

12-12-2005

Arbiter, December 12

Students of Boise State University

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The Arbiter

visit us on the web: arbiteronline.com

a nutty Snack

culture p.7

sports p.10

a gritty Victory

Stepping Out

BY JESSICA CHRISTENSEN
News Writer

Approximately 550 Boise State students are expected to attend the fifth winter commencement ceremony Friday Dec. 16 at 10 a.m. in Taco Bell Arena.

More than 1,000 students have qualified for graduation since last May's commencement, but only 550 will graduate on Friday. BSU President Bob Kustra will be officiating this fall's ceremony.

Speech and debate team member Nancy Henke will be the student speaker during the ceremony. Henke is earning a bachelor's degree in English, with a minor in History, and was also named a Pi Kappa Delta All-American. She plans to travel to continue her research on Latina/Chicana dramatic literature made possible by a research grant.

The ceremony is open to all — no ticket is needed for family or guests to attend. Doors open at 9 a.m.

Prior to the ceremony, a pre-ceremony event hosted by the BSU Alumni Association will be held for graduates and their families beginning at 8 a.m. in the Bronco Gym in the Kinesiology Building. A professional photographer will be available for photos of graduates with classmates and family.

Parking is free, and the ceremony will include two large screens broadcasting graduates accepting degrees for easier viewing for those seated away from the stage.

This fall's commencement ceremony marks BSU's 76th ceremony.

"First and foremost, congratulations and job well done to members of the December Class of 2005. We applaud the graduates for their dedication and determination in earning their degrees. We applaud them for their academic accomplishments as well as for the personal growth they have experienced in this journey," said Frank Zang, BSU director of communications and marketing.



PHOTO BY RICHAE SWANBECK/THE ARBITER

More university presidents likely to have political background

BY MICAH MCLAUGHLIN
News Writer

For Boise State high-level administrators, political backgrounds may be more important than educational backgrounds.

An article in The Chronicle of Higher Education titled, "The Nature and Nurture of Presidents," a growing number of university presidents are coming from a non-academic background.

The article noted that there are very few candidates for university presidencies that have both academic and political skill. Schools usually must pick one or the other depending on their needs.

BSU President Bob Kustra said also believes this to be the case. He said that there is a limited trend among public schools to pick presidents that come from political backgrounds.

He said he believes that the number of universities doing this is small but that the trend is growing.

"There's no doubt that is an increasing tendency on the part of board to try to find presidents who have, if not, like I have, formal elected office experience, at least more experience in dealing with legislators," Kustra said. He said this is because it is increasingly difficult to gain funding from legislatures.

According to Kustra, his political background gives him familiarity with the legislative system. He said it also allows him to develop relationships with political officials that are beneficial to the university in the long run.

"My ten years in the legislature is like membership in a club, so when I go to the legislator I'm like a member of their club," Kustra said.

He said this leads to an understanding between him and the legislators that is to the advantage of the university as it undertakes the 'master plan.'

According to John Owens, associate dean for research for the College of Engineering and former BSU vice president for research, the State Board of Education chose Kustra as BSU's president because he has specific skills and attributes. Owens said he believes one attribute that was particularly important is his familiarity with legislators.

As a former lieutenant governor of Illinois, as well as former president

See Political (page 4)

What are your post-graduation plans?



Stacey Steele

Degree: Communication

"Move down to Salt Lake to pursue a career in public relations. I am thinking also of maybe going to graduate school, getting a Masters in Child Therapy."



Jay Clark

Degree: English, Technical Communication Emphasis

"Keeping my job for a little while so I can pay off some of my debts. In my spare time I'd like to build Web sites for local businesses. After that, I'm not sure, but I'd really love to go back to Central Asia and live there for a while."



Katie Rice

Degree: Political Science

"Stay in Boise for five months and then move to Boulder, Colo., and take part in Horizon International, which is a Christian training program about Islam, helping Christians talk to Muslims."

Families celebrate the season with 'Holidays Around the World'

BY RYAN MORTENSEN
News Writer

The Cultural Center at Boise State University invited the Boise community and the public to take part in "Holidays Around the World," an event that took place Saturday in the Jordan Ballroom of the Student Union Building at BSU. The event recognized different holiday traditions practiced by various cultures.

During the event, participants were exposed to a wide range of multi-cultural

holiday traditions through performances, craft projects, games, and refreshments.

Some of the performances included dancers of Hui-O-Aloha, singers Rochelle Smith and Becca George, dancers from Ballet Folklorico Mexico Lindo, and performers from Dragon Bushido Dojo.

Various booths were also set up around the Jordan Ballroom with different activities for guests to participate in.

The Bilingual Education Student Organization had coloring, for kids, National Model United Nations of Boise

had face painting and snowflake making, dream catchers were made at the Intertribal Native Council booth, and karaoke for the entire family was also offered.

The event was held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and guests were also treated to a visit with Santa.

According to the Cultural Center Web site, the Cultural Center is committed to raising awareness and understanding marginalized and oppressed groups in both minority and dominant culture, creating understanding about the needs of these

groups, and providing opportunities to all for action and interaction.

They focus on education in the areas of identity development, issues of power and privilege, social justice and internalized oppression and promote an environment where people with different values and beliefs are treated with respect and dignity.

"We have such a multi-cultural community. We host these events so kids can see that there are different ways to celebrate the holidays," said Cultural Center coordinator Ro Parker.

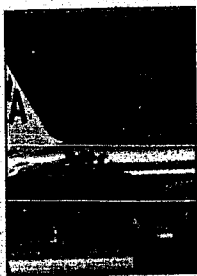


Santa visited the BSU Cultural Center's celebration on Saturday.

PHOTO BY RYAN MORTENSEN/THE ARBITER

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Marshals kill man who claimed to have a bomb

A troubled passenger was fatally shot by federal air marshals Wednesday after threatening he had a bomb in his backpack at Miami International Airport.

PHOTO COURTESY KENNY BODDEN TRIBUNE

Opinion: Bush's radar skips Israel

President Bush, in back-to-back speeches defending the Iraq war, has crossed Israel off the list of countries hit by Islamic terrorists.

PHOTO COURTESY KENNY BODDEN TRIBUNE

3-day forecast

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the headlines

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world

Drug gangs' violence is stretching along the border

DEL RIO, Texas - Val Verde County Sheriff D'Wayne Jernigan has dealt with smugglers and drug gangs for decades, both as sheriff and as a customs agent.

But in the last year, the risks of drug-fueled terrorism have raised the stakes to scary levels. Rifles and handguns have been replaced by rocket-propelled grenades, or RPGs, and high-caliber machine guns.

"Now the bad guys have more sophisticated training and better equipment," Jernigan said. "They're better armed and willing to shoot."

In November, Border Patrol officials reported that assaults against agents all along the border nearly doubled from the previous year.

Law enforcement officials in counties up and down Texas' 1,200-mile border with Mexico are coping with issues of national security, increased illegal immigration, and a growing fear that the drug cartels are moving upriver and just across the border from here.

Val Verde County, a stony outcrop of sheep and goat ranches and sharply etched limestone canyons, rests along the Rio Grande 150 miles west of San Antonio.

It's biggest city, Del Rio, and its Mexican neighbor, Ciudad Acuna, have missed the explosion of drug violence that has enmeshed Laredo and Nuevo Laredo 180 miles downriver.

But law enforcement officials know it's coming. They've seen the signs.

"We're in a time of transition," said Chief Deputy Terry Simons. "Our concerns are just how strongly the cartels' fear of influence will extend through this county."

Federal investigators have blamed the increasing level of violence along the border on the bloody turf battle between three violent cartels, leaving 150 dead.

national

Pentagon plans to have fewer soldiers in Iraq after elections

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon plans to reduce troop levels in Iraq to 137,000 after the Iraqi election Dec. 15 and may cancel the deployment of two Army brigades if security conditions permit in the coming weeks, defense officials said Thursday.

U.S. troop strength in Iraq is currently at 155,000. A reduction to 137,000 would take force levels down to where they were about a month ago, before the Pentagon increased them for greater security in the period around the election.

Officials said Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld hadn't signed off on a plan to draw down U.S. forces. They noted that the military has all kinds of plans, including some for sending in more troops if security conditions worsen.

A defense official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he isn't authorized to speak publicly until a decision is made, said the plan being discussed would leave the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, in Kuwait, instead of sending it to Iraq at the end of December. Part of the brigade could return to its base in Germany, while others would remain in Kuwait as a "quick-reaction force" in case fighting in Iraq worsened.

In addition, the deployment of the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, based at Fort Riley, Kan., would be canceled, the official said. However, smaller teams of 12 to 24 soldiers each would be sent to Iraq and embedded as trainers within Iraqi army battalions.

Other officials also indicated that the two brigades, which would total about 7,000 soldiers, might not be needed in Iraq.

After meeting Thursday with members of Congress on Capitol Hill, Rumsfeld said that any decision would be determined by what happened after the election. While he said he expected

troop strength to return to 137,000, he added that "if conditions permit, we can go below that."

local/bsu

'Idaho Mini Medical School' focuses on the digestive system

"The Gut: New Insights Into a Neglected Organ" is the topic of the fourth annual Idaho Mini Medical School, a series of five evening programs in January and February geared toward the general public. Boise State University is a primary sponsor for the community service program.

The series, which will provide up-to-date information on all aspects of the digestive system from basic anatomy to specific functions of each organ, is presented by the University of Washington School of Medicine, in conjunction with the WWAMI (Idaho) Office for Clinical Medical Education and the first-year WWAMI medical student program.

The series aims to bring understanding of medical issues to the general public and to individuals interested in pursuing health-care careers. (WWAMI is the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho medical school program coordinated by the University of Washington.)

Registration is \$35 and the deadline for registration is Jan. 20. The Idaho Mini Medical School program will be held on five consecutive weeks from 7-9 p.m. at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center's Anderson Center: Jan. 25, Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 22. Register at callstukes@slrhc.org; include your name (first and last), date of birth, mailing address, daytime phone and e-mail. Scholarships are available.

Each session will open with a short presentation by an Idaho WWAMI medical student describing medical school training.

Topics will then be presented by University of Washington School of Medicine physician faculty, area health professionals and professors

from University of Idaho, Boise State University and Idaho State University. Weekly topics will include: anatomy and physiology; esophagus and stomach; small intestine; pancreas and liver; and large intestine. A new segment to the program, titled "What's New," will highlight the latest research on each topic.

what the?

Don't you guys know anyone who is sober?

Police in Melbourne, Australia, pulled over a drunk driver whose blood-alcohol level was twice the legal limit.

After the guy was arrested, a friend who was with him attempted to drive the car home, but the cops stopped him minutes later, and found that he had an even higher blood-alcohol level.

When they got to the police station, one of them called his girlfriend to pick them up.

On the way there, she was also arrested for drunk driving.

Watch where you point that thing

A man, armed with what everyone thought was a gun, robbed a bar in Chicago, but tripped and fell on the way out and was apprehended by patrons. Turns out, the "gun" was actually a ham sandwich molded into the shape of a gun.

Try moving back one step

A 23-year-old man, standing next to the tracks at the Poughkeepsie, N.Y., station, was hit in the head by a train as it pulled in.

Three years earlier, the same man was waiting at a Manhattan subway station, when a subway train hit him in the head.

