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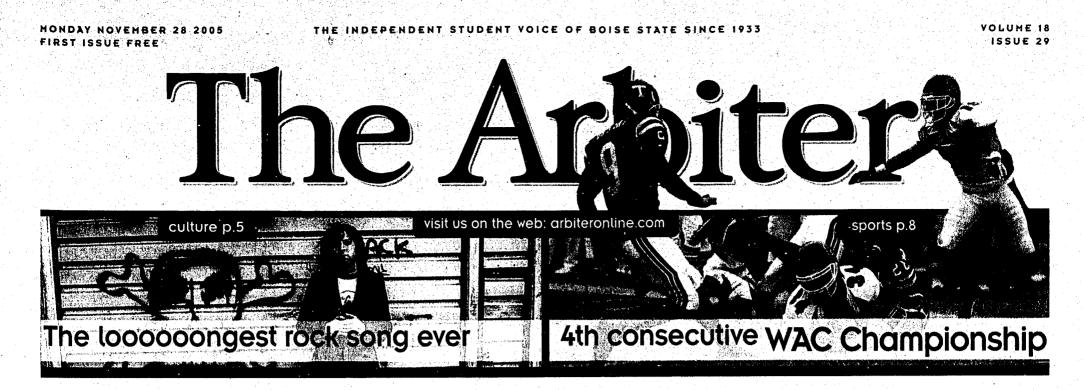
University Documents

11-28-2005



Students of Boise State University

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International Ed Week increases intercultural awareness

BY RYAN MORTENSEN **News Writer**

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Boise State International Education Week was held Nov. 14 to 18 in various rooms of the BSU Student Union Building.

The International Programs office at BSU planned a variety of activities such as Japan Night, an awareness fair and more to celebrate International Education

Week. International Education Week was designed by the U.S. departments of State and Education in 1999 as a national celebration to increase intercultural awareness and the importance of global competency among U.S. citizens.

The university population, as well as the general public, were invited to attend the events. One of the events held this year was the International Awareness Fair, which showcased the many international connections and opportunities, businesses, organizations, cultures and events in the local community.

Entertainment included Irish Dance Idaho and Rudmeela dancer from Nawsheen, a Bangladesh.

Japan Night was an evening full of food and fun and was hosted by the Japan Club. This event in-

cluded travel presentations from BSU students, an art and culture discussion with Professor John Francis, a Japanese-style menu and music.

There was also a Fulbright information session. The Fulbright award is available to graduating seniors, graduate students and faculty. The session included a panel of faculty with Fulbright and other international experience.

Among the above events was the English 123 Conference on Language.

Titled "Learning Languages, Sharing Identities: The and Rewards of Struggles Being Multilingual," this conference featured a panel · of BSU students who gave short presentations on topics such as the music of language, discrimination and accent, and the importance of

language diversity in a community.

Gail Shuck, coordinator of English language support programs and assistant professor of English at BSU, introduced the students who had presentations prepared for the conference.

"Every semester I learn from the multilingual students with whom I have the privilege to work," Shuk said.

See Ed Week (page 3)



U.S. and Britain differ over gays in military

BY RICHARD WHITTLE The Dallas Morning News

WASHINGTON --- Stacy Vasquez is a former Army recruiter who was booted out for being a lesbian in 2003 after 12 years in uniform. Tommy Cook's tour in Army intelligence ended the same year at Fort Hood, Texas, after he acknowl-

BSU has not joined national debate about military recruitment on campus

Boise State students have yet to join the nationwide debate regarding the Solomon Amendment, which permits military recruitment on campus and allows access to student records by military officials. Some students at campuses such as the University of Iowa and Stanford University are protesting the amendment, citing concerns over the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

Though the Solomon A

versities must allow military recruitment on campus, fully accessible to campus, students and student records. Federal funding can be withdrawn from a university that chooses to not comply.

Institutions depend heavily on federal funding to support their annual expenditures, including BSU. In 2003, an estimated \$57.5 billion in federal funds was received, according to an American Association of University Professors legal brief.

lows," said BSU ROTC Sgt. David Jones. BSU second-year ROTC student Dairus Barnes agreed.

"Obviously in the military, there is a chain of command. You follow orders. 'Don't Ask Don't Tell' is taken for face value. It's not meant to discriminate. It's mean to protect. It's to protect so all are respected and don't lose dignity," Barnes said.

Howard said he does not support any

Clubs abound at **Boise State**

BY EMILY POITEVIN **News Writer**

Boise State currently offers over 180 different clubs and organizations students can join to get more involved on campus.

The Anthropology Club is the oldest club at BSU. The Black Holez Astronomy Club gives students an opportunity to partake in stargazing. The Bronco Ranger Club increases students' knowledge of the outdoors by sponsoring a variety of outdoor activities, including snowshoeing and white-water rafting. Hand Talk is a club dedicated to promoting the use of American Sign Language both on and off campus.

Assistant Director of Student Activities Mike Esposito said it is a very important part of the college experience to get involved with organizations on campus.

"Research has shown that students who are engaged in campus activities tend to stay in school and graduate as compared to students who do not," Esposito said. "Being involved in a student organization provides hands-on opportunities for learning valuable skills, such as interpersonal communication, budgeting, event planning/management and can be an avenue to network with alumni in a given field." According to BSU's 2003-2004 Student Union and Student Involvement Assessment Report, which is administered to students each year, approximately 75.2 percent of the 542 respondents never participated in any sort of club. When asked why, the No. 1 reason listed was that the club or organization conflicted with other things going on in their lives. "Students are busy people - jobs, families, homework - all of these take time," Esposito said. "Some students don't feel they can get involved with an organization because of these demands. This is no different from other institutions of higher education. Each university has unique demographics and statistical differences in the level of involvement. The important thing is [that] we offer opportunities for involvement as often as we can."

edged he was gay. Both were in jobs the Army regards as crucial these days.

If Vasquez and Cook had been in the British army, they would have fared differently. Since 1999, the United Kingdom has allowed gays and lesbians to serve openly. Starting next month, some gay couples will even be eligible for married housing on British bases.

The U.S. military, by contrast, drums out hundreds of gays and lesbians each year under the 1993 law known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," even as an Army stressed by major deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan falls thousands short of its recruiting goals.

And while gay-rights advocates cite Britain's experience as evidence they could serve openly without disrupting the military's social fabric, neither Congress nor the Pentagon show any interest in repealing the statute.

"I know of no move along those lines, none," Army Secretary Francis Harvey said earlier this year.

Congress based "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" on a finding that allowing gays to serve openly could disrupt the military's unit cohesion by creating tensions among soldiers and eroding morale.

"People in the military are forced

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See Military (page 3)

doesn't include anything about the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, some are against it because of the military's stance on homosexuals and open access to campuses and student records.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is a 1993 U.S. military law that allows homosexuals to serve in the military if they refrain from "homosexual conduct." Homosexual conduct includes admitting to conduct homosexual orientation.

Students around the nation are protesting having military on their campuses, because they feel the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is discriminatory toward gays and lesbians.

At BSU, no such protests have started. Woody Howard, a gay BSU student who. served in the military, said he thinks there's room for debate.

"If there is a group that wants to protest against military recruitment, they should be able to do so. Their voice should be heard," Howard said.

Howard said he is unsure how the student body feels about the issue of military recruiters on campus, but if they are against it, they should be able to protest. Howard said he doesn't like how much access the military has on the BSU campus: Under the Solomon Amendment, uni-

BSU is allowed to disclose students' information to all 12 branches of the military. Recruiters can only request this once per semester. Currently, military recruiters are able to request information from the BSU Career Center and recruit on campus in the Student Union Building.

"We've only had about four inquiries within the span of a year," said Tim Ebner of the BSU Registrar's Office. "At Boise State, internally there has been no discussion regarding the Solomon Amendment other than we are following the law. Boise State follows mandates of the federal government. We adhere to all federal and state laws. We want to be in compliance."

In 1968, the Supreme Court held that the Solomon Amendment does not violate First Amendment rights because the amendment furthers the important government interest in raising a military. The, & trol, exist as a specialized society. court also noted it doesn't seek to suppress ideas. Emphasized was that institutions are free to denounce the military's policies without the loss of federal funds.

