

3-17-2005

Arbiter, March 17

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

St. Patrick's Day Cheers

culture p.5

NCAA

sports p.8

March Madness tips off in Boise

ASBSU gets back to work, rebukes hatred

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
News Writer

The Associated Students of Boise State University Senate began holding its regular meetings, Tuesday, in the Student Union Forum. The Senate passed a resolution that reaffirms the commitment of the ASBSU Senate to a safe and diverse student body. The resolution was in response to a death threat sent to a candidate for student body president because he was a homosexual male. The resolution declared the act of threatening a student's life unacceptable; that BSU should view all students as equals no matter of their race, color, or sexual orientation; and that students, staff, and administrators should all be committed to creating an atmosphere where people can freely share all thoughts and feelings. The resolution passed unanimously among the 14 senators present.

The Senate confirmed former President Morris' four Senate appointees Friday, March 11, 2005. Ian Mosley, Heather Graves, Greg Wilson, and Tim Flaherty all now have a vote on the student Senate. None were elected to the ASBSU Senate for the upcoming term.

The Senate also killed a bill that would have put ASBSU into the lawsuit filed by Idaho State University students, which asked a court to not allow the State Board of Education to charge students tuition. The legislature is currently discussing the bill, which will hit the Senate floor within the month.

The Senate also killed a bill 4-5-0 that would have given the Senate money to hire a lawyer that they may place a temporary restraining order on the Idaho State Legislature, so that it may not pass the tuition bill.

The Senate does not want tuition and is currently lobbying in the statehouse to express its displeasure over the lack of safeguards in place to protect students from skyrocketing student fees and tuition.

Sen. Wyatt Parke asked Stacy Pearson, the BSU vice president of finance, if the administration would be willing to back a motion to table the tuition legalization bill in the statehouse until the next legislative session, in January. With more time to do research and polls, the Senate may garner greater understanding of the bill itself and of the at-large opinion of BSU students.

Pearson said she would relay the question to the administration.



Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University students hold up signs rating women who pass by them in Daytona Beach, Florida, during spring break on Monday, March 15, 2004.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAT

Spring break: Booze, sex, and sun all rolled into one week

Tips on surviving those seven days of scholastic freedom

BY MARIANA BEKKER
Assistant News Editor

The time has come for Boise State students to put away the books and pull out the beach towel. Spring break is on the horizon. This week has traditionally been reserved for students to unwind and let loose before returning for another two months of grueling essays and exams. But before the Jell-O shots are poured and the tanning oil is rubbed in, students may want to take a crash course on how to be safe during the break and still have a good time.

Alcohol: Two piña colodas, one for each co-ed.

According to Boise State's Health and Wellness Center, many college students feel pressure to drink excessively during spring break. Unfortunately, heavy drinking can have serious effects that can result in a trip to the emergency room or even death.

"College students tend to think they are invincible," health educator Rhiannon Avery said.

In fact, many students fall prey to the array of alcohol myths circulating around campuses.

According to the Web site <http://collegedrinking.gov/>, these myths can be easily identified and quashed.

Myth 1: "I can still drink and be in control."

Fact: Apparently not. According to the site, drinking impairs judgment, which can increase the likelihood of doing something unwise, such as having unprotected sex or damaging property.

Myth 2: "Drinking isn't all that dangerous."

Fact: Actually, it is very dangerous, if done recklessly. One in three 18 to 24 year-olds are admitted to emergency rooms for injuries obtained while intoxicated.

Myth 3: "Beer doesn't have as much alcohol as liquor."

Fact: The Web site also states that a 12-ounce bottle of beer has the same amount of alcohol as a standard shot of 80-proof liquor (either straight or in a mixed drink), or 5 ounces of wine.

So, whether it's a Corona or a margarita, drinking too much too fast is not advised. In the Wellness Center's newsletter for this month are several timely tips on drinking responsibly:

- Drink only if you want to.

Don't let others dictate your choice.

- Set a safe limit of drinks and keep track of the number consumed.

- Avoid drinking on an empty stomach.

- Allow ample time between drinks.

- Alternate alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks.

- Don't leave drinks unattended.

Let's talk about sex.

Statements from the Web site www.factsontap.org claim that alcohol lowers inhibitions and interferes with decision-making, potentially causing inebriated students to land in a sexual encounter or two during spring break. While deciding to sleep with someone when intoxicated can lead to an embarrassing next morning, it can also lead to much worse predicaments, like getting an STD.

According to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, sexually transmitted infections (venereal diseases) are the most common infectious diseases in the United States today. In fact, more than 13 million

men and women are infected on a yearly basis. Chlamydia is the most common of all bacterial STDs, with an estimated 4 to 8 million new cases each year.

Becoming infected with an STD isn't usually an idea of a good time, so these tips from the NIAID may help the avoidance of any unwanted "souvenirs" students may bring back from spring break.

- Have a mutually monogamous sexual relationship with an uninfected partner.

- Correctly and consistently use a male condom.

- Use clean needles if injecting intravenous drugs.

- Prevent and control other STDs to decrease susceptibility to HIV infection and to reduce your infectiousness if you are HIV-positive.

- Delay having sexual relations as long as possible. The younger people are when having sex for the first time, the more susceptible they become to developing an STD. The risk of acquiring an STD also increases with the number of partners over a lifetime.

- Burn baby burn. Not every Spring Break pas-

time involves alcohol and sex. Many students just want to lie on the beach or in a tanning bed and get darker. Information from the Health and Wellness Center newsletter explains that a tan is actually visual proof that the skin is damaged. Not only does tanning speed up the aging process, it also increases the risk for skin cancer. According to the Health and Wellness Center, half of all Americans who live to age 65 will be diagnosed with skin cancer at some point in their lives.

To remain on the better half of that statistic, educators from the Health and Wellness Center suggest these tips:

- Wear protective clothing or avoid sun exposure from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- Regularly use SPF 15 or higher, even on cloudy days.

- Reapply sunscreen every two hours, or after swimming.

The Health and Wellness Center will have a booth set up today on the Quad from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to further educate students on having a safe spring break. Free condoms along with several tips on drinking and skin protection will be available. Happy spring break!

Tuition bill moves to Senate floor, ASBSU amendment requests denied

BY RANDALL POST
News Editor

The Senate Education Committee passed House Bill 231 Monday. The bill will allow three of Idaho's four public universities to charge tuition in order to pay for instruction.

ASBSU President Tom Labrecque testified to the committee that the bill would make it easier for the state to cut higher education funding. Labrecque said he would support the bill if the Senate put a 10 percent cap on yearly fee increases and a minimum cap of 35 percent on state funding for Boise State University, Idaho State University, and Lewis-Clark State College.

Tim Flaherty, a newly appointed ASBSU senator, told the committee that education is not a cost, but an investment. Flaherty testified in favor of the bill with amendments.

"The [10 percent] cap encourages flexibility, but requires respon-

sibility," Flaherty said.

ASBSU senators Wyatt Parke, LaTisha Clark, and Kamron Ahmed, along with ASBSU Lobbyist Sid Anderson testified in favor of the proposed amendments. Sen. Tabielle Antchevov testified against the bill.

Labrecque told the committee that if the amendments were not added, he would not support the bill.

The committee rejected the amendments, committee Chairman John Goedde said he did not want to put a ceiling cap on the state board.

Those who testified against the bill said HB 231 continues the state's trend to decrease its funding for higher education, while student fees continue to rise.

Representatives from ISU and UI testified in favor of the bill, saying it gave flexibility to the universities to move their money around.

Kevin Satterlee, associate vice president for planning at Boise

State, told the committee Boise State is in favor of the bill.

Satterlee said the way the current laws read, Boise State had to spend \$800,000 putting a new roof on Taco Bell Arena instead of hiring new professors, because that money could not be legally spent on instruction.

Sen. John Andreason said the bill does not open the door to raise fees and was surprised by student reaction to the bill.

"I'm highly disturbed by the lack of trust by students, of their administrations, and the state board," Andreason said.

Andreason requested the State Board of Education provide a letter of assurance to the students of Idaho universities that they would not drastically raise fees.

Rep. Mack Shirley said after the meeting that he thinks students concerns are unfounded.

"If it starts to go the way the students suggest, I'll be the first back next year to change it."

Fuzzy numbers, stolen keys lead to election complaints

BY RANDALL POST
News Editor

The ASBSU Judiciary has ruled the Election Board must reassess the current online voting process and must consult two companies that conduct online voting by the end of 2005.

This ruling comes after ASBSU Sen. Heather Graves received four votes as a write-in candidate for the College of Health and Sciences Senate seat, according to the unofficial results. Graves filed a complaint with the ASBSU Judiciary claiming she could provide more than four student ID numbers that voted for her. Graves thought something was going awry when she received word that the college senator write-in was not showing up on the voting preview page.

Graves said write-in votes were previewing for president and at-large senator. Julianne Peters, a nursing stu-

dent, said she attempted to vote for Graves, but when she did not see her name come up on the preview page, she went back and repeated the process, but did not see Graves' name.

Graves contacted Debby Flores at the ASBSU office and told her what was happening. Flores placed a disclaimer on the Web site assuring students that their college Senate write-in votes were being counted.

After finding out she received only four votes, Graves went to her nursing student colleagues and asked them to put down their student ID numbers if they voted for her. Graves told the Judiciary that she did not ask for names just student ID numbers.

"You have to have voted and voted for me," Graves said.

Graves included in her complaint that Debby Flores had her keys to the ASBSU offices stolen during the election.

Graves claimed since Flores' keys were stolen and her computer had access to the voting database, so someone could have hacked the system.

With the fuzzy numbers and stolen keys, Graves asked the Judiciary to "render this election null and void and a complete election be done again."

The Judiciary, headed by Daniel Pauly, ruled that the Election Board was responsible, and the student ID numbers turned in by Graves would be checked for verification and each verified number would count as one vote toward Graves.

The Judiciary also ruled the Election Board must reassess online voting and use ASBSU funds to pay for it.

"I proved what I set out to; that the system is flawed," Graves said.

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world

Hundreds of thousands of anti-Syrian protesters throng Beirut

BEIRUT, Lebanon - Lebanon's anti-Syrian movement, upping the stakes Monday in the escalating war of rallies that has gripped the country for the past month, drew hundreds of thousands of protesters to the heart of downtown Beirut for the largest demonstration yet.

The vast gathering, held to mark the one-month anniversary of the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, dwarfed the huge demonstration in support of Syria held last week by the Shiite Hezbollah movement, a rally that was intended to counter the anti-Syrian protests that erupted after Hariri's death.

Attendance at the Hezbollah rally was widely put at 500,000; news agencies quoted city officials as saying 600,000 turned out for Monday's demonstration, and Beirut's Daily Star newspaper said the crowd approached 1 million, almost a third of Lebanon's population.

Among them were Sunnis, Christians, and Druze, many of whom had traveled from across the country to add their voices to the calls for a complete Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon and for a full investigation into the Feb. 14 bombing that killed Hariri and 16 other people on the seafront promenade nearby.

Waving the cedar-embellished Lebanese flag, the crowd turned virtually the entire downtown area into a seething, chanting mass of red and white. "Truth. Freedom. National unity," they shouted. "Syria out!"

national

Officials use immigration laws to arrest gang members

WASHINGTON - The Department of Homeland Security said Monday that 103 members of violent Hispanic youth gang have been arrested nationwide in recent weeks as local law enforcement officials use immigration violations to

national

take dangerous gang members off the streets.

The arrests took place in New York; Newark, N.J.; Miami; Los Angeles; Washington, D.C.; and Baltimore.

Those cities are participating in "Operation Community Shield," a program for local and federal law enforcement agencies to pool resources to pursue Mara Salvatrucha, one of the nation's most vicious youth gangs.

About half of those detained had prior arrests or convictions for violent crimes, according to homeland officials.

Mara Salvatrucha, widely known as MS-13, has been linked to human smuggling, drug trafficking, arms smuggling, inter-gang violence and murder. Its members include natives of several Latin American countries, but the original Mara Salvatrucha were street gang guerrilla fighters in the Salvadoran civil war in the 1980s.

MS-13 is considered the bloodiest of several youth gangs that have emerged since the late 1980s in the Central American communities now living in Los Angeles.

The new law enforcement tactic against them is to have local police pick up suspected gang members on immigration violations, using data supplied by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"We cannot only take [gang members] off the streets, detain them, but deport them from the United States, and that is an incredibly powerful tool for going after them," said Michael Garcia, assistant secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, at a press briefing announcing the arrests.

Mexico violence puts chill on spring breakers' south-of-border jaunts

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas - As tens of thousands of students make spring-break visits to south Texas, a resurgence of drug-related violence across the border in northern Mexico is forcing the U.S. and Mexico to consider how to court these and other tourists.

Local officials from the two countries have been meeting for weeks to develop a plan they believe will help keep college students, their visits are an economic boon for both sides of the Rio

national

Grande, out of trouble.

Yet recent bloodshed, including the January slayings of six Mexican prison workers a few miles outside nearby Matamoros, Mexico, has left even local Mexican-Americans fearful of crossing the border.

There also has been a spike in kidnappings of Americans in northern Mexico, although officials say that many of the victims were involved in the drug trade and that tourists are unlikely to be caught up in such violence.

Nonetheless, a January State Department alert to American tourists warning of a "deteriorating security situation" remains in force.

