

10-17-2005

Arbiter, October 17

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

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on the mic Listen

culture p. 6

sports p. 8

no way Jose

ASBSU encouraged to support education bill

RYAN MORTENSEN
News Writer

The Associated Students of Boise State University were given a bill proposed by ASBSU Chief of Staff Tim Flaherty during Thursday's Senate meeting that would provide for the appointment of a nonvoting student member to the State Board of Education.

Tim Flaherty, a junior at BSU, passed around a bill that he and other members of ASBSU are shopping around the state Legislature to the Senate and guests of the Senate.

Flaherty said they had taken a large lobbying effort this past summer as they met with many key players in the state Legislature.

In the meetings, Flaherty said they spoke with the state Legislature about an idea that would put a student on the State Board of Education.

The proposed bill was prepared by Flaherty and other members of his staff. Flaherty said they met with many members of the state in the last month about sponsoring the specific bill, and they showed some interest.

At this time, Flaherty said he could not speak publicly about who the legislators were and what they said regarding the proposed bill.

Flaherty said he spoke with the chairman of the Senate Education Committee who said that higher education will be discussed this year in the state Legislature, but how much action or what action would take place is unknown, and there would probably be big changes.

At that time, Flaherty said the chairman was supportive of having a student on the State Board of Education for many reasons.

"It would allow students of higher education to have a voice," Flaherty said. "The State Board of Education has a policy, at least that is what I've heard, that they do not speak to stu-

See ASBSU [page 3]



PHOTO BY DUSTIN LAPRAY/THE ARBITER

State Board faces community opposition

BY GINNY EGGLESTON
News Writer

Over 400 community members, students and teachers from Idaho schools and Boise State University filled the Jordan Ballroom of the Boise State Student Union Wednesday for the State Board of Education public hearing. The hearing lasted nearly four and a half hours with more than 70 community members giving their opinion on the proposed changes.

The proposed changes would entail cutting down the number of high school electives and adding four more credits of math and two more credits of science to gradu-

ate. By the end of sixth grade, students would have to choose a parent-approved learning plan that they would follow until they graduate. If the measure passes the state Legislature, the requirements will be implemented statewide for this year's sixth-graders.

SBE Communications Officer, Luci Willits, opened the discussion by saying the public hearings were not required by law and the reason the SBE was giving public hearings was because they are interested in the public's input.

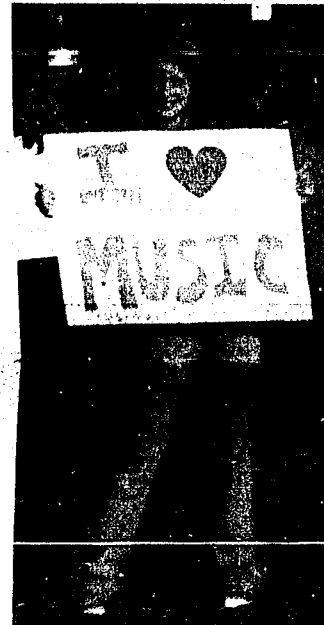
Only one SBE member, Milford Terrel, was present to hear comments. Several community members said they were disappointed that more SBE members were not present at the hearing. Willits said that although not all the SBE mem-

bers were present, the comments made were being recorded and would be presented to the SBE at a later date.

"The (SBE) seems to have already decided on an agenda and searched around for the data to support (the SBE's) preconceived ideas," Robert DeCross said.

DeCross, mathematics professor at Northwest Nazarene University, said to compare Idaho's test scores to countries like Korea, Japan and Ireland was flawed because more students attend private schools in those countries than in the U.S. According to DeCross, the countries that lead in test scores have upwards of 30 percent of the student population in private, non-govern-

See SBE [page 3]



High school students gathered outside the Student Union Building at BSU Wednesday to voice their concerns about proposed changes that would limit the number of electives available, such as art and music. Local Boise high school groups played instruments and sang along University Drive before the State Board of Education public hearing.

Queer as Film Festival returns to Boise

BY SARA BAHNSON
News Editor

The screenings for the third annual "Queer as Film Festival" begin Thursday at the Boise State Special Events Center and The Flicks movie theater, and include a selection of independent shorts, documentaries, feature-length films and a panel discussion. Boise State's Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board, as well as other local businesses, are sponsoring the event.

The "Queer as Film Festival: Queer Cinema Comes to Boise," with events taking place Thursday and Friday, is modeled after regional and national queer film festivals.

"Queer as Film" was founded in 2003 and seeks to provide the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) community with a chance to see positive and multi-faceted images of themselves in film, according to Jennie Myers, a member of the Boise State Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board planning committee for the "Queer as Film." The film festival is a special project of the Cultural and Ethnic Diversity Board, according to Myers.

"I think it's important to acknowledge that the mainstream media has historically marginalized the queer community," Myers said. "The film festival is an opportunity to challenge this."

Myers said a lot of effort went into choosing the films for the festival.

"We looked at films that won a myriad of awards, both nationally and internationally," Myers said. "They're really touching representations that anyone can enjoy. I think they have a wide appeal."

The feature presentation, "29th & Gay" will begin on Thursday at 7 p.m. at The Flicks (646 Fulton Street). According to queerasfilm-boise.com, "29th & Gay" is the gay movie for the gay everyman.

The film recently played to a sold-out audience at NewFest, the 17th Annual New York Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and was named one of

See Film [page 3]

BSU Women's Center hosts Bra Project

BY SARA BAHNSON
News Editor

Boise State students, staff and community members gathered Thursday night at the Jordan Ballroom for the Bra Project, an evening of art, live auction and music that raised money for breast cancer awareness and prevention.

The BSU Women's Center-sponsored event featured local artists' personal representations of bras, each with a story behind them. The bras were modeled by the artists themselves or someone close to the

artist, over a black shirt and pants that served as a backdrop.

"Every cancer survivor has a story and each of these bras has a story," said one Women's Center staff member.

Local musician Rebecca Scott performed throughout the night and served as the Bra Project auctioneer.

This second-annual Bra Project was the first time the center sponsored the event and the first time the event was held on campus. Last year's Bra Project was held at the Women of Steel art gallery.

The crowd of about 80 people bid on 13 bras.

The Women's Center staff presented a bra to former center Coordinator Melissa Wintrow. The bra, which was decorated with slogans, quotes and artwork by center staff, was created to honor Wintrow's dedication to the center.

Bra artists were as diverse as the designs themselves.

A bra designed by 11-year-old Kinsey Simmons was "inspired by the Native American women who were strong, brave and beautiful," according to Simmons' descrip-

tion in the event program. "Kinsey wishes to bring these traits to the women of breast cancer."

Another bra, "Armed with Pink: A Feminist Breast Plate," designed by BSU alumnae Melody Sky Eisler, was meant to redefine the color pink as a powerful color of armor used to protect women, according to Eisler's description.

"This 'bra' is about showing women's natural strengths and that what is feminine is strong!"

Community artists also partici-

See Project [page 3]

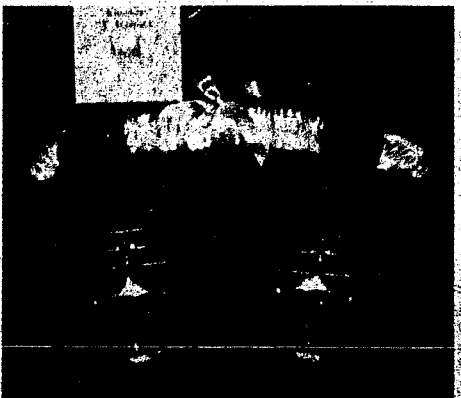


PHOTO BY SARA BAHNSON/THE ARBITER

Community members, BSU alumni and current students donated creative representations of bras that were auctioned off Thursday night to raise money for Breast Cancer Action, an organization that promotes breast cancer awareness and prevention.

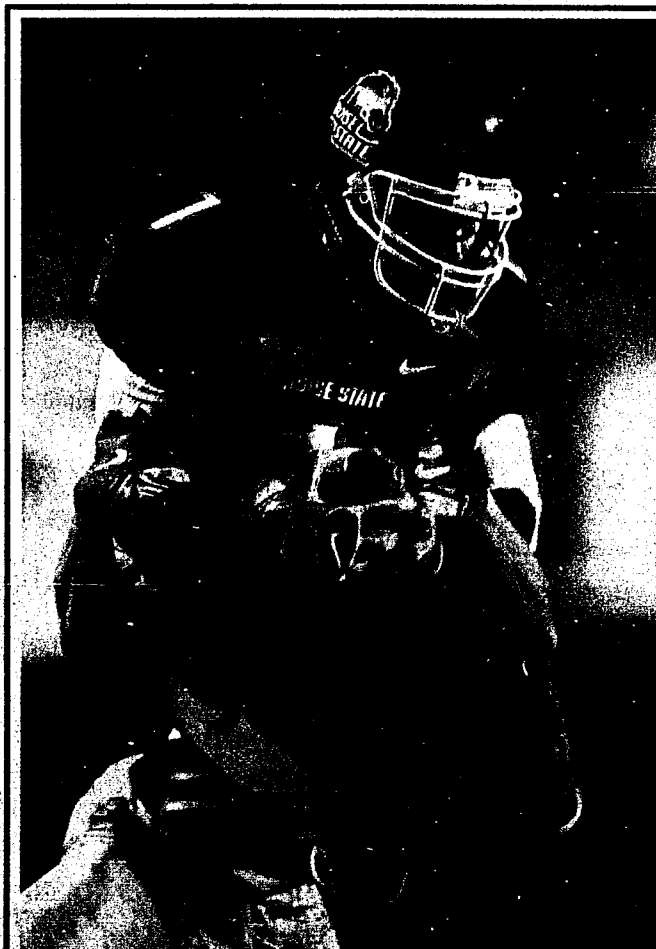


PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Broncos make it 300: Junior wide receiver Jerard Rabb (1) led the Broncos with 73 yards receiving as BSU beat San Jose State 38-21 Saturday. Recap and Analysis in Sports.

World/National/What the? stories courtesy of KRT Campus Wire Services unless otherwise credited. Local/BSU stories are courtesy of the Boise State Web site at www.boisestate.edu. All stories are compiled by News Writers.

world

Exchange students flock to Japan to study game design

TOKYO — The number of foreign exchange students — particularly from other Asian countries — studying at vocational colleges in Japan is rising.

Popular courses include animation, video game design and fashion, all of which are considered high-profile careers these days.

Most of the students hope to start their careers in Japan and some would like to return home.

This could lead to the growth of the industries across Asia.

"I loved Final Fantasy and I wanted to become a video game programmer," said Lee Byong Ok, 29.

"There are schools with courses for video game programmers in South Korea, but I wanted to learn about Japanese games," he said.

Lee came to Japan after studying economics in South Korea in 2002.

He is currently a sophomore in the game software course at Japan Electronics College.

"Everybody wants to do it," he said. "We are going to show the world that we are still alive and want to have fun."

The city's tourism agency, the New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corp., says Mardi Gras will return in 2006, though with hotel space still expected to be crowded with those left homeless from Katrina and from contractors helping rebuild the city, its scope is uncertain.

"Japanese animators such as Hayao Miyazaki are internationally recognized," college spokesman Tamotsu Terawaki said.

"Vocational schools offer clear programs and motivated students are entering our college," he said.

The college offers extensive career guidance for its foreign students and builds contacts with firms in relevant fields.

In the past two years, 82.9 percent of exchange students who wanted to work in Japan found jobs here.

national

Despite the ruins, preparations for Mardi Gras go on

NEWORLEANS — They don't call this a party town for nothing.

Despite fetid piles of garbage, thousands homeless from flooding and the city on the brink of financial ruin, artists have begun crafting puckyish icons for Mardi Gras parades four months away.

The pre-Lenten Mardi Gras celebrations here boast masquerade balls and raucous merrymaking that gain worldwide attention. And for Blaine Kern, the 78-year-old known as "Mr. Mardi Gras," a little joy is exactly what this town needs.

"Yes, there will be Mardi Gras parades!" declared Kern, whose family operates Kern Studios, a Mardi Gras assembly line.

When Kern returned from Houston, where he evacuated to get away from Hurricane Katrina, he was besieged by friends wanting to know whether the February show would go on.

"What I hope to see is the ability to create a plan for our community in case disaster hits, whether it's a natural disaster or any other type," said Anne Perry, the college's technology division chair. "They will have to learn about local government and crisis management."

But the coursework will go beyond coordination, she said.

"It's not only planning and understanding policy, but it's also going to be mitigation," she said. "I think what's most needed is to understand the behavioral responses of people, the sociology of it, how people respond to the disasters, the media, the attention."

2-year college plans degree in disasters

Disasters, both natural and man-made, prompted Kankakee Community College in Illinois to create an associate degree program in emergency management, a spokesman said.

The program, touted as among

the first of its kind in the state, may begin offering classes this spring.