As for now, ROTC at BSU plans to follow the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, Ebner said

"The 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy has been issued by the [U.S.] Department of Defense, and this is a policy ROTC folpolicy that supports a negative outlook or impact on homosexuals.

"The issue is not that homosexuals are bad for morale," Howard said. "Rather, the issue is the military members who discriminate against homosexuals by making fun of them or beating them up," Howard said.

The policy doesn't really do anything for military morale, he said.

"They're taking action against the victim instead of the perpetrators of the problem," Howard said.

Public law states that military life is fundamentally different from civilian life in that the extraordinary responsibilities of the armed forces, the unique conditions of military service and the critical role of unit cohesion require that the military community, while subject to civilian con-

"It's not civilian life. In the military, you're held to a different standard than a civilian," said BSU student and Cadet Nick Allex.

Howard, who served in the U.S. Navy for more than two years, agreed that military life is different than civilian life. However, the military "doesn't need to have a policy [for homosexuals]. They need to treat everyone the same."

> Esposito estimates between 5,000 and 6,000 students are involved in

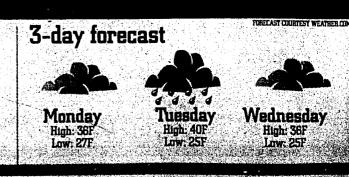
> > See Clubs [page 3]

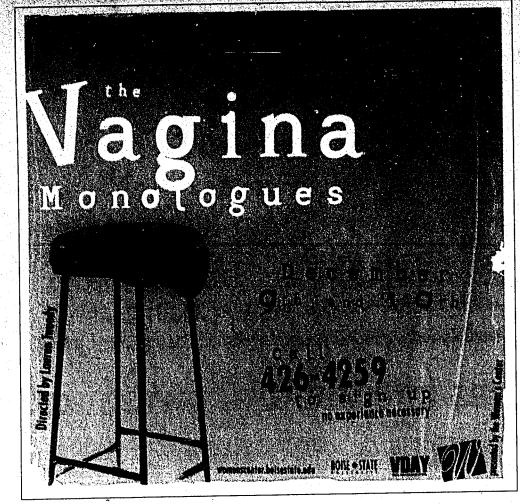
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Students work to pad college resumes

Anna Aleksandrova has a 4.59 grade point average and hopes her volunteer projects will get her into Harvard. Yale or Emory if her grades are not enough: Withdrawl questions will dominate in weeks ahead

> Dick Polman says President Bush has lost control of the debate over the future of the U.S. military presence in Iraq.



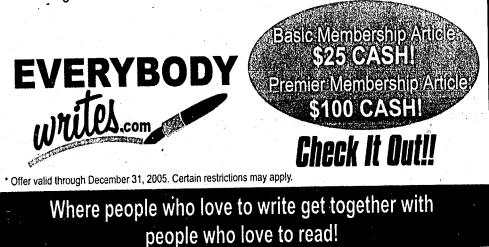


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November 28 2005 THE ARBITER

world

Tsunami relief reinforces class disparities

THARANGAMBADI, India From fishermen cleaning nets to women sorting fish, the tsunamihit shoreline of this town in south India bustles with activity. More than 300 fishing boats, brightly painted with the names of donors, blanket the beach.

A mile away, the scene couldn't be more different. Only minimal aid has reached the dusty, almost abandoned village of Pudupalayam. Residents have struggled to eke out a living since salt from the tsunami spoiled the fields where they worked as laborers.

Nearly a year after the tsunami raced across the Indian Ocean, bringing devastation to 13 countries and killing an estimated 225,000 people, international aid agencies have learned a bitter lesson: Not everyone can be helped equally.

What's happened here also has happened elsewhere: Those who already were relatively well off are doing better with assistance from international donors, while those who were struggling before the tsunami often still are struggling.

Former President Clinton, meeting privately with aid groups last month as the United Nations special envoy for tsunami recovery, underscored the importance of reaching the region's poorest. "A successful reconstruction effort should ensure the protection of vulnerable populations," he was quoted as saying in a U.N. news release.

"The hope is that at the end of it, there's a better infrastructure, there's a more equitable social pattern," said Steve Hollingworth, the India director for CARE, a development agency that's active in the reconstruction.

"But the fact of the matter is that an emergency like this is an opportunity for some over and above others, and it makes vulnerable groups much more vulnerable than they were before," he said. "There's no way around it."

The plight of villages such as Pudupalayam (pronounced poodoo-PAH-lay-uhm) is especially challenging in a country such as India, where a decade of economic growth has spawned shopping malls and a burgeoning middle class, but still hasn't overcome a social system that remains divided largely along gender and caste lines.

"All the aid agencies and even the government are only looking

sea flooded inland, sweeping away boats, houses and shops.

national

Colleges find many fall short in math, **English skills**

In the lowest-level writing class at Columbia College, freshmen learn about the pitfalls of run-on sentences and the correct places for commas. In basic math, they learn about fractions, decimals and simple geometry.

Sarah Rehder didn't expect to start college in either of these courses. A graduate of Curie High School in Chicago, she assumed she was prepared for college.

But like many students in the state and nationwide, Rehder learned through a college placement exam that she wasn't ready for collegelevel coursework. Now she's learning - and paying for - material that she arguably should have mastered in high school.

"I thought high school was supposed to prepare you for college," said Rehder, 18, a photography major and the first in her family to attend college. "I'm just doing the same thing over again that I did in high school. I didn't learn anything.'

Educators say high schools need to do a better job at teaching students the skills they will need to succeed in college. And they are also falling short when it comes to ensuring students are mastering even the basics. State report card data released this month show that about 40 percent of high school juniors failed to meet standards in reading this year, and 47 percent failed to meet standards in math.

Performance on the high school exam, which includes the college entrance ACT (American College Test), is one way of gauging whether students are prepared for college, said Jennifer Presley of the Illinois Education Research Council. The council reported earlier this year that only about two-thirds of Illinois high school students who graduated in 2002 were at least minimally ready, based on ACT scores and grade-point averages, and a disproportionate number of poor and minority students were unprepared, Presley said.

As colleges and universities grapple with declining state funding, the cost of remedial education is of increasing concern. What's more, if college-going rates continue to rise, the need for remedial courses is bound to increase. Such classes typically don't count toward graduation.

You want to put those scarce dollars toward new classes, financial aid, and not toward remediating students for the same skills they should have been taught in high school," said Kristin Conklin, who studies college readiness as a program director with the National Governors Association. "The big equity argument that shouldn't be lost is that these are the students who can least waste money on classes that don't count."

Construction crews started on the foundation for the four-story Interactive Learning Center earlier this month; the project will take approximately 16 months to complete, according to university officials. In addition to housing what has tentatively been billed as the Center for Teaching and Learning, the building will include a 200-seat lecture hall and 12 standard classrooms in addition to a multi-media lab, multi-purpose/distance learning classroom, visualization classroom, experimental classroom and numerous study lounges

In addition to academic functions, the building will include a food-services area, a convenience store and a coffee bar featuring a cyber cafe/study lounge. A wi-fi network for wireless Internet connectivity will also serve the entire building.

President Bob Kustra said BSU's most recent construction project is part of the university's efforts to accommodate its growing number of students and provide them with a quality learning experience: "It will symbolize our commitment to our students to facilitate state-of-the-art learning with cutting-edge technology," he said.

The Interactive Learning Center is one of the first manifestations of BSU's 2005 Campus Master Plan, which was approved by the State Board of Education in October. The blueprint for the future is part of the university's vision and strategic direction to transform itself into a metropolitan research university of distinction.

The Center for Teaching and Learning will serve as a resource for BSU's faculty members, providing professors and other instructors with information on most current pedagogical methods, techniques and trends in the higher education field.

"Learning is a complex undertaking and even the best teacher may not succeed at reaching all students successfully," Kustrasaid. "Our Center for Teaching and Learning will serve as a resource for our faculty to review new theories of cognitive development, to adopt learner-centered classroom practices, and to experiment with strategies for motivating learners."