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Clickers in hand, University of Missouri-Kansas City students Rebecca Harris of Kansas City and Cody Evans of Independence responded to a question during a recent session of their Arts and Sciences 100 class.



PHOTO COURTESY KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNE

'Clickers' can make even tongue-tied students speak up

BY MARA ROSE WILLIAMS

Knight Ridder Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The question on the big white screen is a controversial one: Should a physician who assists a patient in suicide be convicted of murder?

Everyone in this freshman seminar class at the University of Missouri-Kansas City is expected to respond to the question, even the shy students who don't want to share their positions with the class.

But there is no show of hands. Instead, students just push a button on handheld remote controls they call "clickers," and their opinions are immediately and anonymously counted.

A green graph indicating the percentage for and against conviction pops up on the screen. Just as the teacher intended, a discussion about those results ensues.

"I love this system," said Andrea Gounev, director of academic advising for UMKC's College of Arts & Sciences. Gounev teaches the freshman seminar for students with an interest in health care, and she began using the audience response system this school year.

"I can ask any controversial question, and students don't have to be afraid to voice their opinion," she said.

Audience response systems such as those at UMKC are being used in elementary, middle and high school classrooms.

But in the last five years, they also have become the hottest teaching tool in college lecture halls for giving quizzes, taking attendance and encouraging classroom discussion.

Gounev's husband, Todor K. Gounev, an assistant professor of chemistry, was the first to try the system at UMKC two years ago. Now Gounev is planning a training session on the technology for other UMKC instructors.

All four campuses in the University of Missouri system, the University of Kansas, Kansas State University and Rockhurst University are among area institutions that use the technology.

The technology has gained so much popularity this year on Kansas and Missouri campuses that schools are loading the software into their campus computer networks.

The idea is to make sure all professors use the same system so that students don't have to buy or rent a different clicker for each class. Each clicker costs \$50 or more but can be rented for about \$15 for each class.

Several companies offer this technology, but Turning Technologies LLC of Youngstown, Ohio, and eInstruction Corp. of Denton, Texas, which makes the Classroom Performance System, are the vendors used by most major area universities.

CPS is the nation's largest audience response provider to public schools, colleges and universities, according to officials at the McGraw-Hill Cos., a leading supplier of educational materials. The CPS is being used in 50 states and 20 countries, with more than a million of the handheld gadgets in service.

"We had been working on this technology since the late '80s," said Darren Ward, vice president of business development for eInstruction.

The first users were public school teachers nearly 10 years ago. Computers in every classroom at most schools and the availability of huge projection screens made the clicker technology a natural next step.

But in those first years, the clickers only used infrared beams to activate answers.

Warren said that technology, which required a point-and-click motion, worked fine in a classroom of 10 to 20 students, but not in lecture halls with hundreds of students.

In 2000, "we came out with a higher-performance radio frequency device that with the push of a button responds within seconds," Warren said.

That advancement made the technology more appealing to colleges and universities, so use there exploded. CPS had only three colleges using the clickers in 2002;

now 800 higher education institutions are clients.

"The hardware is minimal," said Susan Zvacek, KU's director of instructional development and support. Teachers don't even need to carry a laptop computer.

"All our large lecture halls have been equipped with a receiver, and the software has been loaded on the computer there. So all the teacher has to do is show up, sign in and they're ready to go. Students just have to bring their transmitters."

The clicker weighs a few ounces and resembles the keypad of a TV remote control, Zvacek said.

"Except the classroom clicker probably has fewer buttons," she said.

"The goal is for students to be more involved."

It works. With the clicker, students cannot hide in the back of a large lecture hall. All students have a number, and every time they respond to a question, their numbers are registered and stored for the professor to view later.

The professor can determine how many students didn't understand the lecture and then, if needed, review the material again in another class period.

Zvacek said that one of the beauties of the clicker system is that you don't have to expose a student's ignorance. When a teacher asks who doesn't understand, few students will raise their hands to admit they don't know something, she said.

"With this, you can go back and look at the responses to questions and see who doesn't know what and you don't have to wait until the student does poorly on an exam."

Today's students, who are used to everything being a click or button push away, have adapted quickly to the new gadget.

Jennifer Walden, an 18-year-old UMKC freshman from St. Louis, paid \$60 to use the clicker through college. She uses it in three classes.

"It beats pen and paper," Walden said, dropping her clicker in her backpack and zipping it shut. "It makes you pay more attention because participation is part of your grade."

BSU Art department puts on 'Clay and Fire' pottery fundraiser despite difficulties

BY GINNY EGGLESTON
News Writer

Boise State's Art Department is putting on its annual "Clay and Fire" pottery fundraiser Dec. 10-12. It has been a semiannual event for the last 30 years, but recently the department has had a difficult time promoting it.

Ceramics professor Ron Taylor has been involved with the Clay and Fire exhibition since the beginning.

Taylor said in the past the university has offered more venues for advertisement.

"We used to put up banners by the Hemingway Center and the Old Campus School, now we're

not allowed to do that," Taylor said. Additionally, the university has done away with a free university phone-loop advertising service, making it difficult for the Art Department to get the word out. Taylor said replacing old means of advertising with new is not feasible because of the high cost.

In recent semesters, parking for show patrons has also become a problem. "[Patrons] used to get free parking...but now if we want parking it costs \$50 a day. It would be nice if the university were more supportive...we are doing all the rest of it, it seems that [the university] could chip in."

Despite difficulties, Taylor is expecting a good show. "Usually

we fill the art gallery and I'm assuming we'll do it again."

The "Clay and Fire" exhibition and sale is slated for Dec. 10-12 in the Liberal Arts Building, Gallery 1. Works of functional and sculptural ceramics created by student, faculty, alumni, and regional artists will be available for sale. Admission is free and the hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Part of the proceeds will fund the Visiting Artist Program in Ceramics at BSU, a program which brings world-class ceramic artists to campus to teach students and community members.

The visiting artist this spring is California sculptor David Furman.

NEWS PHOTOGRAPHER

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Monkeys show gender differences in toy preferences like humans, research finds

BY ROBERT S. BOYD
Knight Ridder Tribune

WASHINGTON - Just like human boys and girls, male monkeys like to play with toy cars while female monkeys prefer dolls, a research project has shown.

This intriguing discovery is one of many signs of deep-rooted behavioral differences between the sexes that scientists are exploring with the latest tools of genetics and neuroscience.

Researchers report significant differences in the structure and functioning of male and female brains, in humans and in animals, that show up in different behaviors.

The differences apparently date far back in evolutionary history to the time before humans and monkeys separated from their common ancestor some 25 million years ago, according to Gerianne Alexander, a psychologist at Texas A&M University in College Station, who led the monkey experiment.

"Human evolution has created two different types of brains designed for equally intelligent behavior," Richard Haier, a neuroscientist at the University of California in Irvine, wrote in the journal *NeuroImage*.

In the monkey experiment, researchers put a variety of toys in front of 44 male and 44 female vervets, a breed of small African monkeys, and measured the amount of time they spent with each object.

Like little boys, some male monkeys moved a toy car along the ground. Like little girls, female monkeys closely inspected a doll's bottom. Males also played with

balls while females fancied cooking pots. Both were equally interested in neutral objects such as a picture book and a stuffed dog.

People used to think that boys and girls played differently because of the way they were brought up. Now scientists such as Alexander say a creature's genetic inheritance also plays an important role.

"Vervet monkeys, like human beings, show sex differences in toy preferences," Alexander wrote in the journal *Evolution and Human Behavior*. "Sex-related object preference appeared early in human evolution," she said.

Alexander speculated that females of both species prefer dolls because evolution programmed them to care for infants. Males may have evolved toy preferences that involve throwing and moving, skills useful for hunting and finding a mate.

Besides observing behavior from the outside, scientists are using the latest brain-scanning techniques to examine what happens inside people's heads when they're thinking or acting.

PET (positron emission tomography) and fMRI (functional magnetic resonance imagery) scans light up in regions of the brain that are most active while performing certain tasks. They've become a key tool of modern brain research.

Many studies have shown that men tend to be better at mathematics and spatial reasoning while women outdo men in verbal and language skills.

For example, in a computerized maze-searching experiment, it took females five minutes longer than males to find their way to a goal, according to Scott Mowatt, a psychologist at Wayne State University in Detroit.

But women outperformed men in a test of verbal fluency conducted by Wei-li Chang and colleagues at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Md.

Haier, the University of California-Irvine neuroscientist, reported a striking difference in the structure of male and female brains. Men, he said, have much more gray matter in areas dedicated to general intelligence. Women, on the other hand, have far more white matter in those areas. Gray matter consists of the clusters of brain cells, or neurons, that process information. White matter refers to the network of specialized cells that support and connect the processing centers. Both are necessary for intelligence.

"Men and women apparently achieve similar IQ results with different brain regions," Haier said.

"Many perceptive incongruities are rooted in the brain's structural and functional organization," said Allan Reiss, a neuroscientist at the Stanford School of Medicine in Palo Alto, Calif., who contrasted men's and women's reactions to cartoons and jokes.



A male vervet monkey plays with a toy car during an experiment conducted by Gerianne Alexander, a psychologist at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Brain images showed that the language center on the left side of the brain lit up more in women than in men. This may explain why men appreciate one-liners and slapstick, while women tend to enjoy more complicated stories and funny situations, Reiss said.

"The long trip to Mars or Venus is hardly necessary to see that men and women often perceive the world differently," he wrote in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

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Political

[from page 1]
of the Eastern Kentucky University, Kustra has experience in two vital areas of campus administration at public universities as well as teaching experience as a professor of political science.

Public and private universities have a distinct difference. One is run by the state and the other is not. Campus administrators at public schools, like Kustra at BSU, have to deal with government for policy and funding. Owens said Kustra was brought to BSU to pave the way for the master plan and the hope was that he could improve "available resources."

David Saunders, president of the Faculty Senate at BSU, said he agrees with Owens to a certain extent. He said he believes that Kustra's political background was definitely a factor in his being chosen for the position.

"I was strongly in favor of Dr. Kustra partly because of his political background," Saunders said.

He said he believes that Kustra's political skill is a benefit to BSU, but that politics are not the core of his job. According to Saunders, academics are just as important and that these skills can complement each other. Owens said this is not something unique to BSU.

"Higher education is changing

“I was strongly in favor of Dr. Kustra partly because of his political background.”

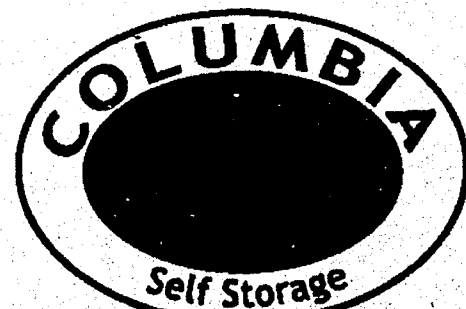
- David Saunders
President of Faculty Senate

dramatically and will [continue to] over the next few years," Owens said. He said states are getting out of the business of funding schools, so attributes like political skill are of benefit to high-level administrators in order to maintain funding.