In an effort to combat bad press, Matamoros officials have begun printing colorful pamphlets with pictures of beaming young people touting Matamoros as the "safest bustling Mexican border city." The brochures will be distributed within days, officials said.

Each pamphlet includes a credit card-size cutout with the phone numbers of police on both sides of the border, as well as the U.S. Consulate.

Like many Mexican officials, Gerardo Rodriguez, director of Matamoros' convention and visitors bureau, said that the violence has been exaggerated and that his city is safe for Americans.

local/bsu

Economist Richard Vedder to explain 'why college costs too much' at Boise State

Richard Vedder, a distinguished professor of economics at Ohio University, will present a lecture about the rising cost of tuition tonight at 7:30 p.m., in the Student Union Bishop Barnwell Room. His lecture will explore the question of why tuition costs are rising at universities across the country. The event is free and open to the public.

Author of "Going Broke by Degree: Why College Costs Too Much," Vedder has done extensive research on the reasons for rising tuition and fees in America.

"College tuition fees have risen faster than any major component of the con-

local/bsu

sumer price index, including health-care. Even as the real cost of food, clothing, and transportation have fallen, the burden of financing college has tripled," he said.

Vedder has been an economist with the Joint Economic Committee of Congress and served as the John M. Olin visiting professor of labor economics and public policy at the Center for the Study of American Business at Washington University in St. Louis.

Vedder's work has been published in numerous academic journals, books, and newspapers, including the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Investor's BusinessDaily, Christian Science Monitor, and USA Today.

Diversity rally at Boise State addresses recent threat

The Boise State University chapter of BGLAD (Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians, Transgendered and Allies for Diversity) will host a diversity rally from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. today on the Student Union patio. "No Room for Hate at Boise State" will feature speakers, entertainment, and poets from January's Slam for Justice poetry slam.

Amy Herzfeld, director of the Idaho Human Rights Center, will join students, faculty, and staff speakers. Information tables and performances will break up the speeches. The event also includes statements from several campus organizations in support of diversity.

The rally is in response to a recent threat against a student who is openly gay.

Boise State and Boise area Crime Stoppers form partnership on campus

Boise State University and Boise Area Crime Stoppers have formed a new partnership to prevent crime and safeguard students, faculty, and staff. During the next few weeks, informational posters, flyers and student publications will be distributed at various sites throughout campus in an effort to boost the reporting of crimes, while protecting the identity of those offering information.

"Crime Stoppers will be another prevention effort on our part another way to allow folks on campus to report suspicious circumstances, subjects, or a crime they may see happening," said Bob Seibolt, director of University

what the?

Security and liaison with Boise police.

In 2003, nearly 30 burglaries were reported on the BSU campus, along with more than a dozen arrests for liquor law violations and several drug abuse violations. In addition, Student Conduct Program disciplinary referrals included more than 30 liquor law violations, several drug abuse violations, and a couple of weapons possessions.

Jan Van Houten, Crime Prevention/Crime Stoppers program coordinator, hopes that people will be more likely to report a crime knowing their identity can be protected. No caller ID or recorders are used, and each caller who reports a crime is issued a confidential code number. Crime Stoppers will route tips about campus crime directly to investigating officers at the BSU sub-station.

what the?

Nobody's perfect

A Texas woman was apparently not at all put off when police arrested her boyfriend of 12 years, because he had escaped from prison in 1990, where he had been serving time for strangling a previous girlfriend's infant daughter. He had failed to mention anything about his criminal past to her.

Once he was safely back in jail, she married him.

Ah, here's a tasty morsel - FZZZZT!

Dog owners in Finland, anxious to protect their animals from attacks by wolves, will soon be outfitting their pets with electrified dog coats. Wolves who chomp down on the protective outer covers will feel a 1,000-volt surge of electricity.

He takes his job very seriously

As a policeman was setting up a radar speed trap in Jessen, Germany, an overzealous colleague gave him a traffic ticket for parking on the wrong side of the road.

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BONE THUGS/TECHN9NE	SOLD OUT!
2ND ADD'D BONE THUGS/TECHN9NE	THU 3-24
THE BIG DANCE!	FRI 3-18
FINAL UNDERGROUND	SAT 3-19
DANCE PARTY	SAT 3-19
AUTHORITY ZERO	TUE 3-22
CLUB FRESH	WED 3-23
BIG HEAD TODD	FRI 3-25
CLUMSY LOVERS	SAT 3-26
CLUB FRESH	WED 3-30
FALL OUT BOY	THU 3-31
STRING CHEESE INCIDENT	SOLD OUT!
CHRIS BOTTI	SUN 4-3
BREAKING BENJAMIN	MON 4-4
REVEREND HORTON HEAT	TUE 4-5
BOB SCHNEIDER	WED 4-6
CLUB FRESH	WED 4-6
ELVIS COSTELLO	SOLD OUT!
CROSSFADE	TUE 4-12
UNDEROATH	WED 4-13
CLUB FRESH	WED 4-13
LAMB OF GOD	THU 4-14
MAKTUB	SAT 4-16
CLUB FRESH	WED 4-20
STEVE VAI	THU 4-21
NEW FOUND GLORY	FRI 4-22
FANTOMAS	SUN 4-24
STEVE KIMOCK BAND	MON 4-25
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AFTER THE FINAL UNDERGROUND SHOW ALL CONCERT GOERS STAY FOR FREE

21 AND UP \$5 COVER

TWO HOT DANCE NIGHTS AT THE BIG EASY!

Wolf education and research center



PHOTO BY MICHELLE SELLS/THE ARBITER

Wolf Education and Research Center, Winchester ID.

BY MICHELLE SELLS
News Writer

Wolves are once again a hot topic of debate. On Sunday, March 7, a rancher near Mackay legally killed a wolf he claimed was harassing his livestock. The new wolf management plan, which took effect in February, allows ranchers to shoot wolves that are "harassing" livestock. The old management plan only allowed such killings if the wolves were caught preying upon livestock.

The rancher claimed that the wolves caused his herd to stampede, trampling a calf to death on Saturday, and he called officials to inquire as to his legal rights. On Sunday, the rancher was prepared. One wolf was shot, while the other escaped.

The other significant change to the management plan concerns the population numbers of large

game herds such as deer and elk. Under the new plan, should those game herd numbers drop below the level determined acceptable, wolves in the area could be held responsible and shot.

While the wolf reintroduction program has been a biological success, with the number of animals currently about 400 with 20 or more breeding pairs, the public debates still continue. Ranchers and sportsmen still oppose wolves, while conservation and environmental groups fight for the animals.

The Nez Perce Tribe has long been supporters of the wolf cause. They were the first managers of the reintroduction process, and while their role has been somewhat reduced, they will always retain a voice in the affairs of the wolves. The Nez Perce continue a long-standing affiliation with the wolves through their connec-

tion with the Wolf Education and Research Center in Winchester.

The Wolf Education and Research Center is home to the remaining five members of the Sawtooth Pack: Wolves of the Nez Perce. WERC's founder is Jim Dutcher, who created the documentary "Wolves at Our Door," based on the initial members of the Sawtooth Pack. WERC is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing for those wolf ambassadors, as well as educating the public regarding wolf behavior and other environmental issues.

The center leases its land from the Nez Perce Tribe and is comprised of a visitor center, permanent housing for the biologist, temporary housing for the interns, a two acre enclosure, and a 20 acre enclosure.

Two nine foot fences surround the enclosures, one inside of the other to prevent escape. The second fence is designed as a fail-safe. Should a wolf somehow manage to escape the first fence, the second is placed close enough that the wolf cannot get a running start at it to jump over. There has only been one wolf escape in the history of WERC.

There are five remaining wolves in the Sawtooth Pack: Amani, Piyip, Motoki, Motomo, and Ayet. All five animals are magnificent examples of the species. Four of the five occupy the 20 acre enclosure, while Amani occupies the smaller two acre enclosure. Most of these animals are older (nine to 12 years), and all of the females have received tubal ligations, so they cannot breed. While this prevents breeding, it in no way interferes with the animal's natural drives or behavior.

The staff at WERC consists of two interns and a biologist. The interns are responsible for the care of the facility and the majority of the public education, but their interactions with the wolves is limited. The biologist has the most contact with the wolves, and the pack is extremely comfortable in his presence. He takes daily walks inside the wolf enclosures.

A visit to WERC does not necessarily guarantee a wolf encounter. What transpires is left entirely up to the wolves. A visitor might not see the animals, but will maybe

hear them. Regardless of whether or not there is an encounter, the information presented by the staff makes this a valuable experience. Take a chance and visit the Sawtooth Pack: Wolves of the Nez Perce. It's a howling good time!

Important Information:
Http://www.wolfcenter.org
Hours of operation - Memorial Day to Labor Day. Self guided tours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Cost is \$5.00 adult, ages 6-13 \$2.00, and under 6 is free. Guided tours are also available; please call 24 hours in advance for reservation. Guided tours are \$10.00 and \$3.00.

Phone numbers - (208) 743-9554 or (208) 924-6960

Directions - Follow US 95 to the Winchester exit. Cross Lapwai St. to Camas and turn left. Follow Camas to Forrest Rd. The visitor center is approximately two miles.

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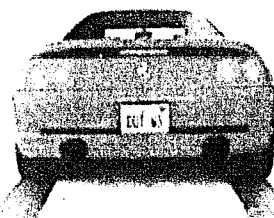
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OPINION

4 THE ARBITER MAR 17 2005

Social welfare is just as important as education

BY LUKE ALLEN MCMANAMON
Columnist

Finding more money for state colleges and universities may be as easy as enforcing the laws that are already on the books. Currently, the largest growing element of state budgets nationwide is that of welfare and benefit services, with costs expected to rise almost 10 percent this year alone according to the General Accounting Office. Many states, like Idaho, have been struggling to handle this ever-increasing portion of their states' finances. Unfortunately, most other areas of the states' respective budgets are being held to minimal increases to handle the increasing explosion of state benefit services.

To be fair, it needs to be understood that education makes up the largest budgetary item that states must deal with. The governor's proposed budget for FY2006 might help shed some light on the shape of tax allotments. In Idaho, for instance, the Department of Education would maintain a lion's share of the tax wealth, allocating a little over \$1.39 billion of the state budget.

So, what is the biggest tax item to come after the Department of Education's needs? Health and Human Services, collectively grabbing \$483 million for its own uses. This leaves a modest \$648 million for the remaining needs of the state. While proposed budgets can change while working through legislative branches of government, it does make us realize the almost epic battle that haunts us. Do we fund our education system or help the poor and those in need?

To make the battle fair, we must ensure that both sides are taking adequate steps to control the costs associated with their departments.

Idaho's Department of Education has been well aware of this for quite a few years. Despite

a constitutional provision demanding that schools be properly funded, many students in both rural and urban districts in the state attend classes in buildings built at the turn of the century. "Cole school of the Boise School District was built starting in the 1880s" and was ready for "occupancy" in 1903, touts the Boise School District Web site. Many schools in the Idaho educational system need critical repairs, and the costs associated with them rises each year the projects are delayed.

Last year, teachers and educators in Idaho received a 2 percent raise, slightly below the cost of living increases in the state, and slightly below their projected salary increases the year before. Additionally, many academic departments across all Idaho universities are capping enrollment in high-demand degree fields. Boise State's Nursing program has turned down several more people than it has been able to take in, despite numerous warnings from several watchdog groups of a pending nursing shortage coming in the very near future. Critical repairs, programs, and personal issues are being pushed aside in an effort to maintain a high standard of state run education, and yet the problem continues.

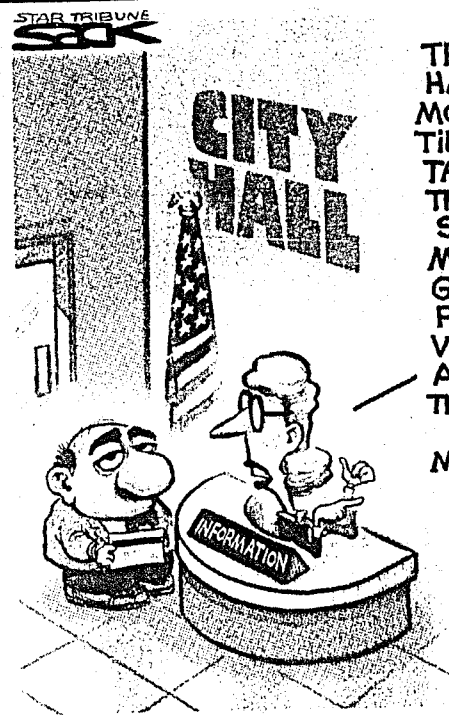
While taking up a significantly smaller portion of the state budget, a solution to the educational dilemma may lie in putting more oversight into Medicare.

The GAO released a report Monday, March 7, citing that despite a federal law requiring drug companies to offer significant price discounts to low income Medicaid recipients, there was very little being done to enforce such rules. Determining the actual amount being overcharged "inconclusive," the report argues that, "in the case of one manufacturer, congressional auditors found that proper accounting would have increased savings to

Medicaid by 16 percent." Assuming the same holds true for all drug companies, which by itself is not a reliable indicator, Idaho could save about \$35 million a year in its contribution to Medicaid. The issue is not new. Last year at the National Governors' Association annual banquet, Gov. Kempthorne called on the federal government to offer more assistance to states struggling with increasing health care costs associated with Medicare.

