

1-13-2005

Arbiter, January 13

Students of Boise State University

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State of the State

Governor pledges more money for higher ed

BY GREGORY RUTTY
News Editor

In Monday night's State of the State address, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne left almost no stone unturned.

Outlining an ambitious second-term agenda laden with bold initiatives, the governor focused largely on transportation and the economy, while paying less attention to public higher education and state employees.

Outside of peppering his speech with references to the importance of public higher education and state employees, Kempthorne offered little in the way of initiatives.

For Idaho's public universities and colleges, the governor proposed a \$14 million increase in appropriations and for state employees, a one-percent pay increase.

While Boise State President Robert Kustra acknowledges that the state is still "way behind" in funding higher education, he feels this year's increase in appropriations is "adequate" and a "good sign."

"I was concerned we would go another year with no increase in funding," Kustra said. "I was impressed with the governor's announcement. It's a really good sign."

Despite this year's increase, Kustra said funding for higher education in Idaho must be improved upon and that the health of Idaho's economy could depend on it.

As Kustra outlined in his Spring Address last week, he feels Boise State is inextricably intertwined with Idaho's economy and that the more money used to fund

public education, the stronger Idaho's economy will be.

While Kempthorne's announcement of an increase in funding for higher education elicited relief from BSU's president, his one-percent increase for state employees received a different response from some on campus.

"It sucks," said Bill Haynes, a BSU building facilities specialist for 14 years. "One-percent is an insult. I can't keep up [with cost-of-living increases]."

A one-percent increase in pay represents just one-fourth the rate of inflation for 2003-2004 (Bureau of Labor Statistics), and half the amount state employees received last fiscal year from the state. Before last year, state employees hadn't seen a cost-of-living adjustment in three years.

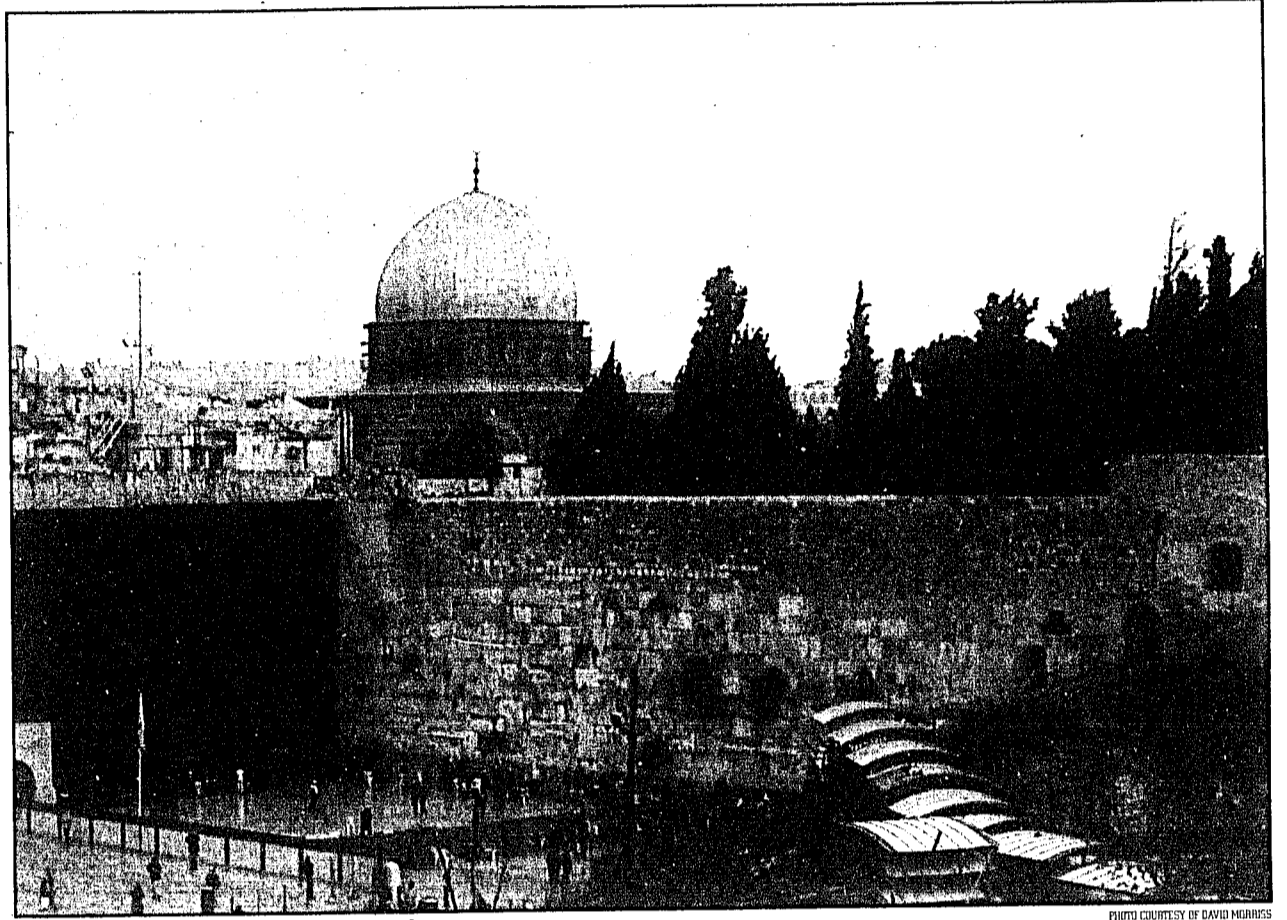
For Connie Charlton, president of BSU's Association of Classified Employees, Kempthorne's announcement came as little surprise.

According to Charlton, she had a sense from talking with legislators prior to the address that the increase was to be around one-percent. Charlton says a two percent increase, like last year's, would have been more helpful.

"It's disappointing," she said. "I certainly think it's less than what's needed."

Charlton says the next step will be getting classified employees to lobby their legislators for more of an increase.

Despite the disappointment for some regarding Kempthorne's proposed one-percent increase, Kustra feels he is providing the type of leadership needed to help Idaho out of its economic slump. For further State of the State coverage please visit: www.arbiteronline.com.



The Wailing Well at the el-Aqsa Mosqeen in Jerusalem is visited by thousands of Jews each year. It is a preserved portion of an earlier version of the Temple of Jerusalem built more than 2,000 years ago.

given history lesson in

ASBSU president visits Middle East over winter break

BY M. GRACE LUCAS
News Writer

Boise State Student Body President David Morriss says he is still collecting his thoughts after what he calls a life-changing visit to Israel.

Morriss joined a group of American university leaders invited by Project Interchange to tour the area. IP regularly invites Americans in leadership roles to Israel for a closer look at the war-torn country while presenting multiple sides of the religious and geographic dispute.

"We were just completely in awe," Morriss said of the group's collective reaction to some of the historic sites they viewed. Morriss said the history lesson the group received from their tour guide was unprecedented.

"We each live in our own little

bubble and this shattered the bubble for me," Morriss said.

Morriss said his group was escorted through tunnels underneath Jerusalem's al-Aqsa mosque, also known as the "Dome of the Rock." The site is generally regarded as both the place from which Mohamed ascended into heaven and the site where Jesus Christ angrily overturned the tables of moneychangers in King Herod's temple. It is bordered in part by the Wailing Wall, which is historically accepted as one of Judaism's holiest places of pilgrimage.

Thousands of years of wartime placement and displacement of multiple religious and ethnic groups has shaped the mile area now called Israel into a coveted holy land for Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. Military power struggles in the area where Israel

now rests have been historically frequent and bloody with resolution not yet in sight.

Morriss said the seminars, workshops and junkets during the course of his trip have spurred in him new understandings of the plight of past and present inhabitants of the region. Morriss said a visit to the National Holocaust Memorial brought home the idea that groups of people with like minds and values suffer through not having a place of refuge. Morriss said the battle for a homeland is a burden that both the Israelis and the Palestinians have carried.

In 1947, the United Nations declared Israel a state and universal acceptance of the latter's newfound sovereignty was not a political benefit for all nations involved. This has led to an ongoing push by leaders on all sides

for yet another redrawing of national borders and some groups are calling for the creation of a Palestinian state.

Morriss said he feels that many leaders involved are serving their own national interests by participating in the ongoing dispute, but he sees a Palestinian state as a step forward. "I feel it's important to work towards a Palestinian state," he says.

Morriss said over the course of the trip, he was encouraged by speakers and participants from all walks of life to look beyond the political spin that surrounds the issue. He also said that certain media portrayals of groups involved are detrimental to those trying to gain an objective understanding. "The majority of Palestinians just want peace. They just want to live a normal life."

Lack of snow doesn't slow Kappa Sigma tradition

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
News Writer

He stands, his faithful pooch by his side, a lone white figure in a campus void of snow. He stands eight and a half feet tall.

He's a snowman.

The Kappa Sigma fraternity has constructed a snowman on the first day of Spring Rush for four consecutive years now. This year, with snow lacking in the valley, the brothers drove to Bogus Basin and loaded three truckloads of snow for their man. The entire effort took less than seven hours.

"We always do it, whether there is snow on the ground or not," Kappa Sigma Vice President Sean Courtright said. "Boise State lacks tradition. It's just something we thought would be fun."

The brothers of Kappa Sigma will keep their man standing for two weeks, until the end of Spring Rush. Then they will let him melt away. They use the spectacle to advertise their fraternity, in hopes that they may attract new members.

Spring Rush is a recruitment period during which members of fraternities attempt to recruit

and gain new members in their respective chapters.

Kappa Sigma is already the largest fraternity on the BSU campus with 38 current members. The Kappa Sigmas have recently moved into their new house and have plenty of room for new members, Courtright said.

Kappa Sigma is planning a number of rush activities, including "Big Judd's Challenge," a burger-eating contest to be held Thursday, Jan. 13. Those interested in participating should meet at the Kappa Sigma house at 7 p.m.

"Not many people know that there are Greeks on campus," Courtright said. "This is a brotherhood development thing."

The fraternity will also be holding a movie night and offering free hot chocolate in the quad. All events sponsored by Kappa Sigma during rush are free to those interested in participating.

For more information involving special events or on becoming a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, simply show up to one of the events, call the house at (208) 331-3840 or visit their Web site www.kappa-rho.com.



Kappa Sigma snowman walks his dog in the quad.

PHOTO BY FRANCIS DELAPENA / THE ARBITER

world

Abbas wins Palestinian presidency by large margin

RAMALLAH, West Bank - A decisive majority elected Mahmoud Abbas president of the Palestinian Authority Sunday, endorsing his call to reopen peace talks with Israel and try to end four years of violence.

Abbas, who enjoys broad international support, including from the Bush administration, replaces Yasser Arafat, who dominated Palestinian politics for 40 years before his death in November. His election raises hope that a new era of more peaceful relations between Israel and Palestinians can begin, although realists in both camps warn that mistrust remains deep and progress is likely to be slow at best.

Despite such caveats, Palestinians voiced pride in the election.

"It's a good opportunity for the world to show we are democratic and to have the world not view us through Israeli eyes" as terrorists, said Deputy Palestinian Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah.