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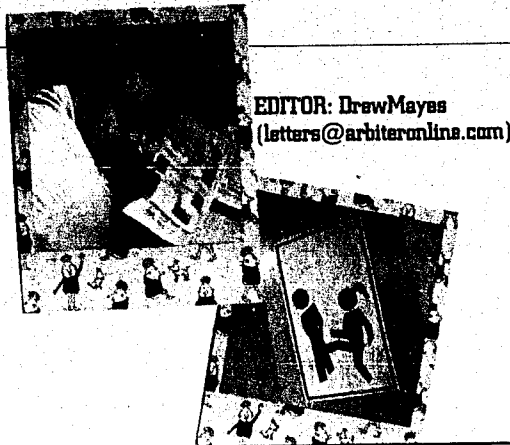
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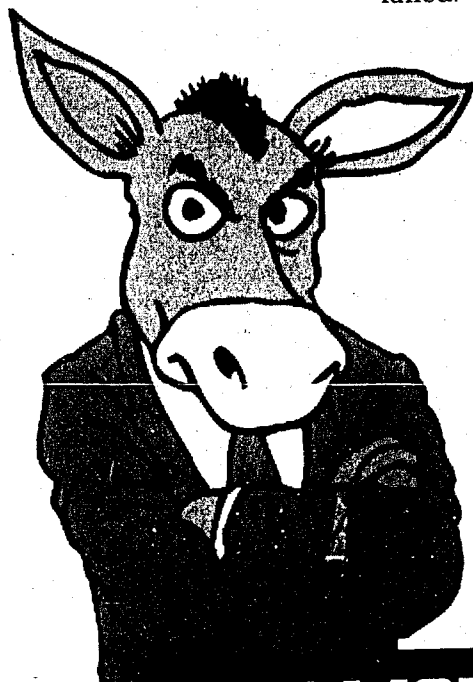
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opinion

COMMON GROUND

BY DREW MAYES
Opinion Editor

Rumor has it Wal-Mart employees have been put on notice: Replace 'Merry Christmas' with 'Happy Holidays' or else. What the 'else' is I'm not really sure, but trying to get an official answer from the same place that sells tires and meat all in the same store does not seem to be coming anytime soon. Although political correctness may get a bad rap at times, its heart is usually in the right place. We never want to undermine any individual, their culture or their beliefs, and being politically correct can help to do that at times. However, when that goal takes a turn toward exclusion and not inclusion, it has failed.



Merry Christmas Whoops...we mean Happy Holidays!

Who knows, maybe Frank Costanza from "Seinfeld" had it right all along when he said, "Many Christmases ago, I went to buy a doll for my son. I reached for the last one they had, but so did another man. As I rained blows upon him, I realized there had to be another way. Out of that a new holiday was born... a Festivus for the rest of us!"

With the dawning of winter months at hand, you can count on the 'Festivus' episode to be shown on TV several times, and some of the most widely-observed celebrations of the year are about to, or have already, taken place.

The observance of Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan and Kwanzaa all occur during the last few months of the year, though the political correctness police have done an excellent job of masking the principal significance of each. For Christians, this time of year marks the birth of their personal savior, Jesus Christ. Individuals of Jewish faith celebrate the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem during the eight days of Hanukkah. Muslims observe the Fast of Ramadan to strengthen their spirituality and cultivate family and community relationships. And some African-Americans observe Kwanzaa, a cultural celebration of African heritage.

However, apparently the merriment of the season is quite offensive, especially the popular celebration of the Christmas holiday. We should clarify first that only the celebration seems to be offensive. To our knowledge, nobody has yet to be offended by getting a paid day off from work for Christmas, even if they are atheist.

But the celebration of these types of holidays, chiefly Christmas, indeed seems to be offensive to many. For example, in Denver during the 2004 Parade of Lights, a float depicting the birth of Christ was banned from public display because of its controversial nature. For some reason, this only seems to happen in America for Christmas, because other countries seem to celebrate different holidays just fine. Manchester, England, celebrates the end of Ramadan with a fireworks display enjoyed by everyone.

Christmas in America seems to be different though. Traditional Christmas carols — "O Come All Ye Faithful," "Silent Night," "The First Noel," "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," "O Holy Night," "Little Drummer Boy," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and other fanatical hymns sung by obscure artists like Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby and Andy Williams—have been banned in many public environments. Some have even renamed the traditional Christmas tree the "Holiday Tree" to spare non-Christians from offense.

But we question where offense is to be taken? Imagine traveling to India in November during the Hindu "Divali" holiday — would you be offended by the religious observances of a predominantly Hindu nation? Why, then, in a predominantly Christian nation, is the observance of Christmas roundly shunned? What about the word "Christmas" is so foreboding as to elicit such fervent resentment?

Nobody should be forced to observe Christian holidays, but tolerance would be appropriate. America prides itself as a multicultural society known as the melting pot of the world. By living in such a diverse country, tolerance is not only expected but mandated. Would it not be prudent to explain, parade, and celebrate the diverse cultures that share this great nation? We would be honored if a Jewish person wished us a Happy Hanukkah, or a Muslim invited us to participate in Ramadan. And if somebody wants to pay us time-and-a-half for the eight days of Hanukkah we're fine with that, too.

Keep in mind this holiday season that tolerance is not bread by a generic label of "Happy Holidays" while excluding the unique celebration of each culture, including Christmas.

BY BRANDON STOKER
Opinion Writer

Have you noticed the subtle departure of controversial words like "Jesus," "menorah" and "holiday" in exchange for politically correct phrases like "season's greetings"? Season's greetings? Are you kidding me? It's like we're celebrating the winter solstice in complete suppression of significant religious and cultural celebrations, the timings of which are merely coincidental. I understand some people are not religious, and a multiplicity of occasions are revered during the season, but where is the sense in compromising all of them for a highly sterilized, commercial shopping spree? This is a season of peace and celebration - not of political debauchery, secularism and cultural repression.



You're not General Paton

BY WOODY HOWARD
Guest Opinion

Jeff Paton's argument of women not being allowed on the front lines of combat is entirely irrelevant to the discourse of homosexuals being allowed to serve in the military. The issue is service in the military, not the front lines.

Further, he states, "It is a distraction at the very least, and inviting failure to the function they are supposed to be doing. We do not need the flirting and other things that would occur, which would take the mind of soldiers off of their duty" and later, regarding gays, "As a male, I do not want to shower with anybody that is attracted to men. This is tantamount to placing men and women together in the showers." I wish he would stop making assumptions everyone is looking at his butt. Believe me, in combat there are more important things than his butt! Both these comments show he has a problem with discipline, period. The real issues are his actions. All woman and homosexuals are trying to do is their job. Let them do it.

The fact is he was probably serving with gays and women. Women are regularly used for support, transport and care of the injured. They are continuously put into combat situations and trained to handle these situations just as well as a man.

If fact, I know many women who can out perform most men and they are not lesbians! And don't forget, some of our allies in the Gulf including England, Netherlands, Australia, Israel, and more have openly gay men and women serving along side U.S. servicemen and women. So far, none of these contacts have caused a problem.

Further, his facts about HIV/AIDS are not completely accurate. According to the CDC, when heterosexuals (including injecting drug users and non-IDU) are compared to homosexuals (including IDU and non IDU), it's split down the middle at about 50 percent on each side. His so called 'fact' most likely neglected to take into account IDU's, which happen to be predominantly heterosexual, and may have left out women, which according to the CDC, heterosexual women account for the majority of female HIV/AIDS cases. He says soldiers would not risk contact with blood of open homosexuals if they are injured, but paramedics, nurses, and doctors do everyday. This leads to the conclusion that soldiers have lower values than their civilian counterparts.

Personally, I believe it is not true and you are just stating your assumption, not fact.

Jeff, you state my comments are ignorant and short sighted. It is obvious from your comments you let your personal feelings and ideology control what you do on the job. It's really too bad a soldier would let personal feelings control his actions in combat rather than obey orders and do his job.

Based on your statements, your comments are ignorant, short sighted, bigoted, and not in tune with what's best for America! Sorry if that is offensive, but it is a reality.

Woody Howard is the President of BGLAD (Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians, and Allies for Diversity) and a student at Boise State

ONE MORE THING GIVING ARBITER READERS THE LAST WORD

What do you think of a business-requesting employees to say 'Happy Holidays' instead of 'Merry Christmas'?



"It's fine because it's out of concerns for other peoples' ideas."

Michael Birkinshap
Philosophy



"Nietzsche, that's all I have to say about that."

Kall Tracy
Pre-Pharmacy



"People are too sensitive these days. I'm sick of this entitlement mentality of people thinking they have a right to be protected from things that might offend them."

Alex Nuttycombe
Computer Science

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Featured response of the week

Co-Champions? Accept it, Drew!



BY COREY COURCHANE Guest Opinion

In regards to Drew Mayes's latest article on the sharing of the Western Athletic Conference championship with Nevada, I think you should open mouth and insert foot. I would hardly call your precious football team a powerhouse.

In reference to your comment about being tied with the same team you spanked like a kid in K-Mart, 49-14, let's look at another important fact. On Sept. 3, who got beaten like a redheaded stepchild, out behind the woodshed, deep in SEC territory, and on national television no less? What was the score? Oh yeah, 48-14.

Yes, I am a current student at this great institution called Boise State University, but orange and green runs through my veins. That's correct, I am a fan of the great Hurricanes of Miami.

Have been since that fateful night in 1984 when Doug Flutie drove a dagger into the heart of 'Cane fans everywhere. The U has five national championships to count; now that is a powerhouse team.

Yes, I am not afraid to admit that my team stumbled early in the season, first losing to Florida State. Then they rolled through the season, including a masterful domination over a highly hyped Marcus Vick, and the team that implements Beamer ball down in Blacksburg.

Believe me, I am quite upset that the 'Canes fell to Georgia Tech, leaving them the option to accept a bid to the Gator Bowl. Virginia Tech, who played in the ACC championship, is a team that got beat 27-7 by my beloved 'Canes. Do I think that is fair? Heck no, but that's the way the dominoes fell. This is the complicated system of the BCS.

So when the Broncos have a share of a title with the team that beat Fresno State, a team that in turn beat you, again on national television, I think you need to show a little more respect.

Yes, I was there on Oct. 29 to cheer on Nevada. In my opinion, they have a very good football team, just as Boise State does.

What everyone needs to real-

ize is that Boise State is not all high and mighty, and that a universe does exist outside of Bronco Stadium.

Unfortunately for Nevada and BSU, the WAC is one the weakest divisions in college football. So until we have a March Madness-type football playoff, which unfortunately may not happen, be happy with what you have.

You were probably too young to remember, but one of the greatest matchups happened back in 1993. Number one ranked Florida State rolled into South Bend, with Heisman hopeful Charlie Ward at the helm. Notre Dame won that game, only to lose to Boston College the following week.

This is college football, my friend. That is how the cookie crumbles, and if you can't accept it, then you show signs of poor sportsmanship. I firmly believe Nevada deserves a little bit more respect than a "Calvin and Hobbes" impersonation of the Nevada symbol being urinated on.

So, until Boise State can prove itself by beating a real team like Georgia, Florida State, or even Miami, show some respect to those that deserve it.

Corey Courchane is a student at Boise State

Opinion Editors Note: Congratulations on being the first ever featured response of the week winner! You're right, Boise State football sucks. After all, they've only won four straight WAC championships. They only have the longest home winning streak in the nation. They only own the longest conference winning streak in the history of the WAC. They've only been one of the two highest scoring teams in the nation since the turn of the millennium. Feel free to cheer and move to the only school in history whose current and former players made a rap song about how corrupt the program is.

