred the park, you will find similar setups at both resorts, with Tamarack still perfecting its runway area.

Tamarack has a half-pipe, but poor weather leaves it unopened. Tamarack representatives say late January should bring the half-pipe's opening. This will defi-

nitely be one of Tamarack's major attractions. No one else in Idaho has pipe capabilities, so the nearest possibilities are west at Mt. Hood, or in Utah or Jackson Hole. Any skier or snowboarder who has ever ridden a pipe knows that it is quite different than other forms of riding. A nearby half-pipe will allow local boarders and skiers to explore a whole new level of riding and become acquainted with a totally new medium for tricks. Sorry folks, no inverts allowed... as long as you are being watched. But the pipe wall already has you sideways, so corked spins are a small, gray step from total inverts. Tell that one to the ski patrol; just make sure your pass is in your underwear.

## "Ambush" helps fans remember where rap has come from

BY JOSEF FIRMAGE  
Culture Writer

From the beginning, rap has legitimized its brand of beats and vocals. The establishment balked with claims that rap was beneath music and the mainstream. This was especially true throughout the '80s and '90s, when rap was still fighting to be heard in the margins of society. These bands were political (Public Enemy), philosophical (KRS-One), progressively streetwise (Ice Cube), jazzy (Digable Planets), experimental (OutKast), skanless (DJ Quik), hip-hop (Tribe Called Quest), and sometimes explicitly abusive and chauvinistic (Too Short).

However, this argument has been squashed, and by the radio of all things. The medium that once disregarded rap as a passing fad, and as unplayable as the Sex Pistols and Mudhoney, has

now taken rap by the hand and given it dominant airplay. The place where Madonna and the Backstreet Boys once ruled has now been taken over by the likes of Fabolous, Nelly, Lil' John, and Ciara, among others.

We now find ourselves in a quandary. On the one hand, rap is disregarded, but on the other, rap is embraced and accepted. Mainstream rap has forgotten to bring its roots with it. Sure, the essence is acknowledged and reminisced of fondly, but there has been a buy-out, and mainstream rap is in danger of losing its soul to the corporate radio giant.

Ice Cube once rapped, "Turn off the radio." It's a mantra that should not be forgotten. With little exception, there is no soul in top 40. Billboard has never been about the artist, but more about the bling. If you want rap in the tradition of its forefathers, where

do you go? You go underground, my friends, where the music is real and the beats are better.

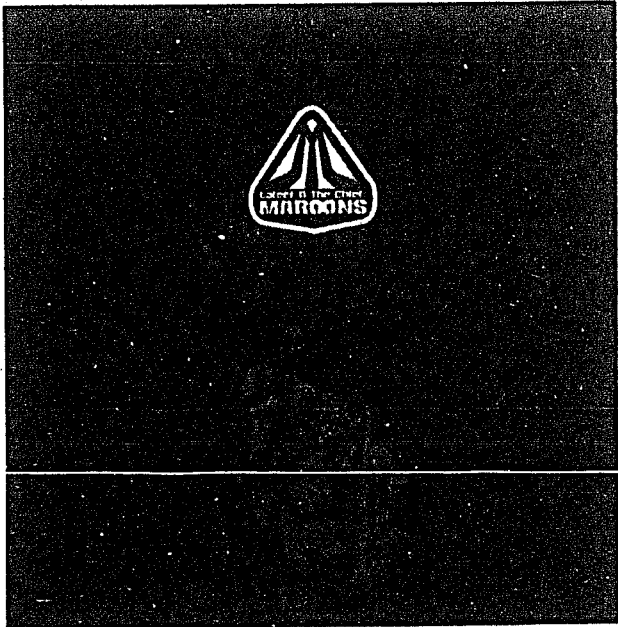
Enter Lateef & The Chief: Maroons. Their new album, "Ambush" is one of the best rap albums of the year, and not a beat too late. This is no surprise considering it's another Quannum project, the same guys that brought us Blackalicious. Unfortunately the album contains only nine tracks, but it's well worth the asking price at The Record Exchange.

The album starts out in the rap tradition of beefing your own name, the title track being "Ambush." However, this may be the weakest track on the album. The third track, entitled "If," is a bold discourse concerning Bush, Clinton, religion, and social issues concerning Americans right now. At the end of the track, Chief Xcel asks, "As a beat maker how can we better use hip-hop

as a tool?" This is an important question and a profound stance, considering the bubble-rap that floods the airwaves.

One of the dopest tracks is a bonus beat entitled, "Best Of Me." The beat is a rough and rugged street holler. However, before the track ends, it is juxtaposed with an eloquent reading of a literary piece. This signifies the dimensions of the street and the image of the rap artist in general. The piece cracks stereotypes that bubble-rap and the radio continue to hold up, namely that the black rapper is concerned with nothing but money, clubs, and the "honey-dipped lovely," à la LL Cool J.