President Bush issued a statement calling Abbas' election "a historic day for the Palestinian people and for the people of the Middle East." Bush pledged to work with Abbas in helping him build democratic institutions and reviving the Palestinian economy, and said that "Israel must help."

national

Experts see 'devastating' attack on the Internet in next 10 years

HACKENSACK, N.J. - Don't say we didn't warn you: At some point in the next decade, there will be a "devastating attack" on the Internet or a power grid. Such a scenario was deemed most

national

plausible by 1,300 technology experts and scholars in a survey released Sunday by the Pew Internet & American Life Project. Pew, along with Elon University in North Carolina, sought the opinions of people - both in the United States and abroad - who are very familiar with Internet. Of the experts surveyed by Pew in the fall, 66 percent agreed that the Internet or power grid would be successfully attacked. Only 18 percent disagreed or challenged the prediction.

Former CIA Director Robert Gates, speaking at a terrorism conference last month, said cyberterrorism could be the most potent weapon of mass destruction and could cripple the U.S. economy.

"When a teenage hacker in the Philippines can wreak \$10 billion in damage to the U.S. economy by implanting a virus, imagine what a sophisticated, well-funded effort to attack the computer base of our economy could accomplish," Gates said.

Intensified surveillance by government or business, and more arrests as a result, was foreseen by 59 percent of the experts. Some said they would welcome that development; others seemed to dread it.

Binge drinking blamed in Eastern Michigan U. case

YPSILANTI, Mich. - A 20-year-old Eastern Michigan University student died over the New Year's weekend, following what was described as hours of drinking at a fraternity party.

Witnesses told police that Keith Cholette of Taylor began drinking in the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity house about 3 p.m. Dec. 31, and also consumed some pills thought to be ecstasy, said Sgt. John Minzey of the Ypsilanti Police Department.

Cholette collapsed and went into convulsions around 6 a.m. on Jan. 1. Minzey said, and was pronounced dead shortly after arriving at St. Joseph Mercy Health System in Superior Township.

national

Jim Vick, vice president for student affairs at Eastern Michigan, said Cholette's death is "sad, traumatic and devastating" for his family and his fraternity, but he hopes it serves as a reminder to students about the dangers of misusing alcohol and drugs.

The university will conduct its own investigation into the death, Vick said.

Despite education efforts, drinking is blamed for dozens of deaths on college campuses each year.

A widely quoted 1999 survey by the Harvard University School of Public Health found 44 percent of college students admitted to binge drinking within the two weeks of the survey. Each year, 12 million undergraduate students drink four billion cans of beer, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Younger, white students who were members of Greek organizations were the most likely to binge drink.

local/bsu

Five arrested in credit card scam

BOISE, Idaho - Boise Police arrested five people late Friday morning in connection with a credit card scam that targeted three local banks.

Police learned of the scam Friday morning when alerted by bank managers of the suspects' attempts to obtain cash advances using fraudulent credit cards and IDs. The bank managers were able to seize the IDs and credit cards and turn them over to police. The police were then able to obtain the suspects' names and descriptions.

After notifying local motel managers, the police were able to locate the suspects who were in possession of maps and addresses of several local banks, as well as more fraudulent credit cards and IDs.

Detectives believe this case may be related to similar scams in other cities and are working with the Secret Service. The

local/bsu

five suspects are believed to be from Los Angeles, Calif.

Boise State faculty, students to research in S. Pacific

BOISE, Idaho - A study of the Eocene period of 34-55 million years will have two Boise State research professors spending 41 days in the South Pacific aboard a scientific vessel as part of a research project funded by the National Science Foundation.

Mitch Lyle, a paleoceanographer, and Lee Liberty, a geophysicist, will help survey drill sites beneath the ocean floor, laying the ground work for future expeditions that will take and analyze sediment cores.

The sediment cores will contain the fossilized remains of organisms and help provide a record of the climate conditions during different periods of the Earth's history.

Two Boise State graduate geology students, Christopher Paul and Brandi Murphy, will assist on the expedition.

The group will set sail from Tahiti on Feb. 9 aboard their vessel Melville and return to port on March 21.

Summer courses to be offered at BSU-West

NAMPA, Idaho - Boise State has plans underway to offer summer courses at Boise State University-West in Nampa.

The first academic building at BSU's satellite campus is nearly complete and will include 14 classrooms, science laboratories, students services, a library, and a bookstore.

The new campus is designed to help fulfill the growing demand of students in Canyon County and beyond. Between 1999 and 2003, the number of students enrolled in the current Canyon County Center in Nampa has doubled to more

local/bsu

than 1,800 students with enrollment in adult basic education up 79 percent.

Professor helps work toward cholera vaccine

BOISE, Idaho - Research being conducted by Boise State biology professor Juliette Tinker on a toxin produced by the cholera causing bacterium Vibrio cholerae could aid in the development of a vaccine to cholera.

Cholera is an acute, diarrheal illness that if untreated can lead to death in a matter of hours, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Tinker's research could provide valuable clues to making a vaccine for cholera because of the specific immune responses the toxin causes.

Tinker, who received her Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in 1992, is a pathogenic microbiologist in her first year as faculty at Boise State.

Physics professor to study gamma ray bursts

CHALLIS, Idaho - Gamma rays are difficult to study. The bright flashes of radiation happen without notice and disappear quickly. But they may hold important information for scientists who believe they are associated with black holes.

A new observatory near Challis, Idaho will help researchers study the bursts by using a specialized 16-inch telescope that will automatically track the bursts based on information from a NASA satellite.

The observatory, to be completed in June, is part of a research project headed by Boise State physics professor Daryl Maccomb. The project is funded by grants from NASA as well as partnerships with donors. A number of outreach programs for local students are planned as part of the project.

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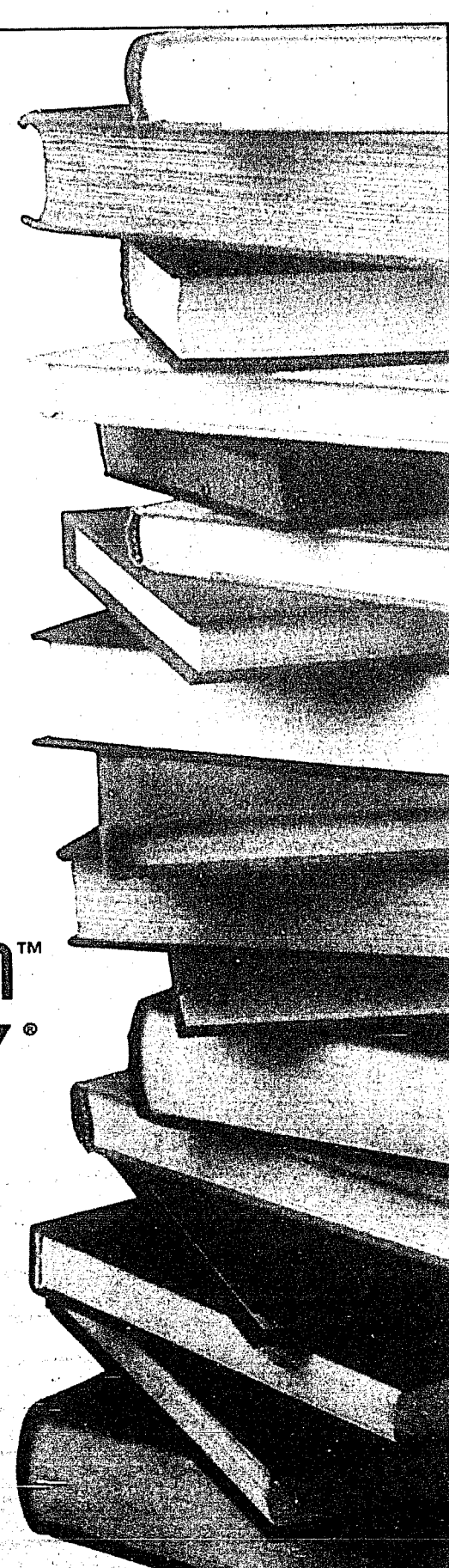
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MLK Week Calendar

Monday, Jan. 17

9:00-10:30 a.m. Student Union Jordan Ballroom
Join supporters as they march to the state capitol to rally for human rights. Morning activities include music, guest speakers and news footage of the civil rights movement. Parking available at the Student Union visitor parking lot.

Human Rights Rally 2005

11:15 a.m. Idaho State Capitol steps
Renew your support for human rights with local activists. Mountain Home Mayor Joe McNeal will be a guest speaker.

February One: The Story of the Greensboro Four (film)

5:30-7:30 p.m. Student Union Jordan Ballroom
The story of the Greensboro Four – the men who staged a sit-in at a Woolworth's lunch counter in 1960.

I Have a Dream Poetry Slam Contest- "Slam for Justice"

7:00 p.m. Funny Bone Comedy Club
Student and community poets will compete for cash prizes on the theme of social justice and human rights. Sign up at the door. \$5 general, \$3 with BSU student ID.

Tuesday, Jan. 18

Victory Over Violence Exhibit and Daily Discussion

12-1:30 p.m. (Tuesday-Friday) BSU Student Union Gallery
A youth-sponsored initiative to help young people identify and counteract the root causes of violence in their lives. This exhibit has been traveling around the United States since February 2000.

Within the Silence (film)

4:40-6:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:30 p.m. Student Union Hatch Ballroom A&B
The film is the story of Emi and her Japanese family before and after Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor.

Wednesday, Jan. 19

From Slavery to Freedom

1:40-2:30 p.m. Student Union Farnsworth Room
A documentary of tomato pickers from Immokalee, Fla. that speaks to the struggle for a living wage and human rights in the 21st century. A question and answer period will follow the screening.

Nonviolence in Action – Part I: 4 Ways to Create Change

2:40-3:30 p.m. Student Union Hatch Ballroom A&B
This workshop will explore four different approaches to organizing peaceful protests and how to bring about positive changes for human rights.

Nonviolence in Action – Part II: Create Effective Change

3:40-5 p.m. Student Union Hatch Ballroom A&B
This workshop will try to engage participants in brainstorming a plan toward a safer, non-violent Boise.

Thursday, Jan. 20

Books Not Bars

1:40-3:00 p.m. Student Union Hatch Ballroom A&B
A film and discussion on public education and prison system funding in America.

Women's Rights are Human Rights

3:15-4:30 p.m. Student Union Farnsworth Room
An introduction to human rights and how it plays out in the women's rights movement.

Beyond Vietnam; Beyond Iraq

4:40-6:00 p.m. Student Union Hatch Ballroom A&B
A discussion of Martin Luther King Jr.'s 1967 speech "Beyond Vietnam," and its relevance to the war in Iraq.

The Invisible Idahoan: 200 Years of Blacks in Idaho

6:00-7:00 p.m. Student Union Farnsworth Room
This workshop will give a review of the substantial contributions African-Americans have made to the laws, culture and society in Idaho.

Racism and Immigration: Here and Now

7:00-8:30 p.m. Student Union Hatch Ballroom A&B
An interactive workshop that will discuss immigration with a framework of the interconnection between race and immigration policy.