Recent events, from terrorist attacks to natural disasters, show the need for more people prepared to handle catastrophes, college officials said, and they want to be among the first to train students for this growing field.

"We need incident managers," said Michael Casagrande, program coordinator. "I think it's really an evolving field."

The college has been developing such a program for two years.

The program, created with help from the governor's office and expected to draw 15 to 30 students in the first semester, will train people on how respond to a variety of scenarios, including train disasters. Students also will perform rescue exercises in confined spaces, tactical operations and weapons of mass destruction training.

Future courses could include policy and planning, public awareness and community relations, incident management and sociology and recovery of disaster.

"But the letters and e-mails she received changed her mind. She heard from women who said they feared treatment because every woman they knew who got treatment had died.

Others said if they had a mastectomy, their husbands would leave them.

She knew she had to speak out through the media and through her music.

"I am not going to be part of the problem," Soraya said. "I am not going to be part of that tradition."

Soraya, who lives in Miami, is a spokeswoman for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and during September and October takes a break from her music career to focus on breast cancer awareness.

Ines Rodriguez, a breast cancer survivor and oncology nurse from Davie, Fla., said Soraya is her role model.

"She opened the door that few people had even knocked on," said Rodriguez, 44.

Like Soraya, Rodriguez talks about her experience everywhere she goes.

She survived, she says. They can, too.

"I can be their voice," Soraya said.

The 36-year-old Latin Grammy winner especially wants to break the code of silence among Hispanic women that often prevents them from seeking timely treatment.

This year, an estimated 211,240 women in the United States are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer. An estimated 40,410 women will die from it, according to the American Cancer Society.

Soraya's mantra is clear: Early detection is key; treatments are advancing; and support systems do exist.

"It's better to know early on when you have lots of options," she said.

Soraya's mother, aunt and grandmother died of breast cancer. In 2000, when she was diagnosed with advanced breast cancer, she wanted to keep her story private.

But the letters and e-mails she received changed her mind. She heard from women who said they feared treatment because every woman they knew who got treatment had died.

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Dr. Sandra Franco, co-director of the Memorial Breast Cancer Center at the Memorial Cancer Institute in Hollywood, Fla., and Pembroke Pines, Fla., said some patients who grew up in Latin America fear diagnosis and treatment.

"There is a feeling in these patients that breast cancer is a more deadly disease than it really is," said Franco, who is Colombian.

Latin American countries don't have massive breast cancer screening campaigns. Treatment, drugs and support groups are less available than in the United States, she said. The message about early detection isn't trumpeted. In Colombia, 80 percent of the cancers diagnosed are at an advanced stage, Soraya said.

"That's crazy," she said. "That's what we are trying to stop. We are trying to get the message of early detection out there."

local/bsu

BSU hosts Graduate and Professional School Day

The Boise State University Career Center will host Graduate and Professional School Day from 2-6 p.m. Oct. 27 in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom.

Representatives of graduate and professional schools from the Northwest and across the nation, as well as Boise State and other local graduate programs, will be represented to provide information and answer questions about their programs and admissions requirements.

The free event is open to all college students and community members interested in learning more about graduate school opportunities. A list of participating programs is available at <http://career.boisestate.edu/grad-day.htm>.

For more information contact the Career Center at (208) 426-1747.

Artist Tom Coleman to give workshop

Tom Coleman, ceramic artist, will give a visiting artist workshop from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Oct. 13-14 at the Clay Studio at Boise State University. Admission is free for all students and faculty; non-students will be charged \$25, which will cover both days.

Coleman has taught at the Northwest College of Art and Portland State University in Oregon; the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and has operated the Coleman Clay Studios and Gallery Inc., in Las Vegas.

He has shown his works at exhibits around the world, including Denmark, Holland, New York, Finland, San Diego and Texas. He also is the author or co-author of several books, including Soul of the Bowl, Glazes I Use, and With a Little Help From My Friends.

what the?

A father-son talk just wouldn't suffice

After having his baby, a 17-year-old girl in Hawick, England, broke up with her boyfriend and embarked on a relationship with his father.

In response, the younger man walked into his dad's living room and stabbed him. He survived.

The prosecutor said, "It appears that ... (the) relationship ... with the accused's ex-girlfriend was the cause of some friction."

Two point seven! We have a winner!

Breathalyzers, which have been installed in bars to help patrons determine whether they are OK to drive, are being misused by young men staging drinking contests. They use the devices to keep score.

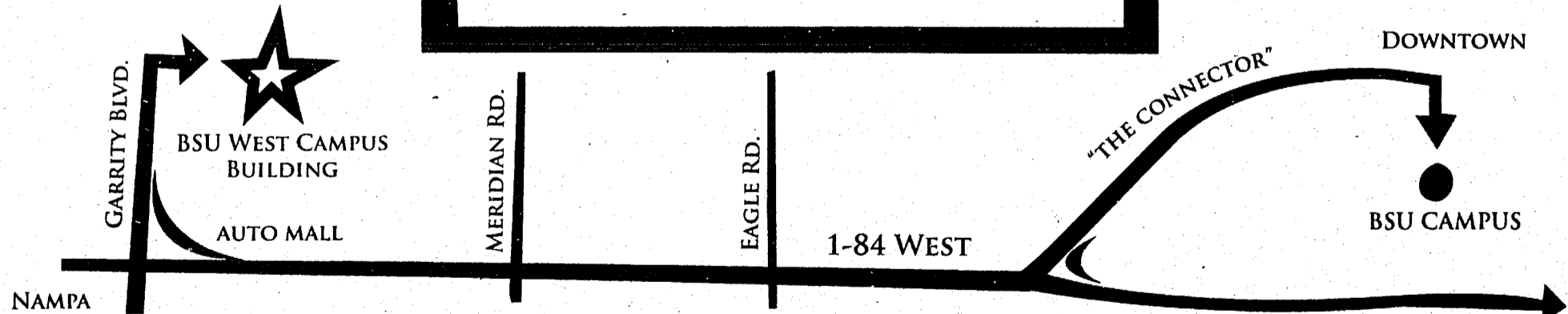
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Campus Rec Center receives recognition

BY EMILY POITEVIN
News Writer

Boise State University's Student Recreation Center was recently honored with the Athletic Business Publications 2005 Facility of Merit Award. Judged by a panel of seven qualified architects and facility administrators, the award is designed to honor architecturally superior facilities throughout the nation.

The BSU rec center was chosen from 92 eligible entries, and is one of only 10 recipients nationwide to receive the award.

Senior Associate Director Jenny Nigrini said she feels that the BSU community got a lot of bang for their buck when the center was built.

"First, we have an absolutely beautiful building," she said. "Secondly, what makes our facility stand out is the efficient use of space. We have talked to quite a few architects and recreation professionals who find it amazing that we managed to fit as much as we did into the space we had available."

The 90,000-square-foot build-

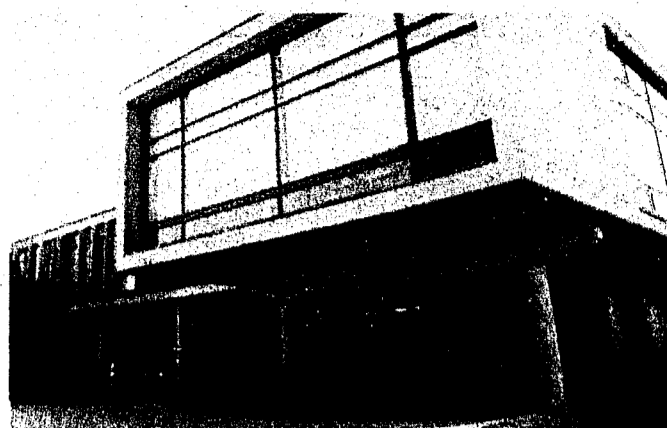


PHOTO BY RYAN PFLISER/THE ARBITER

ing was designed by Design West Architects and YGH Design, and is located on University Drive, across from the Student Union Building. The idea for a student recreation center began in 1994 when Kevin Israel, now a staff member of Resident Life, and a group of Associated Students of Boise State University members began raising money and support for such a facility. Eight years later, in the fall of 2002, the rec center opened its doors to BSU students and faculty.

Nigrini said the vision for such a place became a reality because of all the work administrators, faculty, staff and students put into the project.

"Receiving this award is one way of letting all those involved know that their hard work not only produced a student recreation center, but one that is of distinction among recreation facilities throughout the country," she said.

The rec center features many different options for those interested

In getting a good workout. It offers three volleyball courts, a squash court, four racquetball courts, as well as a 10,000-square-foot gymnasium with basketball hoops. In addition, there is a 3,000-square-foot group exercise studio and an elevated indoor running track. They have over 100 pieces of the latest cardio equipment, including treadmills, rowing machines, bicycles and stair climbers.

Each semester, the rec center also offers a full schedule of group exercise classes, including contact kickboxing, yoga, cycling and street dance.

BSU will be featured in the upcoming December issue of Athletic Business with the nine other winners, and a representative of the center will accept the award in Orange County, Calif., on Dec. 2.

This past spring, the rec center also received the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association Outdoor and Indoor Facility Award, which honors the top new and recently remodeled facilities in the nation as outstanding sports centers.

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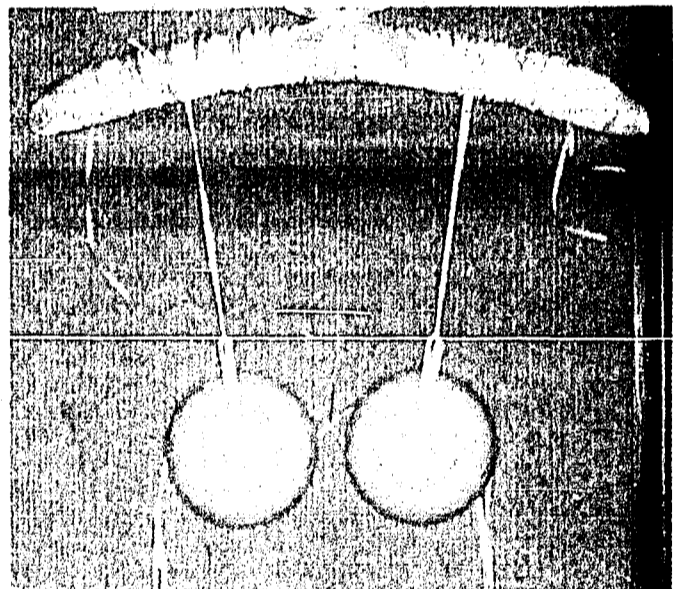
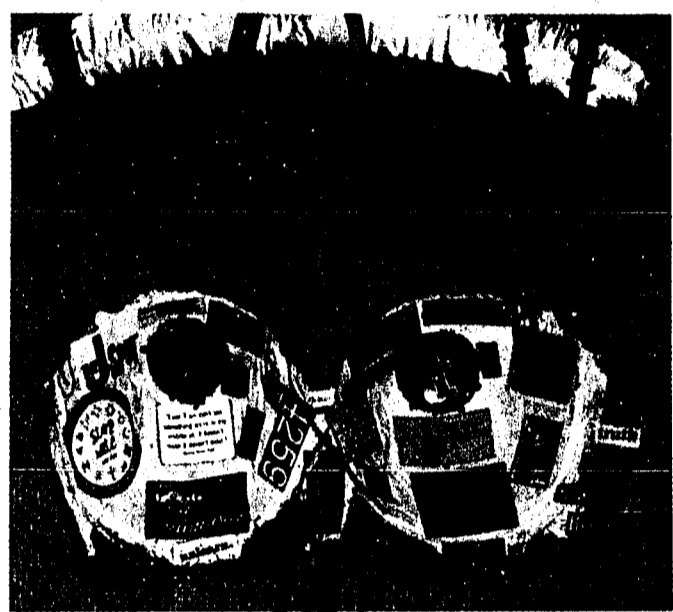
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Project [from page 1]

ated in designing bras.

Reham Jacobsen, owner of Mosaic Essential in Boise, designed "Funky Chik," a sculpture more than a wearable bra.

Savitri Guard designed a bra she called "Hijab," a traditional Islamic headscarf that included a criss-cross bra.

Guard participated in last year's Bra Project, as well.

"I chose to do [the Bra Project] again because I like the hobby of crafting bras and I can also donate it for a good cause," Guard said. "I'm interested in women's rights in the Middle East and I've been doing a lot of research, so I chose to design the bra based on that."

The center raised over \$1,000 on

the bra auction to benefit Breast Cancer Action (BCA).

BCA is a national grassroots organization of breast cancer survivors and their supporters.

BCA works to bring about true prevention through understanding and eliminating the causes of breast cancer.

While she did not win the bra she bid on, BSU student and member of its Organization for Gender Equality and Education, Tiffany Tinchler said she saw the Bra Project as a good way to show her support for breast cancer awareness.

"We're very pleased," said Autumn Haynes, interim coordinator of the Women's Center.

"We would've liked to receive more campus involvement, but we had a great time raising money for Breast Cancer Action."