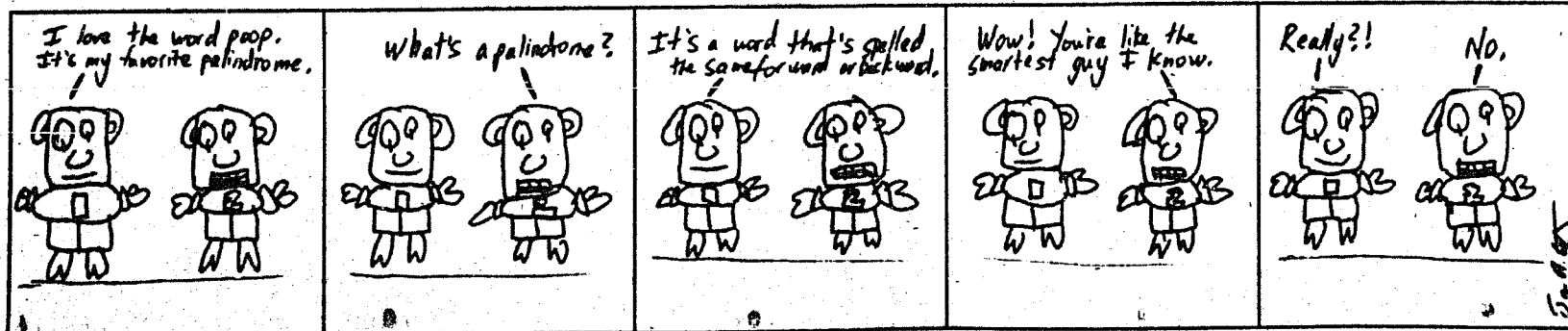
"Ambush" is a conscious album aware of the flaws in hip-hop. This album is in the tradition of beats produced in the heart of the street, a vital vein in America. Do yourself a favor; turn off the radio, and check this album out.



## Comic strip writers (better than myself), inquire within

THE BIG GUY

by Travis Estvold

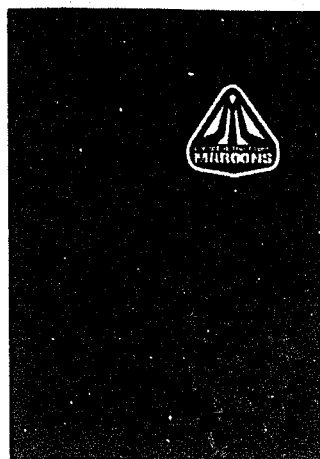


Here is my plea. I want to run a weekly comic strip for the culture section of this paper, and I don't want it to be mine. As you can see, my artistic talents are lacking, but that's why I put it in this issue. If you can do better, or know someone who can, please contact The Arbitrator straight away.

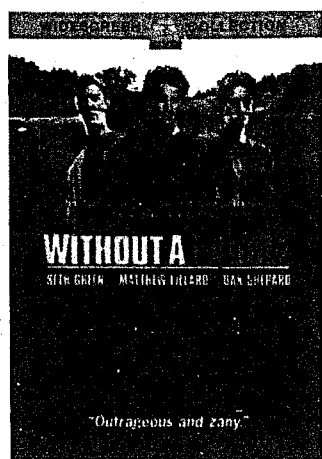
This semester is going to be a lot about student work in this section. Here is your opportunity to contribute.

Thank you,  
Travis Estvold  
Culture Editor

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## Actors releasing albums: What's their motivation?

BY JIM FARBER  
New York Daily News

Everyone has a voice. But does that mean everyone has to cut an album? Hollywood stars think so.

The record-store cut-out bins and private kitsch collections are bursting with releases from actors who, in a blur of hubris, mistook themselves for singers.

Even Phyllis Diller. Wait, it gets better. On her album, she covered the Stones' "Satisfaction."

Equally surreal moments include a recording of "Proud Mary" by Leonard Nimoy, a spoken-word take on "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds" by William Shatner, and a version of "Stand By Me" by Muhammad Ali. (Partial excuse: The fighter was still Cassius Clay at the time.)

You can hear all these inadvertently brilliant recordings on Rhino's "Golden Throats" CDs.

But now a trio of prominent thespians - Robert Downey Jr., Minnie Driver and Kevin Spacey - have all risked critical ridicule this season with debut CDs.

Spacey is taking the most daring leap by doing his own singing as Bobby Darin in the movie "Beyond the Sea." And he's performing Darin's music live in venues around the country. So, if nothing else, you have to give the guy credit for nerve.

Here's how the latest batch of actors-turned-chanteurs really sound:

**KEVIN SPACEY**, "Beyond the Sea" soundtrack.

Those who watch late-night talk shows know Spacey as a terrific mimic. But why listen to what amounts to an "I Can't Believe It's Not Bobby Darin" CD when you could just as easily play the actual thing?

Viewed this way, Spacey's recording becomes something of a stunt, if a relatively accurate one. Spacey has the rhythmic chops to

navigate Darin's brisk phrasing - no mean feat - though he clearly lacks the earlier star's elan.

You can measure the limits to his voice in the ballads. His take on "Mack the Knife" has more smarm than charm.

The album's producer, Phil Ramone, set Spacey's voice in some nice arrangements and surrounded him with enough echo to give his singing a bit of shimmer.

Of course, if you've never bought a Bobby Darin album, and the movie inspires you, it would be a sin to start here.

**ROBERT DOWNEY JR.**, "The Futurist"

Joni Mitchell fans probably still haven't forgiven Downey for his mewling cover of "River," which he moped through on "Ally McBeal" some years back.

And they shouldn't.

But that recording was a sweet memory compared to Downey's solo debut, which appears, puzzlingly, on Sony's snazzy Classical imprint. Downey offers mainly original pieces, performed on spare acoustic guitar or piano. Think: Tori Amos with a sex change.

But it's not Downey's eccentric melodies that make his record unlistenable. It's his way overar-

ticulated singing. He sounds like "SNL's" Jimmy Fallon doing a vicious satire of Dave Matthews.

Downey leans into the husky end of his voice, then shoots up for a cracked falsetto with such self-consciousness, it's impossible to hear the tune.

**MINNIE DRIVER**, "Everything I've Got in My Pocket"

Driver owns an iffy instrument with little wind power and less distinction. Her pale tones aren't done any favors by her drowsy country-tinged tunes. The album has so little momentum, it makes the Cowboy Junkies seem manic. Even her cover of Springsteen's "Hungry Heart" threaten to lapse into a coma.