By providing oversight of Medicare, the federal government can help reduce the welfare burden on state governments struggling to adequately fund programs and services that are becoming increasingly strained. In Idaho, even if the overcharge savings were minimal, the additional millions of dollars to the state budget could open up more discussions about providing additional revenues to the cash-strapped school system.

By enforcing a law already on the books, taxpayers can be assured that the drug companies are not using fraudulent market schemes to artificially generate revenue that could be destined for other taxpayer supported programs. Additionally, we must also ensure that as the cost of prescription drugs and health services continue to rise, state run health programs don't take on larger priorities than something as essential as public education. Given the current cost increases associated with the world of health care, it is a very real concern that public welfare costs associated with Medicare could outpace the growth of other departments in the state. In its quest to secure more funds and promote the highest quality product it can provide, the Idaho Department of Education would be wise to support increased federal oversight of welfare programs such as Medicaid.



TRAFFIC TICKETS? Go DOWN THE HALL TO THE 10 COMMANDMENTS MONUMENT (LUTHERAN VERSION). TILL YOU REACH THE KORAN DISPLAY. TAKE A LEFT AND CONTINUE PAST THE BUDDHIST SHRINE UNTIL YOU SEE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS MONUMENT (JEWISH VERSION). Go RIGHT AT THE AZTEC SACRIFICIAL ALTAR AND ON TO THE VISHNU STATUE, WHOSE THIRD ARM POINTS TO A DOOR BETWEEN THE DRUID STONEHENGE REPLICA AND THE 10 COMMANDMENTS MONUMENT (CATHOLIC VERSION).

THE MONK INSIDE WILL DIRECT YOU FROM THERE.

Truth anti-tobacco commercials give tobacco corporations and tobacco a raw deal

BY ZACH UHLMANN
Columnist

We've all seen them and love them. The anti-tobacco commercials made by Truth. They educate the public about the detriments of using tobacco through their extremely powerful television commercials. With this being said, I hate their ads. The commercials are simply creepy (especially the one with the ventriloquist).

I can't stand the way in which they demonize the tobacco industry and turn them into a lightning rod attracting hatred. Last I checked, the Marlboro Company C.E.O. wasn't gripping a cane and toting an oxygen tank on wheels through the Afghani countryside plotting on ways to fly airplanes into American buildings. That was Osama. So why does the Truth non-profit group want to make cigarette corporations appear as evil as him. Everybody knows corporations are evil, and we all know cigarettes cause cancer. Does the combination of these two evils necessarily mean that anyone involved with the tobacco corporation is evil squared?

The Truth commercials have the tendency to manifest macabre and negative human emotions. Their most recent commercial, which can be seen on MTV, shows a board room meeting of some generic cigarette company. It's a bunch of corporate white guys sitting around a table in a tall building with a view overlooking

a sprawling city, discussing which demographic they should target next. It's a savage conversation about who they should target and how. They discuss making an eight pack of cigarettes because black people can't afford the normal 20 pack. They talk about enticing the "Hipster crowd" to generate more profit.

This commercial is probably an accurate depiction of a typical corporate tobacco meeting, but that shouldn't be as disturbing of a revelation as the commercial makes the viewer feel. Every company has the same type of meetings where they discuss possible consumers. Old Navy, Gatorade, and Nike are guilty of the same shallow marketing tactics as tobacco companies. The product they offer consumers is an important product and an American necessity.

Tobacco is a relaxing commodity that happens to have negative side effects. The tobacco plant didn't sprout from the earth for its nutritional value or its inherent beauty...it is here for people to grow, harvest, dry, shred, and then burn with a Bic lighter and inhale. It was grown for those who enjoy the buzz from time to time. Nicotine was pre-ordained for the lunch break smoke session; for bars and for parties; lawyers, cops and construction workers; Euro Trash and White Trash; it's here for you and me. As long as people keep demanding it, tobacco companies will keep supplying it. Whether your flavor is a can of Skoal, a pack of

Camel Filters, or Swisher Sweets Wood-tips, the point is that tobacco isn't as bad as Truth makes it out to be.

Now let's briefly discuss the truth behind Truth. They are right about the rigid fact that this addictive plant can very easily cause cancer. Tobacco products all have many carcinogens (cancer causing agents) and can lead to life-threatening diseases of all sorts. On their website they claim that "Tobacco companies make a product that kills 1,200 people everyday." This is an irrefutable fact. The United States Department of Health and Human Services states that "Tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of death and disease in the United States and continues to pose a formidable challenge to the public health community" (This came from a meeting with the United States Surgeon General at Howard University in Washington D.C.).

Based on these nasty facts I heartily commend Truth's mission, but I absolutely hate the amount of hatred their advertisements dispense. Truth makes provocative commercials, but their creep tactics are too extreme for my liking. It's not as if people who smoke can't use common sense and instinct to predict that cigarette smoke burning their throats is probably bad for their longevity. There is no reason for them to need somebody sending shivers down their spine.

Thanks for your time, but I gotta go outside and have a smoke.

Feminists can be Christians as well

BY LISA MCCLAIN
Guest Opinion

In a letter to the editor entitled "Christian Point of View on Steinem," Mat Turcato asserted that feminism is weakening men. Steinem claims that by loosening claustrophobic gender roles, feminism has benefited men by allowing them to openly exhibit traits that used to be defined as strictly feminine: traits such as compassion, open communication, and loving intimacy. Turcato argues this is the problem with feminism. Feminism diminishes men by "lead(ing) them away from their natural position of leadership." He makes such a claim after viewing the video "The Quest for Authentic Manhood," which teaches masculinity from a Biblical perspective, as modeled by Christ.

I could respond to Turcato by defending feminism and Steinem, but that would be, well...predictable. Those who hold a feminist perspective are already convinced of the merits of Steinem's argument. So, instead, I will defend Christ.

First, I believe Turcato has good intentions. He wants to "educate others on some of the ideas I have learned myself in the past few weeks." In that vein, I, too, am motivated to share some of the ideas I have learned in the past twenty years. I am a feminist, a Christian, and a scholar specializing in the history of Christianity.

Christianity and feminism are not antithetical. Turcato presents his opinion as if were that of the majority of Christians. Not so! The majority of mainstream Christians—both women and men—do not view feminism as threatening to the Christian faith. Yet mainstream Christianity never seems to get the good press coverage, does it? Only viewpoints radical enough to provoke anger and polarize the public make the news.

And while I applaud Turcato's ambition to model the masculinity exemplified by Christ, I question whether this video accurately represents Christ's model. Even non-Christians generally recognize Christ as an inspirational leader. In the gospels, Christ's charisma clearly stems from his compassion, empathy, and ability to communicate intimately—in short, from love. All qualities, interestingly, that are typically labeled and often denigrated as feminine, and which Turcato believes are robbing men of their natural leadership abilities.

Furthermore, Christ never led at the expense of others, such as women or any marginalized group. Christ never exercised a males-only policy in training his companions to lead. He was not threatened by female leadership, and in fact encouraged it. The apostle Paul, too, praised the women preachers and deacons with whom he worked. It is only when scriptures are taken out

of context or incompletely read that there is an illusion that men alone are the "natural leaders." Centuries of man-made theology, sexism, and bigotry tacked on to biblical teaching accomplished this, which says more about humanity and society than it does about Christ's teachings.

The traits of a good leader, one whom people would follow after two millennia (such as Christ) or over the course of a lifetime (like Steinem), traits such as compassion, empathy, kindness, lovingness, and an ability to communicate ideas that resonate deeply with others, are not male or female traits. They are human traits. They are genderless, the point which Steinem made. Being exposed to new ideas is exciting. But accepting information unquestioningly, particularly in a religious forum, can be dangerous. Yes, such ideas are presented persuasively and tied up in a professional looking package. (Robert Lewis, the creator of the video, is, after all, trying to sell his product.) But that does not mean they are true to the scriptural principles upon which they are supposed to be based. And before anyone suggests my hubris in questioning religious traditions or authority, need I point out that Christ did nothing BUT question religious traditions and authority. If the aim is to follow in Christ's footsteps, then question.

Ask Captain RibMan

BY CAPTAIN RIBMAN
(aka John Sprengelmeyer and Rich Davis)

Dear Captain RibMan,
Is your mom proud of you? And do you keep in touch with her? Does she ever send you cookies? -Laura the college freshman

Dear Laura,
Do I ever proudly touch my mom's cookies? Forgive me for finding that question offensive. My mother is a saint! Coincidentally, she is the saint of baked goods. Why aren't there saints of gross things like maggots or poo? To me, it seems like these things are in need of saints

more than nice things. Oh, think of maggot-poo! If anything needs a saint assigned to it, I think that maggot-poo would be at the top of the list. There are patron saints of weary travelers, cabbage pickers and shipbuilders. Forgive me for thinking maggot-poo needs one more desperately.
Good Luck!
-Captain RibMan

Dear Captain RibMan,
If you came to my door and asked me to marry you, I would.
-Steph

Dear Steph,
I fell for the same trick once! A man came to my door last sum-

mer claiming to be selling magazine subscriptions. Next thing I knew, I ended up in Vegas with a hangover, a husband and several magazines that I didn't particularly want. I knew he was a good man; it wasn't his fault. We eventually amicably broke up, and luckily, we didn't have any kids to fight over. I still read my issues of Family Circle and OMNI and think of him.
Good luck!
-Captain RibMan

John Sprengelmeyer and Rich Davis are the creators of the archived comic strip, "Captain RibMan" and the humorous advice column "Ask Captain RibMan."

The Arbiter

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Boise, ID 83725

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www.arbiteronline.com

Distributed Mondays & Thursdays during the academic school year. The Arbiter is the official independent student newspaper of Boise State University. Its mission is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues affecting the BSU community. The Arbiter's budget consists of fees paid by the student body and advertising sales. The first copy is free. Additional copies can be purchased for \$1 space at the Arbiter office.

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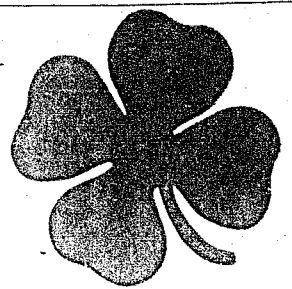
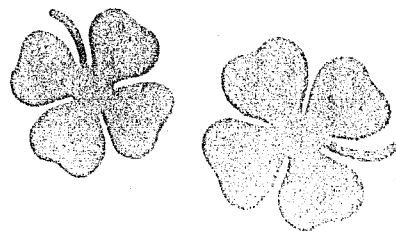
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culture



Where's the action?

happens in the next ten or so days...

TODAY (3/17)

5-7 p.m. in the Student Union Building Coffee House Concert Series featuring Paradigm. The Sacramento-based band takes to the Brava Stage with their melodic, alternative rock, gripping vocal style and inspiring lyrics. Free admission.

FRIDAY (3/18)

8 p.m. in The Morrison Center "The Full Monty." Cost: Scale 1: \$46, Scale 2: \$38.50, Scale 3: \$25 (Student, staff, and faculty discounts of up to \$15 off are available at the Morrison Center.) For more information, call 426-1110.

8 p.m. at The Big Easy Bone Thugs-n-Harmony and Techn9ne in concert. Tickets are \$25.

SATURDAY (3/19)

2 p.m. & 8 p.m. in The Morrison Center "The Full Monty." Cost: Scale 1: \$46, Scale 2: \$38.50, Scale 3: \$25 (Student, staff, and faculty discounts of up to \$15 off are available at the Morrison Center.) For more information, call 426-1110.

TUESDAY (3/22)

7:30 p.m. at The Big Easy Authority Zero, Living in Question, and Switch Hitter in concert. Tickets are \$10 online, \$12 at the door.

FRIDAY (3/25)

9 p.m. at The Big Easy Big Head Todd & the Monsters and Carbon Leaf in concert.

7 p.m. at The Venue Vehemence, Thine Eyes Bleed, Cry Havoc, and Recipe For Disaster in concert. Tickets are \$8 at the door and also available through TicketWeb.

SATURDAY (3/26)

6-11 p.m. in the SUB Jordan Ballroom African Night. Take part in a cultural celebration including dinner, dancing, and other entertainment. Tickets will be available through Select-A-Seat. For more information, contact the Boise State University Cultural Center at 426-5950.

Local spots available to accomplish a St. Patrick's Day mission

BY KYLE GORHAM
Managing Editor

Ah yes, it's St. Patty's Day again, which means it's time to lay it on like a leprechaun. It's the only holiday that you're allowed to punch someone in the face and then kiss them all in the name of tradition.

But why should you celebrate an Irish tradition at some downtown bar that changes its theme with every holiday? Like some schizophrenic doppelganger, these bars go from Bourbon Street to the Blarney Stone with no regard for taste or tradition. Don't be fooled. It will still be the same experience you had last weekend, only with green paper four-leaf clovers hanging from the ceiling. Embrace your Irish blood and go to the places that live the theme all year long - the more authentic, the better. Don't know where to go? In an effort to save you from yourselves, I scouted out some Irish pubs (well, at least their names are Irish) so you don't have to.