The project architect is Lombard-Conrad Architects of Boise and the design architect is Opsis Architecture of Portland. The construction manager is CM Company of Boise, which will manage the project.

what the?

A ceramic goat!? When did I buy a ceramic goat?

A new survey indicates that a significant number of Britons are doing online shopping while under the influence of liquor.

GIARGEN ANDREA GARE TICKETS ON SALE

NOW

JAMES BLAKE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2005

TACO D BELL DOUBLES: Agassi/Blake vs. Bob & Mike Bryan

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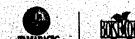
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START TIME: 7 P.M. MIXED DOUBLES: Featuring Agassi and Graf • SINGLES: Agassi vs. Blake Act fast before tickets are sold out!

Prices range from \$15 to \$85 with discounts available for families, BSU and USTA members. Tickets available at Taco Bell Arena Box Office, idenotichets. Select-a-Seat outlets, or by calling 208-426-1766





The Andre Again



after the fisher-folk," complained Shivalingam, a young and outspoken community leader who like many here uses only one name. "They got their boats and their nets. We don't have any work."

ThefarmlaborersofPudupalayam come from the lowest caste in Indian society. Once derided as untouchables, today they're known as Dalits, a name that means "the oppressed."

Tsunami relief efforts initially overlooked them; many aid agencies weren't even aware the Dalits existed, let alone needed help. Now, a growing number of groups are diverting resources to the Dalit victims in hopes of keeping them from sliding farther down the socioeconomic scale, though the efforts come late.

It was only natural that the focus would fall on helping the fishing families of Tharangambadi (Tah-rahn-gahm-PAH-dee). About 300 people died here in the Dec. 26 tsunami, which claimed 16,000 victims in India. The village, about 150 miles south of Chennai, the city formerly known as Madras, suffered major property damage as the



local/bsu

Learning Center construction begins at BSU

Boise State has begun construction on a new 54,000-squarefoot building adjacent to its Multipurpose Classroom Building that will house a state-of-the-art learning center for students and faculty. The \$13.5 million building is being financed through bonds issued by BSU and repaid through pledged revenues of the university.

Things could be tense at family gatherings

A 27-year-old newlywed groom in Romania had a passionate affair with his wife's mother. And so, after only three months of marriage, he divorced the wife so he could marry the mother-in-law.

The scorned wife did not take this lying down. According to the husband, she paid a woman to go to the wedding and scream embarrassing things at the couple.

Oh, there they are

A man in Belleville, Ill., called the police to report someone had stolen his marijuana plants from his home. When the cops arrived, he took them to the room where he keeps the plants, and found they had not been stolen after all, and were sitting right there. He was arrested.

WASHINTON D.C.-

President George W. Bush gives a pat to Marshmallow the turkey, who received a Presidential Pardon for. Thanksgiving, Nov. 22. James Trites, at right, raised Marshmallow.

November 28 2005

NEWS

Boise State biologist helps recover natural history lost to Katrina

BY RYAN MORTENSEN News Writer

Boise State biology Professor Jim Smith is working with colleagues from around the country to raise funds to help recover and maintain botanical collections that may have been damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which swept through Texas and the Gulf Coast earlier this fall.

Smith is chair of the publicity committee for the American Society of Plant Taxonomists, and is also the director of BSU's herbarium, a natural history collection of plant species.

These collections, housed in laboratories, universities, field stations and other institutions, provide an irreplaceable record of plant, animal and fungal species collected in the region over an extended time period.

They are repositories of information about plant and animal species affected by climate change, from areas that have since become urbanized, or which are part of crime scene investigations, pharmocological or ecological studies.

ASPT has created a committee to work with experts on site in the hurricane-stricken Gulf Coast region to identify which natural history collections have beendamagedandtodispersefunds. The ASPT Herbarium Emergency Fund was established this fall in response to hurricane damage in the region.

In places such as the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, crews have worked to assess damage to the collections and move them from temporary locations. The process of salvaging wet or moldy specimens and rebuilding damaged buildings at a number of locations is still just getting under way. While the recent hurricane disasters have focused attention on the Gulf Coast, other parts of the country are also vulnerable to similar scenarios.

The long-term impacts of the losses of natural history collection in the Gulf Coast area - such as museums of preserved plant, animal and fungal specimens that document the biota of the Gulf Coast - may have far-reaching ramifications in New Orleans and other cities of the gulf states.

According to a news release, Smith explained that specimens are gathered and maintained in such a way that information on where the organism was growing or living, its interactions with other organisms in that region and other general information about the organism at the time of its collection are kept with the specimen.

As a result, these data are invaluable for researchers and others who may want to know where the plants and animals were - where there might be a 10-story parking garage today.

ASPT promotes research and teaching in the classification, organization and evolutionary history of plants. Organized in 1935, the society has more-



than 1,300 members.

Smith emphasized that efforts such as the ones he is promoting are secondary to humanitarian relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath.

More information about the effort to rescue herbariums, including photos, is available at http://www .herbarium.olemiss.edu.

Also, information about what researchers at the Gulf Coast Lab are dealing with after Katrina is available at http://www.usm.edu/ gcrl/katrina.



PHOTOS BY RICHAE SWANDECK/THE ARBITER Biology Professor Jim Smith displays Boise State's natural history collection of plant species. Smith said the collection includes thousands of plant species.

Ed Week [from page 1]

3

"They help me to understand more thoroughly, deeply and personally what learning language is all about."

BSU student Anahely Contreras shared her own personal experiences and how her self-esteem was affected by learning a new language in her speech titled, "When You Lose Yourself."

During her emotional presentation, Contreras explained that while she was going to high school she didn't understand English very well so she would watch the students in her class and copied what they did.

If the students took out paper, Contreras said she would also take out paper. "I, like many other students, kept fighting to achieve my goals," Contreras said.

Other speakers who took part in the conference were Luis Vilafana, Amouzougan, Marcelline -Fernando Mejia, Yaldia Khaliki and Robert Lin.

The majority of the audience for this event was made up of participants in the Intensive English Program at BSU, where students pay tuition to learn English all day.

"This conference allowed multilingual students to have their own voices," Shuk said.

Military [from page 1]

into situations with an extreme lack of privacy, in the barracks, in the foxhole and so forth," said Peter Sprigg, vice president for policy at the Family Research Council, a conservative research and lobbying group that focuses on family issues. "It is unfair to put people in the military in a position of forced intimacy with people who may be viewing them as a sexual object."

More than 10,000 service members have been discharged in the dozen years since the law took effect, replacing a previous outright ban on gays in the military.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" allows gays and lesbians to serve, but only if they refrain from "homosexual conduct," defined as "a homosexual act, an admission or statement of homosexuality, or marriage or attempted marriage between persons of the same gender."

The Government Accountability Office, the investigative arm of Congress, found in February that 757 of the nearly 9,500 service. members expelled during the first

itary actually has eased its enforcement of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" under the pressure of wartime manpower needs. The number of those discharged for violating the law has declined sharply since President Bush declared the global war on terror, from 1,227 to 653 annually.

"If you look at the decrease in numbers, they start immediately after Sept. 11, 2001," said Steve Ralls, a spokesman for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Fund, a group that seeks the law's repeal. "Whenever there is a conflict, the numbers go down."

Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Brian Maka disputed that conclusion, saying it was "not based on scientific evidence," and such evidence would be impossible to find. "How do you know why someone

wasn't discharged?" Lt. Col. Maka said. "The numbers are what they are."

Critics say "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" deprives the military of thousands of patriots who want to serve their country, even if that means risking their lives.

Vasquez and Cook hold themalves out as examples. They are

Gay-rights advocates say the mil- school in Denton, Texas. She became a paralegal and served in Germany, South Korea and various domestic stations until May 2001, when she was assigned recruiter duty back in Texas.