ASBSU [from page 1]

dent leaders, but rather they have open forums and student leaders are welcome to attend the forums at state board meetings."

Flaherty also said having a student on the State Board of Education would allow more direct contact and a little bit more influence in the policy that governs students.

Flaherty said some members of the State Board have had mixed emotions about it, and Flaherty asked for the support of ASBSU in moving this bill forward to the state Legislature.

"Communication with the state board has not been a problem, but in the past and today for other universities, it has been a problem getting their voices heard at the open forums," Flaherty said.

"I think it's really a good idea," said BSU student Alex Daw. "I think it's really important that we get a student voice on the board."

Daw also said he encouraged the

ASBSU Senate to support the bill.

Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Arizona are some of the states already involved with having students sitting on their State Boards of Education.

According to the bill, one of the appointed positions on the State Board will be reserved for membership by a student appointed by the governor.

The student shall be registered as a full-time student at one of the following institutions of higher learning: Boise State University, Idaho State University, Lewis and Clark State College, or the University of Idaho.

The institution from which the ex officio nonvoting student member will be selected shall follow this rotation: first Boise State, then Idaho State, then Lewis and Clark, then the University of Idaho, then return to the top of the rotation. The next ASBSU Senate meeting will be held Tuesday in the Student Union Forum from 4:40 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.



Tim Flaherty

SBE [from page 1]

ment education of some kind.

Several parents spoke at the public hearing. Many said they didn't like the proposed changes because they would give their children a less rounded educational experience. Others said they thought the changes would drive students out of school and not encourage them to continue their education through college.

One parent said her courage to speak in front of a large crowd of strangers came from the speech and debate classes she took in high school, programs she said would suffer if the graduation rules changes are approved. She also said if her daughter was forced to follow the new standards she would have to give up choir, band and her school's student council.

Idaho state representative Steve Smylie spoke at the hearing. Smylie said he was concerned about funding new changes. He said the changes would require a tax increase to cover the costs.

Stephen Affleck, BSU Civil Engineering professor, said instead of piling on more requirements in science and math, the SBE should make sure the classes that are cur-

rently in the public education curriculum are of the highest quality and have rigorous expectations. "Employers in my field want engineers who are more well-rounded in arts and humanities and social science."

Jared Sorum, BSU music education senior, said music, along with his parents got him through high school.

"I learned math by understanding the theory of music, and I learned physics by understanding the physics of sound ... I know my history in reference to my music history." Sorum said without the arts he would not have gotten into college.

Not all speakers were opposed to the new rules.

Teresa Moltzer, a representative from the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, a business lobbying group, said the business community needs more people who are better prepared in the math and sciences.

Moltzer said students were dropping out because high school isn't rigorous enough to keep them interested. Several public hearings are planned around the state in the coming weeks.

In November, the SBE will take their case to the Idaho Legislature.

Film [from page 1]

the Best of NewFest.

Tickets are available the day of the show at The Flicks box office for \$5 for students and \$8 for general admission.

Friday will include a presentation of "TransGeneration" at the BSU Special Events Center at 6 p.m.

This film festival version of an eight-episode documentary series that aired on the Sundance Channel in September introduced four students who balance the challenges of academia, campus life and family with their commitment to gender reassignment.

"TransGeneration" was previously shown at Boise State as part of the Bronco Welcome program this fall. Tickets to the film are free. The "Queer Shorts Program" will

include eight short films and will begin at 8 p.m. at the BSU Special Events Center.

Films include "Latchkey," "Hand-some," "PROM-trovercy," "Little Black Boot," "Differant," "Ryan's Life," "A Different War," and "D.E.B.S."

Myers said "A Different War," a Hebrew film with English subtitles, is one of the films that has been awarded internationally.

"Girl Play," a feature film, will begin at 10 p.m.

Tickets for the "Shorts Program" or "Girl Play" are \$3 for students and \$5 for general admission.

A pass for both events is \$5 for students and \$8 for general admission.

Tickets can be purchased at the Flying M Coffeehouse (500 W. Idaho Street) or at the door.

www.queerasfilmboise.org



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A reading worth repeating

MARTHA RONK
Displeasures of the Table
memoir as caricature
GREEN INTEGER 23

Martha Ronk read some of her popular works Friday night in the Liberal Arts building.

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
Arbiter staff

When you read poetry, you put your own voice to that of the writer, or try to imagine theirs. But, when you are graced by the opportune chance of hearing a writer read her own poetry, her voice dominates and disperses that personal rhythm that the reader rarely hears.

Martha Ronk read to a crowd of about 40 students, professors and community members Friday in room 106 of the Liberal Arts Building. Her poetry reading was scheduled to be in the Jordan Ballroom in the Student Union, but was moved because poetry and disco music live on different decibel levels. 106 has stadium seating and Ronk stood below, microphoned,

reading in the low flickering lights.

Much of her poetry delves into the complexity of life (don't we all). In "In a Landscape of Having to Repeat," Ronk focuses precisely on the repetition of daily life. She quotes Sigmund Freud in the book, concerning his study on Heimlich and Unheimlich. (Heimlich is German for home), in which the place you stay is simultaneously home and not home.

"You try to find the place that feels like home," Ronk said. "You keep repeating and the repetition is all you get, because you never get there."

Ronk said that she was forever exploring, "the location that feels most like it's where I belong." She read "Getting Home and into Bed"

which discusses the existence of Nissans and Hondas and sheets and garage doors, all of which we may have, but still believe them to be only ours. The final line in the poem asks, looking over to the being beside her, "How did he/she I get here at all?"

Ronk also read "The Doctor's office" and "A Conversation Repeated from Yesterday."

Ronk said the locations of these poems were, "wonderful locations, some of which I've never been to, that's the joy of writing a book like this."

Ronk also read "Photograph of a plate-glass window," "A memory that isn't yours," "What's Obvious" (a poem written in a summer cabin in Vermont with no screen doors on

the windows, reading by lamplight and moths attacking the shine), "Trying" and many more that don't have titles.

A part of the book (Quotidium) consists of small scripts written on postcards in a correspondence with a friend, owning such lines as "everybody you live with is boring" and "objects have no thoughts about anything else."

"They just march you through," Ronk said.

Another part of "In a Landscape of Having to Repeat" was inspired by the sculptures of Eva Hess, whose artistic career only lasted 10 years (she died at age 34). Much of Hess's artwork may not last the

See Poetry (page 6)

The Chic Chick:

Fashion's hits and misses.

The prickly business of having facial hair

BY MARIANA BEKKER
Culture Columnist

Let's admit it, men are lucky to have facial hair. It's kinda like a part of the body that can be considered an art form in itself. Who would've ever guessed that hair is actually a fashionable way to enhance a man's face? It's sort of cool that men get this free accessory that can complete an outfit and even totally change a look from night to day. Women can only dream of having any sort of accessory that could do this so easily. However, it's a prickly fine line between what is considered a hit and a miss in terms of facial hair. There are many styles, but that doesn't mean any style will suit a man's face and personality.

So now I offer you my chicest advice in terms of the different styles of facial hair that are currently fashionable. This is the type of body hair that can make or break a man's look - and his chances with the ladies.

It's always five o'clock somewhere, right?

Ladies, back me up on this one: Some of the sexiest men on this planet are so because of their oh-so-yummy stubble. The likes of George Clooney and Matthew McConaughey and their facial hair is sure to make any girl a little weak in the knees. The five o'clock shadow really does stay true to its name. It's a little longer than stubble, but far from a full-on beard. This style has the effect of giving men a dark silhouette on their faces - kinda like how a man looks at the end of a long day.

Gents, to keep this style as an ongoing look, shave every couple of days ... depending on how quickly your facial hair grows. The main idea here is to have some stubble, not actual hair. And remember, for you guys with the "patch" problem, stay away. The five o'clock shadow can be cruel to some, especially if you can't grow stubble in large areas.

So fresh and so clean

The clean-shaven look is always a safe bet because it never goes out of style. It is the all-time classic in terms of facial hair trends. No hair at all is the easiest way to go because there is no big maintenance involved (i.e., trimming, cleaning). While it may be slightly inconvenient to constantly keep that stubble away, it will definitely pay off. Women love smooching on smooth faces instead of the faces that feel like the back of a porcupine.

Also, like my "So, Anyway" columnist cohort has so aptly discussed before, shaving off all that facial hair will give off the appearance of weight-loss. On top of that, a clean-shaven face seems to take a few years off your age (which may be a bad idea for those you out there with a baby face).

This style is a sure bet for those looking for a preppy, classy, fresh look.

The full beard

This look is the polar opposite of the no-hair look. It is the bold statement of a full-grown beard that many men admire and aspire to have themselves. Some men can pull this look off, but don't grow a beard so long and so full that Moses will come back from biblical times with a streak of envy. It's a good rule of thumb to keep your beard always neat and trimmed by using clippers or an electric razor. Just because you don't have to worry about keeping your face silky smooth, doesn't mean you can neglect taking care of your beard.

No one likes to be around that guy with the crusty, funky beard that seems to may or may not have things crawling in it. Again, only some men can pull off the full beard look. If you have patches where hair doesn't grow (guys, you know what I am talking about) don't try growing a beard. It will look lopsided and weird. Stick to growing hair where hair grows fully and completely.

Try Imitating a goat

Ah, the goatee. This facial hairstyle has grown increasingly popular as of late and I am not really sure why. Some of my guy buddies claim the goatee is desirable because the hair is contained in one area of the face, making them look more sophisticated. I don't know if "sophisticated" is the best word to describe the goatee, but this style of facial hair definitely makes men look a little older ... whether that's a good or a bad thing is your own call.

Now, there is a common misconception that the goatee is an easy style to maintain. Wrong. Keeping all those hairs on your chinny chin looking fabulous takes a lot of time in front of the mirror grooming carefully. This is a definite high-maintenance style. Even though this style is named after a goat, don't really imitate this farm animal. Never ever have a triangular shaped goatee on your chin. That is a vicious crime against fashion (and yourself) that is not forgivable. There are a million more styles I can comment on, and maybe I will do a follow-up with more good and bad facial hairstyles. Either way, keep in mind that whichever style you do choose, maintain it so it doesn't look sloppy. And have fun. It's just hair. It will eventually grow back.

Recipe of the week: Parmesan polenta and gravy

BY AMBER FUGER
Assistant Culture Editor

The life of a college student is consumed with studying, sleeping when we can, rushing to class, coffee breaks, and escapes from reality at any given interval during the week. What happened to eating? I am not talking about pizza from the Student Union Building, I am referring to a mouthwatering meal that teases, pleases and fulfills.

Ever since I was a little girl, cooking has been my way to escape reality. I have long been inspired by Rachel Ray and Giada De Laurentis' part of the Food Network family, but the key to recreating is to use recipes as guidelines. In other words, you can spice 'em up, cool 'em down, and even switch 'em around however you want, as long as you remember the most important part: Tantalize your taste buds.

I decided the time has come for me to share some of my creations that friends have been raving over for the last two years. For this issue

I have decided to focus on polenta and gravy (tomato sauce). After a long day of classes I was famished and needed to break from my everyday chaotic schedule and chill out with some spices, herbs, sauce, cheese and polenta.

I was introduced to polenta this summer and decided to dabble with the pasta substitute. I had tried it with mushrooms and cheese, but I needed some red sauce.

I took some stewed tomatoes, tomato paste, fresh garlic, fresh basil, minced onions, salt and pepper and some other spices in the cupboard, stirred them in a medium-sized saucepan over medium heat and simmered while I cooked the polenta in a frying pan.

In the organic section at Fred Meyer I spotted this packaged polenta that only required reheating. I wanted a little bit of crunchy texture so, I heated some extra virgin olive oil in a small frying pan 'till it sizzled and then I added the round pieces, about one inch thick, into the pan and let them fry un-



Affordable tomato basil sauce over fried polenta in only 30 minutes.