Ha' Penny Bridge (800 W. Idaho Street)

Trendsters please apply. This place looks like an Irish pub, acts like an Irish pub, but under the trendy facade, lies a franchise dressed in Irish drab. Ha' Penny is like that kid in high school that dresses like a punk, but listens to pop music (that's me). The look is there, but it lacks that certain old-world charm - however, it does make a valiant effort. As the luck of the Irish would have it, Ha' Penny is as close to an authentic Irish pub as you will find in Boise.

With cocktails, beer, and wine, the pub also boasts an impressive selection of Irish whiskey and scotch, ranging from \$4.75 - \$16 a pop. If you're into Dublin's finest brews, Guinness and Harp Lager are on tap at \$4.75 for 20

ounces and \$13.50 for a 60-ounce pitcher. Ha' Penny also has a variety of tasty Irish cuisine, including corned beef and cabbage and shepherd's pie.

For St. Patrick's Day, Ha' Penny will pull out the bagpipes and lay down the best hits from the

gold in your pot.

I rate Ha' Penny Bridge at four punches to the face out of five.

Dublin Up Irish Pub (86 Chapter Eleven Street)

Well kick me in the blarney stones, this place doesn't exist anymore. Damn that mischievous leprechaun who told me to come here. Bankruptcy is not very Irish - sorry folks, The Dublin Up is tits up.

Quinn's

celebrate by offering happy hour all day long and homemade corn beef and cabbage for \$8.25. Cocktails, beer, and wine are available, and Quinn's will strike up the bagpipes for some traditional Irish tunes that would make St. Patty himself hit the dance floor.

Quinn's will also serve food until 3 a.m. - so scrap that late night trip to McDonald's, because Shamrock Shakes are not Irish.

The lack of Irish tap beers and closet-like bathrooms are two downfalls of Quinn's, though no cover charges and \$2 green beers make this place a good choice for a downtown alternative. Quinn's falls short of being a full-blown Irish pub, but it makes up for it by throwing one hell of a St. Patty's Day party that's easy on the pocketbook.

I rate Quinn's Restaurant and Lounge at four punches to the face out of five.

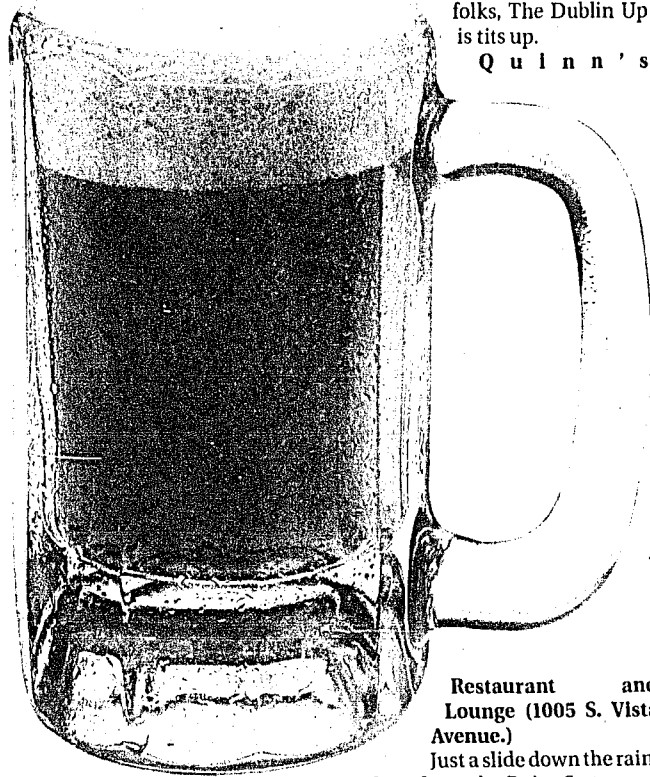
McCleary's Pub (9155 W. State Street)

Along with a bar patron ticked off about someone spraying gravel all over his truck, McCleary's boasts free corned beef on Patty's Day. The pub is more of a roadside bar than anything else, but the name sounds Irish (or Scottish?) and the beer is cheap. There will be no bagpipes here, but they have Van Morrison on the jukebox and MacTarnahan's on tap for \$1.50. The place is really small, and the man behind the bar assured me it will be packed full of people on Patty's Day. But hey, free corned beef!

The lack of cocktails makes this trip a tough one to take, but if you're out on West State Street, drop in for a plate of steaming corned beef - just don't peel out in the gravel.

I rate McCleary's Pub at two punches to the face out of five.

May the luck of the Irish be with you!



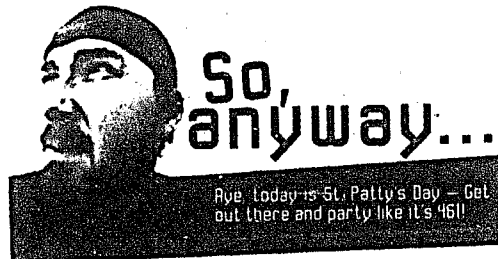
Restaurant and Lounge (1005 S. Vista Avenue.)

Just a slide down the rainbow from the Boise State campus on Vista Avenue is Quinn's Restaurant and Lounge. The exterior of the place is lackluster, but inside awaits a jackpot of cheap booze, a reasonable menu, and the comfort of an Irish-themed bar. And it's probably the cleanest joint I have ever been to.

St. Patrick's Day at Quinn's offers plenty for the lads and lassies to do a jig over. Quinn's will cel-

Emerald Isle. The bagpipes, booze, and food should be enough to stir the Irish blood in you. For the out-of-town NCAA fans, Ha' Penny will also run a free shuttle between the pub and the tournament during Patty's Day.

Ha' Penny is a little spendy, definitely trendy, but it may be your best bet for an authentic St. Patty's Day if you have enough



BY TRAVIS ESTVOLD
Culture Columnist

Today, if you didn't know, is St. Patrick's Day. Yes, the one day of the year set aside to commemorate the drinking of green beer, the pinching of members of the opposite sex, and vomiting in the street.

Now, there are other days of the year devoted to the proliferation of inebriation (Mardi Gras, Independence Day, Canada's Boxing Day, etc.), but none so hopelessly devoted to one color. It is said that the color green, representing the Irish, comes from the rolling hills of the same color that are so prevalent on their isle. Me, I think it's because green is the color of money - which is exactly what you will be shelling out with reckless disregard once your third emerald-colored brewski has been swilled - and likely the color of your face when you wake up tomorrow.

The shamrocks associated with the holiday serve as a reminder of the fields in which the original celebrators woke up in the morning after the holiday was celebrated. If the festivity rules were rewritten today, the shamrock would instead be a chunk of asphalt. Luckily, for marketers' sakes, this isn't the case, because from what I hear, it's harder to sell shirts with chunks of rocks on them than those with four-leaf clovers.

Leprechauns emerged in the legend of this special day as a means to show that Irish are equal-opportunity drinking buddies. They don't care how tall you are, as long as you chug.

It is said that St. Patrick, who died in the year 461, earned his fame by ridding Ireland of all its snakes. I'm not sure why the snakes were so bad, or what they did to be evicted. Last I had heard, snakes were good, because they keep mice and other rodents

away from crops. But either way, Pat drove them out in historic fashion. Here is the part where I become a little fuzzy. Wasn't it the Pied Piper who drove the rats out of his village? And if so, how come he isn't a saint? I suppose Saint Piper doesn't have the same ring to it. Perhaps it was because the Pied Piper was some sort of nickname, and they couldn't very well induct someone with only a nickname into the Hall of Saints. Otherwise, there'd be a Saint Big Daddy or Saint Hotlips.

And what of the Blarney Stone? Merriam-Webster's Online defines blarney as "skillful flattery." With all the sincerity I can muster, I'd like to say that the individual who convinced the first person to kiss an Irish rock in hopes of becoming a more flattering speaker, must indeed be, full of blarney.

Early 14th century Irish writer Francis Sylvester Mahony composed these lines of poetry about the famous oft-smooched rock wall:

There is a stone there,
That whoever kisses,
Oh, he never misses
To grow eloquent.
'Tis he may clamber
To a lady's chamber,
Or become a member
Of Parliament.

He was obviously intoxicated. So, anyway, whether in tribute to being drunk or simply because schoolwork has fried all of my higher brain functions, any points I was trying to make in this column have become sullied. But that's okay. Green beer awaits me this evening, and should I manage to get a hold of as much of it as I anticipate, slurred speech and a face-down trip to the clover patch does, too.

In summary, say what you will about St. Patrick. He knew how to throw one heck of a party.

Coffee House concert



PHOTO COURTESY OF WALL'S WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT

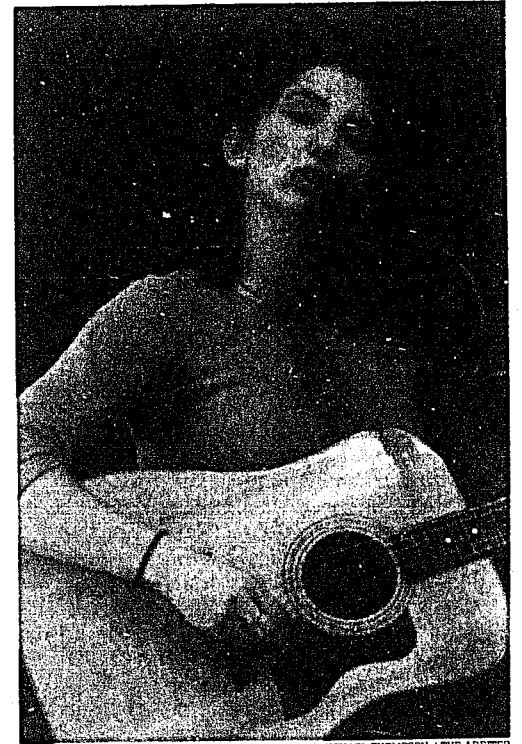


PHOTO BY MICHAEL THOMPSON / THE ARBITER

Paradigm (left) performs in the Student Union Building tonight. Jessie Veeder (above) visited Boise State last Thursday.

Series wraps up tonight with Paradigm

BY TRAVIS ESTVOLD
Culture Editor

Here it is, ladies and gentlemen of Boise State University. Tonight is the final night of this year's CoffeeHouse Concert Series. Student Activities Program Coordinator Kristen Salo said, "It's gonna be a good concert to kick off spring break." Today is St. Patrick's Day, so here's what I recommend:

Come down to the Brava Stage in the Student Union Building, catch some free music from 5 to 7 p.m., then head out to do whatever hedonistic things you were going to do elsewhere.

Sacramento-based Paradigm returns to campus after having played gigs in downtown Boise at Grainey's in July and October of last year. Salo describes the band as awesome, saying, "They have really good presence on stage,"

and mentions that female vocalist Shannon Curtis provides a nice dynamic for the band, because most other bands that trip through Boise have male leads.

Tonight's show is expected to be louder than most CoffeeHouse Concerts. Because of sound requirements, Student Activities isn't allowed to book bands, only solo artists, to play in the SUB, except for at the beginning and end of the series.

According to their publicists, Paradigm's sound draws comparisons to Sarah McLachlan, Counting Crows, U2, and ColdPlay. In my estimation, their music slides somewhere in the neighborhood of light alternative, the softer kind that doesn't make you want to hit things.

Last week, darling North Dakota college student Jessie Veeder played in the SUB. To make the

long drive, she hitched a ride with her father, who looked on proudly from the small crowd throughout her set. "He's the one who taught me. He's my major influence," the younger Veeder said of her dad after her show. Additionally, he credits the remote, which sounds a lot like "remoot" when he says it with a slight North Dakotan accent, location of the Badlands in which she grew up for the development of Jessie's unique sound. "Isolation helped develop her musical stylings," he said.

The 21-year-old singer/songwriter released her first album when she was 16, and her next release is due out in the coming weeks.

During the show, Veeder played some amazing original acoustic material, and a few covers by the likes of Lyle Lovett, John Denver, and even Elvis. Her father smiled

when he heard the Presley tune and said, "I've never heard her do an Elvis song before. That's cool."

Veeder finishes college this semester and hopes in the coming years to be "keeping music in my life, hopefully doing it for a living," just as long as she is "in a place in my musical career that I'm comfortable with."


Judging by how comfortable Jessie Veeder is with being on stage and interacting with her audiences, big things can be expected from this small-town girl.

Come out tonight, please, and support the final show in the CoffeeHouse Concert Series. Student Activities works hard to set up events to keep the student population entertained. Attending a free St. Patrick's Day musical set is a great way to say thanks and give them feedback for next year.

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Student Works.

Submit yours!

BY TRAVIS ESTUOLD
Culture Editor

Here, again, we see student work published in The Arbiter. If you have or know of any work you feel is appropriate to get published, please send it to diversions@arbiteronline.com. Professors, that means you too! If your students turn in something outstanding, send their work our way. I'd love to see as much student body participation as possible in this paper. Thank you.