Immigration debate beats around the Bush

BY LIZ HUERTA HAQE Opinion Writer

The new focus on immigration is yet another ploy to detract us all from the current follies of the Bush administration. This year alone, we have been witnesses to the inept response to Hurricane Katrina while we are funneling millions of dollars to Pakistani earthquake relief and at the same time telling Katrina victims they must fend for themselves.

The debacle that has become the occupation of Iraq (on false pretenses), has mired us in yet another Vietnam; in the history of warfare there has yet to be a successful occupation of lands by any foreign forces (unless of course you count the genocide of the Native peoples of this continent), which may count as the biggest state-sponsored terrorist event on U.S. soil.

Ms. Harriet Miers' nomination for the Supreme Court may stand as the biggest example of ineptness and crony-ism. We could go on

with the Carl Rove issue, the economic blunder we call CAFTA, the "warm" reception Dubya received recently in South America, etc. The fact is that the immigration issue (un-documented workers) is a storm cloud on the horizon and may be the only thing right-wing conservatives have to hang onto.

It's tantamount to focusing or shifting the light on something other than the real issues at hand (i.e. Iraq, Hurricane relief, NAFTA, CAFTA, gas price gouging, GM, Halliburton, the Carl Rove CIA leak, etc).

As for the un-documented workers who are coming to the United States to take "American Jobs": Earlier this year there was an incident in Canyon County where workers were poisoned in the fields and not one of the victims was white! If you truly want to stop this "invasion," start by boycotting any business or services that use "cheap Mexican labor." Make sure it was white hands that picked your lettuce, apples,

pears and oranges.

If you travel this holiday season, check the kitchen of the restaurant you may be eating at and make damn sure it's a white person prepping your food. And you sure as hell want to stay at a hotel where white women are making the beds and vacuuming the rooms. So, let's go ahead and make the eight billion-border fence to keep out all of these "brown-skinned terrorists" (Canyon County Commissioner Robert Vasquez's words). Jennifer, Heather and Sally will have to drop the cheerleading squad in order to learn how to make beds and cook; Jimmy, Billy and Tim will need to quit hunting, fishing and rodeo because the irrigation pipes need to be moved.

Wake up everybody, you are being hoodwinked, duped and taken advantage of. The Bush presidency will go down in history as perhaps the best Republican administration a Democrat could hope for... right!

CAREER WIZARD



Q: I am interviewing at a well-established Boise organization next week. Why should I do any research on them?

A: Researching an organization, even one that is well known in our area, can provide you many advantages in the job-search process. For example, it enables you to tailor your resume and cover letter more specifically to the position for which you are applying, and it allows you to prepare more effectively for the interview. A last question an employer often asks of the applicant is, "Do you have any questions for us?" Knowing you've researched the company will enable you to give a thoughtful response to the employer. This ultimately benefits the applicant and the interviewer, and reflects your interest and enthusiasm.

Q: I interviewed last week at a local restaurant for an accounting position. It was going pretty well when the woman asked me if I had any kids. She had pictures of her kids on her desk, and I felt like she wanted to connect with me, so I said, "Yes I have three, and they're a real handful!" My six-year old had several colds this year and had to stay home from school a lot. We talked for a few minutes about our kids, and then I left. They never called

me back and I had to call them two weeks later to be told I did not get the job. Did I do something wrong in talking about my kids?

A: You didn't really do anything wrong by answering that question, but remember the option to answer is always your choice and that you are giving information that is not job-related. And, you could harm your candidacy by giving the "wrong" answer. Here are some options for answering questions that might be considered illegal or unnecessary:

1. You can refuse to answer the question. By selecting this option, you will be within your rights, but you are also running the risk of coming off as uncooperative or confrontational - hardly the words an employer would use to describe the "ideal" candidate.

2. Another option is to examine the intent behind the question and respond with an answer as it might apply to the job. For example, the interviewer asks, "Are you a U.S. citizen?" or "What country are you from?" You have just been asked an illegal question. However, you could answer "I am authorized to work in the United States." Or, if your interviewer asks, "Who is going to take care of your children when you have to travel?" You might answer, "I can meet the

travel and work schedule this job requires."

For a list of legal and illegal questions an employer can ask you, please go to our site at <http://career.boisestate.edu/IllegalInterviewQuestions.html>. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to call the Boise State Career Center at 426-1747.

Q: I'll be graduating in May '06. Is it too soon to start thinking about next spring's Career Fair?

A: It's not too early! Our next Career/Job Fair will be March 14, 2006, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the SUB Jordan Ballroom. This is an excellent resource for students who are looking for internships or full and part-time, temporary, or summer employment while attending Boise State, as well as all graduating students who are looking for career employment opportunities. There are some helpful links to our site for sample questions to ask representatives if you're graduating or not - <http://career.boisestate.edu/>.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

You're a sad, uninformed man

As a retired police officer, I found Mr. Stoker's defense of drug prohibition so sad. He refuses to recognize that prohibition causes 75 percent of felony crime decade after decade.

Drug use is a consensual act, whether it's whiskey or pot. Murder, rape, etc is a non-consensual act and will always remain illegal.

As legal drugs kill at a 55:1 ratio over illegal drugs, he wants my profession to continue chasing pot smokers instead of focusing on drunk drivers who killed 17,000 innocent Americans last year.

Prohibition does fund billions to terrorists like Osama Bin Laden and North Korea.

Fourteen-year-olds are shot and killed everyday because we give them a job option to be drug dealers.

I challenge Mr. Stoker to name

one substantive advantage of drug prohibition.

Officer Howard J. Wooldridge (retired) Frederick, Md.

Your policy fails everytime

No amount of interdiction, prosecution, incarceration, police, judges or jails will ever, ever make a difference in terms of human beings seeking, finding, and using chemicals to alter their consciousness. It's who we are.

Throughout our entire history there has been drug use and abuse. The only thing that a just society can do is choose whether to minimize the negative impact of drugs through misdirecting resources towards useless endeavors or to minimize their impact through funding education, safe injection sites, education, education, education.

Today, unfortunately, there's too many transmissible diseases that

can be passed via inter, intra, and extra drug populations. As a society who claims to be intelligent and compassionate, we owe to ourselves to try and protect ourselves as much as possible - by openly dealing with the issues and working to mitigate them, not by segregating and deluding ourselves into thinking we can simply sweep the problem under the carpet of the hidden economy.

We need to grow up. We need to get over our general reaction to drugs and stop really meaning us: the drug is the problem, not the user. We, collectively, choose the path. Let's stop blaming the user and focus on the very simple solution.

YOU

I just... Stoker... opinion...

out there. I am an advocate of marijuana legalization. I have used it for a medical condition, as well as for recreational use.

I am from California and it is legal here with an RX.

The government can lie all they want, but it really does have some medical applications and it is not the "gateway drug" that you educated 43-year-old man with a family of great jobs and a good government job is responsible for. It's pay-per-use. It's not like alcohol and cigarettes and drugs that are sold to everybody. This guy gets information? His information is full of government propaganda. He's just a propagandist.

YOU... I just... Stoker... opinion...

your not) and obviously have no knowledge of what you are trying to talk about! Again I only support Marijuana.

Dave Ross California

Prohibition doesn't work

Why do you believe all of the negative effects of drugs are somehow diminished with prohibition? For example, "a stoner who gets high and decides to take a spin for some munchies endangers everyone in his immediate vicinity."

Exactly how does prohibition help this situation? I can get stoned in my own country anytime I want. I can get stoned in anybody any-

where I want. I can't do anything with it. I was unable to operate a motor vehicle while high, a police officer would notice me. They would arrest me for operating a vehicle under the influence. The influence of alcohol, LSD, or legal prescription

painkillers, it makes no difference.

You say, "a user who physically or emotionally abuses his family under the influence of drugs is adversely affecting their safety and quality of life." Do you seriously believe weed heads account for more domestic abuse than alcoholics?

Also, "a desperate addict who robs, burglarizes or murders for drug money poses an obvious menace to the community at large." How many people commit burglary or murder for cigarettes or beer? If drugs were fully legalized, heroin habits would cost a few dollars a day to support.

Hell, I could grow my own opium in my closet for damn near nothing. When a substance is made illegal, the cost skyrockets.

Remember alcohol prohibition? Please don't let a few bad apples you hear about in the news spoil it for the rest of the responsible cannabis users.

Taylor Smith Georgia

you should know

Guest opinions of no more than 500 words may be submitted for publication on any topic. Letters to the editor must not exceed 300 words and must include the writer's full name, city, state, and major (if applicable). All submissions are subject to editing. Both

guest opinions and letters to the editor may be sent via e-mail to letters@arbitronline.com. The Arbitron cannot verify the accuracy of statements made in letters to the editor; they reflect the opinion of the writers. Opinions expressed by guest and staff

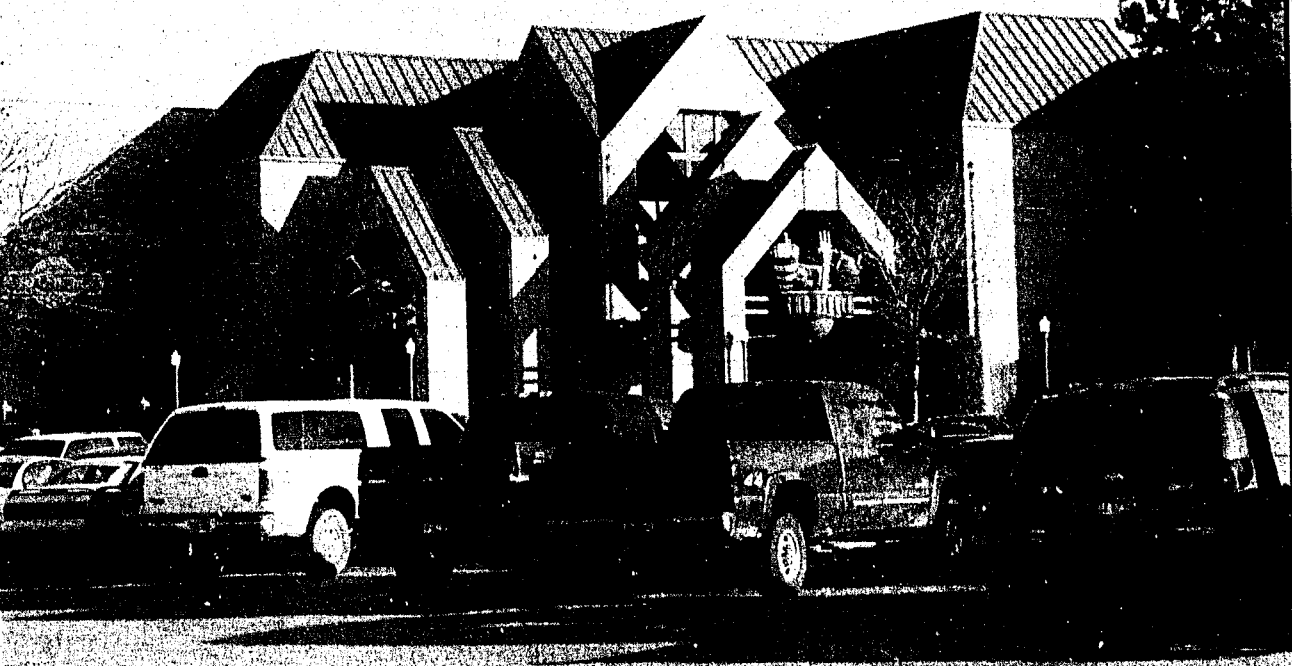
columnists reflect the diversity of opinion in the academic community, and often will be controversial, but they do not represent the institutional opinion of the Arbitron or any organization the author may be affiliated with unless it is labeled as such.

culture

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Can I Help You?