PHOTO BY MARIANA BEKKER/THE ARBITER

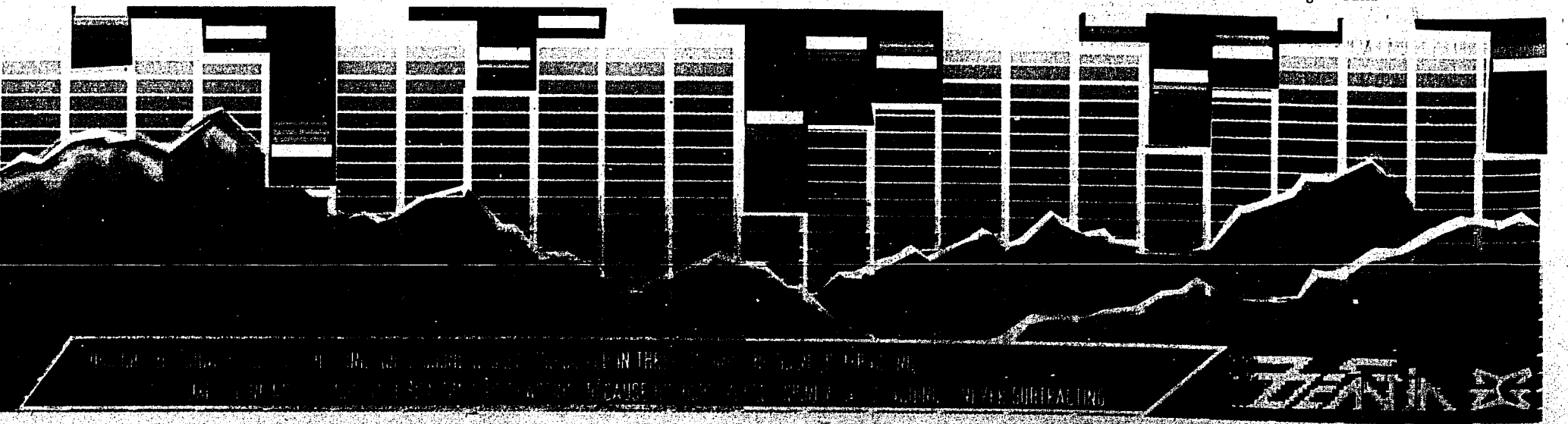
til golden brown. After cooking for about eight minutes on each side, over medium-low heat, I slid my little polenta cakes on a paper towel-lined plate to soak up any excess oil.

Now to make a simple twenty-minute meal super exciting, have it scream delicious. In a white pasta bowl, I placed the polenta slightly overlapping, and then I drizzled the

pasta sauce over them and sprinkled finely shredded Parmesan cheese and fresh basil for taste and appearance.

Magnificent! A simple meal with great flavor accompanied by a glass of red wine, all made possible on a college student's budget.

Check back next week for more delicious easy-to-make meals.



Flying M, creating a cozy community since 1992



The Flying M offers a variety of delicious treats and delightful drinks seven days a week.

BY AMBER FUGER
Assistant Culture Editor

Happy hour at a coffee shop, what? It's true and it could only be so at the local downtown coffeehouse, Flying M Coffeehouse, located on 500 W. Idaho St. near the heart of downtown. Flying M offers an array of edible pleasures, delicious coffee and spunky eclectic art in the form of jewelry, attire, knickknacks and an assortment of other

unique gift items. This is not your typical coffee shop, rather an unforgettable coffeehouse with plush retro couches, snazzy tables and a variety of art on the wall. Every year the Boise Weekly serves up the 'best of Boise' where readers decide which place has the most to offer in their designated categories. Well, Flying M being as charismatic as it is, was voted the best in three Reader's Choice categories. Flying M took home awards

for the best cup of coffee, the best coffeehouse and best art gallery. Sure there are plenty of art galleries vying for the best of Boise honors, but Flying M has a little something extra and unique against the competition: great coffee, a sense of community and a cozy atmosphere where anyone is welcome. Owner Lisa Myers said she was a little shocked by the honor and attributes the comfortable setting as the reason Flying M was chosen.

"People are comfortable here, they see rotating art when they come here. You have to make a conscious effort to go to a gallery and that doesn't happen daily in your life, but here it does happen daily," Myers said. A graduate of the arts program at the University of Washington, Myers has a need to be surrounded by art at all times. "Not being an artist, I always want to be surrounded by it so that's always been a component of our business," Myers said.

Eggplant accents, light olive green-colored walls, a deep red boarder wrapped around the menu and above, painted in the paneling, the Flying M logo sits amidst the charming facade. On a cloudy yet warm fall Saturday morning, Flying M was vibrant and buzzing with conversations between young couples nestled on a the leather couch, an older couple enjoying breakfast at a nearby table and ladies knitting on the 1970s-style green couch. Each morning and sometimes more, Myers said, you see the same smiling faces creating a sense of

community. Feeling really connected with our staff and customers is my favorite part. Being able to use my energy to create this space that makes us all feel so welcome and warm and part of something, Myers said. Myers and husband Kevin opened the first Flying M in 1992 where Guido's New York Pie (Guido's Original New York Style Pizza) now resides. The space was too intimate and hard to tune out all the other conversations going on, Myers said. So, they made the move into the front location where there is much more space to chat, relax and sip a latte. In 1995, Kevin Myers started roasting the coffee and ever since, Flying M has been serving their own fresh brewed coffee to the community. The Myers both

started out in corporate companies and decided that was not the path they wanted to continue on. That is when they decided to open a coffee shop. Inspired by the not so busy pace of Boise, they decided to focus on the sit-down aspect rather than the to-go aspect so familiar to the coffee shops in Seattle, Myers said. Myers has ventured into the realm of expansion and will be opening a new Flying M sector in downtown Nampa, called the Flying M Garage. According to Myers, the location "is an old automotive garage and we are able to move the roaster so people can see the machine and the roasting process." The Garage is scheduled to open sometime around Thanksgiving. For more information stop into Flying M, grab your desired beverage and just absorb the essence of this unique and cozy little coffeehouse.



The Flying M on the corner of Idaho and 5th, is named after Myers grandfather's ranch.

'I Am My Own Wife' an emotional journey of human survival

BY HOLLI HIGH
Culture Writer

Friday night on a sparsely furnished stage at Boise Contemporary Theater, "I Am My Own Wife," the true story of Charlotte Von Mahlsdorf, drew the audience into her tale of survival. A resident of East Germany during World War II and the Cold War, Mahlsdorf became a living relic of pre-war culture by running the "Grunderzeit Museum" of 19th century furniture and early-Edison phonographs in her home. Playwright Doug Wright saw Mahlsdorf not for her relics, but as a museum in herself, she being a transvestite (not a drag-queen) who survived two of the most oppressive regimes in German history. The play is centered with Wright's process of interviewing Mahlsdorf, where she recounts her memories from early childhood through the end of the Cold War. Mahlsdorf was a Medal of Honor recipient for her part in German culture preservation. With an amazing story of human survival and a Pulitzer Prize winning play to tell it, Boise Contemporary Theater dove into bringing this play to its first Northwest audience. The re-

sult was a creative, emotional journey through the intricacies of this woman's life. Written as a one-actor play, "I Am My Own Wife" presents a profound challenge to anyone willing to take the role. Veteran actor Tom Ford was up for this trial and gave a compelling and emotionally moving performance as Charlotte Von Mahlsdorf. His careful English was

hobbled in her orthopedic shoes. Then he changed. He morphed into the characters of Doug Wright, Wright's friend John, Charlotte's lesbian aunt, her abusive father, her vulnerable mother, Nazi soldiers, Russian soldiers, a comical German talk show host, and many others. Without costume changes, Ford performed these supporting roles, many times as they interacted with Charlotte herself. He seamlessly implemented split-second changes in body language, dialect and vocal quality. It was not at all convoluted which character was on stage at any given time. He kept the main characters of the play very distinct, all while wearing orthopedic shoes, a black frock, and a double-strand of pearls. Ford's movement about the stage was natural and comfortable. He displayed absolute comfort in each character he portrayed, making Charlotte's story even more compelling and emotionally rigorous. With the strength of his performance, it was important for all other elements to remain understated while attending to the needs of the actor. The stage did just this. The set design was thoughtfully and creatively constructed. Dollhouse-sized reproductions of

European furniture from the 1890s represented Charlotte's extensive collection, which Ford described with great care and pride. Enclosed in a glass display case were all the props that Ford required in the production. A vintage phonograph and a pile of wax phonograph tubes represented Charlotte's love of collecting music. The one jarring stage element was to stage left, where a double door in a frame stood. In the text, this door is a grand, beautiful door, salvaged from a demolished estate. The door on the stage was a hollow, unadorned door, painted white. This deviation from the text was momentarily distracting in a monumentally engaging production.

Lighting played an important role and was creatively used. A pivotal moment occurred in the first act, when Charlotte is being accosted by Nazis. The stage goes dark and a single light shines onto the stage, through an exterior window of the actual building. This inspired use was duplicated in the second act, when Charlotte rotates a full-length mirror to shine a light upward, illuminating her face. This served not to distract the audience, but to support the performance and the text. In the end, all these elements came together and resulted in a full-house standing ovation for Ford's exemplary performance and all others involved in bringing this

story to life. The secondary result? A lasting impression of the Museum of Charlotte Von Mahlsdorf, her collection and her life.



Tom Ford stars in the one-actor play.

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Have You Heard?

Toshi may not
be original,
but she is
authentic



Toshi Reagon's new album "Have You Heard" is currently available in stores and will soothe the soul. PHOTO COURTESY MOLLY RUBIN

BY RYAN GORRINGE
Culture Writer

There are many different reasons for picking up new music. At times, good cover art or an awesome band name will do the trick. Let's face it, if there were a band named Endangered Feces I would be adding that CD to my collection regardless of the music. Other times, I may read a review that makes me want to buy a new CD because the reviewer makes a good argument despite the fact that most reviews are based on a single opinion.

Even though I write a CD review now and then, I don't usually buy into them. So, what if someone does or doesn't like a CD? How can you really prove to me on paper that it is worth a listen or not? The best I feel that I can do is to provide a clear description of the music and let you decide whether or not it merits attention.

It doesn't take long for my music collection to become stale. Every so

often I may pull out a CD I haven't heard in a while and it will be exciting again but only for a moment. Then I'll come across a completely new song that reminds me why it is I spend so much time and money on music.

For example, the kind of song that helps you forget about your worries and just enjoy a moment. I recently came across Toshi Reagon in my latest attempt to expand my musical boundaries. Her latest album "Have You Heard" has the ability

with Reagon it works.

What makes this album flow is sincerity, muscle and character. From one song to another these three elements unify the album. Her style isn't original but it isn't prefabricated either.

Reagon is Tracy Chapman minus the bouts of incoherent rambling and Jack Johnson minus the too-normal-to-be-that-talented image. Overall the album is straightforward and laid back but tends to be

a little repetitive at times.

To help the reader get a feel for the album, imagine riding around town in a pink Cadillac with tail fins the size of small European countries. You have no destination, no appointments and no worries. What you do have is time to sit back, sing along and enjoy the ride. If this sounds a little like something you need then give "Have You Heard" a chance.

Reagon is raw,
blues-based and
isn't trying to pull
off an image.

to take you away from your worries and deposit you into her deep-rooted but simplistic and optimistic point of view.

Some people just can't pull off the raw, blues-based rock image, like Kid Rock for example. He may sell a few records but it just doesn't appear genuine. Reagon however is raw, blues-based and isn't trying to pull off an image. She makes good music that is stripped down, pure and while not entirely original it is all her own. Back when Lenny Kravitz was still a legitimate musician he chose Reagon to open his first world tour. Elvis Costello chose Reagon and her band, to back him up on a Letterman performance after seeing her perform.

A certain breed of musician is able to detect her unrefined enthusiasm, something maybe they long to have again and they try to latch on. She has been compared to Neil Young at times and on her latest album does a soulful and natural rendition of Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel." Most musicians don't attempt to mess with the King but



Poetry [from page 4]

test of time, physically. "She made things out of materials that didn't last," Ronk said.

That section of her book, "Disintegration," is scattered organized images and thoughts, such as, "Where were you when I was approximately out of my fucking head."

Ronk also read from her last book "Why/Why Not," a play off the line from Hamlet, "To be or not to be."

"Every time I read (Hamlet) it gets more complicated," Ronk said.

The poem she read concerned the character of Ophelia (a character she was writing a paper on at the time) and how a writer deals with a character who is going mad. Ronk said she was "trying to get at what language could be used in a state of quandary."

She used such lines as, "In the

picture, her hair falls to the ground, defining what is not beautiful," "Who can say why frustration of my heart is in my mouth" and "The paragraph she gives me to live in is I don't know how."

Ronk also read from her latest endeavor (which has not yet come into print) "Vertigo."

Vertigo is defined as a sensation of dizziness or a confused, disoriented state of mind. Ronk said that she suffers from the physical ailment and cannot walk on the precipice of cliffs.

"Vertigo" contains borrowed sentences from another writer, from which she creates her own work. It owns such lines as "I can't remember anything from this journey other than this" and "His voice a color you could see through."

Ronk's poetry is complex and a difficult read, at times. Asking anyone to understand her by throwing out a few random quotes is very im-

polite on my part, but you should have shown up to the reading.

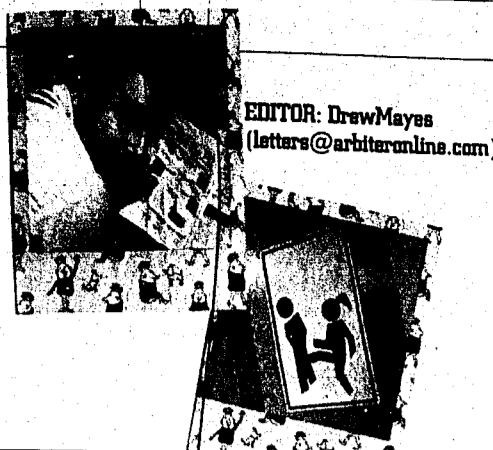
Ronk is a professor at Occidental College in Los Angeles and the author of seven poetry titles, including "Why/Why Not," "Evetrouble, State of Mind," "Displeasures of the Table" and her latest experiment with language "In a Landscape of Having to Repeat," from which she read to the crowd.