Comics by Brandon Follett

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Rock stars and accountant's on the outside might not have much in common but some do share the same dreams




Brandon Follett

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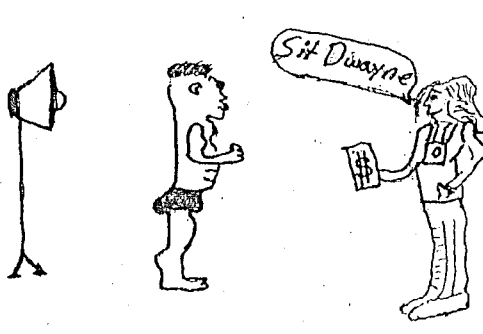
If someone you know has been sexually assaulted you may need support while you are helping them seek assistance:

- Be patient with yourself and the feelings you may be having
- Don't be afraid to ask for help.
- Know and respect your own limits.
- Don't blame yourself.
- Find support in dealing with some of the anger you may be feeling.
- Understand that coping with sexual assault is a long-term process.

Look at the cute puppy



Look at the cute boy model



Brandon Follett

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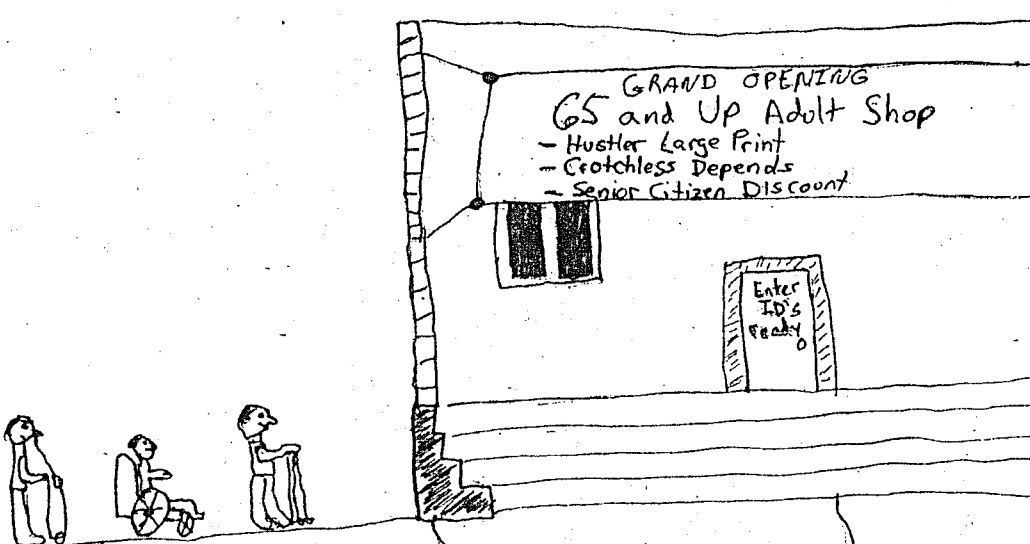
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Kasabian invades Britain, America next

BY JOSEF FIRNAGE
Culture Writer

"British music needs a kick up the arse, and Britain needs a new band to breathe life into the British people again. No one's doing it at the minute. Music feels like it's in the afterlife right now. We don't want people to give up on it. The serpent's going to rise from the sea and scare all the pirates away! We're a wake-up call to ... music. Big time. We've caught it, we've caught the moment" - Kasabian.

Kasabian has rocked England. And now they set out to rock America. Can they do it? Are they that good? Well, they've already done it in the infamous Bowery Ballroom in New York City. Is the rest of America ready?

"The album at times sounds like a movie soundtrack, at times, an illegal rave waiting to be stopped by the police. Kasabian is the most exciting debut record of the year. Wake up British rock

and roll - Kasabian have arrived" - The Sun.

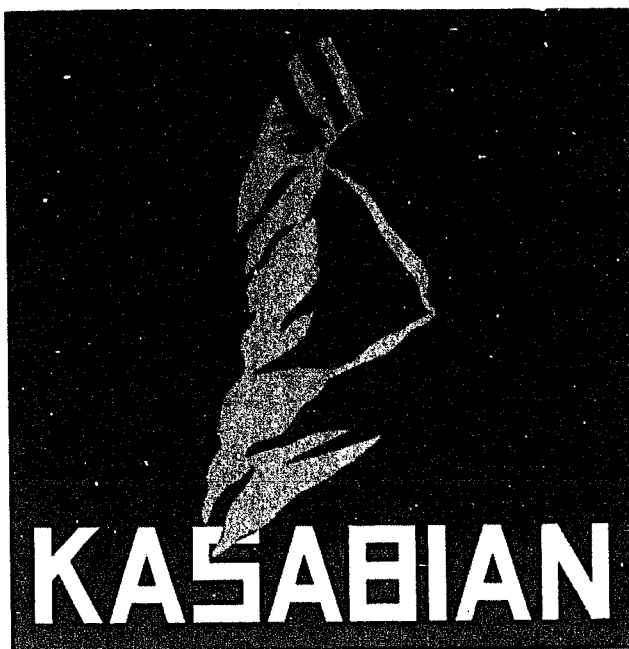
"Rip roaring indie disco. ... An infectious collection of stompers, reminiscent of the sorely missed Verve and Primal Scream, ... a super sonic debut" - Heat.

"Kasabian should do for indie dance what B.A. Baracus did for gold chains. ... The last time people made tunes like this, The Stone Roses were refusing to go to Wogan, and Shaun Ryder's face didn't look like it was molded out of wet lard" - MIXIMAG.

"If Tyler Durden could have made music instead of soap, perhaps this is what it would have sounded like" - Joe Firmage.

Read part of "The Kasabian Manifesto" for yourself:

"To bring about a change, you need to change yourself first. We believe in personal revolution. ... The Kasabian Movement's guiding aim is to change the individual. ... The Kasabian movement is you, the fifth member of Kasabian. ... Do not follow the



movement slavishly but develop it for yourself. ... It's not about ... New York or wanky Hoxton. ... Your life, your time. Use it. Live your desires. ... We live music."

Kasabian is a group of arrogant, brash, pirates, trying to run Britain's music scene, and they

want to be as prolific as the Stones and Zeppelin here in America. They're coming, so tell the King to kiss off, lock your doors, hurl rocks, and wait. Soon you just may be cleaning their wounds and singing their songs.

The fear may be with you in final 'Star Wars' sequel

BY CORKY SIEMASZKO
New York Daily News



ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF KAT

After plying the heavens in episodes one and two, Anakin Skywalker is heading to hell in "Star Wars Episode III: The Revenge of the Sith."

And Skywalker's descent into the Dark Side is so deep and disturbing, the final "Star Wars" installment might get a PG-13 rating for the first time since the series blasted off into space nearly 30 years ago, says director George Lucas.

"I don't think I would take a five or six-year-old to this," he told "60 Minutes" Sunday. "It's way too strong."

Skywalker's transformation

from cute good guy into the evil Darth Vader features a scene that could scare the bejesus out of little kids, says Lucas.

Landing on a volcano-ridden planet called Mustafar, Skywalker makes "a pact with the devil," he says. "The lava at the end, ... it ends in hell."

"The film, which opens in May, "is much more dark ... more emotional," Lucas says. "It's much more of a tragedy."

As for the critics who panned episodes one and two, they too can go to hell. "I'm very pleased with the whole thing," Lucas says.

Skywalker's dance with the devil probably won't turn off loyal "Star Wars" fans, said Bob

Thompson, a Syracuse University professor and pop culture expert.

"The accepted wisdom is that you don't mess with the franchise," Thompson said. "But so much of the fan base is people who saw the first episode 30 years ago, and they are old enough and mature enough now for something darker."

Also, children today are harder to scare, he said.

"There is a trend toward embracing darkness in children's literature and movies," Thompson said. "In 'Harry Potter' and 'Lemony Snicket,' people are poisoned by snakes, eaten by leeches, and sucked into the vortex of darkness."

Double dose of Willis: Actor could pull off being in two new hits

BY ROBERT W. BUTLER
Knight Ridder Newspapers

It sometimes seems that Bruce Willis has always been with us. At least he seems always to have a movie playing in theaters.

But it's been a while (1999's "Sixth Sense," to be exact) since he's appeared in a movie that enjoyed both unreserved thumbs-up from the critics and widespread popularity at the box office.

This spring, Willis could pull off that coup with two movies.

His self-produced action-thriller, "Hostage," opens Friday. This nail-biter casts Willis as a former big-city hostage negotiator - now a suburban police chief - who must scramble to save a family whose home has been invaded by young thugs. Meanwhile, his own family has been kidnapped by shadowy bad guys who want to ensure a certain outcome to the home-invasion incident.

And April 1, Willis will appear in "Sin City," a noir thriller that attempts to duplicate, frame for frame, the Frank Miller graphic novels on which it is based.

Speaking by telephone from Los Angeles, Willis said that virtually no movie star can afford to sit back and wait for producers to approach them with plum roles. Actors who want to keep working must be proactive, creating their own production companies and developing projects in which to appear.

"Right now, I own the rights to a handful of books that I think could make good movies. I've got thrillers like 'The Protector' and 'Black Water Transit,' but I've also got some factual stuff like 'King Cohn' (based on the life of much-hated Hollywood producer Harry Cohn).

"In the case of 'Hostage' I read the novel and checked on the rights the following day. They were available, and we snapped

them up. Three and a half years later, the movie's coming out."

Willis, who turns 50 this weekend, said he pays more attention to the kinds of movies he makes than he did just a few years ago. For "Hostage," he not only hired the writers and directors, but he also made sure he was on the set every day - even when he wasn't required for a scene.

"I'm the producer. This is my baby," he said. "So I was husbanding this project all the way through."

"And you know what's been really gratifying about 'Hostage?' We've been getting an unexpectedly strong reaction from women. I wouldn't define this as an action film - it's really more of a thriller - but still it's great that women are enjoying it, and I attribute it to the fact that it's essentially a movie about family."

"Actually three families. There's my character's family, which has been placed in jeopardy. There's the family inside the house. And then there's the broken family of the three young men who set everything in motion by invading the house."

"And on top of that, my character has a painful vulnerability from having failed to negotiate a hostage release years before. We're used to seeing movie heroes so confident that you know they'll win in the end, but here I get to play a guy who looks like he'll never overcome the obstacles facing him."

Then there's the much-anticipated "Sin City." Willis said he was approached by director Robert Rodriguez, who lured the actor with a three-minute long DVD that suggested the radical visual style Rodriguez wanted to employ.

"I only had to watch the first minute before telling him I was in," Willis said. "Honestly it's been a long time since I've been this ex-

cited about a project."

The cast members - among them Clive Owen, Jessica Alba, Benicio Del Toro, Elijah Wood, Josh Hartnett, Michael Madsen, Rosario Dawson, and Mickey Rourke - performed against green screens. Their surroundings are generated on computers.

"When you see this dazzling film, you will be blown away," Willis promised. "In fact, you'll go back and see it a couple of more times just to catch it all. It was made with brand-new technology that allowed us to work incredibly fast. The 10 days I worked on the movie were the equivalent of five weeks on a traditional film."

Rodriguez and Miller co-directed.

"After every take I'd turn to Robert first to see if we got the take. Then I'd turn to Frank to make sure the performance was true to his vision."

"It's a stretch, acting without a set around you. You're working a different set of acting muscles. But Robert and Frank were there to walk us through. And I truly believe this is a movie that rewrites the rules on how movies are made."

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17. Women's Center Advisory Center - 1 opening

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sports

SPORTS

Men's tennis
 Fri vs. Portland, 1 p.m.
 Fri vs. Yale, 5:30 p.m.
 Sat vs. Yale, 10 a.m.
 Sat vs. UNLV, 1:30 p.m.

NCAA Tournament
 Pacific vs. Pittsburgh, 10:40 a.m.
 Washington vs. Montana, 1:10 p.m.
 Arizona vs. Utah State, 5:20 p.m.
 LSU vs. UAB, 7:50 p.m.
 * all games in Taco Bell Arena

Women's tennis
 Fri. @ Rice, Houston, TX.
 Sat. @ Sam Houston State, Houston, TX.
 Sun @ Cal State Northridge, Northridge, CA.

8 THE ARBITER MAR 17 2005

[SIDE-LINE]

Today's games

- Pacific vs. Pittsburgh, 10:40 a.m.
- Washington vs. Montana, 1:10 p.m.
- Arizona vs. Utah State, 5:20 p.m.
- LSU vs. Alabama-Birmingham, 7:50 p.m.

Saturday's games

- Pacific-Pittsburgh winner vs. Washington-Montana winner, 1:20 p.m.
 Winner advances to Albuquerque, N.M.
- Arizona-Utah State winner vs. LSU-UAB winner, 3:50 p.m.
 Winner advances to Chicago.

The Arbiter Coverage

Check online immediately following each game for a full recap of all six games this weekend.

Parking nightmare?

Boise State is encouraging faculty, staff, and students to use alternative transportation where available such as: free ride on the city bus (with BSU Id and sticker) carpool, walk, bike, and any other alternative method.

Employees that leave campus for lunch in their vehicle will have difficulty finding a parking space upon their return, and traffic will be considerably heavy.

General permits will be allowed to park in the parking structure after 10:00 a.m. for the rest of the day as spaces are available. Parking for BG permit holders will be maintained but is not guaranteed. West Stadium lot will be closed to general permit parking. All spaces have been assigned to residents, event staff and media, and other events on campus.

The Big Dance in Boise

BY TREVOR HORN
 Sports Editor

The day has come for the NCAA men's tournament. The Big Dance is here, and so is all you need to know about the eight teams involved. Games begin today at 10:40 a.m. in Taco Bell Arena with Big West Conference regular season champion Pacific taking on Pittsburgh from the Big East. Number one seed Washington will then play Montana 30 minutes following the

conclusion of the first game. Play will then start up at 5:20 p.m. with Arizona taking on Utah State. The final game of the day, between LSU and Alabama-Birmingham, will round out a full day of basketball.