The Boise Towne Square is a bustling place to be during the holidays. But how is the service?

PHOTO BY RYAN PFLEGER/THE ARBITER

BY HADLEY RUSH
Culture Writer

I trotted into Macy's downtown, looking for a sales associate who'd help me find the perfect gift. I passed the customer service desk, which was devoid of anyone employed by the store, and finally as I neared the hand-bag section, a bright-eyed sales clerk named Linda greeted me with a smile at the jewelry counter.

'Tis the season for shopping, mobs of grouchy consumers, and exasperated sales clerks, so I took it upon myself to conduct the ultimate test in customer service, which to me, seems to be somewhat of a lost art these days.

One would think sales associates would be more than eager to help one find the perfect Christmas gift - after all, that is their job. So I put this to the test. I went into five stores in

the downtown Boise area, and rated them on the following: greeting, help on a scale of one to five, enthusiasm on a scale of one to five, and knowledge. I chose five stores (Macy's, Lavender, Kandor, Chico's, and Ishi Nights.) These stores had merchandise ranging from moisturizing lotion, to diamond-encrusted-pants. I entered each store with a particular item in mind, which I needed help finding. I took on the roll of the I-don't-have-a-mind-of-my-own-please-tell-me-what-to-buy-customer.

In Macy's, I gave Linda a very vague description of earrings I was looking for that were "something that looked sort of like something that someone might like - maybe even with rhinestones." With a nod of her head, Linda directed me towards the exact pair I had in mind, and even let me know that they were on sale.

In the next store, Lavender, I walked

through the front door and stood waiting for someone to acknowledge me. I counted three sales clerks in the room, who all ignored my existence. I thought perhaps they didn't see me, so I marched right up to the front counter, and stood, pretending to look at sachets of lavender. Two clerks, Mary and Molly, stood behind the counter, within two feet of me, and carried on with whatever they had been doing previously. I began to wander the store, looking at their merchandise, offering one last chance at a greeting, or at this point, even a smile. A girl with "Dawn" displayed on her name tag walked up to me, and to my surprise, instead of asking if she could help me, said "excuse me," and brushed past.

I walked up to Mary (who was still behind the counter) and asked for something that smelled like coconut. She dropped what she was doing and showed me a bar of soap, then explained that they could also custom mix

See Service [page 9]

Recipes of the week: Spicy toasted nuts and mocha mix

BY AMBER FUGER
Assistant Culture Editor

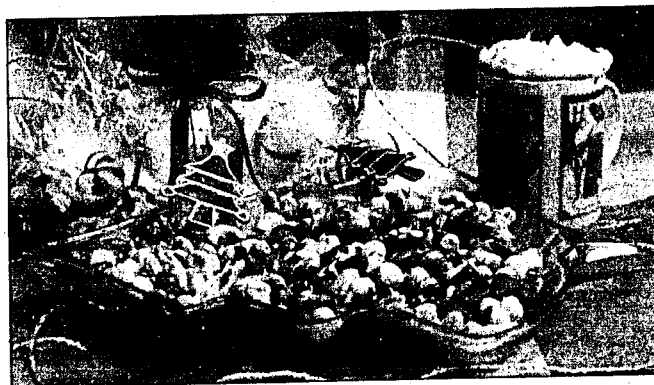
With the semester near over, stress levels balance out and more time becomes available to optimize laziness. Hot cocoa, a warm fire, and some spicy nuts on these frigid nights make for an evening in a dreamy setting.

Don't get too comfortable though, for Christmas is just around the corner and the chaos of gift giving seems to be hurling to deadline. Finals can be excruciatingly difficult on the pocket book because of all the time taken off from work to study.

Christmas shopping can become dreaded words to a college student's ear, but there is a way to make enough goodies for everyone on the list without sacrificing gas funds for the trip home.

Food makes people smile, and at Christmas time the gesture of giving means more when it comes from the craftsmanship of the giver's hands.

Cookies can be a little redundant during the holidays. The



question then becomes, what can I make that's easy, affordable, and plentiful? The answer: mocha hot chocolate and spicy toasted nuts packaged in a small plastic bag and a coffee mug.

These simple recipes take minimal time to create and assemble. For the spicy nuts, simply preheat the oven to 350 degrees and while it's warming up, melt some butter in small saucepan. Then stir in sugar, garlic salt, curry powder, and cinnamon.

These ingredients may sound odd in the sentence, but they provide

the perfect balance between sweet and spice. Place the nuts in baking dish and pour the butter mixture over the top. Mix and bake for 10 minutes or until the butter sizzles. Stir and let stand until cool, stirring frequently.

The mocha hot chocolate mix is even easier. Combine all the ingredients in a blender container and process until blended.

Pour a few scoops in a small plastic bag and include a gift tag with instructions to blend two tablespoons of mix with one cup of boiling water to make one serving.

Ingredients

Mocha Hot Chocolate Mix
1 cup instant mocha-flavor coffee
1 cup dry nondairy creamer
1 cup baking cocoa
1 1/3 cups confectioners' sugar
1 cup crushed peppermint candy
(Yields about 2 cups mix)

Spicy Toasted Nuts

2 Tablespoons butter or margarine
2 Tablespoons sugar
1-teaspoon garlic salt
1 teaspoon each curry powder and cinnamon
4 cups mixed nuts
(Yields about 4 cups)

Festive mugs and colorful ribbons make this gift personalized and fun.

Don't forget to make an extra for yourself, because nothing is better on a cold night than a nice mug of hot cocoa and a handful of sweet and spicy nuts.

The Chic Chick:

Fashion's hits and misses

When you play in the snow you gotta look fabulous



BY MARIANA BEKKER
Culture Columnist

Winter is here and so is the snow. Let's face it: We Boise residents love to play and bum around in the white powder. With a ski resort less than 20 miles away from campus, it is clearly impossible to deny that all things snow is part of the Boise lifestyle.

But remember, even when you are skiing or snowboarding or tubing down a mountain, you gotta have style. All sports have a certain look and skiing and snowboarding are definitely in the top 10 when it comes to sporty fashion.

Jackets flapping in the wind, pants cinched overtop boots, an incessant gap between the beanie and goggles, "wife-beater," overmitts, and random stickers carelessly plastered across their board, all being of different brands. Have you ever encountered someone who looks just like this while being cut off right before you hit a jump or rail? Fashion in the snow sports world, believe it or not, does count.

Shopping for winter clothing can seem a bit overwhelming. New fabrics and insulations are constantly making apparel warmer, more breathable and more waterproof. Fashions seem to change by the season. But don't worry. Follow a few fashion fundamentals that this chic chick recommends and spare yourself the anguish of going overboard.

Want to get started? Layering is key. As you may know, the ideal way to wear clothing for every snow-related activity is to use different layers. In order of importance, the keys to a successful layering system are warmth, weight, moisture management, and packing the right number of layers. Generally, it is smart to follow the three-layer system. The first layer is the base layer, which consists of thermal underwear. The middle layer is general clothing or a fleece jacket. Lastly, wear an outer shell, which protects you against wind and rain.

Hats that pull down over the forehead and ears are a must. Those made for active lifestyles will often have a fleecy band along the head to absorb moisture.

Hands sweat, too, meaning that gloves need not only be waterproof but also able to wick moisture away from the fingers. Many area ski shops stock gloves with liners that can be taken off to dry quickly.

Socks present a bit of a controversy among those hitting the slopes. Avoid wearing cotton ones unless you want to slob around in soggy sponges all day. Those made with synthetic fabrics are likely to be most comfortable.

Daytime skiing and snowboarding can almost be blinding, with the sun reflecting off the snow. That's why sunglasses or goggles

are a must. Whether you pick one over the other is a personal preference. They both come in a variety of super trendy styles.

The pieces the beginning skier or snowboarder needs most are a reliable jacket and a great pair of pants. In either case, you want waterproof ones that keep cold, melting snow away from your skin.

If there is one product that has undergone a rapid development, it is the jacket. Fifteen years ago, an outdoor jacket was generally green with a hood. Now, the difference between fashion and functionality has become very blurry. Fashion is taking over inventions from the outdoor arena, while outerwear is more than ever taking color and design into consideration. The extremes of fashion and functionality now seem to have reconciled for good.

Apart from the little differences each mountain brings, there were some predominant items of clothing seen at almost every resort this past season. The most popular item had to be the fur-collared jacket. If animals can keep warm that way, why can't we?

Some people ski in down coats, but that's not such a smart idea. If you sweat in it, you'll get too hot and then you are uncomfortable and gross for the rest of the day. Stick with some sort of megacoat that is lightweight and includes at least one zip-out layer. Some have under-arm vents as a cooling device, high-neck, fleece-lined collars and snow skirts tucked inside the front of the jacket to keep snow away from the body.

Powder blues, yellows, pinks, even deeper raspberries are stylish colors for jackets and pants this season, but don't spend too much money on them because those colors tend to fall out of style just as quickly as they fell in. Stick with more neutral colors when buying really nice snow clothes. Hues like blacks, grays, and whites are classics when gliding down a snowy mountain.

And remember, don't overdo the whole layering advice. If it's above 20 degrees, you just need a base layer and a jacket system and you should be ok. If it's colder, you'll want on more insulating layers.

While one-pieces and bibs are fairly obsolete these days, waterproof pants with extra padding and snow cuffs (that stretch out and over ski boots) are very popular and easy to find.

Skiing and snowboarding are not cheap sports. You can pay upward of \$700 just for a few key outer pieces. And that doesn't include the price of the equipment (skis, snowboards, boots, bindings, etc.), lift tickets, accommodations, travel and food. So buy smart and don't overdo it. You'll look and feel fabulous and smart.

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Arthur Golden didn't set out to write a book about geishas



BY BARRY KOLTNOW
Knight Ridder Tribune

Novelist Arthur Golden never thought that his international best-seller "Memoirs of a Geisha" would be made into a movie.

Even after producers Douglas Wick and Lucy Fisher bought the movie rights, he didn't think it would be made into a movie.

"Hollywood buys a lot of stuff, but they don't make everything they buy," the author said. "Besides, this would be a long shot anyway. It would be a movie with an exotic subject and an all-Asian cast. Who knows if anyone in Hollywood would want to make this kind of a movie?"

Then Steven Spielberg expressed an interest in directing the film, and everything changed.

"That was the first time that I imagined it might actually be made into a movie," Golden said. "That also was the first time I started to get excited about the possibility of it being made into a movie."

"My wife and I went to see 'Saving Private Ryan,' and when it said 'Directed by Steven Spielberg,' I got a little chill down my spine. I turned to my wife and said: 'Wouldn't it be amazing if one day we saw the words 'Memoirs of a Geisha' directed by Steven Spielberg?'"

Well, "Memoirs of a Geisha" is opening in theaters, and it does not say: "Directed by Steven Spielberg." Instead, it says: "Directed by Rob Marshall," and that seems to be just fine with everyone involved.