Ronk is the winner of the PEN Center USA 2005 Literary Award for poetry.

Her short fiction has appeared in the "Denver Quarterly," "Harvard Review," "Chicago Review" and the "Southern Review," among others.

Ronk's appearance was part of the Boise State MFA Program Reading Series.

The next lecture in the MFA Reading Series on Nov. 11 will feature poets Hoa Nguyen and Dale Smith. All of the readings are free and open to the public.



EDITOR: Drew Mayes
(letters@arbiteronline.com)

opinion

Destroy the family and you destroy society

BY BRANDON TOKER
Opinion Writer

Gangs are a product of irresponsible parenting

In a recent letter to the student newspaper, Interim Women's Center Coordinator Autumn Haynes offered the specious argument that gang activity is the product of "societal marginalization." Although it would be convenient to explain the sundry social ills associated with gang activity as the product of the same cliché factor responsible - according to feminists - for all social problems, Haynes is simply wrong. In truth, the destructive and irresponsible reproductive behavior and parenting of single parents is the most plausible culprit.

In a report entitled "The Growth of Youth Gang Programs in the United States" from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), the major contributing factors leading to growth in gang

activity are scrupulously analyzed. According to the report, the most credible factors include: the breakdown of the traditional family, poverty, depraved media, immigration and monetary drug trade incentives.

By far the most convincing factor influencing gang growth is the destruction of the traditional, divinely ordained family - headed by a married mother and father which is both the indispensable and fundamental unit of society. Since 1950, the number of children born to single mothers has grown to almost 30 percent. More than 73 percent were unplanned pregnancies. Demographically, 54 percent of black children, 23 percent of Hispanic children and 17 percent of white children live in fatherless homes. Gang membership is directly correlated to the growth and decline of single-mother populations in gang-saturated communities.

Why do children, particularly adolescent males, in fatherless homes gravitate toward gangs? The NCJRS report explains, "the absence of male role models creates identity problems for males, and gangs, with

their emphasis on tough masculinity, male bonding, and macho values take the place of father in providing a model of male identity for boys raised primarily by women."

A startling statistic from the US Department of Justice (DOJ) shows the average age of arrested gang offenders at seventeen to eighteen years old.

These young, impressionable boys are strongly influenced by the violent, materialistic, criminal behavior of gang subculture; and unfortunately, these learned behaviors linger well beyond the gang experience.

Another pernicious factor influencing gang activity is media glorification of the gangster lifestyle. Gang imagery, complete with thug rappers and music videos, has become a marketable media product to impressionable youth. As documented by the NCJRS, "language is rough and insistently obscene; women are prostitutes ("bitches," "ho's," and "sluts") to be used, beaten, and thrown away; and extreme violence and cruelty, the gang lifestyle, and craziness or insanity are glorified." Gang members have

assumed heroic stature and adolescents are, more than ever, inclined to join the seemingly glamorous ranks within gang subculture.

Finally, to directly refute Haynes's argument that gang activity is primarily "racial minority backlash," both the NCJRS and DOJ confirm that most gang violence targets members of the gang's own ethnic group, especially among immigrants. Such has been witnessed in Canyon County where dozens of gang shootings and murders have generally involved quarreling Hispanic gang members, rather than Hispanics attacking white community members.

Instead of handing out chocolate vaginas to freshmen housing students and promoting "sexual liberation" among women, maybe people like Autumn Haynes could teach the tenants of a successful society, namely those found in traditional family structures and virtuous motherhood. If we all worked to protect the sanctity of marriage and family, fewer children would be born into poverty to single parents, and consequently, fewer gangs would plague our streets.

One more thing

Giving Arbiter readers the last word

Why do you think people join gangs?



"For acceptance and protection."

Trinidad Garza
Education



"So they can try to be cool. They also probably don't have another outlet for their rebellion."

Rachel Fowler
Political Science



"They have a lack of support from family, friends, etc."

Caleb Anderson
Athletic Training



"For a sense of belonging; a sense of family."

Brittany Gardner
Health Science Studies

Calling all who love women to get out and vote

BY TAMARA HELGESON
Opinion Writer

My daughter and I rode our bikes downtown to the local Farmer's Market last Saturday morning. I saw a sign that seemed out of place to me; it read, "Vote for Brandi." My first reaction was that it was in reference to some sort of high school popularity contest. So I asked the gentleman holding the sign about it.

That is when my blood started to boil and I realized that Brandi Swindell, champion of the Ten Commandments and enemy to women's rights, was running for Boise's city council. In an interview in 2001, she was quoted as saying, "to a single, pregnant woman... abortion seems like an attractive solution." And she participated in getting the Red Cross to not distribute condoms at the 2002 Olympics.

Two things stand out about this woman.

First, if paid feminists had not fought and won certain rights, Swindell would have been unable to obtain an education, been forced to marry and to bear

any children her husband gave her.

Two hundred years ago, in America, the majority of women could not read or write, could legally be beaten by their husbands, and had upwards of 10 children to feed and care for. No woman looks forward to having an abortion, but sees it as her only way out of a bad situation.

Second, she follows the teachings of her religion, regardless of any evidence to the contrary. How uneducated do you have to be to not give out condoms? They not only prevent disease, but they help in lowering the rate of pregnancy. It is a proven fact that the higher the quality of reproductive and sexual education a society has actually lowers the rate and need for abortion.

Why would someone who generally works at a national level (except that park thing) want to tie herself down to a local, city job?

I mean we know that she enjoys Boise's outdoors and her local Starbucks, but who doesn't? Probably she wants to accomplish something locally, since her other ideas, such as counseling women in conjunction with the Vineyard

Church, seem to have fallen to the wayside.

Does she have any experience in city planning, which should not be confused with family planning? The national groups she aligns herself with promote sexual abstinence and substituting condom usage with Christ. I wonder if her political platform has a similar agenda.

That is what Boise needs, our birthrate and STD rates to go up from lack of condom usage. And of course more people needing psychiatry help in lieu of their invisible Jesus not working for them.

I talked with the candidates running for re-election. They seemed to be surprised that Swindell was running as well. All agreed that the position of a city council member was one of planning, for growth and



ILLUSTRATION BY LEONA ELLSWORTH

expansion, and the preservation of our beautiful community and way of life.

Has she ever been a small business owner like her opponent, Maryanne Jordan? Jordan not only has her own business, but

holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science, giving her a strong foundation which her years of involvement with neighborhood groups have been built upon.

Whether you are merely passing through Boise or someone who would never leave, your vote will count in the upcoming November election for Boise's city council.

I hope you take the time to become informed about all of the candidates, what they stand for and hope to accomplish.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Censoring professor is disturbing

We go to school with the predetermined intention of learning something we didn't previously know and engage in discussion with professors and students to gain a different perspective of the world around us. If people were censored from speaking their true beliefs or opinions in the classrooms how would we ever learn outside of our own life experiences? We wouldn't; we would leave the same way we

entered. In the classroom we are given the choice to take with us what makes sense and what we are willing to accept. The rest gets left behind.

I feel that attempting to reprimand Professor Baker for his comments made during an awards ceremony sends the wrong message not only to the students and faculty, but to the community as well. If someone has an issue with something they should be able to voice their opinion so the situation can be improved. People should not be punished for doing this; they

should be appreciated for having the guts to speak up when no one else will. We cannot ask a professor to be one person inside the classroom and another person outside of it. This professor was speaking in a public setting about problems affecting everyone and we should all be informed of these issues, regardless of what are view is. Who wants to be educated in an institution that preaches the acceptance of diversity and change, yet attempts to chop down those individuals who speak a differing opinion striving to make progress in our flawed society? I

believe we need more people like Professor Baker who are willing to surface these issues, break the silence, and who truly show a desire for social equality.

Jesus Tamayo
Junior
Bilingual Education Major

What is wrong with our university?

There must be something wrong with a university that wants to

honor someone's sexual preference with a week of patting each other on the back because they have sex with the same gender. Where is the day we take off from work to honor the real heroes, the men and women of the military? The military men and women of this country are the people who have given more, sacrificed more, taken more abuse, and have done more good for this country and this university, than any other group of people, no matter what your color, creed, religion or sexual preference.

People, grow up! If we as a uni-

versity can't stop and honor those who have made a real sacrifice so that we can have a sexual preference, how dare some self-centered people try to force upon us a week of honoring those who have made a personal decision.

Maybe the 'BS' in BSU stands for BiSexual.

Terry Friend
Network Technology Instructor
Salland College of Applied Technology

The Arbiter

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[THIS WEEK IN SPORTS]

Football

Saturday
BSU @ Utah State
Time: 4:35 p.m.
Logan, UT

Volleyball

Volleyball
Thursday
BSU @ La Tech
Time: 7 p.m. (CT)
Ruston, LA
Saturday
BSU @ New Mexico St.
Time: 7 p.m.
Las Cruces, NM

Women's golf

Mon-Tues.
Price's "Give'em Five"
Invitational
Las Cruces, NM

Men's tennis

Wednesday
Mountain Region Team
Championships
Las Vegas, NV

Women's tennis

Women's tennis
Thursday
ITA Regional Tournament
Salt Lake City, UT

[SIDE LINE]

DeLaet featured in GolfWeek Article

Boise State senior Graham DeLaet is being featured in this week's edition of GolfWeek's "Around Campus," Oct. 14.

DeLaet, the Sept. Xbox Live Western Athletic Conference Golfer of the Month, captured the individual title at the Boise State Bronco Invitational, Oct. 11. DeLaet was the only player in the field to finish under-par. He also captured the individual title at the Gene Miranda Falcon Invitational, Sept. 11, setting a tournament record with a three-round total of 206 (-10).

With the tournament victories, DeLaet continues to add to his record-setting career at Boise State. He has now won nine individual titles as a Bronco, five more than any Boise State golfer in school history. He also now has 21 career top 10 finishes and 30 career top 25 finishes, both of which are school records.

Biorkman, MacFarlane win final match in tourney

Boise State women's tennis players Megan Biorkman and Hadley MacFarlane went 3-0 in the Midland Intercollegiate Tennis Classic on Sunday, defeating Tulane's Jenny Kuehn and Erica Valdes 8-1 in the rain delayed match before jumping on a plane to return home to Boise. Saturday, Biorkman and MacFarlane defeated Ashley Joelson and Elizabeth Lumpkin of UCLA, 8-3, in the second round of the Midland Intercollegiate Tennis Classic. In the first round, Boise State's duo defeated Jennifer Chay and Monica Nevoklovska of SMU, 8-3.

This coming week, the Bronco women's will travel to Salt Lake City to play in the ITA Central Region (singles and doubles) Championship held at the University of Utah.

Broncos win the 'fun' way

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

The Broncos finally broke out of the long play drought that has bugged the offense all season, and the defense played tough against a new starting quarterback as the Broncos scored 31 unanswered points en route to a 38-21 victory at Bronco Stadium Saturday night against San Jose State.

"It was fun. We had fun tonight," senior running back Lee Marks said.

It was fun for a lot of Broncos, too.

"I think we are trying to spread the love around a little bit and get guys involved and use guys where their talents are the best," BSU head coach Dan Hawkins said.

Eight players had at least two catches. Four players ran the ball at least eight times. Four had at least six tackles, and four different defenders sacked the Spartans quarterbacks.

It didn't start off all that fun for the Broncos. On the third drive of the game, San Jose State quarterback J.P. Greco completed a 90-yard touchdown pass to John Broussard to put San Jose State up 7-0 early in the game.

Greco, a junior from Auburn, Calif., was starting in his first game as quarterback for the Spartans. Broussard caught Boise State cornerback Orlando Scandrick lost his footing as the ball near midfield, and he raced down the field for the long score.

"That was just not playing technique," Broncos safety Marty Tadman said. Tadman led the Broncos with eight tackles and had a sack and a forced fumble.