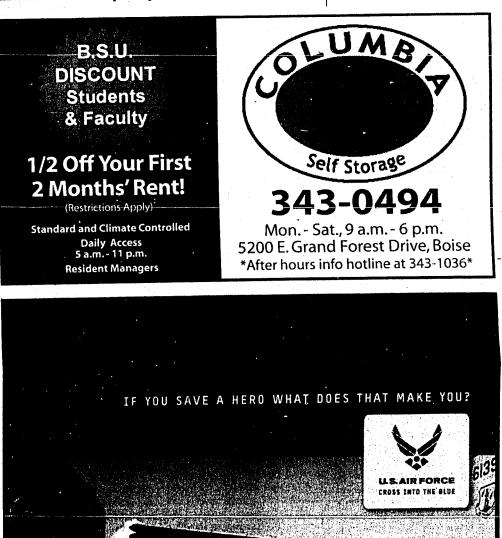
When she joined the Army with her mother's permission at age 17, Vasquez said, "They did ask me if I was a homosexual in my contract, and I honestly answered 'no.' During my first enlistment I was even married to a man."

Only after 1997, the year her marriage ended, did she begin to "identify as a lesbian," she said.

By 2003, she had risen to the rank of first sergeant and was one of her station's top recruiters. But "I was called into my commander's office one day and I was told that a coworker's wife had seen me kiss a girl in a gay bar," Vasquez said.

The commander, she said, offered her a choice: she could either face a criminal charge of indecent conduct or write a statement declaring herself a lesbian and receive an honorable discharge.

Citing the lawsuit, Vasquez declined to say whether she kissed another woman that night at Sue Ellen's, a lesbian club in Dallas. But



10 years of the law held "critical occupations." They included 54 Arabic speakers, for example.

"The war in Iraq highlights the shortsightedness of discharging Arabic linguists who happen to be gay," wrote Lt. Col. Allen B. Bishop, a West Point professor who argued for the law's repeal in a March Army Times commentary.

among 12 ousted service members represented in a federal lawsuit filed in Massachusetts by the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, which aims to overturn the law as unconstitutional and reinstate them in the military.

Vasquez, 32, joined the Army in 1991 after graduating from high

"I did write the statement," she said, to avoid a criminal charge.

Army spokesman Paul Boyce declined to comment on her case but said "generally speaking" a homosexual act that could lead to a discharge "involves much more than just an allegation of kissing someone of the same sex."

[lubs [from page 1]

clubs and organizations at BSU. Participation numbers, in addition to the numbers of clubs on campus, are increasing.

"In the five years I have been here, we've gone from 150 clubs

to 180, which demonstrates everincreasing interest on the part of students to create organizations which foster community around common interests," Esposito said. In order to increase students' awareness of the different opportunities available to become more

involved on campus, The Arbiter will soon start to feature profiles on student clubs at BSU.

Any organization interested in featured can conbeing tact The Arbiter News section for more information at news@arbiteronline.com.

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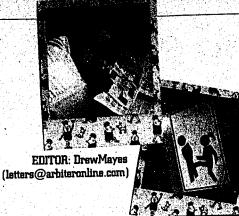
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THE ARBITER November 28 2005

opinion



One more thing

campus smoking ban?

Do you support the proposed

It's a free

Ryan Clady

country so if you

want to smoke,

you should be

able to smoke.

Communication

BY STEVEN PATRICK Guest Opinion

s an unrepentant smoker A in unrependant (smoker who has seen smoking move from a mainstream, middle class bertvity for a marginalized and even demonized activity that current initiative to create a smoke free campus is extramely troubling in define a hidden attack on Class differ-in define a marginalized in the second institu-tion have a state sponsored institu-tion have a right to exclude 10 to 20 percent of the law-abiding tax pay-ting public. The argument is that smoking stu-dents are less desirable students. In this a hidden attack on Class differ-In defense of smokers' rights and liberties in general I would like to make several points.

First, us i understand the statistics provided, about a third of those pblled support a smoking ban, Last time I looked this was not a major-ity. Are we living in a democracy or a theocracy? If a public organization wishes to ban a legal activity I would suggest it be required to attain a super majority at least and inthis poll the super majority did not support this proposed ban.

As a state institution we have an obligation to be inclusive. Smoking is currently a legal although re- How about we enforce the policies

Put this in your pipe and smoke it

ences? There was no problem with smoking when it was a middle class activity but now that the majority of smokers are working class if a ok to discriminate against them. Isn't a goal of the public education system in this country to use education to improve the society? How can this goal be reached when we exclude those that often need education the most? Additionally, I question the

statistics used. Simple frequencies often hide spurious effects. Smoking is already highly restricted on campus. Do we need yet more restrictions on our liberties?

stricted activity. The statistics re-ported show a substantial number of students, staff and faculty.smoke. Do we as a state sponsored institu-tion have a right to exclude 10 to 20 percent of the law-abiding tax pay-percent of the law-abiding

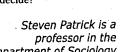
What about those often unregulated lawn maintenance implements spewing out foul fumes and obnoxious noises or the cars and buses polluting our pure campus environment? Maybe we should han them as well. We already have so many restrictions that we donot enforce on this campus. Daily I witness numerous near misses as those on foot dive for cover from the illegal activities of bicyclists and skateboarders.

Will it take litigation from an injured individual to wake us up to the real dangers on this campus? Educate and enforce the policies we have now, don't make new, more restrictive ones that will drive people away. Are we trying to become a

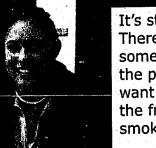
of Distinction or a university famous for gimmicks? According to the statistics released, 16 other universities, of the thousands of colleges and universities in this land, ban smoking. That is not a bandwagon or even a trend, so why should we jump on it. If we want to attract top students how about we fund our education system appropriately instead of offering dubious bells and whistles? Catch phrases and pretty pictures will not attract and keep the top students, top programs will.

Metropolitan Research University

Much more could be said but my space is limited. We as a society once before tried to ban a morally questionable behavior and what was the result of prohibition? If we ban smoking what will be next and who will decide?



Department of Sociology



It's stupid. There should be something against the people who want to stop the freedom of smoking.

Alaina Sutherlin Psychology



I think it's a good idea to promote health and be considerate of others.

Jeremy Johnson Pre-Dental

Keeping students out of the classroom

Overcrowding and hybrid courses at BSU

BY DOUG PADDOCK **Guest Opinion**

The University's recent move to push hybrid-formatted classes is degrading the level of education I receive at Boise State University. A hybrid class is split into two

components: one part is online

while the other consists of regular in class meetings. The reason given for these hybrid classes is to free up classroom space.

The university believes that by offering a portion of the class online, there will be less students taking up room in the classroom. Yes, it is true; BSU has enacted a policy to keep students out of the classroom. The problem with this solution is

that they haven't actually freed up any classrooms at all. In the hybrid class I am taking this semester class is only on Thursdays, but the classroom is still reserved for the class on Tuesday, so it goes unused on Since BSU needs more classrooms it should build some, not sacrifice my education with this hasty solution.

I do not learn as much in a hybrid course as I would in a traditional classroom setting. Rather than lecturing, the professor assigns reading and message board posts in its place. While reading is fine, it cannot take the place of a lecture. Posting, on the other hand, is of little educational value to me. These hybrid classes are not listed as such on Bronco Web or in the course catalog.

They are listed just like any other regular class, so you cannot tell when you register if it is hybrid until the class starts and by then it's too late for many students to drop the class. By not listing these classes as hybrids Boise State has taken away the student's ability to choose the format that is best for his or her learning.

This hasty solution highlights some severe flaws in Idaho's education system; there aren't even enough classrooms to hold our college students. Instead of offering second-rate hybrid classes, BSU should build more classrooms.

We all saw how fast the new multimillion dollar indoor sports facility shot up, but they [have] yet to build a new classroom facility.

That money should have been used for education first and sports second. While the new campus master plan calls for new facilities, the bottom line is that we have needed these classrooms for a while

(via Blackboard or similar website)

A few years wait just won't do.

Doug Paddock is a history major at Boise State

Giving Arbiter readers the last word



Smoke this

Funny thing about smoke-when it comes out of the end of an individual's cigarette, it's deemed offensive and unhealthy; when it pours out of the tailpipes of a hundred thousand vehicles, it's considered normal and unavoidable.

According to this same logic, within the next few years Boise State University Health Services plans to ban smoking on campus, while Parking and Transportation will double the number of parking

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spaces available.