Wick, the Oscar-winning producer of "Gladiator" who optioned "Memoirs of a Geisha" upon its publication in 1997, said Spielberg dropped out shortly after his initial interest because he didn't feel he

was the right director for this film. However, he remained on the project as a producer.

The story is a fictionalized account of a young girl in pre-World War II Japan who is sold by her peasant family to work as a servant in a geisha house.

Eventually, the young girl becomes an apprentice and learns the trade, transforming into a beautiful geisha.

Geishas (it's pronounced gay-sha) are not prostitutes, but rather are trained dancers, singers and musicians who are skilled in the art of conversation. They entertain wealthy businessmen at social functions but are not sexual escorts.

Once Spielberg dropped out of the running, Wick said he and his producing partner (Lucy Fisher is also his wife) began an exhaustive search for a new director.

"Many directors were interested, but we were aware of how difficult this was going to be," Wick explained. "We needed a director who was capable of creating a whole new world. We needed a director who was a storyteller and understood the Dickens aspect of the story."

"It would be easy to make a less-good version of this book, but there was a great version to be made in the right hands."

Then the producers saw an early cut of Marshall's movie musical "Chicago," which went on to win six Oscars, including Best Picture.

"We knew immediately that Rob Marshall was our guy. He dealt with the rivalry between two women, he create a new world in period Chicago, he had an eye for the visual and he had a background as a dancer and a choreographer so he would understand the discipline of



Ziyi Zhang stars in Columbia Picture's "Memoirs of a Geisha." The movie was adapted from Arthur Golden's international bestselling novel.

the geishas. He was the perfect director for this job."

Casting became a thorny issue when Ziyi Zhang, the Chinese star of "Hero" and "House of Flying Daggers," was picked to portray Sayuri, the lead character. Japanese actor Ken Watanabe was cast as her love interest, but some of the film's other important characters are played by Chinese actresses, including Michelle Yeoh.

There have been no threats of demonstrations or boycotts of the movie from Asian-American media watchdog groups, but those involved with the film said they are aware that it strikes a nerve with some people.

"We are very mindful of the

cultural sensitivities," Wick said, "but in the end we made a creative choice. Ziyi was the best actor for the part, period. And she is beguiling in this role. She has both an Audrey Hepburn innocence and a sophisticated beauty. I can't imagine any other actress in this role."

"And I should add that Ziyi is a huge star in Japan. She is well-known from her cosmetics ad work, and she has played Japanese women in films before without complaints."

Zhang said she never hesitated when she was offered the role. "I am a professional actress, and that is what I do. I learn about a character, and then I play that character."

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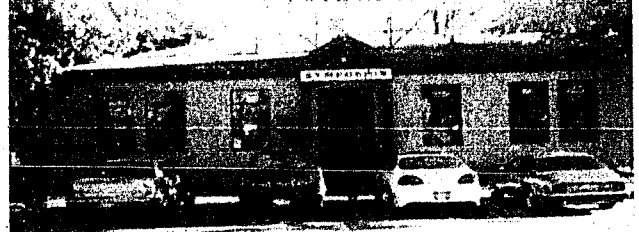
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the Semester Fades

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY

The semester fades
But our light shall not
What is one light in the dark?
A flashing blur in the night?
Ours is an 18,000-watt bulb
Blaring bold in December skies
That focused flame burns when we stir
The embers of shared warmth on cold days

We are a singularity, a multitude of them,
Packed into classes and drilled with theories
Equations, lessons, lectures, witticisms and wants

Despite the common nomenclature
We are not all Broncos
Some are stallions, others, mere colts
Mares, studs, thoroughbreds and mutts
Some live a fenced-in existence
Others live the free range
No boundaries dare keep them contained

We leave this week, new souls
Tempered in the fire of enlightenment
Forged in the flame of evolution

Some will never return
Others begin this quest
Most, enveloped in the deliverance,
Merely take a break to breathe the
Clean airs of returns to homes that
Years, months, moments past
We craved only to escape

We are a scattered lot
Tossed into strong winds
Carrying us hither and thither
To those unknown destinations
Standing atop the precipice
Our future intends to display.
A prism, this university is.
The entering light shall shine to its core
And shower the American scene with shards
Of our refracted essence, flying into
the infinities of this world we own

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Store	Greeting	Help	Enthusiasm	Knowledge
Macy's	Yes	5	5	5
Lavender	No	3 (had to ask)	3	3
Kandor	Yes	5	5	4
Chico's	Yes	5	5	4
Ishi Nights	No	0	0	0

[scale of 1-5]

Service (from page 7)

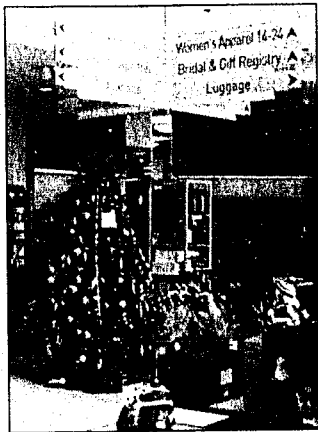
lotions with any essential oil scent I wanted - coconut being one of them. I bought a \$5 bottle of custom mixed lotion and walked out.

But not before being told to "come again" which I decided was unlikely ... but at least my hands are soft and smell of a tropical vacation.

The third store I entered, attached to Lavender, was Kandor. I walked to the back of the store where a make-shift kitchen was set up, and watched as a young man with a name tag displaying "Dustin," frosted a cake. He smiled at me and asked if I needed help.

I told him I was looking for stocking stuffers for my mother who's a gourmet cook - but punctuated my statement with a twirl of my hair, and added that I didn't know anything about cooking (giggle). He showed me tomato knives, potato peelers, and whisks, and asked if she made sauces or if she baked... I again, twirled my hair and said I didn't know.

Dustin was helpful, but could have made a sale, had he ushered



this wishy-washy customer a bit more.

The fourth store I went into was Chico's on Idaho Street. A woman who told me her name was pronounced "Mar-get," walked right up to me and asked if I needed help. I told her I was on a search for rhinestone-encrusted jeans. "Mar-get" led me around the store for nearly 15 minutes, collecting all the jeans she could carry, and without being pushy, showed me other merchandise. After an explanation that their

According to the National Retail Federation, most people buy clothing or clothing accessories as gifts during the holiday season. Next were books, CDs, DVDs, and gift certificates.

PHOTO BY RYAN PFLEGER/THE ARBITER

sizes were different and ranged only from 0-3, I tried on some jeans sized 0 and 1, and to my elation, they all fell to my ankles. I thanked "Mar-get" for all her sincere help, and walked out of the store - a genuine look of dismay on her face.

The final store, on which I conducted this experiment, was Ishi Night's. This store, located on the corner of 9th Street, is well known for their jazzy, and aesthetically pleasing window displays, which are alternated each day. There were two sales associates and only one other customer. I was certain the service would be phenomenal - I was wrong.

I listened to the two workers complain that they weren't making much money, and that the patronage was on a downward spiral. I walked around rummaging through the racks of clothes and sauntered by each of them numerous times, waiting to be acknowl-

edged but to no avail. I then walked out.

I suppose the moral here is that if one needs help with their shopping, one cannot be shy. Oftentimes, one needs to approach the sales associates themselves in order to receive customer service, sad but true. The art of customer service is dwindling. Be an assertive shopper, know what you're looking for, and happy shopping!

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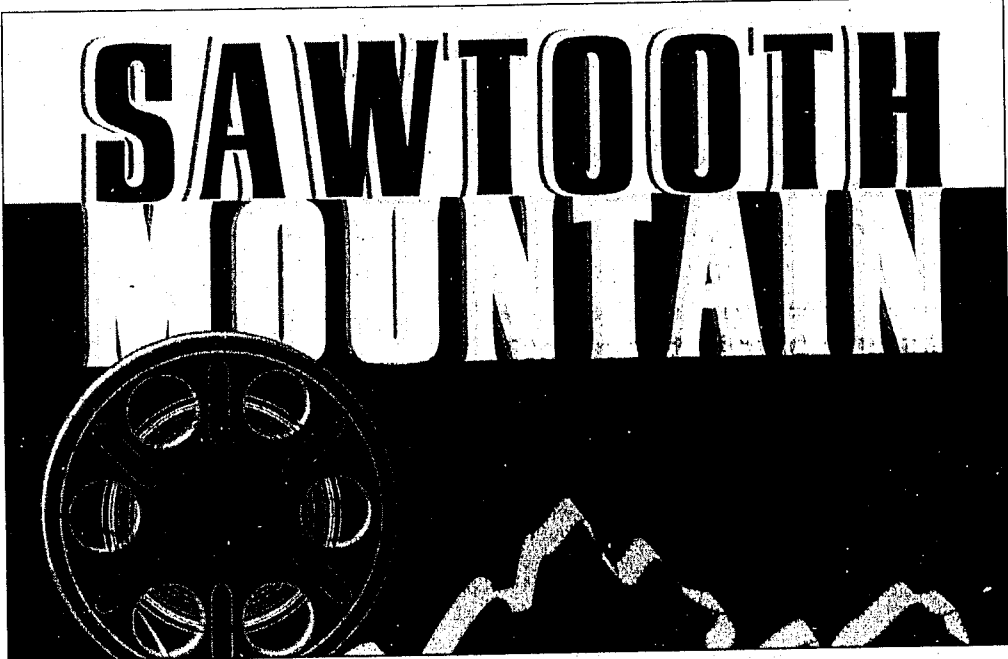
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Feature your adventures in the Sawtooth Mountain Film Festival

BY MARIANA BEKKER
Culture Editor

Do you have a video camera or some film footage from your last great adventure that you are just dying to showcase? The Sawtooth Mountain Film Festival, presented by the Boise State Outdoor Program, is currently seeking submissions for its seventh annual festival.

Boise State University has been hosting an annual mountain film festival since 2000. Over the years the festival has become a site to premier the works of local filmmakers. In 2005, the festival went independent and began requesting film submissions. Films were then juried and assembled into a collection of 10 exceptional short films that depicted the heart and soul of adventure sports.

Presently, Boise State is in the process of developing the next fes-

tival, which will premier in the spring of 2006. The festival will then tour to other college campuses in the northwest.

The festival committee is in search of filmmakers who want to have their cutting edge adventure films included in the festival.

The Sawtooth Mountain Film Festival accepts short films depicting the spirit of adventure. Past films have included the sports of: skiing, snowboarding, mountain biking, whitewater kayaking, skateboarding, BMX, trail running, surfing, base jumping, mountaineering, rock climbing, bouldering and more. Film lengths can vary from two to 20 minutes. Most screened films have historically been in the 10-14 minute range.

A selection committee chaired by the festival director will view all entries prior to inclusion in the festival. Chosen entries will be pub-

licly viewed during the Sawtooth Mountain Film Festival screening on March 3, 2006.

Submissions should be on DVD, mini DVD or VHS (NTSC), marked with the title, producer and contact number.

Submissions should be three to 20 minutes long, and each should contain complete contact information, a 40-word personal biography, 40-word promotional description of the film and three high-resolution (600 dpi or greater) images from the work (.jpg, .eps or .tif).

Notification of film receipt will be sent upon arrival of all entries. Films will be juried and selected by Jan. 15, 2006.