Ultimately, her record isn't as much ear-achingly bad as it is a stone-cold bore.

**BETTER KEEP THAT DAY JOB**

Here's the Actor-Turned-Singer All-time Hall of Shame:

**DENNIS QUaid**: An aging heart-throb who karokes his way through R&B standards like a frat boy on a four-day bender.

**BRUCE WILLIS**: Smug versions of soul classics from someone who, vocally speaking, lacks one.

**EDDIE MURPHY**: "Party All the Time" - A comedy record, right.

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# sports

8 THE ARBITER JAN 10 2005

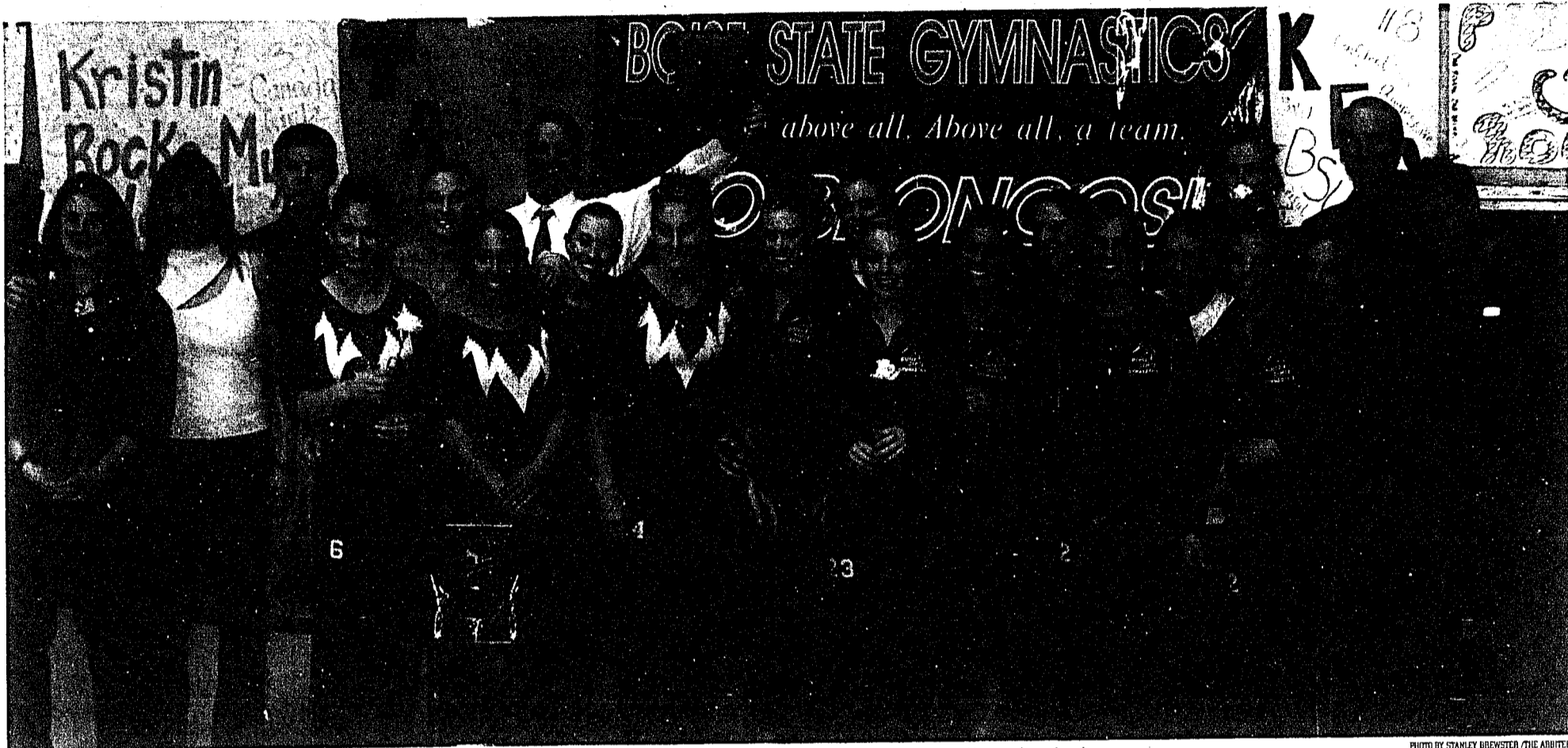
**In Addition:**  
In a story ran Dec. 10, 2004 The Best Ever, The Arbiter did not include the women's tennis team. Four Broncos were honored with All-WAC nominations during

the 2004 season. Senior Jemima Hayward was a first-team selection for singles play, and was also honored with Erin Polowski on the first-team doubles selection. Also honored were Alissa Ayling

and Megan Biorkman on the second-team doubles All-WAC team.

The Broncos advanced to the quarterfinals of the WAC tournament.

## Gymnasts start season in Maui



The Broncos gymnasts look to their third straight Western Gymnastics Conference title this season, as they opened their 2005 campaign in Maui this past weekend.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER / THE ARBITER

BY AMBER FUGER  
Sports Writer

Before the new semester and the 2005 season started, the BSU gymnasts kicked back on the warm soft sands of Maui's finest beaches. They dipped into the blue-green ocean to catch some waves before competing in the Maui Invitational.

The entire team pulled together and raised enough funds to send everyone to Hawaii over the weekend. All 17 girls had the opportunity to put their skills to the test. The Bronco finished fourth behind Alaska (191.275) with a

190.09. Arizona took first (195.7) and Maryland finished second (193.975).

Head coach Sam Sandmire commented on how this first meet was a learning experience for the team as a whole, coaches included.