However, to anyone living (and breathing) in the real world, it seems obvious that, for most of us, the health benefits of the former will be far outweighed by the negative effects of the latter.

As a non-smoking bicyclist, I'd much rather see the University develop and support commuting alternatives for the majority of students who drive to school than see a ban that scapegoats the small number of students who smoke tobacco.

Compared with the little puff of smoke one might have to pass walking into a university building, the winter inversions are a real serious health threat, one which gets worse every time someone drives a car instead of taking the bus, walking, riding a bike or at least car-pooling. The university taking practical

and visionary steps toward reducing the amount of air pollution in the Treasure Valley will benefit me far more than a token and cliched gesture towards "health."

> Gretchen Jude Music and theatre major

Not on Veterans Day

Recently while logging onto Bronco Web to add a class to my spring schedule, I was surprised to see the headline that a conscientious objector would be speaking at Boise State. I wasn't surprised that our school would invite someone to our school to speak about different opinions regarding war, but I was shocked and dismayed about the choice of the day, Veterans Day.

I'm a total believer in our right to freedom of speech; however, I'm

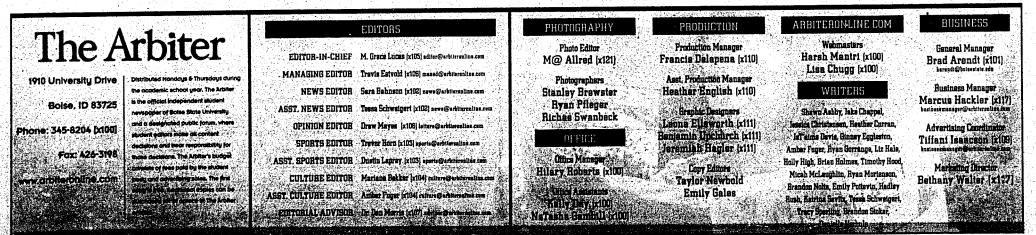
also a firm believer in showing respect. When it was decided that we would spend the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month honoring our men and women in uniform I don't think that this is what the President had in mind. Instead of handing out yellow ribbons on the quad for people to

wear on their jackets, we got someone saying. "When I see those yellow ribbons on the back of cars, it makes me want to vomit."

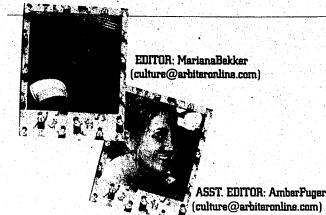
What were our school officials thinking? It shouldn't matter if you agree why we're in Iraq; those

young people over there are risking their lives for their country. Maybe the biggest thing is that Veteran's Day isn't only about our soldiers in Iraq. What about our heroes from Word War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf War who deserved our thanks on Friday? It isn't wrong to give everyone an outlet for their beliefs, but maybe we should have thought a little bit before we scheduled it for such a significant day.

> Stephanie Lehto Political science major



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Continuing to break the record of longest rock song

BY RYAN GORRINGE Culture Writer

A lthough no tracks on his current album quite reach five minutes Mark Mallman still holds the record for longest rock song performed according to The Guinness Book of World Records at 52.4 hours.

This was actually the second time he broke the record doubling his previous effort of 26.2. hours. After the 600 pages of

in high school. His music however reflects a miscellany of influences, styles and themes. He writes songs with typical themes such as self-loathing and love but in an atypical fashion.

Although Mallman plays piano he should not automatically be thrown into the Ben Folds category of the quirky, white, piano-playing musician. Actually that is a near-perfect description, just add likeable and strangely addictive. What clude "Hardcore Romantics" and "Mother Made Me Do It." "Hardcore Romantics" has a very, divergent, and interesting view of what it is to be romantic. It captures what both parties want out of a "romantic" relationship. "Mother" is a dark tune about adolescence, working, guilt, literary giants, the system, and whatever else was going through Mallman's head that day.

It creeps along in a brooding manner and like your brain will be stuck in your head for a long time. In the end it is a haunting melody reminiscent of a Beatle's "White" album experimental piece that didn't make the final cut but should have. Nearly all of the tracks on the album have a familiar feel but they also take on their own character. Musically, the album has a bouncy and upbeat mood and has no prevalent theme. Instead a variety of issues are covered and musical styles explored, but not for too long. Mallman cannot seem to sit still. What makes Mallman interesting and different is his ability to take typical pop rock and in some inexplicable way make it all his own.

A key to Mallman's growing popularity are his live performances. It would not be unusual to see him break a finger, dislocate a shoulder or perform the entire concert inside a 6x2x3 box, all of which he has done. The **Chick:** Fashion's hits and misses

The key to wearing fur is to buy the faux kind

BY MARIANA BEKKER Culture Columnist

It is inevitable. Cold weather is upon us. And what's better than a furry something or other to keep us warm and cozy while it's freezing outside? Fur is back, and it is on everything. You can buy furry sweaters, furry coats, furry scarves, furry boots, and even furry socks (the other day I saw furry leg warmers, but I think that deserves its own column). Pretty much any clothing item you want to wear to keep your body from going hypothermic this season comes in fur.

Since I love all things fuzzy and soft, I decided to see just how much cool fur stuff is out there. Upon many other items, I have been eyeing a pair of furry boots for the last year or so and finally made the decision to buy them. The boots, called Mukluk boots, are hand made by native Indians in Canada. Each pair is unique and individually crafted. Mukluks are made of suede and rabbit fur and lined with sheepskin. Oh, and they are about \$400.

These overly expensive boots are super cute and all the big celebrities, of course, own several pairs of Mukluks, which come in colors like brown, black, white, and pink. I was dying to own a pair, so I went online to neimanmarcus.com to make the splurge.

Then I felt guilty. Not because of the hefty price tag for the tremendously trendy boots, but because of the fact that they are made from real fur.

I don't know if you guys know

deprivation so intense that the animals often go insane.

Those for the fur industry claim that fur trapping is a necessary tool for wildlife management. While that may be vaguely accurate, trapping for commercial endeavors is far from any kind of management but maybe for managing these people's enormous bank accounts. Approximately two nontarget (meaning they weren't intended to get caught in those nasty traps) including dogs, cats, squirrels, and birds are caught for every one furbearing animal. Talk about a lack of accuracy!

Already, millions of animals have been saved from being slaughtered because a compassionate public refused to buy real fur. Actual fur sales are continuing to decrease but it's still a problem.

I am not trying to sound like a crazed PETA person – I am not even a PETA member (though maybe I should be, along with everyone else who doesn't want Thumper to be butchered) – but I think this current trend of having everything and anything in fur warrants some attention to how the fur actually gets on our boots and coats and sweaters.

Everyone should try to do as much as they can to keep those innocent bunnies and other furry creatures safe from intentional and cruel harm. Therefore we should educate as many people as we possibly can (like I am doing with this oh-so clever column) that fur is inhumane and unfashionable.

Choose clothing that reflects respect for the animals; don't wear real fur. Though the plush look and feel of fur is all the rage this season, many stores and designers are catering to both the fashion and the socially conscious public. Faux fur is just as attractive, just as classy, and significantly cheaper than real fur, so you can be the chicest chick or rooster and not one soft little bunny or mink or furry fox has to die. Unfortunately more than a handful of the elite fashion designers including Dolce & Gabbana, Fendi, Oscar de la Renta, Valentino, Givenchy, and Versace are using real fur in their winter collections. A few years ago, such a shameless display of animal cruelty in the name of fashion would have been unthinkable, but supermodels, celebrities, and designers all appear to have embraced what used to be the dirty secret of fashion with much delight. However, for us simple folk, wearing fur is not such a cool deal. Cosmopolitan magazine's recent survey showed that 91 percent of us would never wear real fur no matter how fashion conscious we may be. And why should we? Faux fur is just as good, if not better. With the distinct air of old Hollywood glamour in the winter trend, faux fur allows everyone to dabble with this cozy and stylish look without breaking the bank or slaughtering anything. As for the wonderfully cute Mukluk boots I wanted, I bought some knock-offs, Not only were they hundreds of dollars cheaper (about 40 bucks on eBay), they're made of faux fur but look just as plush and comfy as the real Mukluk boots. It was a win-win situation and no bunnles were harmed in their making.

rhyming lyrics had been sung and nearly 70 backup musicians had finished their excruciating task they also performed an encore. This is a fairly good introduction to the eccentricities of Mark Mallman, unusual, unconventional and underrated (at least in Boise) rock star.