The winners of the morning sessions will meet up on Saturday, and the evening session winners will play Saturday night.

Following is a preview of each game going on today.

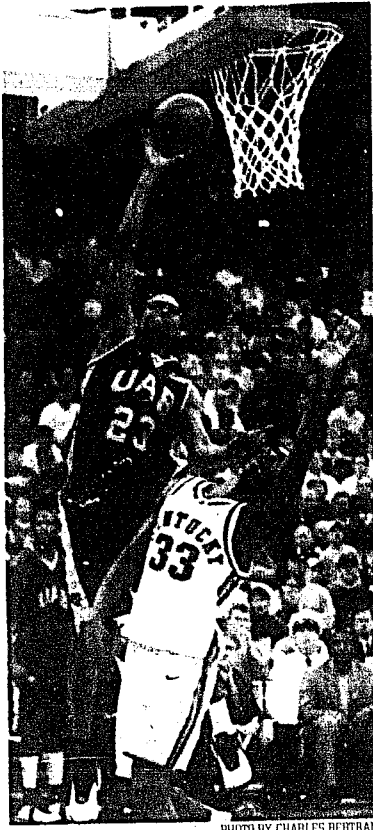
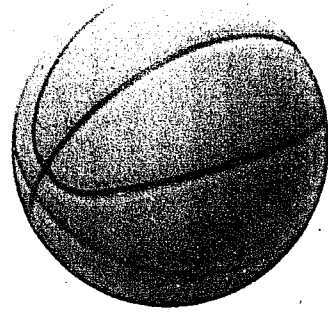


PHOTO BY CHARLES BERTRAM

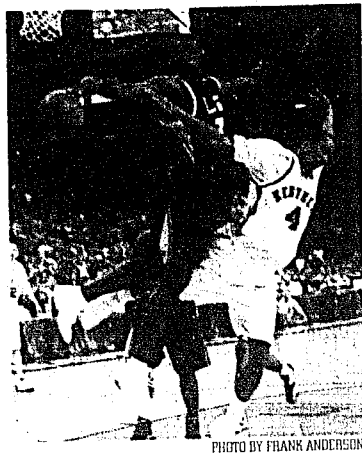


PHOTO BY FRANK ANDERSON

LSU (6) vs. UAB (11)

The final game of the day will be the lone game without a team from the western U.S. SEC member LSU is led by one of the most prolific starting lineups in the nation. All five average in double figures, led by sophomore forward Brandon Bass, who averages 17.5 points and 8.8 boards a game. UAB were the darlings of the tournament last season while advancing to the Sweet Sixteen with a win over Kentucky. This season they are led by Donell Taylor, who averages 15.6 points per game. With the amount of scoring LSU gets out of their starting five, and the fact UAB averages near 80 points per game, this could be one of the highest scoring games in the first round.

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Pacific (8) vs. Pittsburgh (9)

The 8/9 matchup is usually supposed to be the most evenly matched game in the first round - and these two may just be that. Pacific, which is located in Stockton, Calif., won the regular season title in the Big West with a perfect 18-0 record. The Tigers had won 20 straight games before losing to Utah State in the Big West tournament championship game. Pacific is currently ranked 22nd in the Associated Press Poll and took home a slew of Big West postseason awards. Senior guard David Doubley was named the conference player of the year, and fellow seniors Christian Maraker and Guillaume Yango were named to the

first-team. Head coach Bob Thomason was named coach of the year.

Pittsburgh comes in with a 20-8 record, while finishing fifth in the Big East this season. Of the eight losses this season, six of them came to teams in the tournament. This is the fourth straight year for the Panthers in the Big Dance, and they are one of just five programs in the nation to advance to the Sweet Sixteen each of the past three seasons.

Senior Chevon Troutman leads the Panthers with his 15.1 points per game, and All-Big East first team selection.



PHOTO BY NIKKI KAHN



PHOTO BY RICH SUGG



PHOTO BY JIM BATES



PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Washington (1) vs. Montana (16)

This is supposed to be the biggest mismatch of all the games this weekend, but the buzz around the nation is that the Grizzlies may have the best opportunity of any of the 16 seeds to advance. Take nothing away from Washington, though. The Huskies are coming off a PAC 10 tournament championship victory over Arizona to secure the first ever number one seed in school history. Speedy Nate Robinson led the Huskies to a No. 8 ranking in the AP poll, while averaging 16.7 points per game. Four players average double digits for UW, and there are three

other players that could easily score big for them on any given night.

Montana is led by Head Coach Larry Krystkowiak, who local fans may remember coached the Idaho Stampede last season. Krystkowiak led his alma mater to the tournament championship over Weber State in his first year coaching. Kamarr Davis earned a Big Sky All-Conference nod this season after averaging 14.8 ppg this season for the Grizzlies. Montana may be playing its best ball of the season, as they are currently on a six-game winning streak.

Arizona (3) vs. Utah State (14)

Quite possibly the best player coming to Boise in the tournament is playing in this game. Arizona guard Salim Stoudamire is averaging 18.4 points and shoots an unbelievable 91 percent from the free-throw line. Stoudamire is also one of the best three-point shooters in the country. Led by Hall of Fame Head Coach Lute Olsen, the

Wildcats won the PAC 10 regular season title and are ranked 9th in the nation.

Utah State broke Pacific's 20-game winning streak to earn an automatic berth into the tournament, with an impressive 65-52 win. Spencer Nelson leads the Aggies with 16.4 points, 8.1 rebounds, and an impressive 4.8 assists per game.

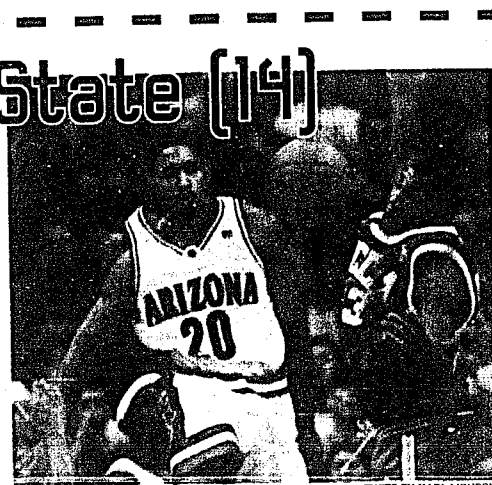


PHOTO BY KARL MONDON



PHOTO BY RANDY TOBIAS

Someone is listening to Lute

BY AL BALDERAS
 The Orange County Register

Arizona coach Lute Olson must carry more weight than he realized.

For the past few weeks, Olson has been talking about the Pac-10 deserving more recognition. Now, Washington, the conference tournament champion, got a No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Olson has been critical about the selection committee's choices in past years, claiming that Pac-10 teams in general aren't getting the recognition they deserve from the media or anyone else. He is known for referring to ESPN basketball analyst Dick Vitale as "Dukie Vitale" because of Vitale's constant praise of Duke's basketball program.

"We'll try to get the Pony Express going to get word out East that we've played well," Olson said after his team reached the finals of the Pac-10 Tournament on Friday.

Though his Wildcats ended up losing to Washington in the Pac-10 Tournament, their regular season Pac-10 title was good enough for Arizona to land a No. 3 seed in the tournament.

Though the committee seemed to accept the Pac-10 as one of the better conferences in the nation (Stanford and UCLA were also selected to the tournament), the debate continues.

UCLA senior guard Brian Morrison played at the North-Carolina during his freshman and sophomore years

and has since been able to notice how teams on the west coast are treated differently.

"I definitely think there's an east coast bias," Morrison said. "I just think that the media focuses on the east coast. Our games aren't televised on the east coast."

"We have a lot of recognition because of our history, but for other teams, I think it does make it tougher."

Morrison might have a point. Though only four Pac-10 teams deserved to be considered for the tournament (fifth place Oregon State was 8-10 in conference play), six teams from the Big East Conference received tournament bids, as did six from the Big 12 and five from the Big 10 and Atlantic Coast

Conference. UCLA athletic director Dan Guerrero said that administrators at all levels are constantly working to make sure things run smoothly.

"Lute has a lot to say about a lot of things," Guerrero said. "Sometimes you have to filter through a lot of what Lute says."

"Our responsibility as administrators is working with conference officers to make certain that we put our conference in the most positive light. Given a lot of issues that come into play, it's not always black and white, but I understand what he's saying. We talk about those things as well. If we can't improve a bad situation, I'm sure the conference will."

the roche approach



They call it bracketology (and you thought business stats was a hard class)

BY MIKE ROCHE
Official Bracketologist

Yes, I know every sports writer and especially idiots that deem themselves to be sports writers (myself) are going to have columns on the tournament today. If you don't know which particular tournament I'm referring to, you deserve to be Jayson Williams' new limo driver. Hell, some writers started on this stuff the second the NHL threw in the towel. And just like every March, legions of these bracketologists will claim supreme insight to the eventual outcome of 64 schools when whittled down to one net-cutting champion. All their mental capacity is spent in hopes of one moment when they can stand tall and tell drunken guys at a bar, "I did it. I predicted the champion."

They seek the divine knowledge from decimal points, team momentum, and key wins. All devices, although valid in their own right, only lead to the coin flip guess that is bracketology. It's the doubled-edged beauty of the NCAA tournament. All expertise flies out the window, and suddenly their guess is as good as ours.

And all will be dead wrong. In the immortal words of The Men's Wearhouse CEO George Zimmer: "I Guarantee it."

But does that shake the omniscient sports writer? Absolutely not. You see, this particular army of cheap suits, coffee stains, and media credentials are so vain in their research study, that they need to add "ology" to their little hobby. It is downright pathetic. I've taken many classes with that suffix in the title, but had never before come across bracketology. What is this subject I keep hearing about? Fooled into thinking this was a real science, I went as far as attempting to change my college major to bracketology.

No dice.

So I tried to write it off as an independent study.

Nope.

An internship with Dick Vitale?

I don't think so, baby.

Dejected in my plight, I found myself determined to explore the science of bracketology in hopes of authenticity and, eventually, the correct formula for kicking ass in an office pool.

So where in the history of academia did bracketology evolve? From my labors, I dated it back to 59 A.D. under the Roman Emperor Nero, during the pinnacle of gladiatorial competition. In typical Nero fashion, the emperor wanted a way to tax his citizens without complaint. Seeking guidance, Nero found a Roman philosopher and mathematician named Rickius Neuheiselus, who developed a system of ranking 64 gladiators into one-on-one competitions where the winner moved on till only one supreme gladiator survived. Because of its devious creation, the system was called a bracket after the existing term for citizen taxation - a joke that Nero found especially clever.

The new competition format enthralled the public. They credited its ability to connect them closer with the gladiators. When Russell Crowe won, they won. It was that simple. Soon, everyone was paying an entry fee to predict the outcomes, and thus, Nero's plan was a success.

The excitement of this new game developed into a science of statistics, odds, and probability that baffled mathematicians for centuries. The problem came with substituting numbers for athletic performance - a skill that most math nerds knew nothing about. The new study was eventually dubbed "bracketology."

Through further studies I have developed a hypothesis regarding this overlooked science. First, bracketology deals with many legitimate sciences requiring an experimental and theoretical study of natural phenomena. For example, now we know the perpetual relationship between a number 5 and number 12 seed. However, bracketology itself is a science incapable of any mathematical proof. Thus, there is no magic formula to predict Illinois' Final Four victory.

So what does this all mean to college basketball?

The same as what LeBron James means to college basketball - nothing.

This brings us back to my original criticism of anyone adding the suffix "ology" to what is ultimately a game. By doing so, you're either a loser, or someone who gets paid to sit in front of a camera and predict a game to be an exciting match-up.

By now, anyone still reading this column - who hasn't already been distracted by a gymnastics photo on some other page - has their brackets filled out with a benny to back-up their selections. Go right ahead, put all faith into the guard play of Wake Forest or the inside presence of Connecticut. With no scientific formula, your guess is as good as anyone's. Except of course, there is one proven variable of bracketology I discovered. In every experiment conducted, the participant's girlfriend won the pool by selecting teams with prettiest uniforms, resulting in financial trouble and loss of dignity for the test subject.

And for anyone studying for the final exam, the bracketological definition of that is: upset.

Men's tennis back home for three matches to kick off spring break

BY AMBER FUGER
Sports Writer

The Boise State men's tennis team kick off a spring break full of tennis at home this weekend. The Broncos will host University of Portland, Yale University, and the University of Nevada-Las Vegas tomorrow, Saturday, and Sunday.

Returning home from a long weekend of battling it out with the best teams in the nation, the Broncos are ready to turn up the heat at the Appleton Tennis Center. In Alabama, the Broncos went 1-2, beating 18th ranked Notre Dame last Friday. This was not the first time this season the Broncos faced off against a top 20 school, but it was the first time they defeated a top 20 school this season. The Broncos are ranked 55th in the nation and are 15-6 overall.

Tomorrow, the Broncos will face off against the Portland Pilots at 1:30 p.m. in the Appleton Tennis Center. The number 75 Pilots are 10-1 overall. Their last win was over Linfield College. Prior to that win, the Pilots swept the 17th ranked Whitman College, 7-0. Portland is led by senior Roman Borvanova, who is 15-7 in singles play and 13-2 in doubles play.