"We got a chance to see what the kids are made of, where we are now and where we go from here," Sandmire said.

A relaxing weekend trip in Maui and an open for all competition gave the team a chance to get a feel of each other's strengths. The six returning seniors gave stellar performances. Two-time WAC all-

around gymnast and two-time Western Gymnast Champion of the Year, senior Carla Chambers went three for three and posted a 9.825 on vault. Lindsey Thomas also went three for three in Maui.

Sophomore Lindsay Ward scored a 9.725 on vault. Ward qualified and competed in the NCAA National Championship two weeks after the Broncos placed fourth at the NCAA Regional Championships last spring.

The Broncos counted one fall on bar and floor. Most of the team struggled on beam.

"It was a gravity storm," Sandmire said.

Junior Kea Cuaresma came through and performed beautifully on beam scoring a 9.65. Sandmire attributes this factor to the incredible athlete that Cuaresma has evolved into.

The Maui Invitational marked the first college meet for the new freshmen squad and on bars freshman Alyssa Daly represented the younger class posting a 9.7, which Sandmire deemed as the highlight moment of the meet.

Another breakout freshman comes from Snellville, Georgia. Katie Griffis is predicted to have a breakout season.

"She is extremely powerful

and incredibly talented," said Sandmire.

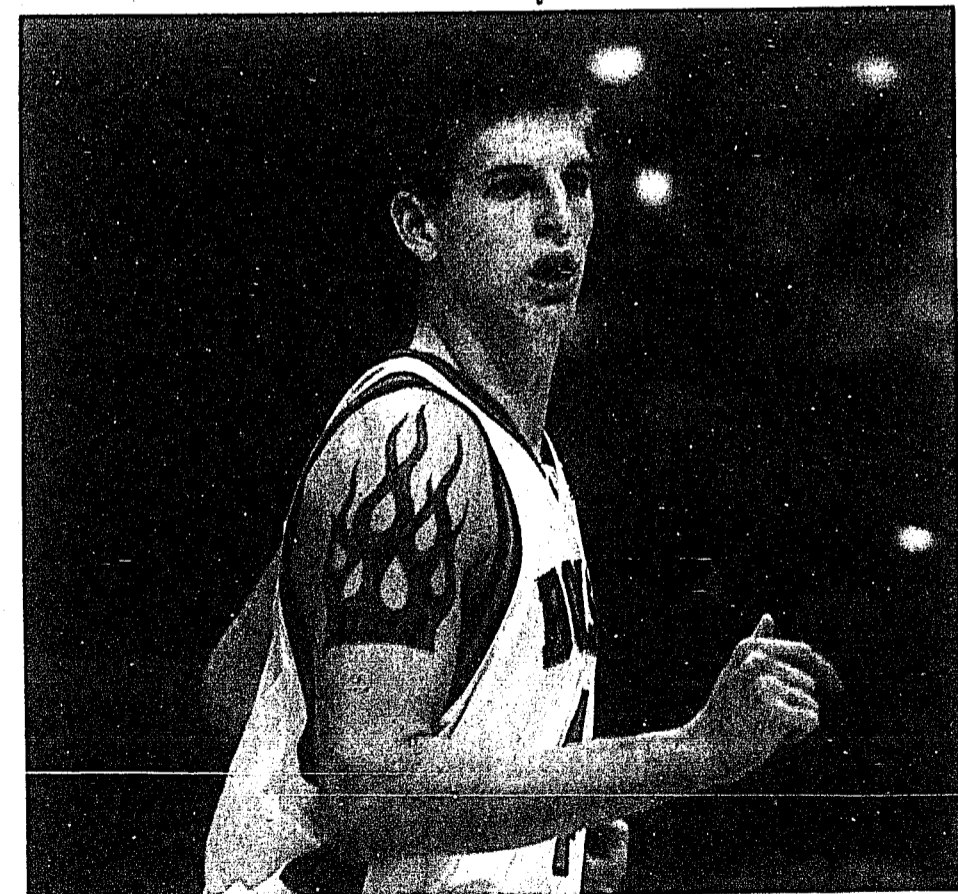
Junior Katie Dinsmore is yet another Bronco that went three for three in Maui. Sandmire expects to see great effort and spectacular performances from Dinsmore as the season continues.

In the 2005 season, Sandmire is confident in her poised upperclassmen. Seniors Chambers, Corinna Lewis, Heidi White, Kristin Gaare and Tiffany Putman are joined by juniors Cuaresma, Dinsmore and Emily Lambert in the effort to lead the Broncos in the pursuit of their third straight conference title. Some new en-

ergy from freshmen Griffis, Daly, Ashlee deLeeuw, Alia Loan and transfer sophomore Natasha Gowda from Nebraska should add some talented twists to the strong Bronco squad.

The Broncos will travel to Denver on Jan. 22 before hosting their first home meet against Cal. State Fullerton on Jan. 28.

Maui gave the coaches a chance to see what the girls are made of and who brings their top game to floor, and now it is time to put those talents to the test and defend the title. The 2005 gymnastic season has begun.



Sophomore forward Seth Robinson averaged 14.5 points and pulled down six rebounds per game over the weekend.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER

## This week's top performer

BY ARBITER STAFF

This week's top performer is Seth Robinson. The sophomore forward on the men's basketball team came up big over the weekend in the final two home games of the season long seven-game home stand for the Broncos.

The Phoenix, Ariz. native averaged 14.5 points and six rebounds in the two games versus Rice and Tulsa. Robinson also shot 57 percent from the field and added five steals on Saturday night in the loss to Rice.

Due to an injury to center Jason Ellis last month, Robinson earned a spot in the starting lineup.