Filmmakers will be notified of their acceptance into the 2006 festival by Feb. 1.

Submitted films will not be returned so please send a duplicate of your masterwork.

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• 6:40pm...Rec Group Exercise Room- Yoga
• 7-9pm...SUB Johnson Room Free Massage
• 9pm...SUB Dining Area Cram Snacks
• 10pm...Library 1st Floor Free Coffee, Hot Chocolate and Tea - Sponsored by ASBSU

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• 7:30am...The Quad Free Coffee and Hot Chocolate Sponsored by VSB
• 11am-2pm...SUB Johnson Room Free Massage
• 12:15pm...Rec Multi Purpose Room 1- PiYo
• 5pm-9pm...Children's Center Free Babysitting Services Call 426-4404 to preregister
• 7-9pm...SUB Johnson Room Free Massage
• 9pm...SUB Dining Area Cram Snacks
• 10 pm...Library 1st Floor Free Coffee, Hot Chocolate and Tea - Sponsored by ASBSU

WED DECEMBER 14
Brain Freeze Warning
• 7:30am...The Quad Free Coffee and Hot Chocolate. Sponsored by VSB
• 11am-2pm...SUB Johnson Room Free Massage
• 5pm-9pm...Children's Center Free Babysitting Services Call 426-4404 to preregister
• 6:40pm...Rec Group Exercise Room- Yoga
• 7-9pm...SUB Johnson Room Free Massage
• 9pm...SUB Dining Area Cram Snacks
• 10pm...Library 1st Floor Free Coffee, Hot Chocolate and Tea - Sponsored by ASBSU

THU DECEMBER 15
Stress Free Sunshine
• 7:30am...The Quad Free Coffee and Hot Chocolate. Sponsored by VSB
• 11am-2pm...SUB Johnson Room Free Massage
• 12:15pm...Rec Multi Purpose Room 1- PiYo
• 4:30pm...Rec Multi Purpose Room 2- Cycle

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sports

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[THIS WEEK IN SPORTS]

Men's hoops

Saturday
Utah Valley State @ BSU
2 p.m.
Taco Bell Arena

Women's hoops

Sunday
BSU @ San Diego
2 p.m. (PT)
San Diego, Calif.

[SIDE LINE]

Women's hoops drops three straight

The Boise State women's basketball team lost its second straight road game at the hands of a stingy Denver University defense. The Pioneers forced 26 Bronco turnovers and held Boise State to more than 20 points under their season scoring average in defeating the Broncos 55-51 Saturday afternoon.

Freshman guard Jessica Thompson led Boise State (5-3) with 17 points. Jackie Lee added 10 points. Benita Buggs tallied four assists and Michelle Hessing added eight points and blocked four shots. Denver was led by Jenna Cole's 14 points.

On Thursday, the Broncos saw a five point half-time lead crumble to the Wyoming Cowgirls, as Wyoming went on to defeat Boise State by a final score of 68-54.

Boise State was led by Nadia Begay's 20 points and Michelle Hessing's eight rebounds. Wyoming was led by Hanna Zavec who scored 22 points and Jodi Bolerjack who added 20.

The Broncos were shot 21-of-58 from the floor and six-of-19 from three-point range. Wyoming shot 20-of-55 from the floor and six-of-18 from three-point range. Boise State out-rebounded the Cowgirls 41-37. The Broncos return home and then hit the road again for a game at San Diego (Dec. 18) and San Diego State (Dec. 20) before taking some time off for Christmas.

Jones get all-American honors

Quinton Jones, a junior on the Boise State University football team from Cerritos, Calif., has received honorable mention All-American honors from SI.COM as a punt returner.

Jones is currently ranked second in the nation for punt return average with a yards-per-return mark of 20.5. He is ranked first in the WAC and only trails Maurice Drew of UCLA in the national stats. Drew is averaging 29.1 yards per return.

Jones has returned 15 punts this year for 308 yards and two touchdowns. His longest return was 92 yards for a touchdown against the University of Hawaii, setting a Boise State record. The previous record was 91 yards set by Henry Jenkins against Idaho State in 1969, the second oldest single-game record at Boise State. (The oldest single-game record is Steve Forrey's four interceptions against Idaho State in 1968.)

Also in the Idaho game this year, Jones set the Bronco record for most punt return yards in a game when he gained 143 yards on five returns. He broke the record of 137 yards Chris Carr set last year against Idaho. Jones also has the seventh best single game mark for punt return yards at Boise State with 106 on three attempts against Hawaii this season.

Jones has seen playing time in all areas for the Broncos this season. He also returned 28 kickoffs for 702 yards and a 25.1 per-return average, gained 53 yards on 11 attempts and one touchdown rushing the ball and made 16 tackles on defense and special teams.

Robinson leads Broncos in gritty win over Hornets

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

By the numbers, Boise State's 70-61 victory over Sacramento State Sunday at Taco Bell Arena was not pretty. It wasn't pretty by the play on the court, either. The Hornets kept up with the

up-tempo Broncos all game, but porous shooting in the second half doomed Sac State.

"I don't think they were ready because they got tired at the end," junior forward Seth Robinson said.

The Hornets made just six field goals on 32 shots in the second

half as the Broncos built an 11-point lead late in the second half to improve to 4-3 overall.

Despite the Broncos' top two leading scorers this season combining for just 13 points on 3-of-17 shooting from the floor, Eric Lane and Seth Robinson stepped up big for Boise State. Lane had a sea-

son-high 21 points, and Robinson posted career-highs with 17 points and nine rebounds.

Lane had been struggling so far this season shooting, but was 4-of-6 from behind the three-point line.

See Broncos (page 3)

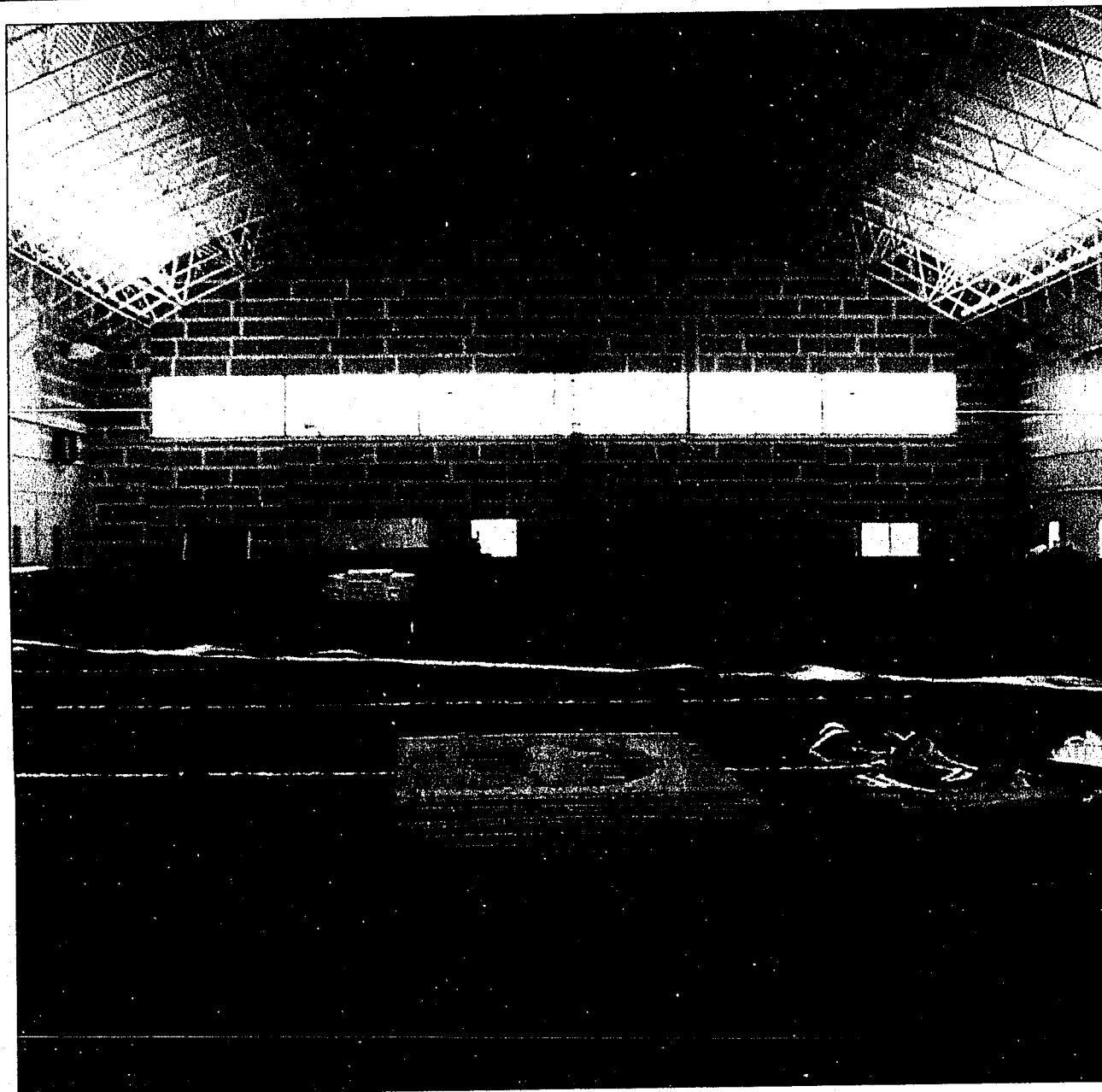


PHOTO COURTESY BOISE STATE ATHLETICS

The Caven-Williams Sports Complex is set to open by Dec. 18. The structure, adjacent to Bronco Stadium, will be used by the football team and other Bronco athletics. There is also office space for the Harvey Neef Mane Line Dancers and the Blue Thunder Marching Band. The turf inside is of the same material as that in Bronco Stadium, but green, to simulate opponents' playing surfaces.

It's Bush in a landslide

BY WENDELL BARNOUSE
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Hail to the Chief? Hail to the Heisman winner, Reggie Bush.

Bush, who enjoys his nickname "The President," rode a landslide victory Saturday night that mandated he be anointed as the most outstanding player for the 2005 season.

"Now I know how it feels like to have the Secret Service with you," Bush said of the security guards who hustled him across 42nd Street from the Nokia Theatre to the Hard Rock Cafe to face the media.

A visibly disappointed Vince Young finished a distant second. Bush received 784 first-place votes and won all six of the Heisman's voting regions. Young received 79 first-place votes.

"Right now, I feel like I let everybody down," said Young, who might have been the most downcast Heisman finalist in the award's 71 years. "My teammates, my family, the city of Austin, the city of Houston. I let everybody down."

Bush, a San Diego native, credits off-season workouts with Chargers and former TCU running back LaDainian Tomlinson with improving his strength and conditioning.

"He just showed me what it takes to be the best running back at his level and at my level," said Bush, who had a career high with 187 rushing attempts carries this season. "I went back to USC with a new focus. I like to think of myself as being in good shape but working out with him, I was throwing up all over the place."

That's how defensive coordinators felt when trying to stop Bush. In the Trojans' six games against ranked teams, the 6-foot, 200-pound



PHOTO COURTESY KNIGHT RIDDER TRIBUNE

Bush averaged 302.2 all-purpose yards and 10 yards per rushing attempt.