Friday, Jan. 21

Fair Housing: A Civil Rights Issue; Not a Quality of Life Issue

2:40-3:30 p.m. Student Union Barnwell Room
Learn basic fair-housing rights and how affordable housing affects one's opportunity for education.

Keynote Address – Martin Luther King, III

7:00 p.m. Student Union Jordan Ballroom
Open reception will follow lecture – Student Union Barnwell Room
Free tickets are available at the Student Union Info Desk and will guarantee a seat until 6:45 p.m.
This presentation will be ASL and Spanish interpreted.
Martin Luther King, III's dedication to promoting nonviolent action to rid the world of social, political and economic injustice has propelled him to the forefront as one of the nation's most ardent advocates for the oppressed. His experiences as the former president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference give him a unique perspective on national and global problems.

Saturday, Jan. 22

8:45 a.m. Student Union Food Court
Join BSU's Volunteer Services Board and help make a difference through volunteering with several local agencies to promote Idaho human rights.

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After Palestinian election, leaders move forward

BY SARAYA SARAHADDI NELSON AND CLIFF CHURGIN

JERUSALEM – Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon Monday night won his battle to create a new coalition government to help him realize his controversial goal of removing Jewish settlers from the Gaza Strip this year.

Several miles away in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Mahmoud Abbas, the president-elect of the Palestinian Authority, basked in the limelight of his landslide win of 62.3 percent of the vote the night before, receiving a stream of foreign dignitaries in his compound as well as an invitation from President Bush to visit the White House.

Abbas also received a congratulatory call from Sheik Hassan Yousef, a West Bank leader of the Islamic militant group Hamas, who said Hamas would work with the new president despite its boycott of Sunday's election.

The developments put Israel and the Palestinians on more secure political footing, offering the best chance in 18 months to renew contact and possibly leading to efforts to find a way out of the bloody conflict that's killed nearly 5,000 people.

"We extend our hand to our neighbor, and we hope the answer will be positive. We are committed to the peace process," said Abbas, as quoted on Al Manar, the Lebanese television station run by the Islamic militant group Hezbollah, after meeting with election observers.

Former President Jimmy Carter, who came to the region as one of 800 international election monitors, said Monday that Sharon planned to ask Abbas to meet with him. "I asked him if he meant days or weeks, and Prime Minister Sharon said days," Carter said.

Despite the improved atmosphere, the difficulties both sides still face were apparent on Monday. Sharon's new government barely won approval – by 58 to 56 votes – in the Israeli parliament. Sharon's Gaza withdrawal agenda, which the legislature must also approve, faces an even tougher political battle. Many Jewish settlers in the Gaza Strip are threatening violence to prevent a handover of the coastal region to Palestinians.

Thirteen of Sharon's own Likud Party voted against his new government. One of these rebels, Knesset member Gilad Erdan, told state-run Israel Radio: "We are talking about a government whose purpose is to implement a plan that we feel is bad and dangerous to the state of Israel."

To overcome these obstacles, Sharon needs a peaceful environment, which would require Abbas to persuade Palestinian militants


to abandon their armed uprising against Israelis. That won't be easy, since he still needs to consolidate his power and assert control over Palestinian Authority security forces, which he needs to control the militants.

Questions over voting irregularities in Sunday's first Palestinian presidential election in nine years also could damage Abbas. One problem that's unlikely to be resolved anytime soon involves dueling lists of eligible voters, which led to wildly different tallies and robbed Abbas of the 70 percent turnout that analysts have said he needed to push forward his anti-violence agenda.

"He does not speak for everyone. This is not a high percentage of Palestinians who elected him," said Yousef in an interview.

Yousef said Abbas should take care not to make any "individual decisions" to soften the Palestinian line on core issues, such as Palestinian claims to Jerusalem, Israeli occupation, the right of Palestinian refugees to return to family homes in what's now Israel, and other issues on which Israel is seeking Palestinian compromise. He added that Hamas is opposed to any unconditional cease-fire against Israel.

"We extend our hand to our neighbor, and we hope the answer will be positive."



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OPINION

4 THE ARBITER JAN 13 2005

letter to the editor

BRONCOS WIN OVER A COUGAR

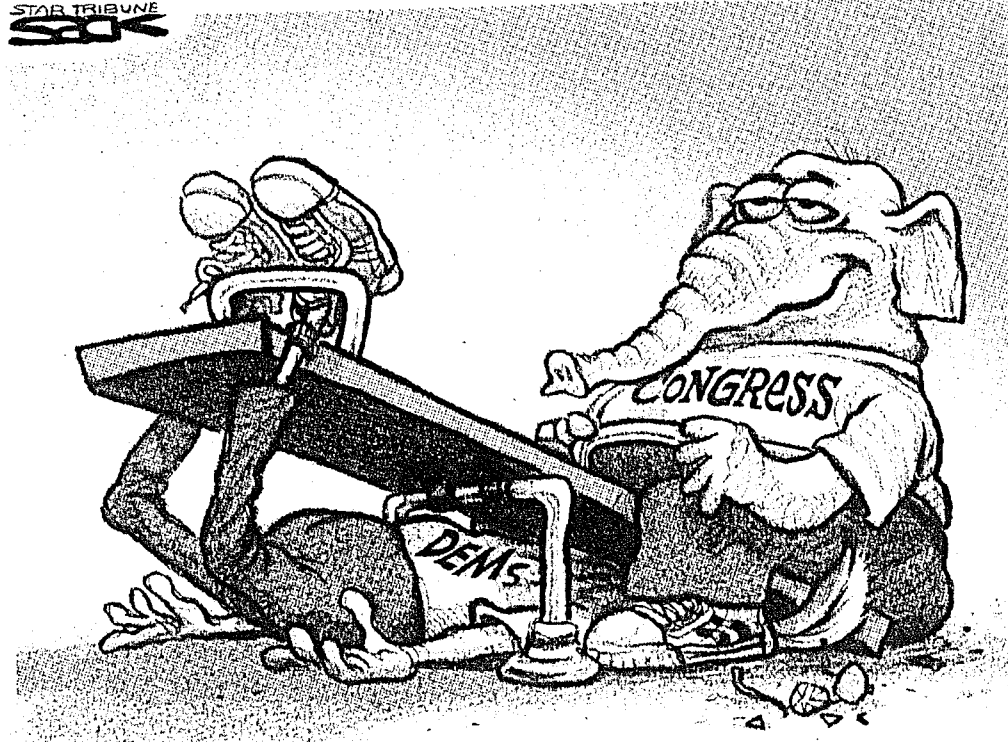
I hope you don't mind an "outsider" butting in, but I wanted to congratulate the Broncos football team.

I am a dyed-in-the-wool true-blue BYU Cougar fan, but I watched the Broncos on TV every chance I got this year and I was cheering them on during their bowl game. I couldn't have been more disappointed if my own Cougars had lost.

"The little smurfs that could" have my support all the way..... until they play BYU again. Hey, we managed to scare you this year, but I wouldn't have felt good if we had won. The pass interference call on your guy in the last minute or so that gave us a first down was a lousy call. You deserved to win. Best wishes for next year.....go get'em.

Jeff Black
West Jordan, UT

STAR TRIBUNE
SUB



Dear Mr. Poodles,

Do you drink? If so, what and where? I am very fond of beer. What kind do you like?

Sincerely,
Madame Midori

Dear Madame,
Why yes! I love to drink; however, beer is not my favorite. Merely saying that beer is "an acquired taste" is like saying that getting an enema is "an acquired practice." The only kinds of beer I enjoy are hybrids, e.g. Ace Pear Cider and et cetera. I have quite the penchant for liquor but I've managed to give myself a Pavlovian response of feeling quite nauseous at the smell of flavored liquors such as vanilla vodka. Never eat Chinese food and then accompany it with an eighth of that stuff. I can't even enjoy vanilla coke anymore...let alone anything vanilla scented. I remember the time I decided I wanted to drink a vodka martini of every color in the rainbow in one night—let's just say that I became sick enough to never eat skittles again. Go figure that one out.

Ciao,
Mr. Poodles

Need some advice from Mr. Poodles? Submit your question/problem to misterpoodles@hotmail.com

Symbols of Racism

BY MARCY NEWMAN
Special to The Arbiter

Shortly before winter break I went to the Cultural Center in the SUB to grade some final papers. Two men walked in to the Center, neither of whom I had seen before. One of them asked if they would disturb me if they used the television. I looked up and noticed that the other man was wearing a jacket with one or two confederate flags on it. I found myself shocked and disturbed that someone wearing emblems of racial and religious terrorism could make himself comfortable in the one place at Boise State that is marked as an explicitly safe place for students of color.

The Cultural Center, which used to be known as the Multiethnic Cultural Center, is not only a place for students of color to feel safe and to form community, but it is also a place where dialogue about

issues of racism and oppression ideally should occur. Thus, I attempted to see whether or not the young man with a confederate flag on his jacket understood the implication of those emblems on his person. His oft-repeated reply was that he maintained pride in his home state of Georgia and that is why he donned those flags. The tone and tenor of his response made it clear that he was defensive likely because this was not the first time he had been questioned about it. Given that this exchange was not about to yield a discussion about what the confederate flag really means, I told him that he would disturb me if he stayed in the Center with his jacket on.

Of course, the Cultural Center is open to the entire Boise State community. The dominant culture is always welcome there, but it is a space that was created for ethnic and minority students,

thus those entering this space should be prepared to have their views challenged—especially if one chooses to wear a provocative and threatening emblem. White students who want to spend time in the Cultural Center will undoubtedly find their perspectives challenged just as ethnic students do every day in many classes and with many people they encounter outside of the Cultural Center.

But this episode is about belonging and not belonging on a much deeper level than that of who may comfortably enter the Cultural Center. Flags have always been used to both signal and symbolize—to insiders and outsiders alike—who is welcome and who is not. The particular confederate, or rebel flag, that this young man wore was initially a battle flag used by the South during the Civil War. Of course, there was an historical reason to carry flags on the battlefield;

flags helped the opposing side to know who was an ally and who was an enemy. But once the Civil War concluded in 1865, Georgia, chose to abandon the confederate flag. It was not until 1956 that the Georgia state Senate signed a confederate flag back into law as the state flag.

To be sure, it probably was not a coincidence that the Civil Rights Movement's then-recent strides in desegregating schools with Brown v. the Board of Education (1954) and desegregating public spaces with the Montgomery Improvement Association's successful bus boycott (1955-1956) occurred at the same time Georgia legislators pushed to reinstate the rebel flag. With signs that the challenge to the long-standing social and psychological segregation of African Americans was succeeding, this flag was a means of intimidating Black men and women in Georgia. Indeed,

when the Georgia state legislature finally accepted that this flag was a symbol of oppression for its African American citizens, it replaced the expressly discriminatory and oppressive confederate flag with one that would include and welcome all Georgians.

In 2001 when the Georgia state legislature adopted a new flag, its members spoke specifically about the oppression and racism that the confederate flag represents. The ideology of white, Christian supremacy woven into these flags has been used historically by groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, Aryan Nation, and Neo-Nazi organizations. It is flown when African Americans are lynched and it is waved when white supremacist Christian groups march in predominantly Jewish communities such as Skokie, Ill.