Robinson came to the Broncos

The general business management major came to Boise State after one season at Scottsdale Community College. During his freshman season, Robinson earned honorable-mention all-league honors. He averaged 10.6 points and 10.6 rebounds per game. He finished 11<sup>th</sup> in the nation in rebounding.

His senior season in high school, Robinson was a McDonald's All-American nominee at Phoenix Christian High School.

His hustle and intensity has become a crowd favorite for the Broncos fans.

With his hard work and determination, Seth Robinson is awarded the inaugural top performer.

## Lady Broncos drop both games on the weekend

COURTESY: BRONCOSPORTS.COM

The Rice women's basketball team extended its homewin streak on Friday evening to 15 with a 75-48 win over the Boise State Broncos. Boise State freshman Tasha Harris led the Broncos offensively with nine points. Jamie Hawkins added eight points and led the team in rebounds with five. Cassidy Blaine added seven points and three assists. As a team, the Broncos shot just 27 percent from the field, 25 percent from three-point range, but a solid 77 percent from the free throw line. Rice (9-6 overall, 2-2 WAC) was led by Krystal Frazier's 11 points, six rebounds and four assists. The Lady Owls shot 49 percent from the field, 27 percent from three-point range, and 46 percent from the free throw line. The Broncos (5-7 overall, 0-

3 WAC) tallied 33 rebounds, eight assists and 23 turnovers. Rice had 40 rebounds, 22 assists and 12 turnovers. Rice took control of the game in the first half with hot shooting, leading by nine at halftime, 32-23. Boise State's frustrations continued in the second period as the Lady Owls scored 43 compared to the Broncos' 25.

On Thursday the Tulsa Golden Hurricane defeated the Boise State Broncos 70-61. Tulsa pulled out to a 39-24 lead at the half and extended that lead to 19 before the Broncos mounted a come-back, pulling within two (63-61) with just under three minutes left to go in the game. The Golden Hurricane took control of those last few minutes, held the Broncos scoreless, and held on to win 70-61. Boise State was led by Cassidy Blaine's 12 points and five re-

bounds. Tasha Harris, Cariann Ramirez and Jackie Lee each added nine. Heather Little led the team in rebounds with six. The Broncos are without the assistance of sophomore center Michelle Hesson this weekend as she stayed in Boise with a foot injury. As a team, Boise State shot 41 percent from the floor, 33 percent from three-point range (5-15), and 67 percent from the free throw line (14-21). Jillian Robbins led Tulsa with 25 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and added seven blocked shots. The Golden Hurricane shot 49 percent from the field, 29 percent from three-point range, and 57 percent from the line.

The Broncos come home for a weekend series versus Fresno State Thursday and Nevada on Saturday at the Taco Bell Arena.

## This Week In Sports

**Men's Basketball**  
Thurs. @ Fresno State 7 p.m. (PT)  
Sat. @ Nevada 7 p.m. (PT)

**Women's Basketball**  
Thurs. vs. Fresno State 7 p.m.  
Sat. vs. Nevada 2 p.m.

**Wrestling**  
Fri. @ Oregon 7 p.m. (PT)

**Indoor Track and Field**  
Sat. Jackson's Track in Nampa  
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**Skiing**  
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TM

# BCS Bad—But Playoffs Are Even Worse

BY TREVOR HORN  
Sports Editor

Is a playoff system better than the BCS bowl arrangement that the NCAA has in place now? The answer would be no if Dan Hawkins had anything to do about it.

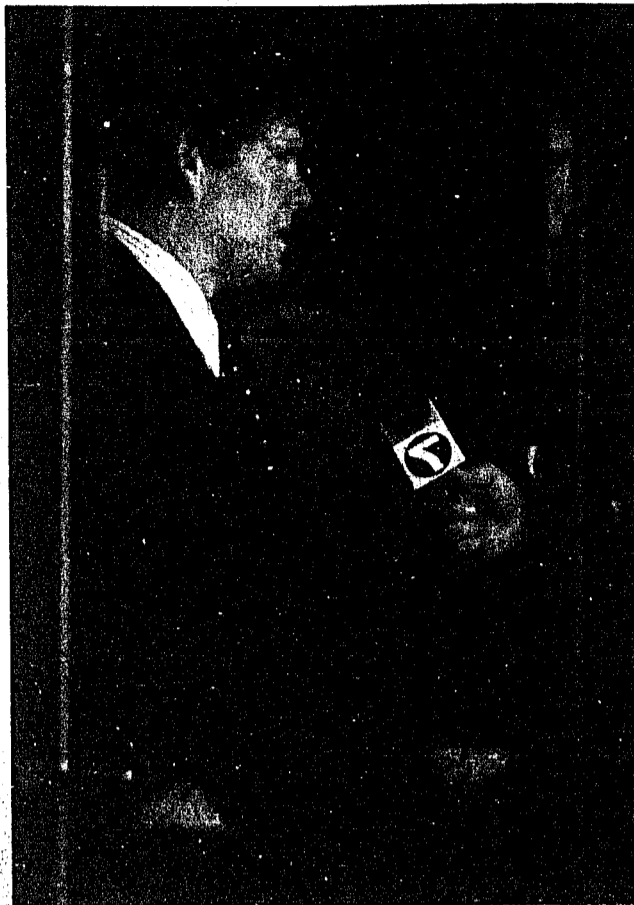
"People always think that people in our spot are in favor of a playoff, I'm not," Hawkins said. "And I'm not because I've been in that situation before and unfortunately twice we lost our starting quarterback in the semifinals game and did not win the national championship game."

Those two seasons that Hawkins spoke about were his final two as head coach at Willamette University. In 1996 the Bearcats finished 9-2 as national quarterfinals runner-up. The following season, they went 13-1, with the lone loss coming in the national championship game. In 1997, they lost to Findley 14-7 in the championship game.