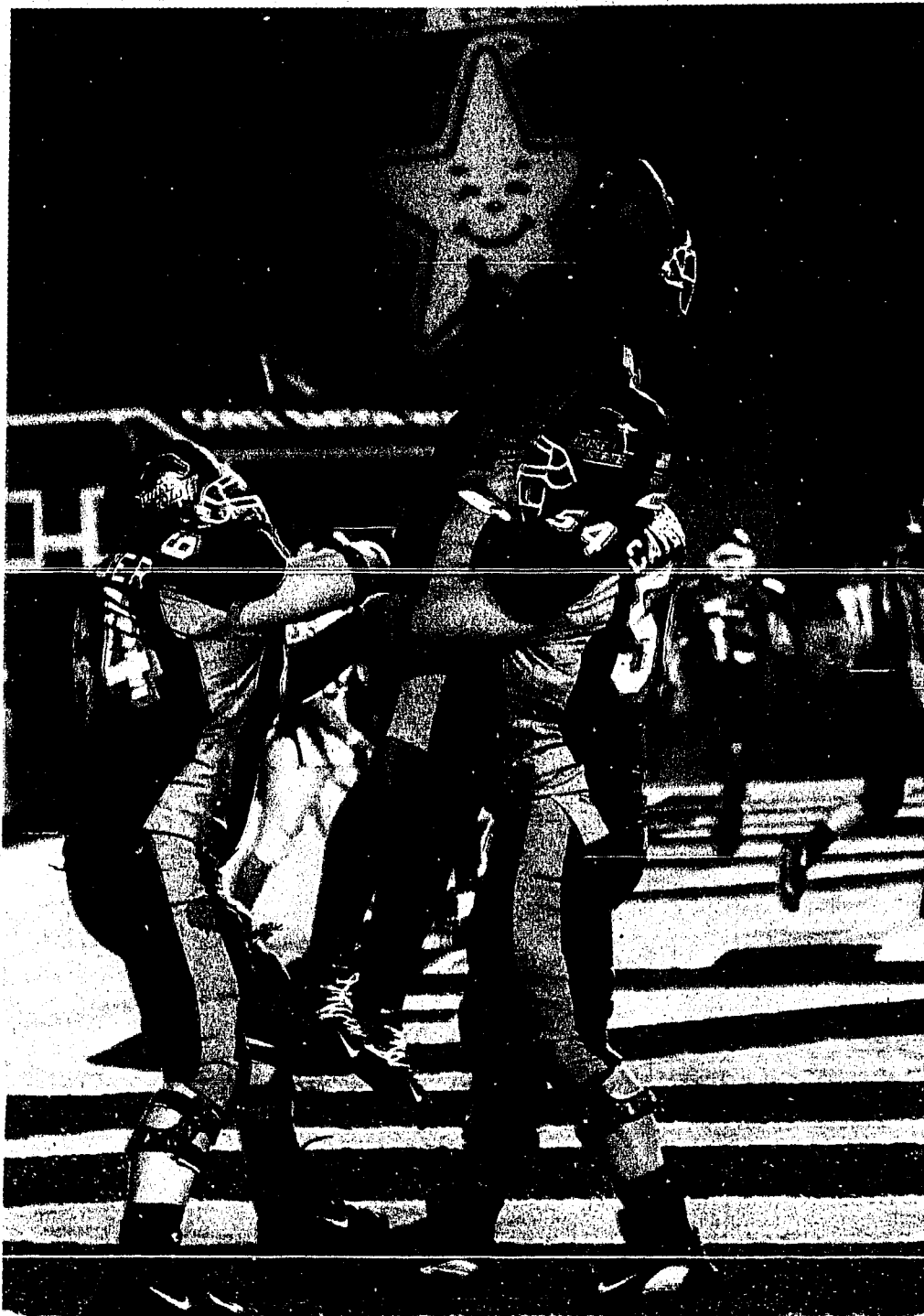
But, that was about all the Spartans did on offense in the first half. Take away the long pass, and the BSU defense held San Jose to just 38 yards total offense.

"We dominated them other than one play," Hawkins said. "They got one big play on us, but other than that, we dominated them."

The Broncos (4-2, 2-0 Western Athletic Conference) then went on a 31-0 run and a 31-7 halftime lead.

The first score for Boise State was a 13-yard run by freshman Ian Johnson. Despite leading the team in rushing each of the first five games, the score was the first of Johnson's brief career.

Following the third three-and-out drive by San Jose State (1-5, 0-3 WAC), Boise State completed a drive, highlighted by a 27-yard pass from Jared Zabransky to Legedu Naanee, that was capped off by an 8-yard option keeper by Zabransky



Offensive linemen Jeff (54) and Pete (64) Cavender lift up wide receiver Legedu Naanee (4) during the second quarter Saturday night. BSU beat San Jose State 38-21.

to give the Broncos a 14-7 lead.

Zabransky had a solid night. The junior completed 20 of 27 passes for 249 yards and one touchdown, and rushed for 30 yards and two scores. His lone interception was a catchable ball that tipped off the hands of tight end Derek Schouman and into the hands of the waiting Bobby Godinez.

Anthony Montgomery, who earlier missed a 47-yard field goal attempt, gave BSU a 17-7 lead after completing a 23-yard field goal. The field goal was set up by a 57-yard run

earlier on the drive by Lee Marks, as he ran through a huge hole and raced down to the Spartans 24-yard line, where Marks was finally taken down by Trestin George.

"I was just running and trying to find a lane, then I hit it and (George) caught me, so I wasn't too happy about that. It's pretty nice," Marks said. The senior finished with a game-high 94 yards and one touchdown rushing.

On the following drive, Greco fumbled the hand off and Chris Barrios recovered the ball. Four

plays later, Zabransky found Naanee (3 catches, 41 yards, 1 TD) for a 3-yard strike, and a 24-7 lead.

It got worse for the Spartans as Broussard fumbled a completion from Greco and Austin Smith picked up the loose ball and took it to the house—literally.

Smith ran from the left to the right side of the field and jumped into the Corey Barton Homes 'touchdown lounge' on the corner of the North end zone.

See Broncos (page 11)

Volleyball still winless in conference

Courtesy
Broncosports.com

The Boise State volleyball team have now dropped seven straight conference games, and are still winless in the Western Athletic Conference after falling to Nevada on the road Thursday and at home against Hawaii.

The Nevada volleyball team, the No. 2 team in the Western Athletic Conference, defeated the Boise State Broncos Thursday, 30-16, 30-26, 30-25.

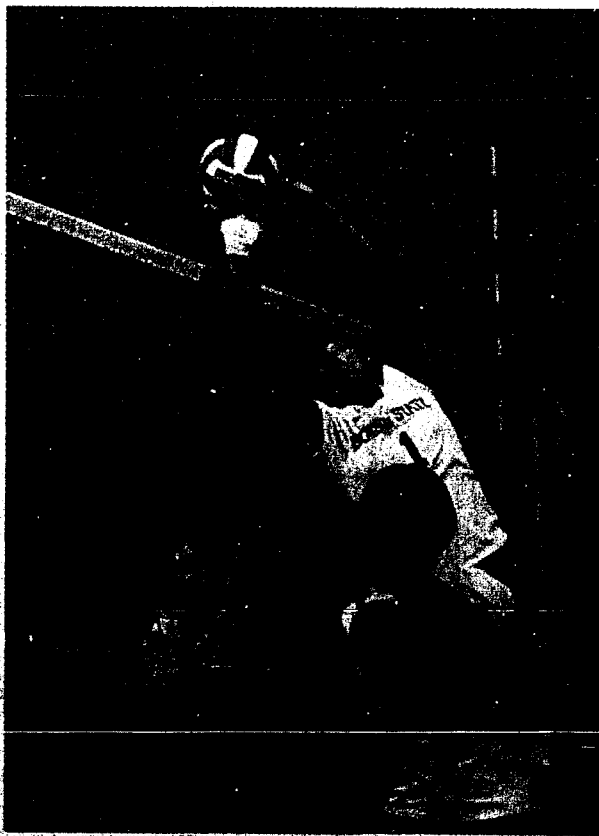
In the Nevada match Thursday, the Broncos were reeled by junior Cameron

Flunder who had 10 kills and five blocks. Sophomore Tiffany Starring had nine kills, six digs and three blocks. Junior Jackie Stroud had 10 digs. Sophomore Kie Eveland added 27 assists.

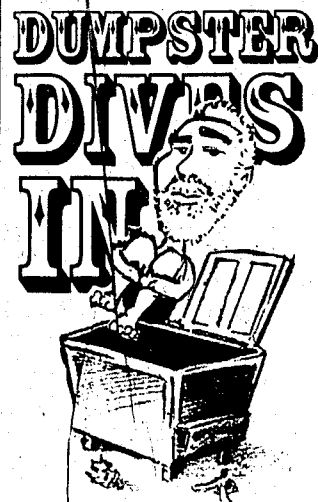
The Boise State volleyball team hosted Western Athletic Conference leader and No. 11 nationally, Hawaii, at 2 p.m. in Bronco Gym. In the match, Hawaii leads 30-27, 30-21, 30-20.

The Broncos were led by Cameron Flunder's 16 kills and Jeanette Jenkins' 10. Hawaii was led by Victoria Prince's 13 kills and eight blocks.

	WAC Games		All Games	
	W	L	W	L
Hawaii	7	0	13	6
Nevada	7	1	10	3
Utah St.	5	2	13	8
UNLV	4	3	17	7
SMU	3	3	8	10
Idaho	2	4	10	6
La Tech	2	4	15	7
Arizona St.	1	6	3	14
Boise St.	0	7	4	10



Despite a 4-3 non-conference record, the Boise State volleyball team is winless (0-7) in the WAC.



So you want to be a writer?

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
Assistant Sports Editor

The life of a sports writer is nuts. It really is I mean, yeah, we do get to watch and cover games for a living, but the pressure is intense.

You see, sports writing usually is a night gig. Most games start at 6 or 7 p.m. The ones that don't are usually tournaments, which you must hang out at a day to get all the final scores for your roundup.

Working nights is not a big deal for me, I am a creature of night, but newspapers have deadlines. There is a certain point in the night in which you absolutely must have your story in. If you don't come through, you lose credibility and a chance of getting your name in the paper.

Take tonight for instance: BSU wins its 300th game in an exciting 38-21 win over San Jose State. But the second half has tense for me, despite the lack of scoring, because it was slow and I had a deadline.

Most of the big money reporters carry laptops these days, but I am a poor college student and do not own one.

So after the game, I sit through the press conference itching, looking at my watch, and hoping for quick interviews.

Then I run across campus to an internet-accessible computer and slam out my story, transcribing quotes while reapplying the game and making sure I get all the numbers right, if I get one wrong, they have to run a correction. ("They" being another paper, not The Arbitrator).

Then my boss calls me when the article is still a wreck and tells me I have two minutes and I hit another gear and try to organize and cut and edit and insert quotes and then bam! Attach it to a e-mail and I am free from the pressure, but still unsure, since I didn't read the damn thing. In this mad dash of words a flame there must also be that certain flare that my writing owns.

A lot of sports writing must be straight and to the point and cannot entertain notions of gallantry and flowery verbs. You see, adjectives are not allowed, unless the writer is sly and slips in a comment on how Lee Marks is slashing back.

But for the most part, a writer's individuality comes across in his or her depictions of the plays and which gets chosen to become printed history.

Newspaper articles are hard, they force you to tell the story of a game which lasts three hours and keep it under 700 words. Only the big plays make it in.

I don't have room to write about that first down run that gave the Broncos a 2nd and 6 after which a touchdown was scored, only the score makes it in. But the audiences need to know about the big plays and some justice is employed by ignoring the 57 play, I'll never write about, like how that defensive end held contain and kept the back to a minimal gain or how like greased gears the o-line blasts open a hole for a 4-yard gain, or how that DB got one sole finger in that crossing pattern because an incompletaion.

These things won't make it into a regular story.

So I slip them into my column. I guess the moral of the story is that if you are going to be a sports writer, make sure they let you write your own column.

Broncos split weekend games, both go to 2OT

BY JE T'AIME DAVIS
Sports writer

Boise State soccer came away with another weekend split after both home games ended in double overtime. BSU defeated Nevada with a score of 3-2, and Fresno State scored the lone goal in Sunday's game for a 1-0 win over the Broncos.

Nevada took an early lead Friday afternoon when the Wolfpack's Samantha Miller scored on goalkeeper Kim Parker. BSU rallied with a penalty kick netted by points-leader Nicole Coleman.

Coleman has 15 points on the season. She has scored five goals this season.

Tied 1-1 at the half, the Wolfpack was the first to score in the second half. Nevada freshman Randee Robinson (named to Soccer Buzz Elite Team of the Week September 28) headed a corner kick from Jessica Thompson to regain a Wolfpack lead. With 22 minutes left in the game, freshman forward Randi Baker scored off a Coleman pass to tie it up.

Baker is second on the Broncos with nine points and, including four goals.

It wasn't until the second overtime period that junior forward Kristin Hall kicked the golden goal to improve Boise State's record to 8-5-2. Annie Tom was credited with the assist.

Hall leads the Broncos with three game-winning goals. She also leads the team with 30 shots.

Goalkeeping responsibilities for the Broncos were split between Parker and Michaela Morrison, while Nevada kept Megan Tarpinning in the full 102 minutes.

Statistics proved the even match-up. BSU barely out-shot Nevada 15-to-13. Brennan Lau recorded the

most shots in the game, with four. The Broncos out-saved Nevada 6-to-5, and out-fouled Nevada 11-to-9, but Nevada had six corner kicks to BSU's four.

Coming off Friday's overtime thriller, Fresno State again gave Boise State a challenging contest.