For many Americans of color, the confederate flag represents this history as well as its present

status. When someone wears such emblems it suggests that people of color are not welcome; moreover, depending upon where someone comes from and how well versed one is in history, that flag suggests that its bearer may be someone who participates in violence and intimidation. When someone wears such flags on their person which the state no longer recognizes it raises suspicions even more so. I do not think that the Cultural Center should be an exclusive place where only students of color are allowed. However, it should be a space in which people are respectful of these communities and their histories and as such do not bring in such emblems that would prove threatening to anyone in the Center.

Marcy Newman is a Boise State Assistant Professor of English

The new 'f-word'

BY ANNE KIM
The Seattle Times/NEXT

Man hater. Bra burner. Cold. Militant.

We've all heard them, these less than flattering stereotypes to describe feminists.

It's not surprising, then, that most young women today aren't eager to be labeled feminist and are, in fact, casting off the term entirely.

Magazine articles and books have cropped up, labeling feminism as the new "f-word" among Gen X and Gen Y women.

At the same time, however, studies continue to show that significant gender inequalities persist, including lower wages and fewer job promotions for women as compared with their male counterparts.

Big surprise. Yet, there's a connection here.

Unless young women look past

the stereotypes of feminism, re-define the term and take ownership of this political identity, the gender inequalities that loom in our future will continue. Women will continue to earn less than men and have fewer chances to climb the company ladder, for example.

We need to start calling ourselves the feminists that we already are.

Unfortunately, this isn't happening for many young women. An informal survey I took of several local young women I know showed that they simply don't see themselves as feminists, and don't think it matters.

When asked whether they call themselves feminists, almost all paused, thought for a minute, and finally concluded that they are not feminists. Many said because feminism requires political activism and because they're not out on the streets picketing for equal

wages or other causes, they must not be a feminist.

Yet, most of these women actually fit into their own broad definitions of feminism. For example, a friend of mine said feminism is a desire for gender equality. She desires this. I would be surprised to hear her or any other young woman say that she wants to be paid only 75 percent of men's wages or that her post-college plans include subservience to her husband, for example.

Indeed, according to local author Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner, the "third wave" of feminists today believe that feminism is a self-defined term — a feminist can be a stay-at-home mom, a career woman and anything in between.

Yet, students like my friend continue to deny their feminist ideologies.

Perhaps the refusal to identify themselves as feminists is, in part, a way to avoid political

activism. Or maybe many young women take for granted what our mothers and grandmothers have fought for. Perhaps many think there is no need for feminism anymore, that men and women have equal pay, recognition and opportunities today.

More than 70 percent of women who acknowledge that the country still needs a strong women's movement admitted that they have never joined or made a donation to a women's rights organization, according to a Center for Gender Equality study. They also have never contacted their local politicians regarding issues that affect women.

But this doesn't mean young women don't care about their communities. According to Rowe-Finkbeiner, author of "The F Word: Feminism in Jeopardy," young women commonly volunteer and engage in community service projects. Yet, she adds,

many simply are not being politically active in women's issues.

This is problematic. Without seeing oneself as a feminist, there's little motivation for political action in women's issues — by politicians or others.

Ultimately, placing feminist concerns on the back burner only ignores the problems we as young women face.

Gender inequalities, for example, are still stark and quite depressing. The gender wage gap widened between 2002 and 2003, according to the Institute for Women's Policy Research. For every dollar a man earns, a woman earns only 75.5 cents.

The glass ceiling also remains. Women constitute only 35 percent of officials and managers in private industry, according to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Participation of young women in the sciences and engineering

is still uneven. In fact, women make up just 28 percent of computer science bachelor's degrees awarded in the U.S., according to the American Association of University Women. This number has dropped since 1984.

Even at the University of Washington, women engineering students I know often complain about being the only female in their group projects and study groups.

Unless young women start thinking critically about what feminism means to us, why we choose to call ourselves feminist or not, and what this means for our futures and the futures of our daughters, these inequalities will continue to block our way.

Anne Kim is a writer for NEXT, a Sunday opinion page in The Seattle Times, and a senior at the University of Washington majoring in English literature. E-mail: NEXT@seattletimes.com

The Arbiter

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sports

[SIDE-LINE]

Hessing out for season, possibly career

Women's basketball center Michelle Hessing's season is over, and according to head coach Jen Warden, possibly her career. A screw in her foot holding a previous stress fracture together broke, and there is a sign of a new stress fracture together. The Capital High product had originally injured herself during her sophomore season in high school. A member of last season's WAC All-Freshman team, she was averaging 9.4 points and 5.6 rebounds per game in ten games this season.

Volleyball coach heads to Monroe

Boise State volleyball recruiting coordinator Mark Pryor has been named head coach at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Pryor recently completed his second season as an assistant coach for the Broncos and the recruiting coordinator. Before coming to BSU, Pryor was the head coach at Southwest Baptist University for two seasons.

Football player and Red Cross team up

The Boise State football team is teaming up with the American Red Cross in a blood drive in the SUB's Jordan Ballroom tomorrow. The Red Cross is asking for the support of the Boise State students, staff, faculty and fans to participate in a blood drive on the Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Please call the Red Cross in advance to schedule a donor appointment for this drive at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or locally at 429-5808, ask for Kristy.

this week in SPORTS

Women's basketball

Tonight vs. Fresno State 7 p.m.
Sat. vs. Nevada 2 p.m.

Indoor track and field

Sat. Jackson's Track in Nampa
Dominos Pizza Community Invite

Men's tennis

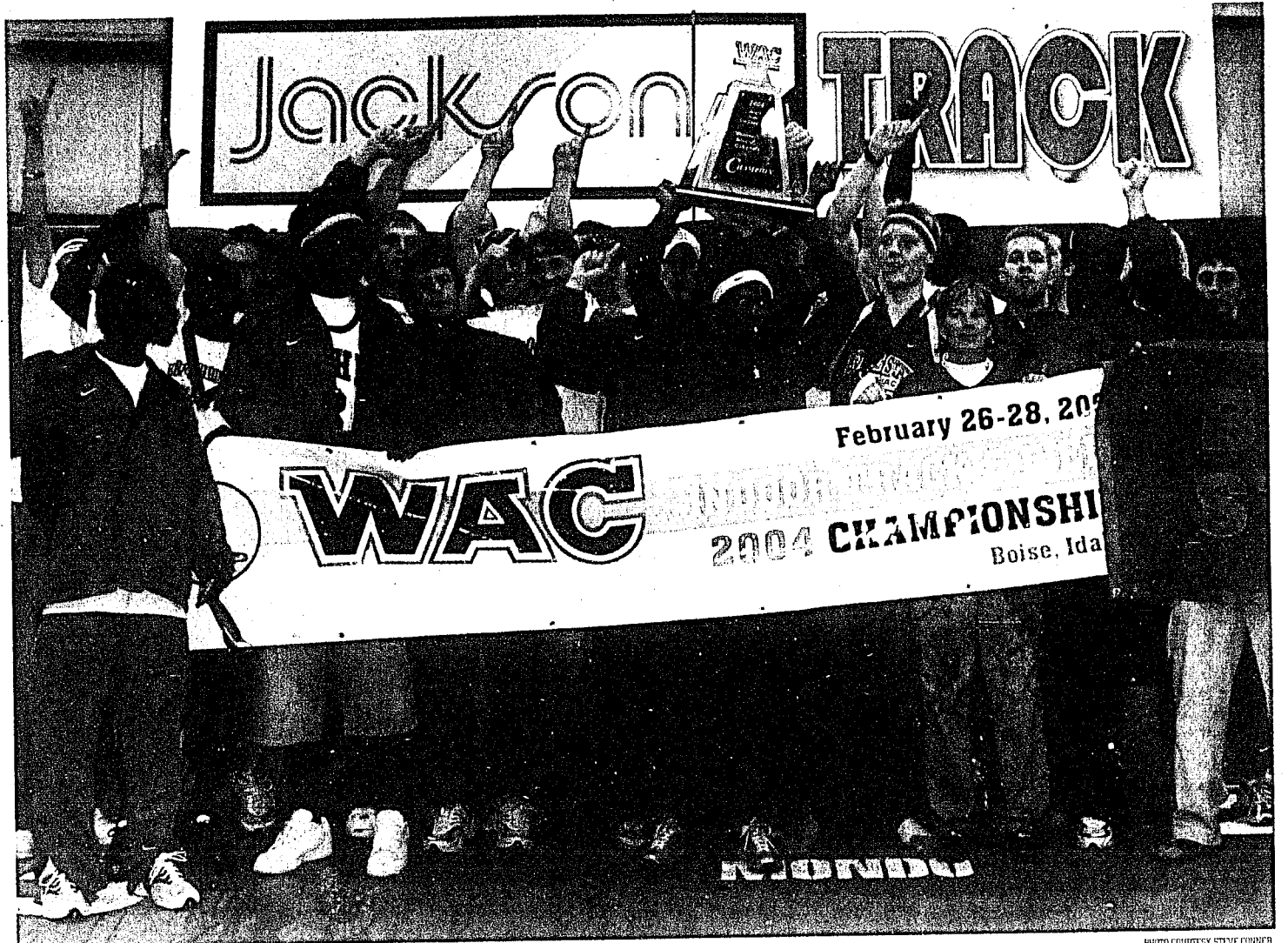
*Mon. vs. Utah Valley State 10 a.m.
*Mon. vs. Idaho 5 p.m.
*@ Boas Indoor Facility

Men's basketball

Tonight @ Fresno State 7 p.m. [PT]
Sat. @ Nevada 7 p.m. [PT]

Wrestling

Tomorrow @ Oregon 7 p.m. [PT]



The Boise State men's indoor track and field team (above) celebrates last season's conference championship. The men and women's team open their season Saturday.

Indoor track and field begin season

Men's team look to defend WAC title

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

Nestled quietly away in Nampa at Jackson's Track at the Idaho Center is the defending Western Athletic Conference indoor track and field men's championship team getting ready to stake claim at a second run at it.

The Boise State men and women's indoor track and field teams host the Dominos Pizza Community Open Saturday afternoon.

"This is really kinda just an opener for us," BSU head coach Mike Maynard said.

No other full team will be in competition on Saturday, but there will be athletes from Utah Valley State, Eastern Washington and a hand-

ful from NNU and Treasure Valley Community College.

The Boise State men's team finished last season as WAC champions and ranked 15th in the nation. Coming back this season are a number of top performers from last year's squad. Junior long distance runner, and returning WAC champion in the mile Forest Braden returns as the top runner for the men's team. Senior Robin Wemple will anchor the women's long distance squad this season.

Maynard specializes in coaching the weight throwers on the team, and does show great compassion for the athletes. They may be the best in the conference.

Mattis Jons and Colin Post will both look to battle for the WAC title. Jons finished second last season in the conference and has had a great fall

practice.

Sprinter Antoine Echols was second only to former Bronco Ray Ardill in the 200-meter at WAC championships last year, and has shown signs of being a possible national qualifier in the race.

As great as the men's team is, it may be the women's team that may be the most fun to watch early on this season.