It's a bold statement by a coach who seems to always be looking from the outside in because his team plays in a non-BCS conference. The nation's longest winning streak didn't give them credit. Not a perfect regular season. Not three straight conference championships. Not the most prolific offense in the past three seasons. So, with all of this stacked against his Broncos, what is his reasoning?

"Everyone wants to settle it on the field, but my comment is always that it will not be settled on the field, it will be settled in the training room," Hawkins said.

Boise State has had their share of injuries this season. Chris Carr missed the final six games of the regular season. Cam Hall was pretty inconsistent most of the



The reflection of Boise State head football coach Dan Hawkins during a press conference the day before the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tenn.

season because of an early injury. Julius Roberts was injured at the end of the regular season, and Derek Schouman missed five games due an injury.

With those all lined up, and a perfect season ended in the Liberty Bowl it can be seen how he would be against a playoff season.

Hawkins has been known to state over and over again that bigger is not better, that better

is better. Maybe the reason that the Broncos hadn't lost since last September is because Hawkins has this system of thinking.

Hawkins is not a fan of the BCS system, but he knows what has hurt him in the past, and hopefully someday soon for the Broncos, they will benefit and get the recognition that they are striving for.

## Bronco Respect [FROM PAGE 1]

Liberty Bowl was the second highest ESPN televised bowl game viewed this season. The game received a 4.56 rating, meaning over four million viewers tuned in to watch the game. The lone game with a higher viewer rating was the Peach Bowl that matched Florida versus Miami.

Three Broncos received national postseason honors. Senior place kicker Tyler Jones was a finalist for the Lou Groza Award, and was recognized by five different publications. The Walter Camp Foundation, AP and The Sporting News named him as a Second Team All-American. He also earned Honorable Mention All-American by Sports Illustrated and collegefootballnews.com

Junior offensive tackle Daryn Colledge was named to the First Team All-America team by collegefootballnews.com and Sports Illustrated, named sophomore quarterback Jared Zabransky as an Honorable Mention All-American.

All of this was done for a team that was the second youngest in the nation. According to the SMU Sports Information Department, based on the numbers of freshmen and sophomores on the team, the Broncos trailed only SMU. Boise State's roster of 110 players consisted of 80 freshmen or sophomores, which tallies up

to 72.7 percent of the roster. Of those underclassman, 17 started at least one game, and 27 were on the two-deep roster.

Their youthfulness may have been the cause of some of the unexpected close games during the season, but the result was a perfect regular season.

Fans may still be catching their breath from the last second blocked punt against BYU in September. They may also be wondering how the Broncos managed to pull out a last second victory in Tulsa, and how on Earth they needed overtime to defeat

San Jose State. But, they did come out of all of them unscathed. Somehow. Someway.

Leaving the Broncos are T.J. Acree, Klayton Adams, Andy Avalos, Lawrence Bady, Chris Carr, Gabe Franklin, Tyler Jones, Julius Roberts and Andy Weldon. All were honored with postseason recognition except Bady, but the number of starters returning is astounding.

Next year's team may be the best ever for the Broncos, but this season will not be forgotten for a long time to come.

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# Broncos end home stand on losing note

BY TREVOR HOAN  
Sports Editor

The Boise State men's basketball team split their weekend series, losing Saturday to Rice 87-75 in front of a crowd of 4,544 at the Taco Bell Arena.

It was too many missed opportunities in the first half, and too much Michael Harris in the second half for the Broncos during the weekend matinee game Saturday.

"We didn't play well as a group in the second half," Boise State head coach Greg Graham said. "...They stepped it up. They're an experienced team with big leaders and the seniors stepped it up and we couldn't match their intensity and their toughness in the second half."

Harris scored 20 of his 25 points in the second half as the Owls (8-4, 3-1 Western Athletic Conference) outscored and out rebounded the Broncos (7-7, 1-2 WAC) throughout the game.

"When he (Harris) settles down and just stays with things that we are doing and things we ask him to do, things tend to really go for him," Rice head coach Willis Wilson said.

Rice had four players in double figures and out rebounded the Broncos by 14.

"We just got out hustled," BSU freshman forward Andrew Green said. "We can't make (a) real excuse for why we lost, we just lost."