Mallman's appearance is that of a slightly hip high school science teacher that may have been a bit like Napolean Dynamite Mallman brings to the musical table are ideas. They are not all fully developed and few are polished but they are fresh. While first listening to the album I did not pick up on all of the oddities but with each repeat I picked up on one intricacy after another and had a hard time not skipping past every other musician on my ipod.

Memorable tracks on his latest release "Mr. Serious" inHis performance style is a mix between a hard core punk show and an Elton John concert.

Go ahead and ask yourself "what would that look like?" The only solution would be to see a Mark Mallman concert. With no current tour plans closer than Minneapolis that might be hard to do. Fortunately his latest album is available at a much closer and convenient record store.

Recipe of the Week: Fish Tacos

BY AMBER FUGER Assistant Culture Editor

After a weekend of consuming turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberries, Baba ginush, and of course pumpkin pie, the lighter side of food is ultra appealing. Fish happens to be extremely healthy and easy to prepare.

Fish tacos became a favorite of mine when I was a little girl, dining on the shores of Lake Tahoe. A little restaurant called 'Sunnyside' served up some of the tasty fish tacos and ever since, I have been experimenting with different flavors to recreate this delicious simple cuisine.

At the end of the 2004 spring semester, after completing the last final of the year, I collapsed on my plush bed and flipped on the television to find Rachel Ray singing a tune I could get down to. She was composing fish tacos with a jalepe-



no, Dijon and cilantro sauce. Ray was going for a low-carb meal so she used lettuce to wrap the fish, but if carbs are not an issue she suggested using flour tortillas.

First things first. Cut the jalepenos in half and scoop out the majority of the seeds for that is where all the heat of the pepper is stored. Then dice one to three jalepenos and throw them in a food processor. Add two and a half scoops of mustard and a handful of chopped cilantro. To tone down the cilantro, add a mint leaf, then pulse with extra virgin olive oil.

To prepare the fish, cut into bite



1-2 filets of firm white fish (halibut, snapper, cod, orange roughy, or grouper) 3-4 jalepenos

1 bundle of cilantro 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

Mint leaves (usually found in a plastic package near the herbs in the produce section) 2'tablespoons Dijon mustard 1 lemon

Salt and pepper 1 avocado

1 roma tomato Lettuce (desired type romaine, shreds, and iceberg)

Flour tortillas For lettuce wraps use bib or butter lettuce, firmer and great scoop shape this, but those cute cuddly bunny rabbits you see in the pet store or hopping around the wooded areas near your neighborhood are also killed in the wild for boots like the Mukluks I so pined for, or for fur coats or even fur trim.

Behind the glamorous image of fur coats and other fur items lies the cruelty and reality of animal pain and suffering. Every year, millions of animats around the world (all of which are cute and cuddly) are killed in traps, wire snares, or on factory fur farms. This brutality is all to make "luxurious" fur items for the minority of people who can actually afford it.

Animals caught in hidden steel jaw traps suffer a slow, agonizing death. These animals usually freeze to death, or are attacked by predators. Many of them will painfully chew off their own limbs in an attempt to break free of the trap only to die later from blood loss, fever, or gangrene. If for some reason they don't escape sans a limb or die from the weather or other animals, then they are bludgeoned or strangled to death by the trapper.

Raising animals on ranches for their fur is no less cruel. These furry critters are kept in close confinement and deprived of a natural life in the wild, until they are killed. Usually it's done by gassing, suffocation, strychnine poisoning, or electrocution through the mouth or through their little fannies (doesn't sound pleasant, does it?) so that the fur is not dirtied or stained with blood. These methods are far from 100 percent effective so some of the animals. "wake up" while being skinned. Far from being considered "humane," fur ranching is generally characterized by barren cages, isolation, and environmental

(halibut, s ange roug

PHOTO BY N@ ALLAED/THE ARBITER

size pieces while raw; sprinkle with salt and pepper and some fresh lemon juice. Then pour a tablespoon of extra virgin olive oil into a frying pan or onto a flat griïl skillet, heat and add the fish. Sauté until cooked all the way through. Heat tortillas on a tortilla warmer, in the oven, or in the microwave for 20 seconds. Fill with fish and then drizzle sauce over the top.

For some added flavor, dice a few

tomatoes, onions, and avocado and

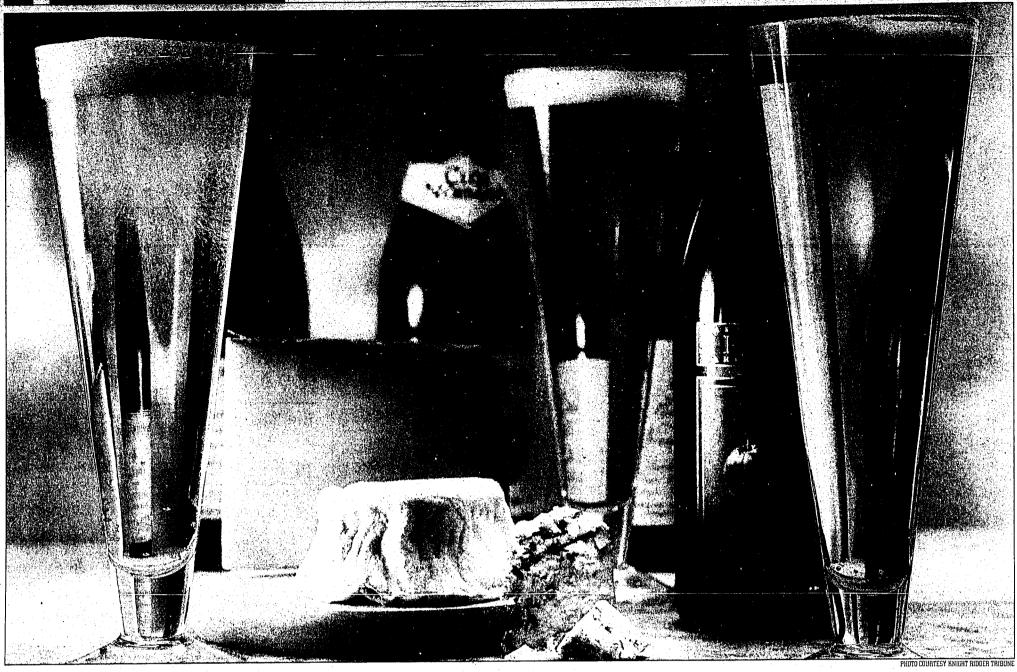
add these garnishes to the taco roll

and enjoy. This meal takes less than

30 minutes, is super easy to prepare

and fairly inexpensive.

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Cider, like wine and beer, teams well with many cheeses, including cheddars, triple creams and blues, depending on the flavors in the cider.

Hard cider finds new audience

BY ROBIN MATHER JENKINS Knight Ridder Tribune

Cider: That's the icy sweet drink for kids served at pumpkin patches and U-pick apple orchards, isn't it? Well, sometimes it is. Sometimes it isn't.

Sometimes, cider, as in "hard" cider, or slightly alcoholic cider, is just the right quaff for grownups and more of them are finding that cider is a nice bridge between beer and wine in alcohol content (with only 4 to 7 percent by volume).

Hard cider sales nationally were nearly \$1.5 million last year, up from \$1.1 million in 2003, reported ACNielsen of Schaumburg, Ill.

Microbreweries and regional wineries are responding to that desire by producing artisan ciders that can rival top-shelf European ciders in quality.

cheeses and wines," said Michael Roper of Hopleaf bar in Chicago,

who stocks several ciders, in bottles

and on tap. "Cider not only pairs

well with food, it's also a great in-

Finely crafted ciders can rival

white wines in dryness and com-

plexity. Their names - Blackthorn,

Cheddar Valley, Original Sin, Three

Witches, Bad Seed - are roman-

tic and sometimes whimsical. The

names of the apples they're craft-

ed from - Dabinett, Catamount,

Greening, Newton Pippin - may

no longer be familiar, but echo the

Artisan ciders tend toward dry-

ness, rather than sweetness, wheth-

er they're spritzy or still. Some sport

gredient."

past.

a beerlike head when poured. They may smell very spicy and appley, or have barnyard or mushroom aromas. They may not have pronounced apple flavors, just as wine often doesn't have pronounced grape flavors.