Sophomore Miruna Mataoanu is one of the best young female athletes in the conference, and competed at the national level last season as a freshman. Neely Falgout and Sophie Lundstrom are both multi-event competitors. Lundstrom last season was just thrown in to the pentathlon and finished sixth in the conference.

Jackiann Morain will compete in both the 200 and 400 this season.

However, the most excited Maynard got when talking about his team, is the five possible athletes that he may have for later on this season. He said that there are three freshman and two junior college transfers that the Broncos have that should be eligible to compete for this season that they were recruiting last season.

"They will literally reconfigure our point potential at [the] WAC [tournament] and if we're blessed and everything goes through for these athletes, we maybe better than we were last year," Maynard said. The Broncos are also fortunate enough to not have to travel at all this season as a team. They will host every meet that they compete in, including the WAC Championships in the end of February.

Lady Broncos set for homestand

BY AMBER FUGER
Sports Writer

The Boise State women's basketball team looks to wipe the slate clean and give the Fresno State Bulldogs and the Nevada Wolfpack a fight at home tonight and Saturday afternoon. Boise State (5-7, 0-3 Western Athletic Conference) hosts the Bulldogs tonight at 7 p.m. and the Wolfpack Saturday at 2 p.m., both games to be held in the Taco Bell Arena.

The Broncos played five of their last six games on the road, and on Monday afternoon at the BAA luncheon, head coach Jen Warden looked more than pleased to be back home. Boise State lost to Rice on Saturday night 75-48 and are now without center Michelle Hessing for the season.

Fresno State is ranked fourth in the WAC with an even 2-2 record.

Their overall season record is 10-3. The Bulldogs are ranked 19th in the nation rebound margins, averaging 43.8 per game.

The Bulldogs recently lost a conference game to the three-time conference champions La Tech 80-70. Junior forward Amy Parrish posted a double-double with 12 points and 11 rebounds. Sophomore guard Chantella Perera tallied 12 points and sophomore forward Aritta Lane put up 10 points.

Nevada is sitting in the ninth spot in the conference standings (1-3) just ahead of Boise State (0-3). The Wolfpack have surpassed their 2003-04 wins by two with a 5-9 record on the 2004-05 season.

Their only conference win was a match up against Southern Methodist (second in the WAC, 3-1). The Wolfpack defeated SMU 63-62. Senior Talisha Anderson

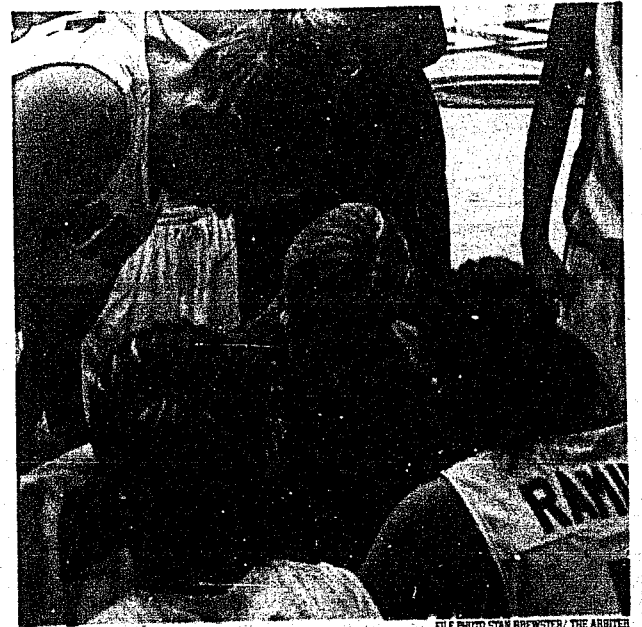
was just short of her second 20-point game with 18 on the night. Anderson was nominated for the WAC athlete of the week after her performance in the win over SMU. Senior April Bankston tallied a season high 15 points and led the Wolfpack in rebounds with seven. Senior Amber Young tallied 10 points and six assists.

The Bulldogs and the Wolfpack will have to contemplate ways to stop the dual perimeter scoring threat of Boise State senior Cassidy Blaine and freshman Tasha Harris. Blaine is ranked sixth in the nation in three-point percentages with 52.4 and a total of 22 on the season. Blaine is the highest nationally ranked player from the WAC and is ranked second in the conference for three-point shots.

Harris is ranked third in the WAC three-point percentages

with 48.6 and was nominated for the WAC athlete of the week for the week of Jan. 3. As a team the Broncos are ranked 17th nationally in three-pointers made per game averaging 7.0. Harris and Blaine lead Boise State in that category, but the team ranking is all a collaborative effort.

Senior Jodi Nakashima has 30.2 three-point shot percentage and has totaled 17 this season. Senior Cariann Ramirez has a 34.8 percentage and has 10 three-point shots on the season. Senior Christie Paiz has a 15.4 three-point percentage. Junior Benita Buggs and sophomore Nadia Begay are both shooting 40 percent from the perimeter. Freshman Jackie Lee rounds up the perimeter shooting squad with a 16.7 three-point shooting percentage.



The Broncos host Fresno State tonight at 7 p.m. and Nevada on Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Taco Bell Arena.

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Broncos prepare for conference road trip

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

The Boise State men's basketball team will play in their first conference road game tonight against Fresno State at the Save Mart Center in Fresno, Calif. at 7 p.m. (PT). On Saturday the Broncos will have to battle another talented team in Nevada.

After a sub par seven game home stand that produced only a 3-4 record, the Broncos are 1-2 in Western Athletic Conference play.

"We need to get better defensively," BSU head coach Greg Graham said.

The Broncos are without the two main components that any team needs at any part of the season, especially in conference play—leadership and inside presence. Both are lost because of a hernia operation to center Jason Ellis two weeks ago. Ellis was leading the team with 8.3 rebounds and added 11.3 points per game. His average is lower than that because Ellis played one minute at the beginning of the game versus Elon on Dec. 21, but has not played since.

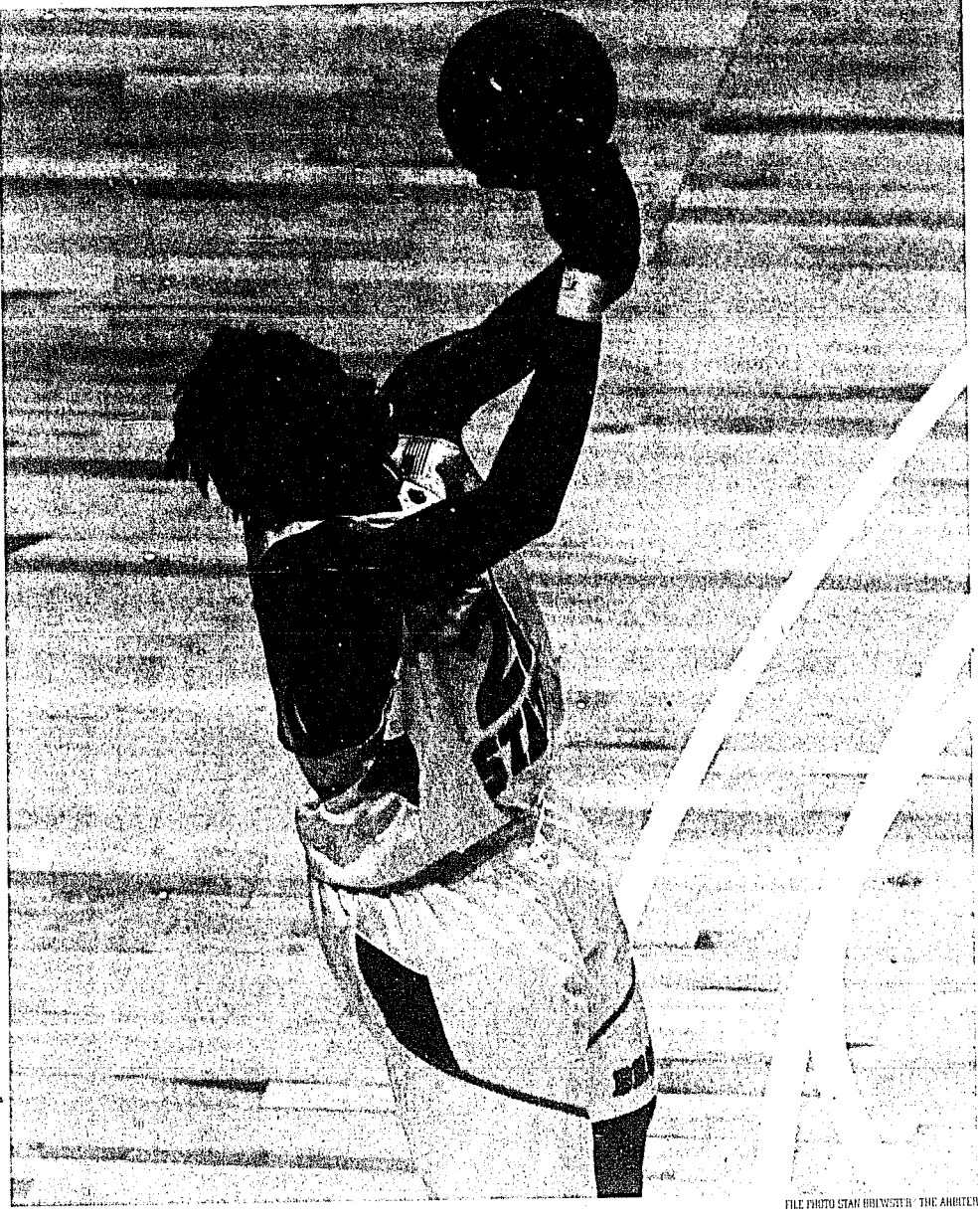
Seth Robinson and Tez Banks have filled in nicely for Ellis down low, but neither had any Division-I experience going into the season, unlike Ellis who is in his fourth full season with the Broncos.

Robinson is averaging 8.2 points and 4.3 boards per game since Ellis went down. Banks has added five points and 4.2 boards, but those numbers barely amount to the number Ellis puts up himself on a nightly basis. Freshman Andrew Green has also been given a bigger role down low. Saturday Green was matched up against WAC Player of the Year candidate Michael Harris for most of his 22 minutes.

Jermaine Blackburn leads the Broncos in scoring this season with 15.6 points per game, which is good for 10th in the conference.

This weekend will be a tough hill to climb for the Broncos. Nevada (11-3, 4-0 WAC) and Fresno State (9-4, 3-1 WAC) are two of the best teams in the conference, and both have great players in the post.

"Two very good teams," Graham said. "...They both have road wins and are undefeated at home in the conference and playing very well right now."



Jermaine Blackburn (above) and the Broncos play in Fresno tonight for their first conference road game.

The Bulldogs are coming off a win at La Tech on Saturday. Senior forward Dreike Bouldin recorded career-high 23 rebounds and added 10 points while Donovan Morris scored 16 points. Center Mustafa Al-Sayyad is averaging 12.2 points and 7.8 rebounds per game. Their leading scorer Ja Vance Coleman is averaging 18.0 points per game.

Tonight will be the 14th meeting between Boise State and Fresno State. The Bulldogs hold a 9-4 advantage, but it was the Broncos who won both games at the Save Mart Center last season, including one in the opening round of the WAC tournament.