The pre-game events included a ceremony to send off three seniors: Lindsay Crawford, Julie Allen and Maureen Shea. The trio have played their last regular season games at home.

Michaela Morrison broke her collar bone during warm-ups and was carried away in an ambulance. According to Steve Morrison, her father, Michaela was in a vehicle accident Saturday night, injuring her shoulder with a seatbelt. No further information was available at press time.

Kim Parker started in her place and played the entire game.

Parker shutout the Bulldogs during regulation and the first overtime period, accumulating 4 saves in the game.

Fresno's Nicole Gutierrez sent Alison Sill's assist past Parker for the golden goal to take Boise State to a record of 8-6-2 and 2-2-0 in the Western Athletic Conference.

The Bulldogs out-shot BSU 18-to-8 in the contest. Coleman and Baker led the Broncos with shots apiece in the game, although Coleman and Sophie Parrish made the only two shots on goal.

The weekend gave perfect weather for the two matches, a temperate 65 degrees at kickoff for "Parent's Weekend" and "Senior Day".

Nevada, Boise State and Fresno State came into the weekend as the top three teams in the WAC.

However, Fresno benefited the most from the weekend with back-to-back WAC wins over Idaho and



PHOTOS BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Maureen Shea, Julie Allen and Lindsay Crawford all are graduating seniors and have played their final regular season home game.

Boise State, taking over second place from the Broncos.

The Broncos relax their schedule this weekend with one away game. They compete for the unofficial gem state championship against Idaho Oct 23 in Moscow.



PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

BSU midfielder Maureen Shea passes the ball during the Broncos' 1-0, 2OT lost to Fresno State Sunday.

Cross country places at Chili Pepper Invitational

BY SHAWN ASHBY
Sports Writer

After a near dominant performance last week at the Eagle Island Invitational, in Eagle, the Boise State men's cross country team traveled to Fayetteville Ark. to compete in the Chili Pepper Invitational.

Junior, Ty Axtman, who has paced the team this year, again was the first Bronco across the finish line on Saturday.

"I didn't run that well, I've been sick all week," Axtman said.

Despite being slowed down by illness, Axtman finished the race in 53rd with a time of 31:23.

The 10 kilometer race was the first of its kind for the team this season, it was also Axtman's first attempt at

the distance.

"The time was alright for my first 10K," Axtman said.

Brandon Christoffersen finished 82nd with a time of 32:02, Cody Eaton finished just 20 seconds later in 101st. Bryan Rodie (35:05), and Darren Strong (36:53) rounded out the Bronco runners finishing in 173rd, and 181st.

The efforts of the Broncos placed the team in 23rd place.

"This is a big tournament with a lot of big Division I schools competing," Axtman said.

Arkansas hosted the invite, and they also took home first place, placing five of their runners in the top-16. The field consisted of 30 schools and 245 runners.

The Boise State women's cross

country team headed to the Chili Pepper Invitational in Fayetteville Ark. on Saturday coming off a first place finish last week in Eagle.

The Bronco women finished in 19th place, edging out such programs as Oklahoma, Miami, and Utah. The field consisted of 38 teams.

Rebecca Guyette finished in 50th, with a time of 22:08. Breanna Sande finished with a time of 22:18, and a 57th place showing. Kendra Hernandez crossed the finish line in 92nd place (22:56). Meadow Braden finished 202nd (24:48), and Melinda Rackliffe was 207th (24:54).

Both teams will prepare for the Western Athletic Conference Championships in Boise on Oct. 29.

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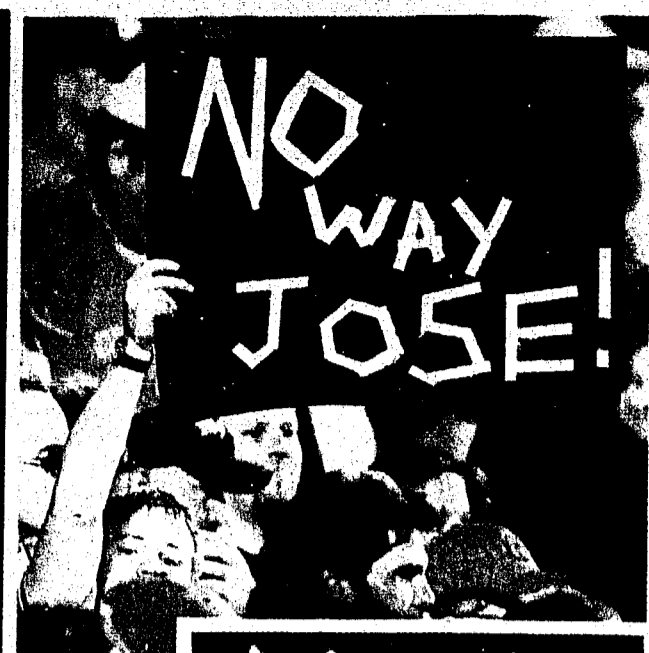
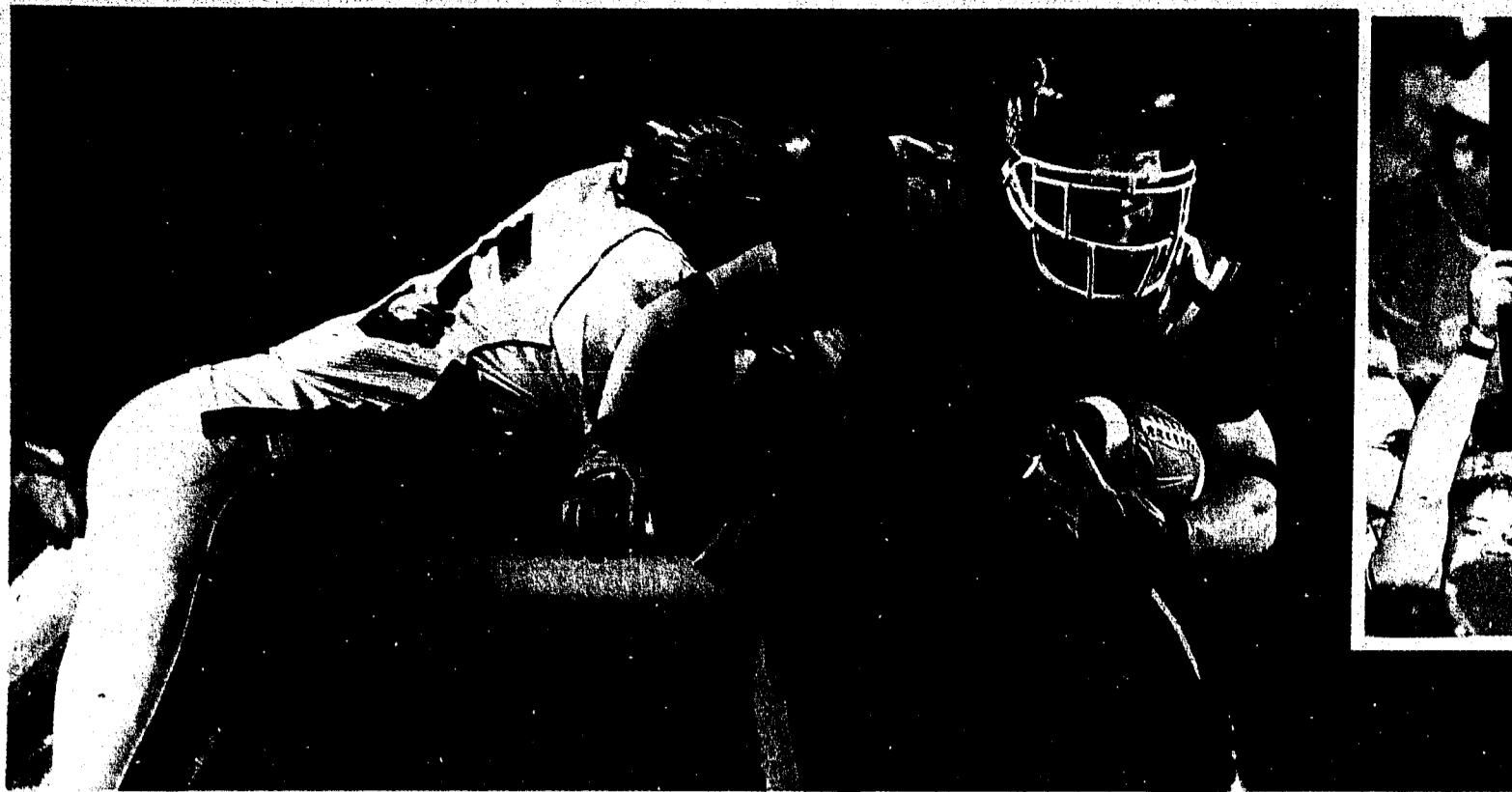
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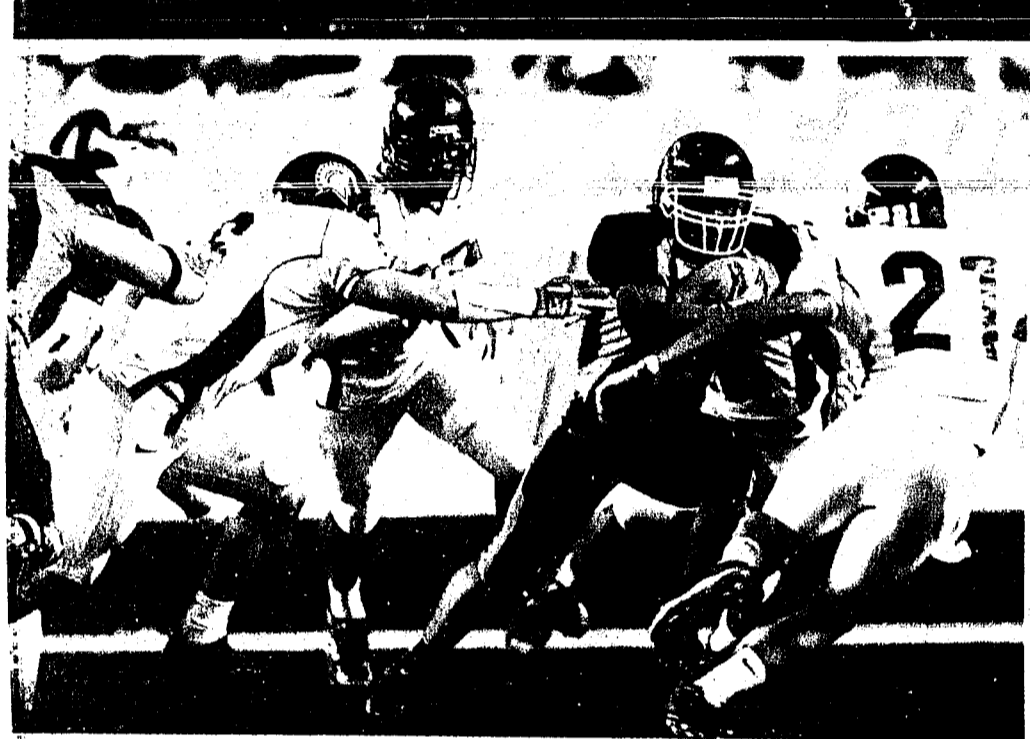
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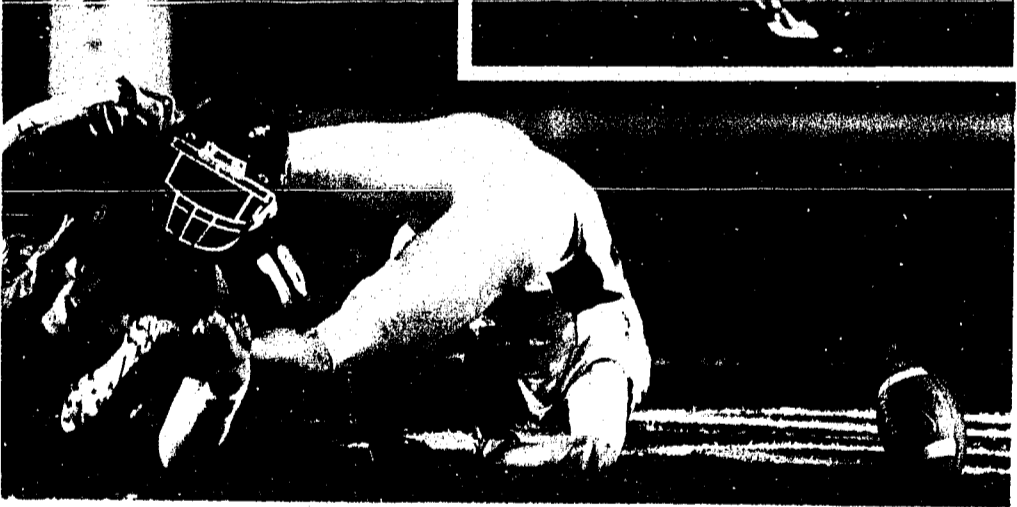
STEP FORWARD



300th win in franchise history



Clockwise, from top left: Jeff Carpenter (22) tries to get past a Spartan defender, fans show their confidence in the Broncos, cornerback Orlando Scandrick (16) pulls down SJSU receiver Rufus Skillern, Lee Marks (17) races past Christopher Vedder, former BSU defensive back Quittin Mikell was an honorary captain, and Marks (17) tries to avoid a Spartan defender en route to a 38-21 Boise State victory over San Jose State Saturday night at Bronco Stadium.