Most people first meet cider through widely available national brands. Typically, mainstream ciders with wide national distribution may be fizzy or still. They tend to be very sweet, without complex flavors. Some have very appley aromas: others have virtually no nose at all.

ONE NAME, TWO STYLES

In most places where apples grow and people make beverages from them, "apple juice" is the sweet stuff and "cider" is the hard stuff. In the United States, we complicate things by calling both kinds cider. In this story, we call it "cider" if it's

County Cider of Colrain, Mass., take cidermaking as seriously as Napa and Sonoma take winemaking. In style, they're emulating traditional ciders from Europe.

Cider aficionados covet the lightly spritzy French cidres from Normandy, the very dry Austrian ciders, potent fruity Basque ciders and the sweet carbonated sidras of Spain.

Patrick O'Connor, founder of the Michigan Hard Cider Club, a loose-knit organization of manufacturers, suppliers, growers and consumers, dates cider's renewed popularity to the early '80s, when there was "an explosion of interest" in the so-called "malternatives" or "alcopops" - sweetly flavored alcohol-based drinks.

O'Connor, the former executive director of the Michigan Apple Committee, said that artisan cider fascinated by the process of fermentation, "so the beer people are the (ones who are) most interested in ciders and perries (cider made from pears) and meads (fermented honey drinks)."

FROM GRAPE TO APPLE

One winery that decided to expand into cidermaking is Oliver Winery of Bloomington, Ind.

Its Beanblossom Hard Cider won the fruit wine division at the prestigious Indy International Wine Competition this year.

"We've always made cider, only we called it 'apple wine' back in the '70s," said Sarah Villwock, promotions director for the winery. "We changed the recipe and named it for a nearby region about eight years ago."

Oliver makes Beanblossom cider using juice pressed from Goldrush, Melrose, Golden Delicious, Spygold,



"There's an interest in artisan alcoholic, "juice" if it's not. ciders, just like there is in artisan

"Sales for cider pick up in the autumn," said Ted Sullivan, general manager_of Binny's Beverage Depot in Schaumburg. "They sell well, especially with younger buyers," whom Sullivan defines as 21 to 29 years old.

Most of those buyers, Sullivan said, buy "six-pack" ciders - nationally available brands like Woodpecker, Woodchuck and Hornsby's. These, which Sullivan sometimes calls "the starter ciders," come in the same 12-ounce bottles that beer comes in, and are often available on tap in bars.

Artisan cidermakers in the U.S, such as Ford Farms Cyderworks in Portland, Ore., The Traditional Co. of Salem, Ore., Warwick Valley Winery of Warwick, N.Y., and West

"isn't exactly beer, and isn't exactly wine.'

It falls, instead, somewhere in between. The confusion persists in other ways: Some "cideries," as they're traditionally called, bottle in beer bottles, others in wine bottles. Some stores stock ciders in the beer aisles, others with the wines.

Cider can be produced by breweries or wineries.

It depends on how state laws regulate beer and wine production, said Rex Halfpenny, editor and publisher of the bimonthly "Michigan Beer Guide" and michiganbeerguide. com. Technically, "fermented grain is beer; fermented fruit is wine," he said.

"Wine people revere the grape and disdain all other fruits," Halfpenny said. And brewers are

Fuji and Mutsu apples grown at Doud Orchards in Denver, Ind.

"It pairs well with all kinds of food," said Villwock, who described the wine as crisp and refreshing. "It's very good in the summer, when it's served very, very cold, but it's also good mulled."

Beanblossom's alcohol content, at seven to eight percent, is "on the low end" when compared to table wines, Villwock said.

Halfpenny, of the Michigan Beer Guide, said that he's not surprised by revived interest in ciders.

"I think it's a natural follow-up to the microbrewery revolution," he said. "I think it's a natural for the Midwest. It's going to take some time, though. We're selling more cider than ever before, but we weren't selling very much to begin with."

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November 28 2005

Where you're from defines who you are

BY MEGAN TWOHEY Knight Ridder Tribune

MADISON, Wis. - Emily Bach, a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, recognized her friends' Halloween costumes immediately - jackets by The North Face, oversize sunglasses, sheepskin boots known as Uggs.

"They went as Coasties," Bach explained, chuckling over lunch in a cafeteria.

The term may be lost on people outside the university, but for many undergraduates it's a part of the vocabulary.

Step onto campus and you'll discover the cultural divide between students from Wisconsin and their out-of-state counterparts, commonly known as Coasties.

The stereotypes go something like this:

Coasties are snobs who self-segregate in private dorms and the Greek system.

Wisconsin students are provincial and unwilling to accept outsid-

Students say the rivalry is lighthearted and that friendships form across the divide.

"We just like to make fun of each other," Bach said.

Even so, the divisions are now addressed at freshman orientation, and some students said they feel as if they are attending separate universities.

"We're in two completely different worlds," said Amanda Mausner, a freshman from New Jersey.

Of the 28,217 undergraduates at UW-Madison, 58 percent are from Wisconsin and 11 percent are from Minnesota.

Most of the other 31 percent come from Illinois, New York, California and New Jersey. These students form a distinct demographic on campus, and are often clumped under the all-purpose category: Coasties.

Their tuition, \$20,280 a year, is substantially higher than what students from Wisconsin and Minnesota pay, \$6,280 and \$7,802. That makes them more likely to come from wealthier families.

A housing crunch on campus helps highlight economic divisions among some students the moment they arrive.

The Madison campus residence



PHOTO COURTESY KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNI

Naomi Fabe is a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin and describes herself as a "Coastie" - someone who is from out of state.

halls, which cost \$4,716 a year, don't have enough space for all the freshmen. Under state law, the college must offer on-campus housing to Wisconsin students who enroll by a certain date. Hundreds of outof-state students are squeezed out, and most land in privately owned dormitories off campus.

These private dorms, which can cost up to \$12,000 a year, help define Coasties as separate and different. Students talk openly about a public-private dorm divide.

Last spring, a girl from New York who had been accepted to UW-Madison inquired about living in private dorms in an online listserv called College Confidential.

"I almost lived there," a University of Wisconsin-Madison student from the East Coast wrote. "The atmosphere is diff. if you want to be stuck in Coastie mentality, that's what the private dorms do to you."

Randy Frankfurter, a freshman from East Brunswick, N.J., lives in a private dorm called Statesider, which looms over State Street. It has a lobby with plush couches and a flat screen television; a spacious fitness room encased by glass windows; and a recently installed tanning bed. It's a far cry from the public dorms.

Frankfurter said it's been difficult for him to integrate with Wisconsin students.

"They look down on us just because our parents have a little bit more money, because we talk about where our fathers work. They want

Then to the Steakhouse on

public dorm kids. They're more straightforward and quality." Mausner, of New Jersey, agrees Wisconsin students are that more down to earth. She lives in Statesider, but has befriended some Wisconsin students in class.

"I feel like they're a breath of fresh air," she said.

Mausner recently dropped out of a sorority after concluding that the Greek system was fueling divisions between Wisconsin students and Coasties. Statistics show that most of the students in sororities are from outside Wisconsin, although Barbara Kautz, a university official who oversees the Greek system, said it was open to all.

Lori Berquam, dean of students, described the cultural conflict on campus as "good-natured," and a lot of students agree.

But Wren Singer, director of orientation and new student programs, takes it seriously. At freshman orientation, students are prodded into discussions of "stereotypes of coastal culture vs. Midwest culture," Singer said.

"Most people think about ethnic diversity, people from different races," she said. "But I think it's much more likely that a freshman would make a derogatory comment about someone from the East Coast than someone of color."