There is a little more history to the Nevada series. This will be the 45th meeting between the two schools. The Wolfpack hold a 27-7 advantage.

Nevada is the top ranked team in the WAC and is led by current player of the week Nick Fazekas. The sophomore averaged 20.5 points and 12.8 boards in the two road victories over SMU and La Tech. Fazekas is leading the WAC in scoring and is third in the conference with 8.3 rebounds per game.

Kevin Pinkney is also contributing 12.8 points and 7.8 rebounds per game for Nevada, who will play UTEP tonight for a battle of conference undefeated teams.

"Nevada has really stepped into the forefront in the conference as a team to recon with. They're playing very well defensively," Graham said.

The Broncos will return home next weekend for a Thursday night game on Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. versus San Jose State, and then a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. versus Hawaii before going on a season-long four-game road trip.

Young Bronco is 'Green'

[PLAYER PROFILE]

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

Leave it to the guy that looks like Charles Barkley to make a Barkley comment.

Following the Broncos loss to

Rice last Saturday, freshman forward Andrew Green said that there was no excuse for the way they got beat, they "just got beat."

Very strong words for a true freshman to make, especially one who played a total of 10 minutes in the first nine games of the season for the Broncos.

Now Green looks as if he may get his chance to show fans why the Broncos recruited him last season, and why he's the lone true freshman playing this season.

"He can play. I know he's just a freshman, but he can play," fellow newcomer and Southern California native junior forward Tez Banks said.

The six foot, six inch, 267-pound Perris, Calif. native played 22 minutes in the loss to Rice, scoring five points and pulled in four rebounds, but it was the time playing against the conference preseason player of the year, and the comments made by BSU head coach Greg Graham.

"I think people got a feel for why we recruited Andrew," Graham said. "He should be just like (Rice

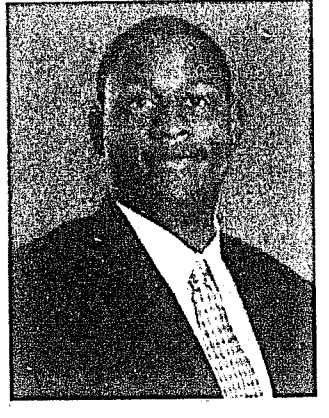
forward) Michael Harris when he gets older. He's the same size and strength. He may even be stronger, I mean he's a pretty big load in the paint."

This is great confidence for a guy that has just begun to get minutes because of an injury to four-year starter Jason Ellis and a career-ending injury to forward Kenny Gainious. But sometimes it's that hard luck on one player that gives another his chance.

"He's just inexperienced right now and nervous and needs to grow and play and this has definitely helped him for the future as a player and will eventually pay dividends for us," Graham said.

Green averaged 21.6 points and 17.8 rebounds as a senior at Perris High School last season, and noted that the time on the bench was hard, but he knew that his time would come—just not this fast.

"It's what I wanted, but it all happened so fast. I wasn't ready for it, but in the same I'm happy that it happened the way it did because I always thought I could help in some way," Green said.



Point guard Eric Lane played with Green on a traveling summer team with Green back in California, and was also a true freshman got playing time last season. He knows first hand how the big fella is feeling and just adds in his advice.

"I'm really happy for him. I know he wasn't getting the minutes that he wanted coming in. Unfortunately Jason [Ellis] got hurt and was a force as he is, he's stepped into that spot and stepped up his play," Lane said. "I just tell him to keep his confidence."

Green will get his first test of a conference road trip this weekend, starting tonight in Fresno versus the Bulldogs. He will have to show his muscle as Fresno State, and Saturday night opponent Nevada have two of the best post players in the WAC.

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Cassidy Blaine (above) is averaging 10.2 points per game and shooting 48 percent from behind the three-point line this season.

Cassidy Blaine puts Bronco confidence in the limelight

[PLAYER PROFILE]

BY JE T'RIME DAVIS
Sports Writer

Cassidy Blaine continues to lead the women's basketball program with her nationally ranked three-point shooting. The junior forward, who red shirted her first year with Boise State, retains a 6th place ranking, the top WAC player to be nationally ranked. She is averaging 10.2 points per game this season and is also ranked 8th in the WAC in assists, with 3.5 per game. This doesn't surprise head coach Jen Warden.

"We have really good three point shooters. Every one of our guards can hit from the three, and three of our five forwards can hit from the three. Cass has a great shot and a nice release... and the confidence to take the shot," Warden said.

Her 48 percent shooting from

long range is by far the best in the conference, and the Boise High graduate is second in the WAC in three-pointers made.

Blaine credits the way the team has worked throughout the summer as well as the confidence she has as the opportunity for her recent accomplishments. Always a team player, she stresses that she does not create her shots behind the arc. The system is really good at penetrating and allowing these shots. Blaine is also quick to recognize that the team as a whole brings in tremendous effort, taking extra time watching film and extra time on the court for shooting.

This, however, is not Blaine's only contribution to the team. With great support and knowledge base gained through her father, she loves to share that knowledge and passion with the underclassmen on the team.

"BSU has a system that makes me take on a certain role. The expectation is there for us to build character and leadership skills.

When there are others to rely on you, it helps to push you to the fullest because it doesn't allow for slacking," Blaine said.

Warden gives Blaine more credit than that.

"The team looks to her as a leader in a real positive way. She looks out for them, helping them to meet staff expectations. Players are accountable to her in the way that a player would be accountable to a head coach. She keeps them from dwelling on the down and outs because she doesn't accept mediocrity," Warden said.

With goals of keeping a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above and wanting to play overseas, this low tolerance of mediocrity is easily seen. Blaine makes realistic goals for herself and strives for the best. She simply wants to improve every year and be the best that she can be.

Warden sums it up well. "Blaine has found her niche. She is comfortable in her position, and it fits her. Leaders can't help but to lead."

Broncos back in action in dual matches

BY JEREMY ANSMUSSEN
Sports Writer

Boise State's wrestling team, currently 3-4 in dual matches this season, continues its Pacific 10 Conference schedule Friday in Eugene with the Oregon Ducks. Last year, the Broncos picked up their first shutout in school history with a 42-0 victory over the Ducks on their home mat.

Three of the Broncos' four losses on the season came to three of top four ranked teams in the nation. The season started in a tri-match with Tennessee-Chattanooga and the three-time defending national champion Oklahoma State Cowboys. Chattanooga topped the Broncos 28-17, and the Cowboys overpowered them 39-0. The other two losses came to third ranked Iowa State (32-10) and most recently at home against fourth ranked Nebraska (25-16). Since the loss to Nebraska the

Broncos ended December with trips to Reno, NV, and Evanston, IL, for tournament competition.

BSU's young standout this year in the tournaments has been true freshman Andrew Hochstrasser in the 125-pound weight class. Hochstrasser saw his first action in the Cliff Keen Las Vegas Invitational in early December taking over for Clint Wofley, who started all five dual matches to start the season. Hochstrasser was one of three Broncos earning a fourth place finish in the tournament to help guide the Broncos to place eighth as a team. He then took home a first place finish along with 133-pounder Scott Jorgensen in the Reno Tournament of Champions as the Broncos finished ninth as a team. Hochstrasser is 14-4 this season, two of the losses coming from forfeits at the Midlands Championships when he failed to make weight the second day.

The Broncos' young team consists of 13 freshmen and only two seniors. Last year the young squad finished with eight wins in a row going into the PAC-10 Championships before winning the PAC-10 title as a team and sending five qualifiers to the National Tournament. Four of those five qualifiers are back this season including defending individual conference champions Jorgensen and heavyweight Jacob McGinnis.

The match-up with Oregon on Friday night looks to be more evenly matched than last year with the shellacking BSU put on the Ducks. Oregon is coming off two wins at home this past weekend as they welcome the Broncos to Eugene. At the Reno tourney earlier in the year the Ducks finished fourth as a team, five spots ahead of BSU.

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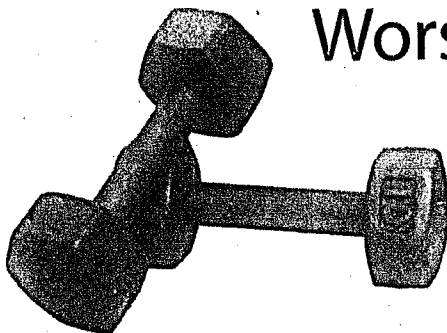


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8 THE ARBITER JAN 13 2005

Where's the action?

happens in the next seven days...

TODAY (1/13)

5-7 p.m. in the Student Union Building Coffee House Concert Series featuring Clayton Bellamy. Brash and gutsy, this singer-songwriter's words and music are a unique blend of 70's classic rock and today's storytelling roots rock.

8 p.m. at The Big Easy

Quest for the Best Band. Over 100 bands entered. Of those, 21 were chosen by a panel of judges and they will compete for the title as the best in the northwest.

FRIDAY (1/14)

12-4 p.m. in the Student Union Cataldo Room "Vagina Monologues" auditions. To sign up for an audition, contact the Women's Center at (208) 426-4259.

8 p.m. at The Big Easy

Quest for the Best Band. Over 100 bands entered. Of those, 21 were chosen by a panel of judges and they will compete for the title as the best in the northwest.

10 p.m. in the Student Union Building Late Night Flick: "Friday Night Lights."

12-2 p.m. in the Student Union Building Up All Night in the SUB featuring karaoke, casino games, dance lessons, Games Center specials and more.

SATURDAY (1/15)

10 AM - 3:15 p.m. in the Student Union Cataldo Room "Vagina Monologues" auditions. To sign up for an audition, contact the Women's Center at (208) 426-4259.

9 p.m. at The Big Easy

Midline in concert.

SUNDAY (1/16)

10 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. in the Student Union Cataldo Room "Vagina Monologues" auditions. To sign up for an audition, contact the Women's Center at (208) 426-4259.

MONDAY (1/17)

7 p.m. at the Bank of America Centre "Smucker's Stars On Ice." America's most prestigious figure skating production returns with an electrifying blend of star power, diverse artistry and superb performances that have become its hallmark since 1986.

7 p.m. at the Funny Bone Comedy Club, 8th Street Marketplace I Have A Dream Poetry Slam Contest - "Slam for Justice." Students and community poets will compete for cash prizes on the theme of social justice and human rights.

TUESDAY (1/18)

8 p.m. at the Blues Bouquet Fishbone in concert.

WEDNESDAY (1/19)

7:30 p.m. in the Morrison Center Main Hall Michael Flatley's "Lord of the Dance." This international sensation is a classic Irish tale of good vs. evil, as well as a love story expressed through dance.

Scientific studies: Getting old is cool if you have gas

BY TRAVIS ESTVOLD
Culture Columnist

Over the break, I collected some random scientific data to study the effects of aging on Americans. Basically, my research consisted of going to bars and staring at people.

In all honesty, it started out less as a science and more as a drunken stupor, but turned happily into the findings I will now divulge.

Old people really have it made. They can do what they want. They can say anything. They can wear whatever is most comfortable, and they can dance however they please. Why can't today's youth take some note from their elders? Forget all the peer pressure crap; do what you want to do.