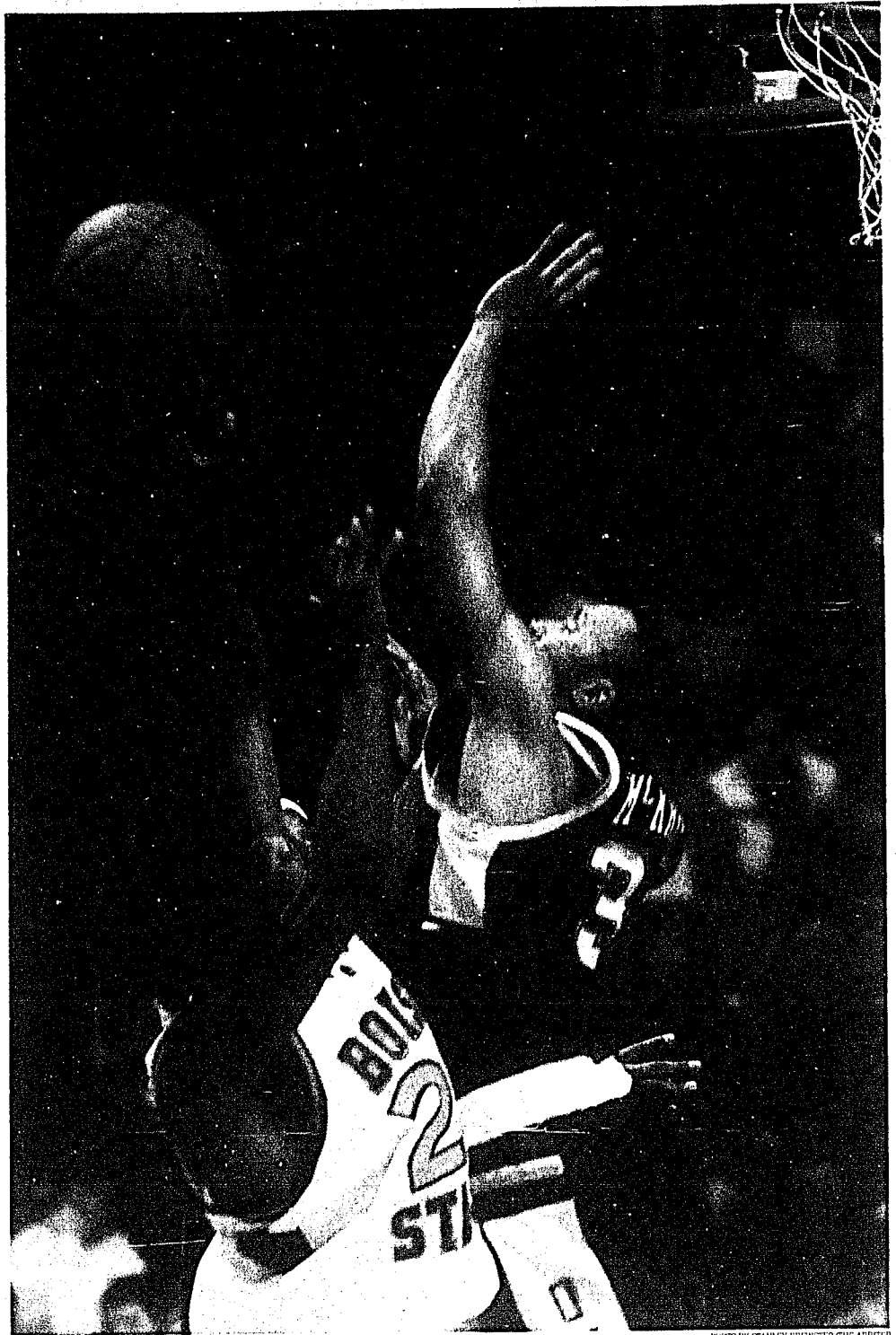
The Broncos got out to an early 11-6 lead, but that soon evaporated as Rice scored seven unanswered points and took a 34-30 lead into halftime. Coby Karl and Jermaine Blackburn combined for an atrocious four of 17 shooting in the first half.

"We missed layups," Graham said. "...We missed a ton of moneys early and we could have easily had an eight or ten point lead I think at halftime if we would have made our shots. But we didn't and that kind of offset their turnovers to match it up and then we had a breakdown on defense."

Despite turning the ball over 12 times in the first half, the Owls shot 52 percent from the field.

Coming out of the half, Rice scored on nine of their first 11 possessions and found themselves up 59-43 with just over 11 minutes to play in the game. Harris accounted for ten of those points during the spurt, and kept the lead out of reach for the Broncos.

Unable to come back from the deficit, the Broncos went to a smaller lineup, which seemed to result in a difficulty to battle down low. Along with the Owls tough perimeter defense, the Broncos shot 31.4 percent from the field and only 64.3 percent



Jermaine Blackburn [21] goes up for a shot against Jason McKreith [34] as the Broncos fall to Rice 91-77 Saturday just two days after beating Tulsa 72-71 at the Taco Bell Arena.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BILWISER/THE OREGONIAN

from the foul line.

Blackburn led the Broncos with 22 points, nine of those coming in the final three minutes of the game as he went to the free throw line four times during the stretch. Sophomores Seth Robinson (14 points, seven rebounds) and Karl (12 points, five assists) were the other two players in double figures for Boise State. Franco Harris scored eight.

Jason McKreith scored 11 for Rice, as J.R. Harrison and Lorenzo Williams (14 points) scored in double figures for the Owls.

On Thursday night, the Broncos needed a late rally as Tulsa erased a second half 18 points deficit to overtake the Hurricane 72-71.

A commanding 44-32 halftime lead was gone due to a 30-8 Tulsa second half run.

The score was tied at 68 with 1:30 remaining, but late free throws by Eric Lane held off the Hurricane.

Blackburn led the Broncos with 20 points, and Karl contributed 19. Tez Banks pulled down 10 rebounds.

The weekend series was the fi-

nal at Boise State for both Rice and Tulsa, as the two programs will head to Conference USA next season along with fellow WAC member's UTEP and SMU. The Broncos began their WAC conference schedule with a loss to UTEP on New Year's Day 91-77.

The Broncos finished their seven-game home stand with a 3-4 record. Boise State now heads off on the road this weekend with a game Thursday at Fresno State and Saturday at Nevada.

## Boise State Skiers Begin Season

COURTESY: BRONCOSPORTS.COM

PARK CITY, Utah - Boise State alpine skiers Margit Walter and Spela Bertoncelj finished 23rd and 31st respectively in the Giant Slalom of the University of Utah Invitational on Thursday. This was the first week of 2005 collegiate competition for the Bronco skiers. Walter finished with a two-run time of 2:16.95. Bertoncelj's two-run time was 2:18.68. The winner was Denver's Florence Roujas who finished with a final time of 2:10.48. (She also won the slalom on Wednesday). Jill Mendenhall had problem's in her first run and did not post an official time. 62 racers finished the GS today of 87 racers who started it. On Wednesday, Bertoncelj finished 10th overall among 52 finishers in the slalom. Her two-run time was one-minute, 46 second.18 seconds. Walter and

Mendenhall had problems in their second runs in the slalom and finished without official times.