Tomorrow night at 5:30 p.m., the Broncos will take the court against the Bulldogs of Yale University. The Bulldogs are 3-6 overall and are led by sophomore Brandon Wai who dominates singles play. Wai's singles record is 22-6. Junior Milosz Gudowski is another Bulldog turning heads. His singles record is 11-9, and his doubles record is 6-9.

Saturday, the Broncos will challenge the 71st ranked UNLV Rebels to a rematch of the Indoor Regional Mountain Championship playoff. The Broncos won the entire tournament, earning them a spot at the Indoor National Championships in Chicago last month. The Rebels were sent home after a 4-0 loss to the Broncos and now desire payback. The Rebels are 9-3 on the season and recently beat no. 10 Oklahoma State. Prior to their win over Oklahoma, the Rebels defeated number 60 Ball State University. UNLV is led by junior Joel Kielbowicz, who is ranked 91st in the nation. Kielbowicz's singles record is 14-5, and his doubles record is 10-5.

Head Coach Greg Patton is proud of the way his team is pulling together and competing at such a high level this season.

"We are playing great teams toe to toe," Patton said.

As for the match ups this weekend, Patton is confident that his guys can take on the challenge of playing against these really good teams.

The Broncos are led by freshman Luke Shields, who is ranked 34th in the nation. Shields' singles record is 21-7, and his doubles record is 25-7. Shields' doubles teammate, junior Thomas Schoeck, is 18-9 in singles play and 26-7 in doubles.

Senior Matias Silva and Ikaika Jobe are setting precedent as a dominating doubles team. Silva is 17-5 in doubles, while Jobe is 18-9. In singles play, Silva is 17-8, and Jobe is 17-5.

Freshmen Eric Roberson and Brent Werbeck have earned some attention with their dynamic duo. Werbeck is 10-10 in singles play and 11-2 in doubles. Roberson is 18-6 in singles and 16-9 in doubles.

CATCH ALL THE COLLEGE AND NFL FOOTBALL THIS WEEKEND

SPORTS

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GOING BROKE BY DEGREE

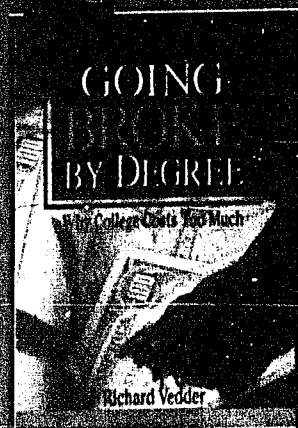
Why College Costs Too Much.

PRESENTED BY:

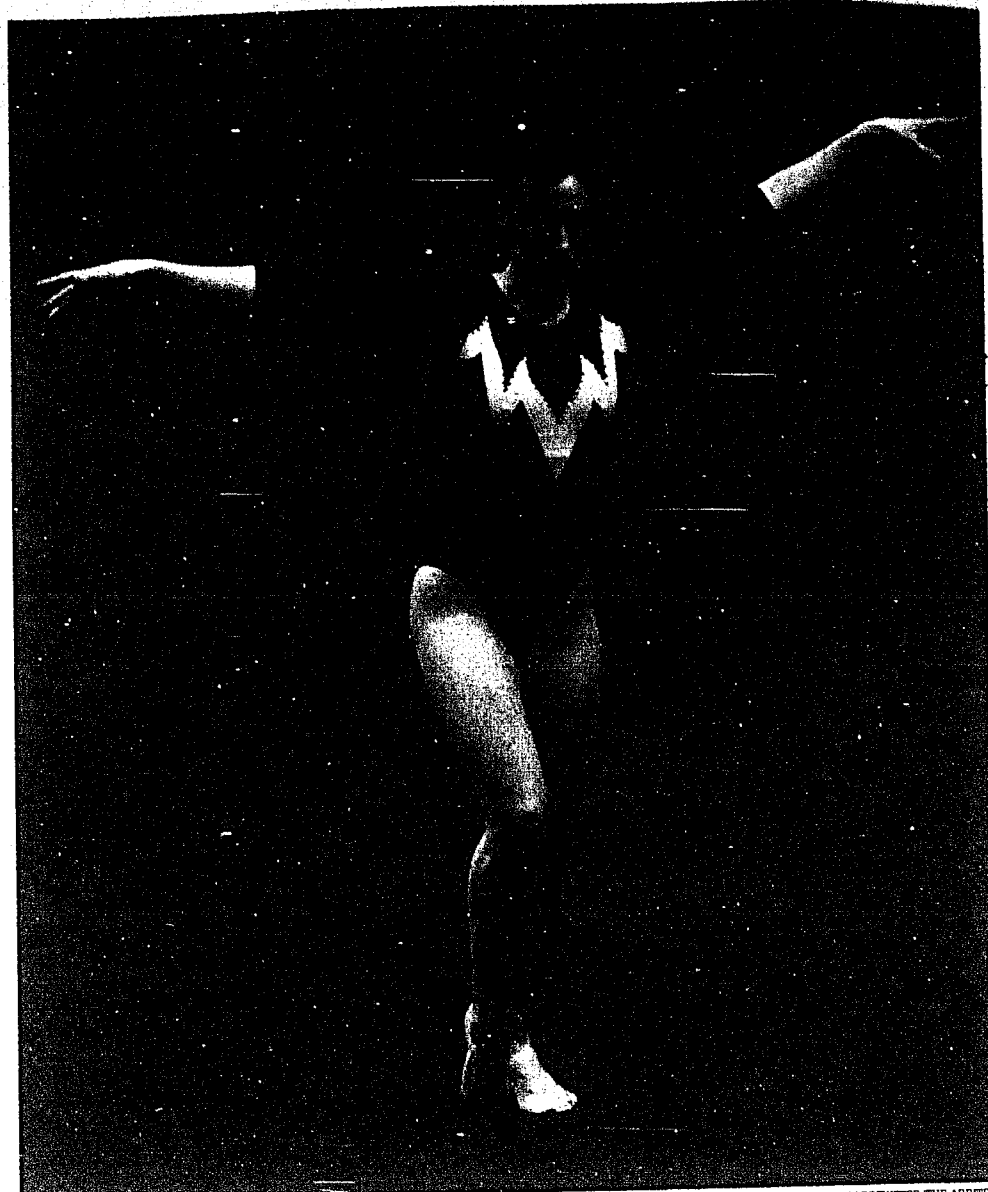
DR. RICHARD VEDDER
OF OHIO UNIVERSITY AND
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"American universities are the best in the world. It is also true that they are the most expensive. Do they need to be?"



THURSDAY, MARCH 17TH
BISHOP BARNWELL - 7:30 PM
BOOK SIGNING FOLLOWING



The Boise State gymnasts will host their final meet at Taco Bell Arena Monday night.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Gymnasts edged out by Huskies

BY ARBITER SPORTS STAFF

The Boise State gymnastics team competed at the University of Washington Monday evening and the No. 28 Huskies finished ahead of the No. 30 Broncos 195.325 to 193.25.

"Whenever you go on the road, you are dealing with different equipment, different officials. So, the score was not really indicative of what we did," BSU head coach Sam Sandmire said.

Both teams started out a little shaky. Washington with a 48.175 on vault and Boise State with 47.55 on bars. The Broncos were

then steady on vault with a score of 48.775 and the Huskies were hot on bars with 49.025. The Broncos were then a 48.45 on floor and 48.525 on beam. The Huskies kept the heat on with a 49.1 on beam and 49.025 on floor.

Carla Chambers led the Broncos on the vault with a 9.875 and a first-place finish. She also was the top finisher for the Broncos on bars with a fourth place 9.775. On the beam, Lindsay Ward was Boise State's leader with a tie for third with a 9.825. Kristin Gaare scored 9.775 on floor to finish third as the Broncos' top placer on that event. In the all-around, Chambers was

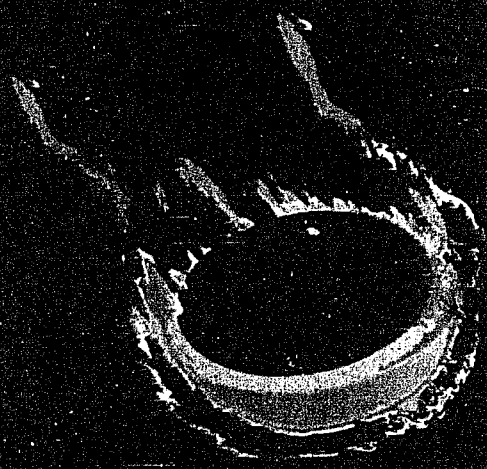
second with a 38.95. Ward was third with 38.55.

The Broncos are unofficially ranked fifth in the west region. The top six seeds go on to regional competition. The Broncos are now off until next Monday, March 21, for their final home meet of the season against Denver.

Fans can come and see the gymnasts Monday night for just \$1. "It's buck night, so everyone gets in for a buck," Sandmire said. "We are letting people with military ID's get in for free." Events begin at 7 p.m. in Taco Bell Arena.

Photography requires a camera, flashes and lots of film.

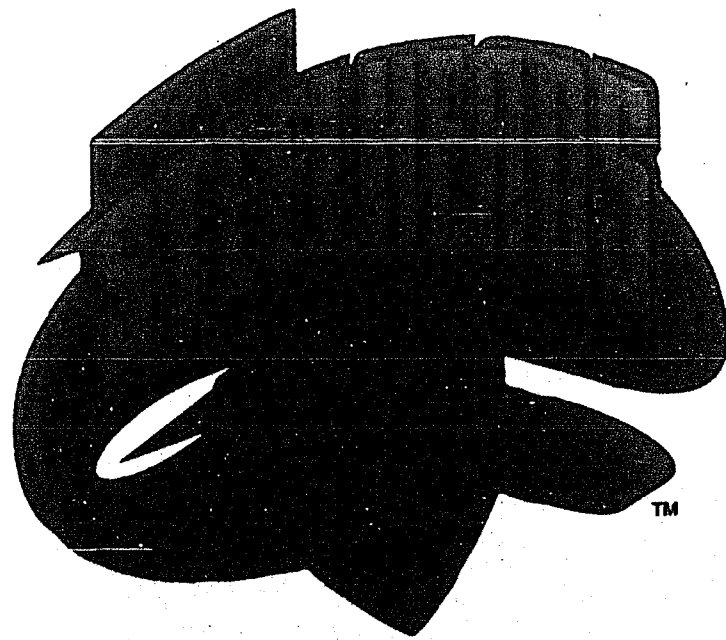
STEELHEADS HOCKEY



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Includes admission & small beverage

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classifieds

THE ARBITER 17 MAR 2005

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 phone: 345-8204 x 100
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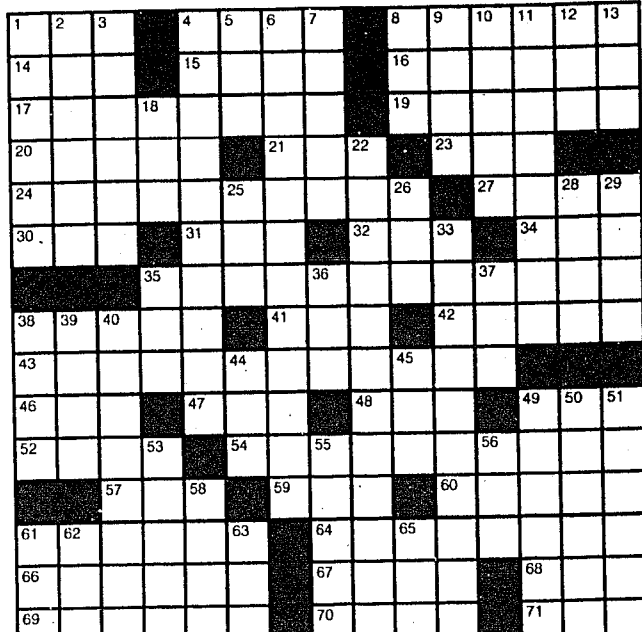
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Wanted: Prank Monkey
 Perform pranks while getting paid with bananas! Call Lindsay @ 371-7218

Crossword

ACROSS
 1 Singer Tillis
 4 Boggy area
 8 Small bays
 14 Mature
 15 Golden calf, e.g.
 16 Add salt
 17 Time for a final round
 19 Chalklike crayon
 20 Knockout gas
 21 Make up facts
 23 Part of mph
 24 Start of a petal-plucker's rhyme
 27 Indian prince
 30 Smidgen
 31 Damage a bit
 32 Pebble Beach standard
 34 Sine qua
 35 Rights a wrong
 38 Flamboyant tie
 41 Jay follower
 42 Rich or Worth
 43 Uncontrolled individuals
 46 Everything
 47 Poppycock!
 48 Sprite
 49 NASA's orbiting outpost
 52 Carbon black
 54 Makes a start on
 57 Took seats
 59 Heavy imber
 60 Cut again
 61 Isolated mountain
 64 Burgess of "Of Mice and Men"
 66 Decreaser
 67 Aphrodite's child
 68 Black or White
 69 Salad leafstalk
 70 Fails to be
 71 Explosive letters