I was watching my friend's band play in a bar in Ashland, Oregon, and the only person with spine enough to get up and dance was an aging hippie-lady. Her clothes were baggy and looked sort of homemade, plus she had pronounced wrinkles about her face. But dang, she looked happy as she wiggled and wobbled all over the floor.

Visiting my grandparents in Washington over the break, I must have heard my grandfather fart at least five times without ever acknowledging that he did it. I'm not sure if he knew, or even cared, but bravo to him!

Isawa public service announcement on Nickelodeon the other day. Yes, I watch Nickelodeon. "Sponge Bob" doesn't show on

any other channel.

The segment was entitled "Everyone Farts." It was amazing! I don't know if there is a growing anti-flatulence movement in this country, but if there is, Nick's PSA should help dispel it.

It basically was a two-minute promo on the inner-workings of the intestines, and how what we eat translates into how our farts smell. Also, it pointed out that regardless of what humans eat, they still fart at least five times per day.

I know farting is just a side note, but it helps illustrate my point. Old people do things we all want to do but don't have the courage.

One thing I'm still struggling to discover is why the elderly insist on driving so slowly. My best guess is because, now, in this time of their lives, they finally can. As long as they make it to the super-saver dinner buffet by 3 p.m., where else do they have to be?

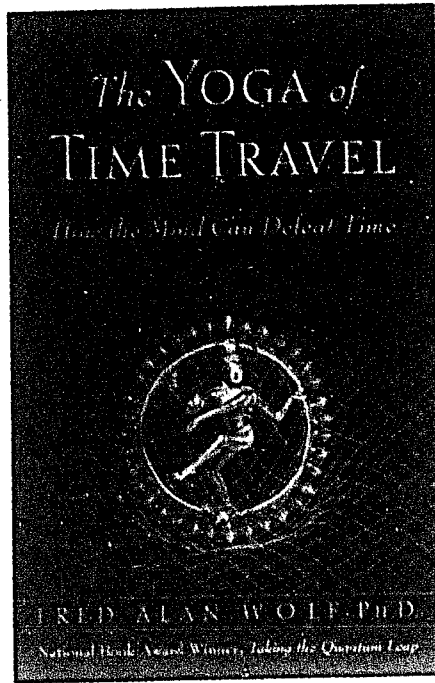
At this point, I must reiterate that this commentary is written in tribute to old people. If you are old, please do not take offense.

So, anyway, I'm tired of thinking that getting old will be a bad thing. A friend told me several weeks back that she couldn't believe I was now a quarter-century old. Well, that's a pretty poor way to look at being 25 years old.

I'd like to think of it more as being fully qualified now to rent a car. Give me a few more years, and I'll be fully qualified to dance however I please, and fart without earshot of everyone I know.

Author coming through a time portal near you

BY JOSEF FIRNAGE
Culture Writer



Dr. Fred Alan Wolf, author of eleven books including his latest, "The Yoga of Time Travel," will be speaking in Boise at two different locations on Tuesday, Jan. 18th.

The first event will take place at The Book and Game Company (906 W. Main St.) from 2 to 3:30 p.m. and will include a book signing.

The second event will be a lecture at the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (6200 Garrett St., Garden City) from 7 to 9 p.m.

Dr. Wolf may be recognized by those who saw the recent film, "What the Bleep Do We Know?," but he is hardly new to his field. He is a former physics professor at San Diego University. In 1982, his book, "Taking the Quantum Leap," won the National Book Award.

So why is this professor talking about time travel? Isn't time travel something only seen in movies like "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure?"

Wolf has been on a journey that has

taken him to universities from Paris to Jerusalem. He has trekked through the jungles of Peru and over the deserts of Mexico. He has consulted with some of the world's great minds, like Nobel Laureate Richard Feynman and physicist David Bohm. He walked hot coals with Werner Heisenberg, winner of the 1932 Nobel Prize for physics.

Like all great minds, Wolf doesn't shun challenges or ideas. Time travel is his latest hobby.

But, it is not his idea alone, nor has the thought of time travel ever been completely abandoned by other scholars. Dating back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, some of our most brilliant thinkers have made contributions to today's theory of time travel.

William Faulkner, Marcus Duchamp, Virginia Woolf, and Albert Einstein have all played significant roles in guiding Dr. Wolf's work today.

If you go see Dr. Wolf this Tuesday you may learn something, something invaluable... like how to get two afternoons for the price of one.

'White Noise' definitely not worth sitting through

BY JOE FRANKLIN
Culture Writer

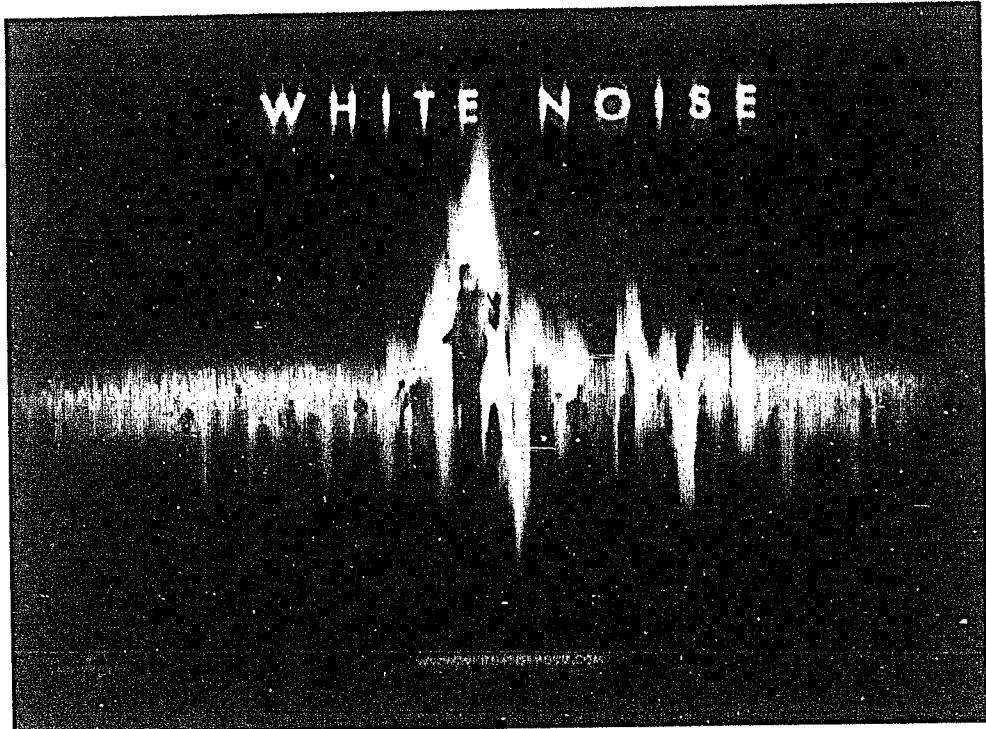
"White Noise" is, roughly, about dead people coming into contact with their living loved ones via home appliances (i.e. television, radio, phone, clock, etc.).

So, let's just call it a fantasy piece from the start. In the first 40 minutes, I was left mostly with questions. How does the fat guy know who these people are from their barely perceptible static communications? Why did Mr. Rivers' ex-wife need to be such a prominent character when his son hardly speaks?

The only semi-clever thing about the movie would be that Mr. Rivers' wife's name is Rivers. She has a very anti-climactic death by actually drowning in a river. Isn't staged irony exciting? While she is still alive, I have no reason to care about her in the least. A successful, beautiful, happy millionaire? Oh, so sad, she dies.

Cut to 45 minutes into the movie. Being as how I am now not giving a damn at all about this bore of a presentation which doesn't even give tangible characters to relate to, besides the catch-all for movie emotion (the split family), I decided to leave.

I left with only the flimsy premise that dead people can be seen on



television. I guess they have movie cameras in heaven, now. The filmmakers proposed an answer to that whole after-life debate thing.

I left with a dilemma. Am I now worthy of discussing a partially viewed movie?

If the movie suddenly decides to stop sucking at the hour mark, per-

haps, does that mean I only have to pay for the good parts of a movie? No.

I suppose that if you must view the movie, pay the discounted price of renting, on the off chance that it picks up before the ending credits.

Rated PG-13, "White Noise" stars Michael Keaton, Chandra West and Deborah Kara Unger. Check local listings for show times.

The real life of Steve Zissou: no underwater hijinks for this New York lawyer

BY ROBERT K. ELDER
Chicago Tribune

In the end credits of Wes Anderson's "The Life Aquatic With Steve Zissou," there's an acknowledgement that Steve Zissou (played by Bill Murray) is a real person.

No, it's not a joke. Though writer/director Anderson ("The Royal Tenenbaums," "Rushmore") made the name up, the script clearance department at Buena Vista Pictures found a real Steve Zissou. This Zissou is a federal criminal trial lawyer based in Bay Side, N.Y., not a burned-out underwater explorer.

"When I found out it was part of the title, I was a little annoyed. It's a unique name, and I really didn't want to share it," says Zissou, 49, but he observes he had few legal

options because Anderson's film wasn't directly about him.

"They could have made a movie about a New York lawyer who was an anti-Semitic terrorist pedophile, and I still couldn't do anything about it," Zissou says. "If it's about the real Steve Zissou, then maybe you have a shot, but then you have to prove damages."

Perhaps to be on the safe side, the movie studio negotiated with Zissou over use of his distinctive name. He declines to answer questions about the agreement's confidential terms except to say he is acknowledged as a New York attorney in the film credits.

T. Ernest Freeman, a Houston-based entertainment attorney, says obtaining permissions "really gets down to due diligence."

"The question is, if it's a private citizen, would the person whose

name is being used be readily identifiable? It's a subjective test applied to the movie," Freeman says.

Case in point: Eleven years after Richard Linklater's cult hit "Dazed and Confused" opened in theaters, a trio of Texans (Andy Slater, Bobby Wooderson, Richard "Pink" Floyd) is suing the filmmaker and Universal Studios Inc. for "defamation" and "negligent infliction of emotional distress." The suit claims that Linklater did not obtain permission to use the names of former high school acquaintances in his film.

Freeman, who is representing the plaintiffs in that litigation, says in the case of Steve Zissou, New York attorney, the studio's legal department was probably playing it safe by crossing the t's and dotting the i's, he says. "Any

diligent studio would make sure there wouldn't be a problem."

Zissou's stepmother, Mary Zissou of Lakeside, Calif., was married to Stavros "Steve" Zissou for nearly 35 years before his death in 2000. When she first saw the movie trailer and the title of the film, "I thought I was losing my mind completely," she says. "I thought it was the most not-possible thing that would ever happen."

She says she didn't know her stepson was listed in the film credits.

"Well that little rascal, he never told me," she says.

Despite his original discomfort at the thought of his unique name being used in a movie, "it's been, to my surprise, a lot of fun," Zissou says. "And I think Bill Murray is America's greatest living actor."

Shivaree's vocals are hauntingly enchanted

BY JOSEF FIRMAGE
Culture Writer

Ever heard of Shivaree? Well, if you have then shut up; the rest of us haven't. And the rest of us deserve to know who Shivaree is.

Shivaree is Ambrosia Parsley (vocals), Duke McVinnie (guitars), and Danny McGough (keyboards).