PHOTOS BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

2005

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

For students who would rather spend their spring break in the service of others, VSB's Alternative Spring Break Trip (ASB) allows interested students to volunteer out of state in a community which needs help. Participants raise funds needed for ASB. Past ASBs have been held in Santa Fe, New Mexico and San Diego, California.

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For more info contact:
Maria Rollins
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 Phone #: 426-4240

http: vsb.boisestate.edu

Broncos

Unfortunately for the Broncos, Colt Brooks and Smith were both called for unsportsmanlike penalties on the return, the score was re-

versed and the Broncos started the drive—sans the score—at the Boise State 27.

Following two key completions to Jason Murray and Derek Schouman down to the one-yard line, Zabransky rushed in for an-

other score with just 14 second left in the half.

The Spartans did make a game of it in the fourth quarter.

Adam Tafrales came in as quarterback for the Spartans in the third quarter and led San Jose to two scores on back-to-back drives, as the Spartans came within 10.

Tafrales found his favorite target, Rufus Skillern on both drives. The first was a 24-yard pass. The Spartans then converted an on-side kick, and scored on the drive.

But that was it. The Broncos defense continued to hit the quarterbacks, and the entire offense hard, forcing three fumbles on the night.

The Boise State defense had not forced a fumble all season until Saturday night. The defense also sacked the Spartans QBs four times and broke up 10 passes—the previous game-high was six against Hawaii.

"That was awesome. I thought we did some awesome stuff out there," linebacker Korey Hall said. "I felt we took some big steps (Saturday) night getting back in a rhythm, it seems like whenever you get turnovers they just multiply and it's just a snowball effect and everyone starts playing better out there."

Lee Marks scored on a 12-yard run with 6:46 left in the game to seal up the fourth straight win for Boise State and extend both the programs home and conference win streaks to 28 games. The win was also the 300th for Boise State as a Division I program.

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Zabransky is back on the track



Jared Zabransky has led the Broncos to four consecutive wins.

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

Jared Zabransky may finally be turning into the confident quarterback that led the Broncos to an undefeated regular season in 2004.

Zabransky was turnover-plague during the first four games of the season. In those games, he threw four interceptions (all against Georgia in the first half) and fumbled the ball six times. In the last two games, Zabransky has no fumbles and three interceptions (his one Saturday was dropped by tight end Derek Schouman).

"It's hard I think sometimes when you have such huge expectations that you are really trying to just battle to meet the expectations, rather than going out and having fun and cutting it loose," BSU head coach Dan Hawkins said. "I think he's getting back to that part of himself and having fun playing football

and being able to operate like he can operate."

In the last two games, Zabransky has completed 41 of 56 passes for 505 yards. That is a completion percentage of 73.2 percent.

Zabransky is also completing those passes to an array of receivers and running backs coming out of the backfield. Saturday, Zabransky completed at least two passes to eight different Broncos. No one had more than three.

"I'm starting to get a good feel for everybody. We had a couple new guys in there this year with (Jerard) Rabb and (Cole) Clasen. It's the mid point of the season and we are really starting to click right now. It's just the right time," Zabransky said.

Zabransky's completion percent now is 61.8 percent for the season, and has throw for 1217 yards.

In years past, there has been one go-to guy for the receiver for Boise State. In 2002 it was Billy Wingfield (1,138 yards), 2003 it was Tim Gilligan (school-record 1,192 yards) and T.J. Acree in 2004 (947 yards).

This season, Rabb is on pace to

I'm starting to get a good feel for everybody. It's the mid point of the season and we are really starting to click right now.

—Jared Zabransky

junior Legedu Naanee said, "I know it's frustrating for fans to watch and see us kind of stagger, but we still have confidence in him and we are still going to run our route and he's going to put the ball there and we are going to trust that."

Naanee was the recipient of two of Zabransky's best passes of the game. The last play of the first quarter Saturday, Zabransky fired a bullet to Naanee in stride on a deep post pattern that set up a Zabransky touchdown run.

Zabransky then found Naanee on a quick touchdown pass for 3 yards that put the Broncos up 24-7 over San Jose State.

"I was talking to him on the field and he actually said that he felt locked in and he felt very confident with his reads. He saw everything very clearly," Naanee said.

lead Boise State with 580 yards receiving. But, there are three other receivers that are on pace for at least 300 yards receiving as well.

We don't have go to guys around here—we have a go-to team. It's all about the team," Zabransky said.

Those receivers are also showing great confidence in their signal caller.

"I have confidence in Z, and know the rest of the receivers do,"

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Boise State 38
San Jose State 21
SJSU 7 0 0 14 -- 21
BSU 7 24 0 7 - 28

First quarter

SJSU - John Broussard 90 pass from J.P. Greco (Jared Strubeck kick) 10:53

BSU - Ian Johnson 13 run (Anthony Montgomery kick) 5:10

Second quarter

BSU - Jared Zabransky 8 run (Montgomery kick) 13:26

BSU - Montgomery 23 FG 6:44

BSU - Legedu Naanee 3 pass from Zabransky (Montgomery kick) 3:08

BSU - Zabransky 1 run (Montgomery kick) :14

Fourth quarter

SJSU - Rufus Skillern 24 pass from Adam Tafilis (Strubeck kick) 14:11

SJSU - Skillern 22 pass from Tafilis (Strubeck kick) 11:16

BSU - Lee Marks 12 run (Montgomery kick)

Team stats

	BSU	SJSU
First downs	21	17
Rushing	10	7
Passing	11	7
Penalty	0	1
Rushing yards	229	54
Attempts	49	31
Passing yards	249	217
Avg. per comp.	12.4	12.8
Total offense	478	271
Total plays	78	65
Penalties	7-82	7-45
Punts - yards	4-163	8-306
Kickoff return	3-84	4-83
Punt return	3-10	2-4
Interceptions	0-0	2-1
Time of Poss.	34:05	25:55
3 rd down conv.	5-of-16	6-of-16
4 th down conv.	1-of-2	0-of-1

Big boys need love, too

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

Those in the trenches always seem to get left out of the highlights. Well, don't tell that to the Boise State offense.

"Our offensive line did a great job. I could sit back there all night and didn't have to worry about anything," quarterback Jared Zabransky said after Saturday night's win over San Jose State.

The first-team offensive line did not allow a sack against the Spartans, and the offense piled up 229 yards rushing.

"Those guys are unreal and they've been busting their butts as much as anyone else, and to see them play the way they did and give me that much time, my hat's off to those guys," Zabransky said.

The praise was so high for the offensive line that senior running back Lee Marks told the media that they should be the one's that get press time. Marks was also able to run through a hole the size of Rhode Island en route to a 57-yard scamper—the longest of his career.

"They did a good job blocking tonight. I just tried to find a lane and hit it," Marks said.

Anchored by senior All-American candidate Daryn Colledge, the offensive line is young in terms of age.

The center (Jeff Cavender) and both guards (Tad Miller and Pete Cavender) are all sophomores. Freshman Ryan Clady has been splitting time

at right tackle with junior Ryan Keating. But—four of the five linemen were starters in 2004 when the Broncos rushed for 2,758 yards and a school record 49 rushing touchdowns.

The Broncos are averaging 220 yards per carry this season. Over the 12 game schedule this year, that would

average out to 2,640 yards. Add in a possible bowl game, and the Broncos would eclipse that mark set last season.

The line is not only opening big holes for the running backs, Zabransky is also getting more time to sit in the pocket and complete passes.

"When your completing passes and your line is giving a lot of time, you have a tendency to feel quite a bit more comfortable. I can't say enough about how my offensive line played," Zabransky said.

The Broncos were also able to convert, the 'explosion' plays, or big plays that help open the offense up.

Zabransky completed three passes for over 25 yards, along with the 57-yard run for Marks, the line did a fantastic job helping make big plays for the offense, and gave Zabransky a sense of ease out there.

"It makes it a lot easier. We've been looking for those explosion plays and we got some great calls and our offensive line did a great job," Zabransky said. "I could sit back there all night and didn't have to worry about anything."

Jeff and Pete Cavender are both starting offensive linemen for the 2005 Boise State Broncos. They are joined on the line by Tad Miller, Daryn Colledge, Ryan Clady and Ryan Keating

PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER
THE ARBITER



	Att-Comp-Int	Yards	TD	Long
Passing Zabransky	27-20-1	249	1	33
Rushing	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Marks	10	94	1	57
Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Rabb	3	73	0	33
Defense	Tckls	TFL	Sacks	Int
Tadman	8	1-8	1-8	0

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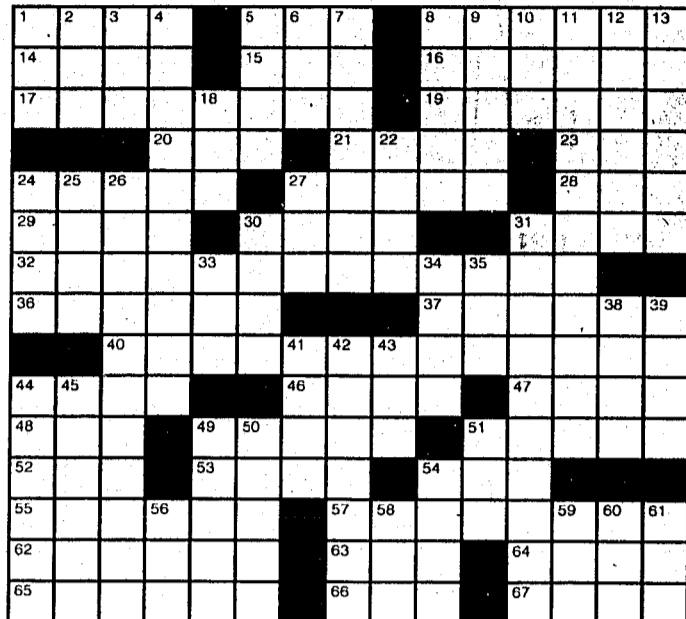
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44 Undersized
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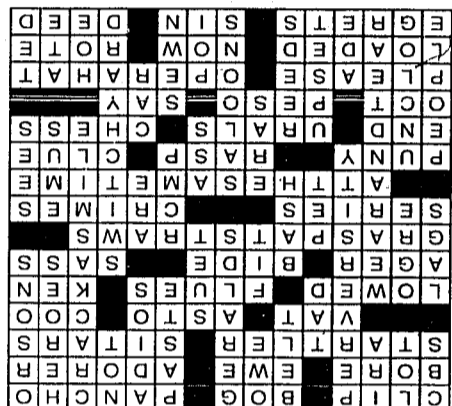


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10/17/05

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25 Fairy-tale fiend
26 Damage from use
27 Tailor's concern
30 Criticize harshly
31 Train assembly point
33 Favorite
34 B.C. cops
35 Exist
38 Cassowary kin
39 Understands
41 Time periods
42 Oater bars
43 Nincompoop

Solutions



44 Human beings
45 Remove stoppages
49 Underdog's victory
50 Marsh growths
51 Ford or Dodge
54 Stitched
56 Citrus cooler
58 Hawaiian dish
59 Garden tool
60 Goddess of folly
61 Slugger Williams

horoscopes

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (10-17-05). The challenge this year is to stay optimistic even when things get tough. You can do it, and you might as well. That's the secret to your success. 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 - Hold your temper and check your impulse to go on a shopping spree. You'd feel even worse than you already do, in the morning.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 4 - Be careful, especially if somebody else is upset. Staying cool under pressure is one of your specialties.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is a 7 - Jealousies could erupt now, as others vie for your attention. Be pleasant to all, and don't get distracted from your goal.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 6 - If you can stay out of a fight that doesn't concern you, do it. Don't even go over there.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is an 8 - The farther you venture, the more you appreciate what you have at home. Funny how that works.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 4 - It's good to feel like you can afford to get a special treat. You can't spend much on it, though. There's still a debt to be repaid.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Today is an 8 - You're pleasant and cheerful, and yet you're running into disagreement. It'll help if you get some solid facts to back up your argument.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 4 - Financial conditions are unstable now, so be cautious. Although it looks like you come out ahead, it's close.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec. 21) Today is a 7 - Extra time is needed, now, for planning carefully. Do it now, tomorrow you'll be too busy.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 6 - This is not a great time to make permanent decisions. You will have to make a few quick choices, though. Save your receipts.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is an 8 - Keep asking questions and reviewing options. Before long, you'll have to choose. Put that off as long as possible, by the way.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Today is a 4 - Money's still burning a hole in your pocket for a little while. Exercise self-discipline, you'll soon get interested in something else.

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