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Solutions

I	N	I	L	S	I	A	B	E	T	E	C
V	E	S	S	O	B	E	H	E	L	V	B
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O	L	N	M	O	D	S	I	E	O	S	
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N	O	S	V	E	S	T	O	I	D	E	
L	E	T	S	I	N	T	E	M	I	A	

49 Stand firm
 50 Island, NY
 51 Big deal!
 53 Gustatory sensation
 55 "My Cousin Vinny" co-star

56 Marry
 58 Wedding-cake layer
 61 Fella
 62 Writer Burrows
 63 Young fish
 65 Silver or Ely

horoscopes

By Linda C. Black
 Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (03-17-05)
 You're charming and creative this year. You won't even mind if you run into hassles and arguments. Persevere, and occasionally compromise, to get your way. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)
 Today is a 7 - The reason it's difficult to figure out what's going on is because there's simply so much of it. Wait 'til the dust settles, in a safe place.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
 Today is a 6 - Resist the urge to splurge on lovely items you don't really need. Sure, you've earned the right and all that. Just postpone, and revisit next week.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)
 Today is a 7 - You certainly have a way with words, as everyone agrees. You may have a shortage of patience, though. Deep breaths are a big help with that.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)
 Today is a 6 - It's not a particularly good day to travel. Detours and changes are predicted. The reason you were going could even disappear. Better wait.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
 Today is a 6 - Friends want to cheer you up, but you shouldn't necessarily accept all the advice they offer to you. It's your assets on the line.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 Today is a 6 - Don't let a naysayer ruin your deal. Take all criticism into consideration. Make a list, and promise you'll make sure the problems are solved. Then get someone to do it.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 Today is a 7 - You're naturally a good salesperson, especially when you like whatever it is you're selling. Don't offer more than you can deliver.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 Today is an 8 - Don't be depressed by financial shortfalls, and advise the others the same. Just because you can't do what you want now doesn't mean you never will.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 Today is a 6 - Tensions run high, but this is not a bad thing. If you've been stuck in a rut for a while, it takes energy to get out.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 Today is a 7 - Your suggestion either isn't tried, or for some reason, it doesn't work. A conflict is created by disrupting an old routine. Proceed with caution.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 Today is an 8 - Not a good day to travel. Not a good day to go shopping. Arguments break out, so it's not a good day to take children to nice restaurants, either.

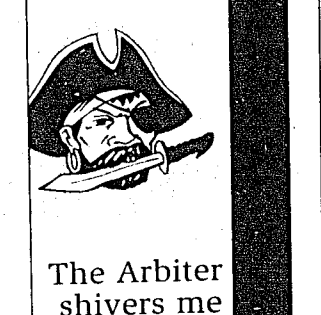
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
 Today is a 6 - Several different points of view are being strongly stated. Go with the one that puts the most bread and butter on your table.

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THREE OUT OF 15 PEOPLE WERE AVAILABLE AND ONLY ONE OF THEM FORGOT TO CALL IN.

I PREDICT THAT SOMEDAY YOU'LL WEAR YOUR PANTS SO HIGH THAT YOU'LL CHOKE YOURSELF TO DEATH WITH YOUR BELT.

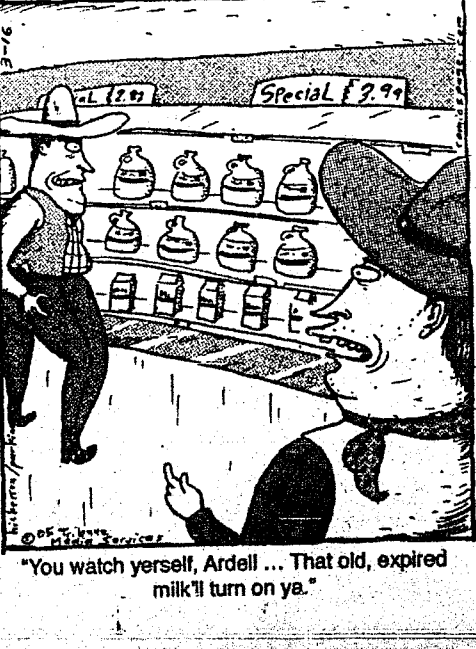
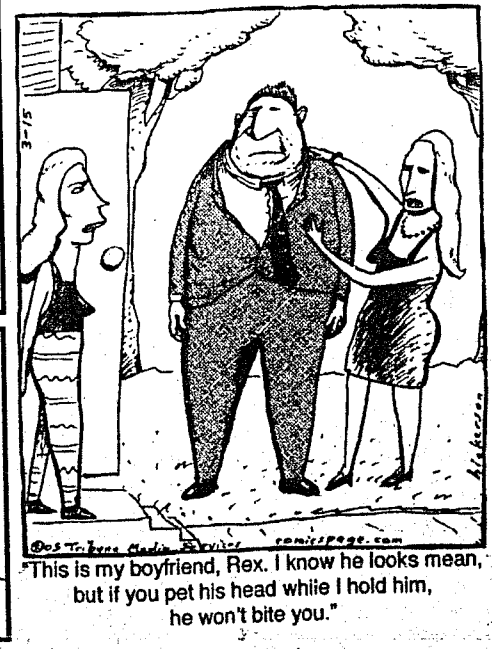
WE NEED TO LEAN UP THE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS SO I HAVE TO SMARTSIZE ONE RESOURCE.

SO IT WAS A PHONE CALL BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE? IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THEY HADN'T USED THE MUTE BUTTONS.

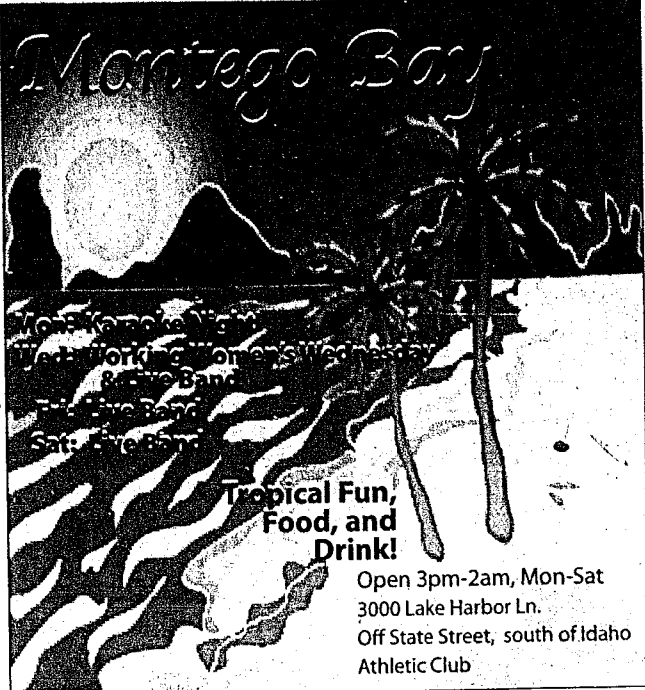
AND THE TOWNS-PEOPLE WILL ERECT A STATUE TO HONOR THE BELT. STUPID TOWNS-PEOPLE.

WOW. USUALLY IT'S JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH WHEN PEOPLE SAY, "I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS."

COMICS



Montego Bay



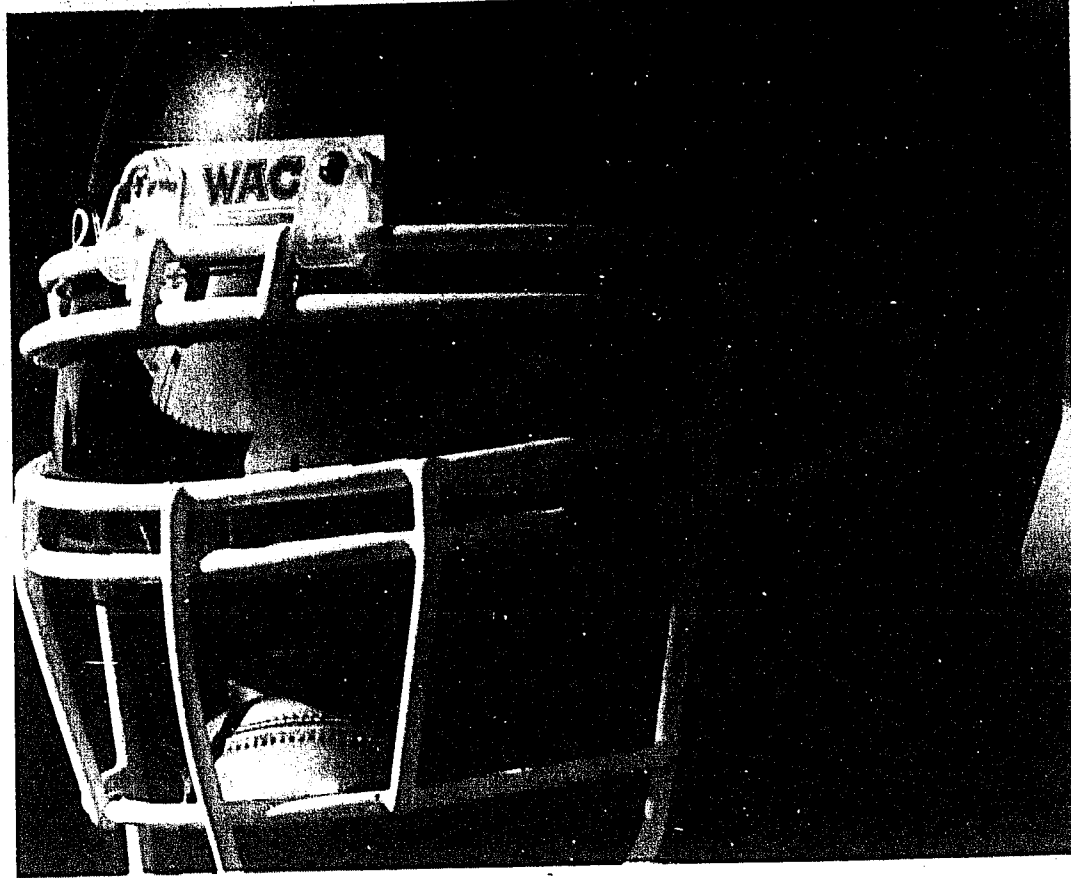
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The Boise State football team is returning 17 starters from last season's 11-1 WAC championship team. The Broncos began spring practice in preparation for the season opener on Sept. 3 at Georgia.

PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER FOR THE TRIBUNE

Broncos gear up for 2005 season

BY TREVOR HOAN
Sports Editor

Bronco fans will witness two things this spring when they take

a look at this season's edition of the Boise State football team.

1. Familiarity
2. Youth

The latter of the two is something fans are accustomed to now. It's the former that fans may need some time getting used to—in a good way.

The Broncos are returning 17 starters from last season's 11-1 Western Athletic Conference champions. Another mind-boggling fact that blares out from the spring ball depth chart is that of the 54 players listed, 46 are under-classmen. That's an out-of-this-world, 82 percent that should be back for another go-around in 2006.

"On one end, we are bringing back a lot of guys who have a lot of experience built up. But on the other hand, we lost key players on defense who will be hard to replace," junior tri-captain Korey Hall said.

Four positions on defense will need to be replaced by departing seniors.

One of those positions that will

be hard to replace is Hall's mentor Andy Avalos. The Will back position should be taken over by senior Chris Barrios.

There is a battle at the right defensive end, after the graduation of Julius Roberts. As of right now, Mike Dominguez and Tim Volk are listed at the top of the depth chart, but incoming junior college transfer Dennis Ellis may give them both a run for their money. Ellis had 18.5 sacks last season in junior college.

The offensive line is bringing back 4 of their 5 starters from last season, so the lone battle this spring is at the center position. Right now, three guys are vying for the starting nod. Junior Joe Weigand, sophomore Jeff Biedermann, and JUCO transfer Jadon Dailey are all in the hunt.

One of the best battles for this spring will be at the wide receivers position. The Broncos may be deeper at the receiving corps than ever before. Returning at the Z position are Josh Smith and Jason Murray. Smith is listed at the top of the depth chart,

but senior transfer from Oregon State Cole Clasen and JUCO transfer Jerard Rabb should get plenty of playing time. Rabb was one of the biggest recruiting signings for the Broncos this season. He is one of the biggest receivers to play at BSU, standing at 6 foot, 3 inches and weighing a stout 200 pounds.

Another big receiver this season for Boise State is former backup quarterback Legadu Naanee. The junior moved over at the end of last season and is ready for the challenge, and could give the Broncos numerous options on offense.

"I see myself as a receiver and not as a developing one or a converted one," Naanee said.

Drisan James is listed as number one on the depth chart at the X position. Along with James and Naanee are Chris Christopher and freshman Vinnie Perretta.

The Broncos practiced three times this week, and will take off next week for Spring Break, then will get back on the field on March 28. They begin the 2005 season at Georgia on Sept. 3.

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Shimmick Construction will be recruiting on campus these dates: Wednesday, March 30, 2005 @ BSU Career Fair in the (SUB) Jordan Ballroom from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Thursday, March 31st on campus interviews will be held at the Career Center from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. On Campus interviews conducted on a pre-select basis. Please submit your resume to us at the Career Center. If you would like to email or fax us, please do so prior to March 21st for consideration. Email: employment@shimmick.com or fax to 510-293-1110

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