Parsley was raised in Los Angeles and had the great fortune of coming from a musical family. "Spin" reports that by age 7, Parsley had landed a gig at a local Shakey's Pizza, fronting a ninety-nine-piece senior citizen banjo band.

The 28-year-old Parsley is as beautiful as she is gifted, but looks only get a girl so far. It matters not because Ambrosia Parsley is the real thing.

Ever heard of Quentin Tarantino? Shivaree's song, "Goodnight Moon," was featured on the soundtrack of "Kill Bill: Vol. 2." Enough said.

Parsley's voice can be sultry,

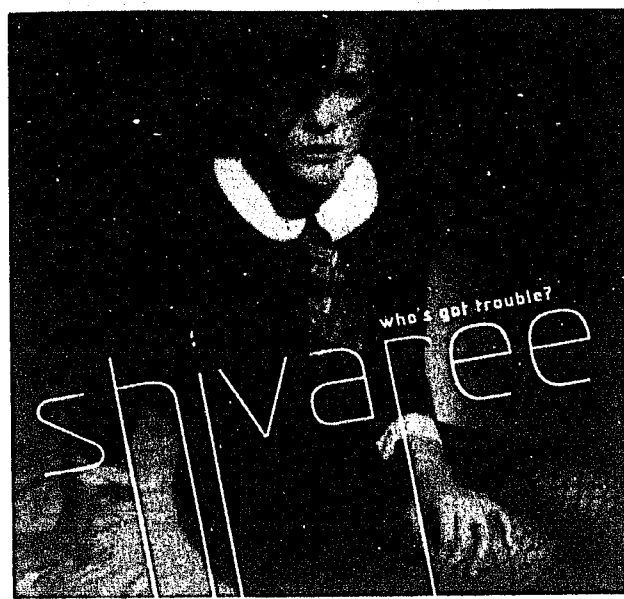
pouty, jazzy, bluesy, and even at times poppy. When I listen to Parsley, I hear shades of Norah Jones, Gwen Stefani, and Bjork. But more importantly, I've come to realize that I actually hear Parsley and only Parsley.

Shivaree's newest album, "Who's Got Trouble," hit stores on Tuesday. It contains eleven tracks, each worthy of note. The lyrics maintain a highly visual, storytelling quality.

The sixth track on the album, "Mexican Boyfriend," is a song that straddles the fine line between love and obsession. "I wore the dress that you liked almost every day/I wrote your name on the wall next to my bed/Any day that I saw you to my bed circled in red."

The sweetness of Parsley's voice can't be stressed enough. Her voice is so haunting and enchanting, that all I want to do is wash her dress and buy her a new calendar, so she can keep obsessing, over me. Yeah, me.

On track four, "Lost in a Dream,"



New York's Sex Mob joins the band for a jazzy piece, complete with upright bass and sultry vocals.

Shivaree is meant for girls, boys, men, and women. Shivaree is meant for soundtracks to hip

movies. Shivaree is for poets and jazz cats. Shivaree should be played in rooms where people kiss. But most importantly, Shivaree should be heard by you.

Ringtones creating new market

BY DANIEL RUBIN
Knight Ridder Newspapers

PHILADELPHIA - When Itai Adi's friend Maria is calling, his cell phone lets him know by playing the Black Eyed Peas' "Let's Get It Started."

Calls from other friends of the high school senior might prompt "Toxic" by Britney Spears, G Unit's "Stunt 101," or Usher's "My Boo" to ring, depending on his mood.

And when his family is on the line?

"I try to find an annoying ring for them," says Adi, 17, who by latest count had downloaded 30 songs to ring on his cell phone, paying as much as \$1.49 a shot. "It could either be a song I don't like, or, since you can also download noises, it could be a bird that squawks really loud."

It's all sweet music to the ears of the downtown record industry. Since catching on late last year, ringtones have exploded in popularity, producing an estimated \$375 million in U.S. revenue this year, according to IDC, an information technology firm. The year before: only \$18 million. Worldwide sales are far bigger, particularly in Asia and Europe.

Billboard magazine, known for charting most popular songs, introduced a ringtones category in November - one that, not surprisingly, echoes the most popular singles.

So who's calling now?

"We've gotten away from 'Mission: Impossible' and the 'Pink Panther' theme," says Adrian McAloon, executive director of content for Ztango, a U.S. wireless-services provider.

Snoop Dogg and Pharrell with "Drop It Like It's Hot" top the Jan. 1 Billboard ringtone charts, followed by Usher's "My Boo." Third place: Ciara with Missy Elliott on "1,2 Step."

The Billboard Music Awards last month picked its first Ringtone of the Year Award. It was rapper 50 Cent for "In Da Club."

Meanwhile, ringtones are becoming their own art form. BlingTones has signed hip-hop artists and producers such as Q-Tip, Rockwilder, Denaun Porter, Salaam Remi and Hi-Tek to create original 30-second "pieces" available only through its service. It calls itself the world's first wireless record label.

A personalized ring "is an identity statement," says Lewis Ward, an analyst with IDC. Many phones allow users to associate different songs with different callers. "It says something about you to yourself and to your peers."

For those who think ringtones are like, so last year, how about ringbacks? They're more like next year.

Ringbacks are songs or noises other people will hear when they call you, while they're waiting for

you to answer your phone. Instead of rrrring, rrrring, rrrring, they could be hearing barnyard noises, Beastie Boys tunes or Beethoven. The owner of the phone gets to decide what callers will hear.

Ringbacks are so popular in India - where big sellers are Bollywood tunes and celebrities' voices - that within a half-year of their July introduction, more than one in 10 mobile-phone users had them.

In December, T-Mobile launched the first U.S. ringback service. Verizon Wireless is test-marketing them in some western U.S. markets for \$1 a month, plus \$1.99 for each ringback song used. Sprint is expected to launch its service early next year.

There is a rush to roll out better-sounding songs and crisper cell phone speakers - and for good reason. One industry analyst, Ovum, estimates that by 2008 cell phone ringtones, ringbacks and songs could account for 28 percent of all music sales, including CDs and legitimate downloads. Companies see great opportunity in allowing people to shop for, buy, save and play songs on cell phones.

"We are seeing the development of a new channel for the delivery of digital music on wireless devices," said Ward of IDC.

In the United States, most fans of ringtones are under age 25. They pay between \$1 and \$3 for a

sample of a favorite song - generally the better it sounds, the more it costs.

In this country, most shop for ringtones by phone, downloading them from their carriers. Elsewhere, phone customers are more likely to go to third-party Web sites for their rings.

The fastest-growing part of the trend - and the one the music biz puts most hope in - are called Master Tones or Real Music ringtones, which have mp3 clarity.

Unlike the cheaper ringtones - think Mozart's 40th played with one finger - these are digital samples of the song, vocals and all. The industry likes the master tracks because they can sell for \$3, three times as much as an entire downloaded song on music Web sites. And the artist gets royalties.

"If you have that hip, Snoop Dogg audio clip when you pick up the phone, you're going to be that much cooler - at least, that is the hope," Ward said.

They can also make for family party games. Alix Furjanic, 15, a sophomore at Cheltenham High School, was looking for a way not to confuse her phone with her mother's or stepfather's.

Now, when her stepfather calls her mother, her phone plays Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get It On." And when mom returns the call? The Commodores' "Brick House." Owww!

New year showers TV viewers with premieres

BY PAMELA SITT
The Seattle Times

Fan favorite Jen Schefft gets a second chance at love in "The Bachelorette," which premiered on ABC last night.

I'm trying to remember a time when there was no reality television.

It seems so long ago that Monday nights belonged to "Joe Millionaire," which at the time seemed so exciting and new. (Cue the "Love Boat" theme song.) That love affair quickly soured (does anyone remember "Joe Millionaire 2"?). As it turns out, it is possible to have too much of a good thing.

But like a pesky ex-boyfriend who just won't go away, reality TV perseveres. Here we are at the start of a new year, and January is chock full of premieres. "American Idol" and "The Simple Life" return to FOX this month. "The Bachelorette," starring Jen Schefft, premiered on ABC last night. Bravo's "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" starts up again at 10 tonight; spinoff "Queer Eye for the Straight Girl" debuts at 10 p.m. tomorrow. And Donald Trump is back already in "The Apprentice 3" (premiering Jan. 20 at 8:30 p.m., NBC). Can we get a restraining order?

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED SWIMSUIT MODEL SEARCH

What's super fun about watching this show is sitting on the couch, eating carbs and criticizing girls who are literally 6 feet tall and weigh, like, 120 pounds. But even I am not as ruthless as the judges. Said one of Alicia, who happens to be my favorite: "She has love handles and her ass cheeks sag." (8 p.m.

Wednesdays, NBC)
QUEER EYE FOR THE STRAIGHT GUY

Even though I am so over Carson Kressley, he is still funnier than the entire cast of this poor spinoff, which offers tips like, "Mix it up - mix classy and trendy." Really? Because I read that in Lucky magazine two years ago. (10 p.m. Wednesdays, Bravo)

THE WILL

I am immediately addicted to this real-life "Dynasty," and I don't know why CBS is airing it on Saturday nights when no one except me is watching. First of all, every woman on this show has fake boobs and fake hair and probably fake personalities as well. Secondly, why would a millionaire's stepson be his sole heir, be a contender for the fact that she has fake boobs and fake hair? Third, if Ashley (who, incidentally, played Blake Carrington's grandson on "Dynasty") wins, maybe he can buy a comb and tame that

rat's nest he calls hair. (8 p.m. Saturdays, CBS)

THE SURREAL LIFE 4

Adrienne Curry ("America's Next Top Model") and Peter Brady (Christopher Knight) are the new Flavor Flav and Brigitte Nielsen. Meantime, Da Brat tries to claim that the lowest point in her career was when she got into trouble with the law, but I'm going to say it was when she starred with Mariah Carey in "Glitter." (9 p.m. Sundays, VH-1)

EXTREME MAKEOVER

You know how after a breakup, some people go out and get a drastic haircut? Well, Mike's fiancée ditched him practically at the altar, so he went on "Extreme Makeover" and got a new nose, new teeth and a new chin. (9 p.m. Thursdays, ABC)

EXTREME MAKEOVER: HOME EDITION

The best thing about Roseanne Dore's new house in Kingston has to be the seven bathrooms. Especially since Dore and her

three daughters shared an outhouse for months after their house burned down. On a side note, I'm glad to see that the Emerald City Mudhens got some much-needed publicity. What? (8 p.m. Sundays, ABC)

THE AMAZING RACE 6

Freddy goes ballistic when someone slams a gate on his head: "One of you, I'm going to break in half!" I guess models get really mad when you mess up their faces. (9 p.m. Tuesdays, CBS)

NANNY 911

You know what would've made Nanny Deb's job so much easier? If she just sang "A Spoonful of Sugar" and taught the kids to snap. Then the messy rooms would have cleaned up themselves! (9 p.m. Wednesdays, FOX)

THE ROAD TO STARDOM WITH MISSY ELLIOTT

It's "American Idol" meets "Making the Band." Jessica and Akil are standouts; the rest make my ears hurt. (8 p.m. Wednesdays, UPN)

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