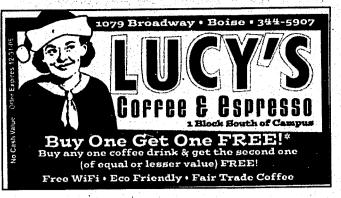
Naomi Fabe, a sophomore from Los Angeles, said it was difficult to overcome divisions.

Fabe, who lived in a private dorm her first year, tried to befriend students from Wisconsin. But she kept gravitating back to students from outside the state who shared her lifestyle and values. This year, she is living in an upscale housing complex on Langdon St., which she said is full of Coasties.

"You're trying to have a new experience," Fabe said. "But you go back to what you're used to.'



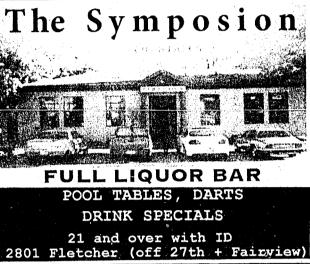
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CULTURE

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BY MATTHEW LAROUGE Special to The Arbiter

cool oxygen of winter wind thrust our state, my eyes till soaking in the

Our little town and its features steamed off the frost and we had Sunday talks with our folks about

to feel superior to us because they think we think we're superior to them. Then we're forced to." Frankfurter said he is often ridiculed. "Just"the other day, some-

one in my statistics class asked me where my Uggs were. I was trying to think of a comeback.'

Jessica Fishel, a Statesider resident from Los Angeles, broke in: "How about - Where's your cheese?"

Fishel happened to be donning Uggs, as well as oversize sunglasses - items commonly associated with Coasties, even though some Wisconsin students also wear them. She said she is constantly needled over her clothing.

"At the last football game, I got four comments about my Uggs," she complained. "It's like 40 degrees. Whatever! Get over it!"

But Bach, a Milwaukee native, said it's not just where Coasties live and what they wear. It's how they act.

"They carry themselves like they're better than everyone," Bach said, as she sat at a cafeteria table dressed in a hooded sweat shirt and jeans. "I swear, it takes them like two hours to get ready in the morning. Most girls in my dorm roll out of bed five minutes before class."

Jason Gertler, a freshman from Olympia Fields, Ill., lives in Statesider but identifies more with Wisconsin students.

"They have a spoiled mannerism," he said of Coasties. "They're more showy. I try to hang out with

Break thanks and drunk tanks

its chill into your lungs.

My Thanksgiving break started Friday in Payette, lounging around the dive bars and flirting with soso females with gutter complexes. I met the three wise men, then expelled my dinner enchilada and rallied for three more hours, woke up, drove to Boise, watched the Broncos pummel the Vandals, then rode buzzing with my old man into the November night, questing to my hometown first resort, talking of memories wrapped with that nervous excitement that envelopes the energies of a 20-something man when he sees the twinkling lights that are his home.

Then things got hairy. Miss LiSa Dreams dropped in and shoved us into the cold, driving with wreckless abandon and the colored illusion of friendship in tow.

We came to this intersection that apparently wasn't through with us, but scattered when headlights caught us unaware. We raced to the height of Hub Butte and started a fire that gave up on flaming and emberred orange in the nose-tingling gusts which taught us the simplicity of patterns; and I reached up as high as I could to click off the hanging, waning moon, but could not reach its dangling string of pearl petals scattered in haphazard arrays of celestial inconclusions.

We contemplated the complexities of breathing and tested the tethers of our own will as we flayed out the ends and let in all the light.

As the sun came up, showing the fogged status of the Cadillac windows and the tracings of crystalled ice on the outside I realized how long it had been since I'd seen that orb climb above the eastern horizon, shedding white light and stabbing heat into the crevices of terrain.

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treasures of sense.

That night I cleaned my old bedroom and sorted baseball cards and found the sneak-a-toke I lost two years ago and found some aged buds, rolled, twisted, smoked, burned and found the edge I needed to accomplish clarity in the scattered whitewash of my brain.

It seems that the week of Thanksgiving in Twin Falls exhibits the pure gravitational strength of small-town Idaho, as the satellite souls treading the earth shrink their orbits and return to the dives and dance clubs, Karaoke joints and pool partitions that dot downtown.

Monday night Marco had pool leagues, so we flew to Filer and took a walk on the face of the Sun and lost two games to the 45-year-old Filer Kid, but they didn't take debit, so we walked to the Moon and drank a pitcher with a Vietnam Vet who told Tater that with the way he poured his beer, the Army would take him no question, then sidetracked to blast the Bushes and the politics of politics.

I saw the real sun, the morning after, as I rose to its more sober sentries of shine and found a copy of "Alice in Wonderland" hiding in an auction box in my grandmother's basement and read seven lines before I got dragged away to the Pressbox for drinks and met nine old friends who were wandering separate paths, yet found the foci to which we were all directed and drank Coors in a Budweiser rocket and a long-island that was worthy of desertion.

Tater lost his coat, some gal had taken it as 'a favor' and called his Dad to tell him she'd found it. We tracked her down and got it back, took Marco home so he could go to work, then found a blunt at the

Wednesday, that bar we destroyed with our rumors and conjectures, and we told 'em all how she'd Lost That Lovin' Feelin' and my old man and brother proved lightweights and both needed assistance and they made me drive, because I could still dance with Sky as Tim sang soft country and I dipped and lifted her petite perfection around the dying floor at Cruzer's. (We had to battle the streaming crowd and wait 31.54 minutes just to get a drink at the Steakhouse, so we drank out of pitchers and I ran off with a shot of Crown and damn near got into a fight about a toe-stomp, but passed on the opportunity).

Apparently after that we ate some turkey and roasted ham and the potato soup I made. We, uh, got rid of some Morgan Private stock and Jim Beam Black and eggnog and beer and Bud Light and Bud lit then a tryptophan nap and to the Pioneer for schooner's of beer and that Great Balls of Fire excitement that railed on the crowds and the brawl that tidied up the broken glasses and I caught a table and Tater stood in the fray tall and upright, shoving the miscreants aside to assure the least destruction and I skidadled when it finally flittered to a calm and the police showed up in mitigated force and we declined the invitation to the sausage fest afterward and blazed bowls in Marco's living room 'til my head became a dandelion dangling on a sheet of wind.

I took one final sojourn outside to catch the crescent moon climb from behind a housing development. I took that frozen air into my chest and found a surreal solace in the presence of home-town exploits and remembered the power of having great friends and the prestige of being called a survivor.



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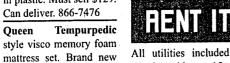
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horoscopes

By Linda C. Black **Tribune Media Services**

Today's Birthday (11-28-05) You'll want to spend more time by yourself as the year progresses. Finish up old projects, and put old fears to rest. 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 an 8 - You may feel like you're being dragged along on a shopping trip. Just take your wallet, so you can get what someone you love thinks you need.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) Today is a 7 - Do the work

yourself and save on a household project. Besides, you can provide better quality than you can afford, easily.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Today is an 8 - Don't hold back your feelings let 'em go. And if you find yourself making a declaration based on love, don't worry. It'll work out.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today is a 7 - You're about to become absorbed by a new interest. This is a good thing, but it's true, you'll never be the same.

Sagittárius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Today is an 8 - Your optimism is an inspiration to others. Before you lead them, though, you need to develop a plan.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Today is a 7 - As you discuss recent events with friends, you'll understand a lot more about what's been going on. The pieces fit together.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Today is a 7 - You may find yourself resisting authority soon. Take care. Don't do it out of habit, be ready to explain your objections.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Today is a 7 - Put away as many goodies as you can for later on. You have more than you need. Save the rest for a rainy day.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) Today is a 6 - You're very attractive now, and also very persuasive. So it shouldn't be much trouble to get somebody to lend you a hand. Just ask.

MICS

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Today is a 7 - Money isn't your primary motivator, or it shouldn't be. You'll earn more if you relax and simply invite it into your life.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Today is a 7 - The more you clean out, recycle, fix up or get rid of, the happier person you will be. It's wonderful how that happens.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Today is a-7 - Your past work speaks well for you. That's what will convince them. If you've been trustworthy before, they'll trust you again.

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