Despite a severe storm that caused delays on Wednesday, the women's slalom of the Utah Invitational went on at the Park City Mountain Resort. The weather didn't seem to slow Boise State sophomore Spela Bertoncelj too much as she finished 10th overall among 52 finishers in the slalom. Her two-run time was one-minute, 46.18 seconds. The winner of the women's slalom was Denver's Florence Roujas who finished with a time of 1:42.27. Bertoncelj's Bronco teammates, sophomore Margit Walter and junior Jill Mendenhall - both had problems in their second runs and finished without official times.

The next scheduled competition for the Broncos is the Alaska Invitational in Jackson Hole, Wyo., Jan. 13-14.

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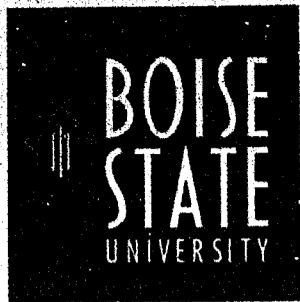
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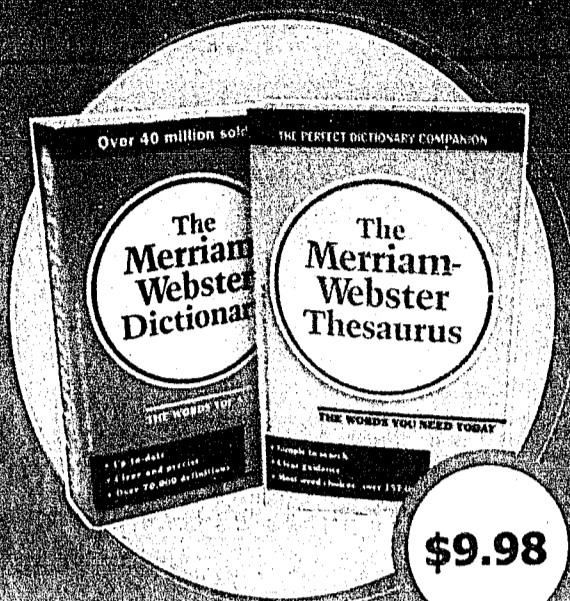
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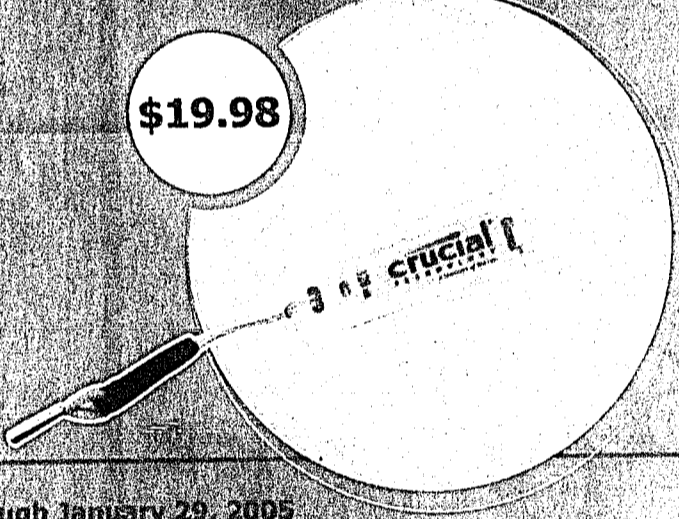
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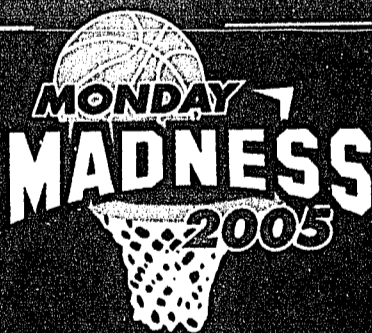
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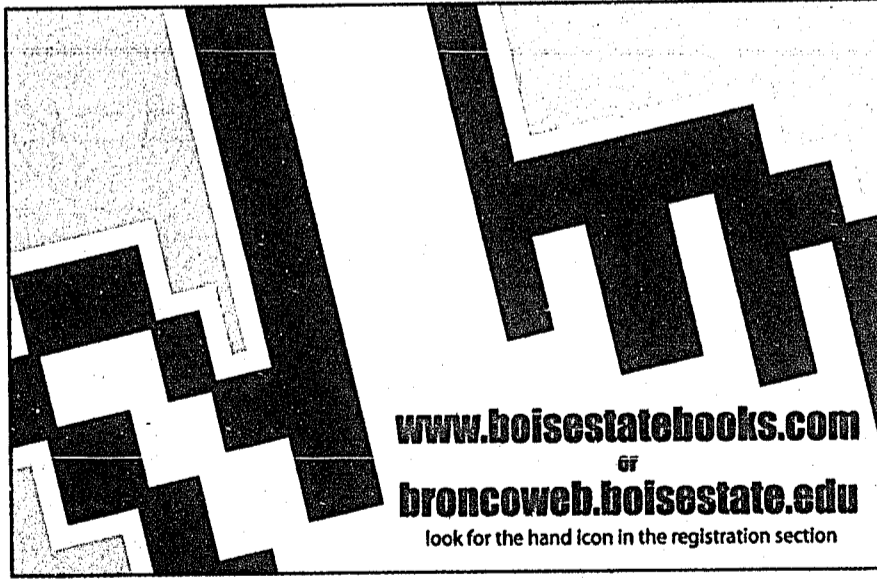
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