After four consecutive sub-par games, Bush helped save USC's season with 513 yards in all-purpose as the Trojans held off Fresno State's upset bid on Nov. 19.

He had 294 yards rushing in that game and followed it up with 260 yards on the ground against UCLA. Those two games turned the Heisman voting into a one-man campaign.

When his name was announced as the Heisman winner, Bush bowed his head for a

few seconds, then got a hand shake and hug from teammate Matt Leinart.

Last year, the roles were reversed as Bush hugged Leinart after the USC quarterback was named the 2004 Heisman winner.

As he took the podium, the crowd chanted something not heard around here since Reggie Jackson was hitting home runs for the Yankees - "Reg-gie, Reg-gie."

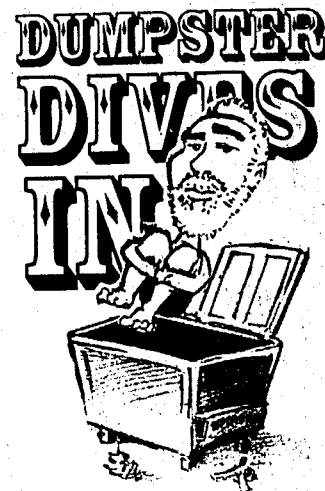
Bush received a record 91.7 percent of the possible points (2,541 out of a possible 2,769 points). That bettered the 85.2 percent earned by Ricky Williams in 1998.

"His play on the field showed how good a player he is," said USC quarterback Matt Leinart, who won the Heisman in 2004. "Reggie played big in the big games. He's a perfect description of a Heisman winner. He's first class. I couldn't be prouder of him."

Bush is the seventh Southern California player to win the Heisman Trophy. That ties the Trojans with Notre Dame for the most Heismans won by a single school.

USC running back Mike Garrett won the school's first Heisman in 1965. Since then, there have been 20 running backs to win the award.

Bush is just the eighth Heisman-winning running back to not also finish as the nation's leading rusher. Bush finished fourth in rushing with 1,658 yards, averaging an eye-rubbing 8.9 yards per carry. His versatility and explosiveness is illustrated in Bush's ranking in all-purpose running. His 2,611 yards led the nation and he averaged 10.1 yards each time he touched the ball. Reggie Bush, 2005 Heisman Trophy winner, aka The President... or perhaps the Human First Down.



An apology to football

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
Sports Columnist

Although I have supreme reservations against the Bowl Championship Series and the money grubbing infidels that make college football disgusting, I am apt to apologize to the college football bowl season.

You see, although I struggle to explain away the equations that determine bowl match-ups, I am still in love with the games.

As I sat Saturday afternoon, watching No. 1 Duke dismantle No. 2 Texas on the hardwood, a supposed classic early-season matchup between the two best teams in the nation, I encountered this lukewarm vibration in between slurps of strong black coffee. I am a basketball fan, but I don't really seem to care about the college ranks until February and March when the season is decided by (my! Oh my!) a 64-team tournament.

But I am an addict and can only focus my desires toward one sport at a time. Since football is on its holiday sabbatical, there is nothing on Saturday afternoons but these teenage-seasoned basketball games. And I am forced to quit football cold turkey, waiting in my cell, twitching, craving my holiday binge.

If there were a playoff in college football, this would be week one and December Madness would shower me with a constant fix, eating away at my addiction in four steps: the opening round, the quarterfinals, semifinals and the national championship game. That would be more healthy than my cold-turkey sandwich blur instigating confusion as to where my football has gone.

But alas, I am want to have things I shall never possess. I am a lost sheep looking for a cable box and ESPN, taking on my cravings with the lesser drug, basketball, and wondering still why I don't give a rip about hockey (that athletic drug I went so long without, I no longer crave).

I look at my calendar and spy the solstice, Christmas and the New Year's weekend I intend to spend in a cabin in Sun Valley overdosing on football day and night. I sigh and dream of that fireplace and the ancient TV, held fast for generations to spread the holiday football cheer through the airwaves.

But today I sit at my computer in the afternoon writing a column that no one will read with finals looming (a demon in the cold) and wonder what could have been. I mean, if there was a playoff, there's no way that I'd be sitting at a computer. I'd be in lounges and sports bars, slurping ice-cold beer and attempting to watch eight games at once.

But, this is supposed to be an apology, so I apologize to the players out there who may feel anger at me for telling them that their system is junk (for our Broncos would not be in that tournament this season). I apologize to the athletic directors who try so hard to get their team another game, another million to buy a new weight room. I apologize to the coaches, scouts and administrators.

But, most of all, I apologize to the fans. They, like me, are forced to sit around and wait.

I apologize to you because I do not have the power to destroy the infrastructure of the BCS. I apologize because I am just a college paper columnist instead of the President of Earth, but if I was, my first action would be to make a college football playoff in Division I-A.



PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Junior forward Seth Robinson slam dunks the ball with just 6.1 seconds remaining in the game as Boise State beat Sacramento State 70-61 at Taco Bell Arena Sunday. Robinson posted career highs with 17 points and nine rebounds. Junior guard Eric Lane led the Broncos with 21 points. The Hornets shot just 26.5 percent from the field, and made just six field goals in the second half against the Bronco defense.

want," Robinson said. "They want teams to get out of whack and run all around. That's what they want to do. They want teams to play faster than they can actually play. But, they haven't played a team like us."

Robinson also reiterated the point that Boise State doesn't "play teams to wear them out in the first half, we play them to wear them out in the second half."

The 61 points were the second-lowest point total for Sac State this season.

"The tempo was for once in our favor and we were able to build off that. So, I think that was a big part of it," Lane said.

Virtually mirroring the rest of the season, Boise State had six players score at least seven points. Only Lane and Robinson scored in double figures, but Matt Bauscher scored seven despite shooting just 2-of-9 from the field. Kenny Wilson (7 points) and senior Kareem Lloyd (7 points) also contributed. This was Lloyd's first home game this season after sitting out the early part of the year with a broken big toe. He showed some flair with two big two-handed dunks in the first half.

"That's the beauty of a team. When someone is off, the beauty of it is that some other teammate can have your back, and that's what happened," Lane said.

With the victory, the Broncos continue the up-and-down streak of winning one game, then losing one.

Last Wednesday, Tyler Tiedeman missed a 3-point shot at the buzzer that would have sent the game into overtime and the Broncos dropped an 80-77 decision to BYU at the Marriott Center.

Tiedeman pump faked a defender after receiving the cross-court pass from Karl but the shot came up

short. Boise State rallied from a 12-point second half deficit to tie the game 75-75 on a 3-pointer by Tiedeman with 2:13 to play.

With the game tied, Boise State pressured an inbounds play on the BYU baseline. Three Broncos scrambled for the loose ball leaving Fernando Malaman alone under the basket. Rashaun Broadus beat the Broncos to the loose ball and found Malaman under the basket for the easy hoop and a 77-75 lead with 1:12 to play.

Robinson led the Broncos scoring a career-high 15 points, while grabbing five rebounds in just 22 minutes. Karl added 14 points, while Tez Banks and Bauscher added 13 points each.

The Broncos (4-3) will look to put together their first winning streak of the season Sunday at home against Utah Valley State at 2 p.m.

Broncos

(from page 1)

"I just played with more confidence. I shot the ball better. A part of that is just getting back into my rhythm," Lane said. "It's all about confidence and playing hard. When you play hard, a lot takes care of itself."

Lane hit a three with just over three minutes left in the game. The bucket gave the Broncos the first double-digit lead of the game at 59-49, and was big for Lane as the defender had a hand in his face on the wing.

"That's definitely a confidence builder," Lane said. "Those guys were long, athletic, quick players and to square them up and do those types of things gives you a better feel out there and gets you into a better rhythm. It gives you more

confidence."

This was the perfect game for Robinson's gritty style of play. Lane calls the 6-foot, 6-inch junior the "hustle guy" on the team.

"I don't mind diving on the ground, I don't mind running up and down, or half court—it doesn't matter to me as long as we get the W," Robinson said.

The shooting percentages were dismal at best throughout the game, hindering what could have been a high scoring game between two teams that both average just under 80 points per game. The Hornets have eclipsed the century mark twice this season.

For Boise State, Lane said it was the "pressure defense" that kept the Broncos at just 39 percent shooting. The Hornets were even worse at 26.5 percent shooting.

"We knew coming in that Sacramento State, that's what they

Coaches Bowden, Paterno are granddaddys of them all

BY DAVE HYDE
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

A few rooms from the slot machines, down the hall from the rock-band exhibits, looking as square in the Seminole Hard Rock Cafe as spaces on a checkers board, one slowly led the other up five stairs Thursday morning to some microphones.

"That might've been the slowest anyone ever climbed stairs," Bobby Bowden said as he reached the top.

"And I'm behind you, so I'm even slower," Joe Paterno said.

There they were, college football's grandpa and Joe Pa, 76 years old and 78, the No. 1 coach in wins and the No. 1A, soon two-timing everyone in a FedEx Orange Bowl news conference with a clear view, self-effacing humor and hopelessly out-of-date perspective on loyalty, longevity and especially friendship.

"Was it the '70s when we first met and ...?" Paterno asked, staring behind foggy glasses at Bowden for help.

"1990," Bowden said straight-faced.

"No-o-o-o," Paterno said.

"I could go back further than that, but then you're talking about losses," Bowden said. "1990 was the first time I beat you."

They first met in 1962 when

Paterno was a Penn State assistant and Bowden was the coach at Howard College in Birmingham, Ala. Bowden admired Penn State's style and wanted to visit its coaches. But the football budget was so small at Howard he received just \$55 for expenses. That got him as far as Lewiston, Pa.

"I thumbed the rest of the way," he said. "I think I stayed at a fraternity house."

"There were six of us on staff at Penn State then," Paterno said. "The others are all gone. We just buried the last one last week."

Bowden and Paterno are the last football coaches whose good names define a university.

Once such legends dotted the countryside. Woody. Bo. Bear. Dooley. Wilkinson and Switzer. Devaney and Osborne. Now it's just Bowden and Paterno, Mr. Florida State and Mr. Penn State, everything about them outdated except their upbeat outlook and recent conference titles.

"When I go to a convention or a Nike gathering, I look out there and see all these young guys around and wonder what (my wife and I) are doing there," Bowden said. "Then I look at Joe and remember."

"We're the only guys that go to bed at 8 o'clock," Paterno said.

"Ain't that the truth," Bowden said.

What did the old coach, Woody Allen, say about life? That 90 percent of it was showing up?

Somehow these two have kept showing up, season after season, era after era, to have undefeated teams, win national championships, become football icons, grow out of fashion of late, thankfully grow back in fashion - Paterno more than Bowden so far - and win a record 359 games in Bowden's case and on-the-heels 353 in Paterno's.

"I never talk to him about that record," Paterno said. "What's the difference? I could care less. I couldn't care if Bob got 450 wins. I like Bob. I like what he's done. My wife likes his wife. Come on, what's it matter?"

"It's something we don't talk about," Bowden said. "My religion and faith won't let it matter to me. Sure, winning matters in the job. But some record? You're not going to take it with you when you go, are you?"

They last met in the Blockbuster Bowl in 1990 at Joe Robbie Stadium, meaning they've outlasted both that bowl and that stadium name. Their step is slower now.

Their faces looser. But spend an hour with them, and you see why there aren't any better coaches in college football.

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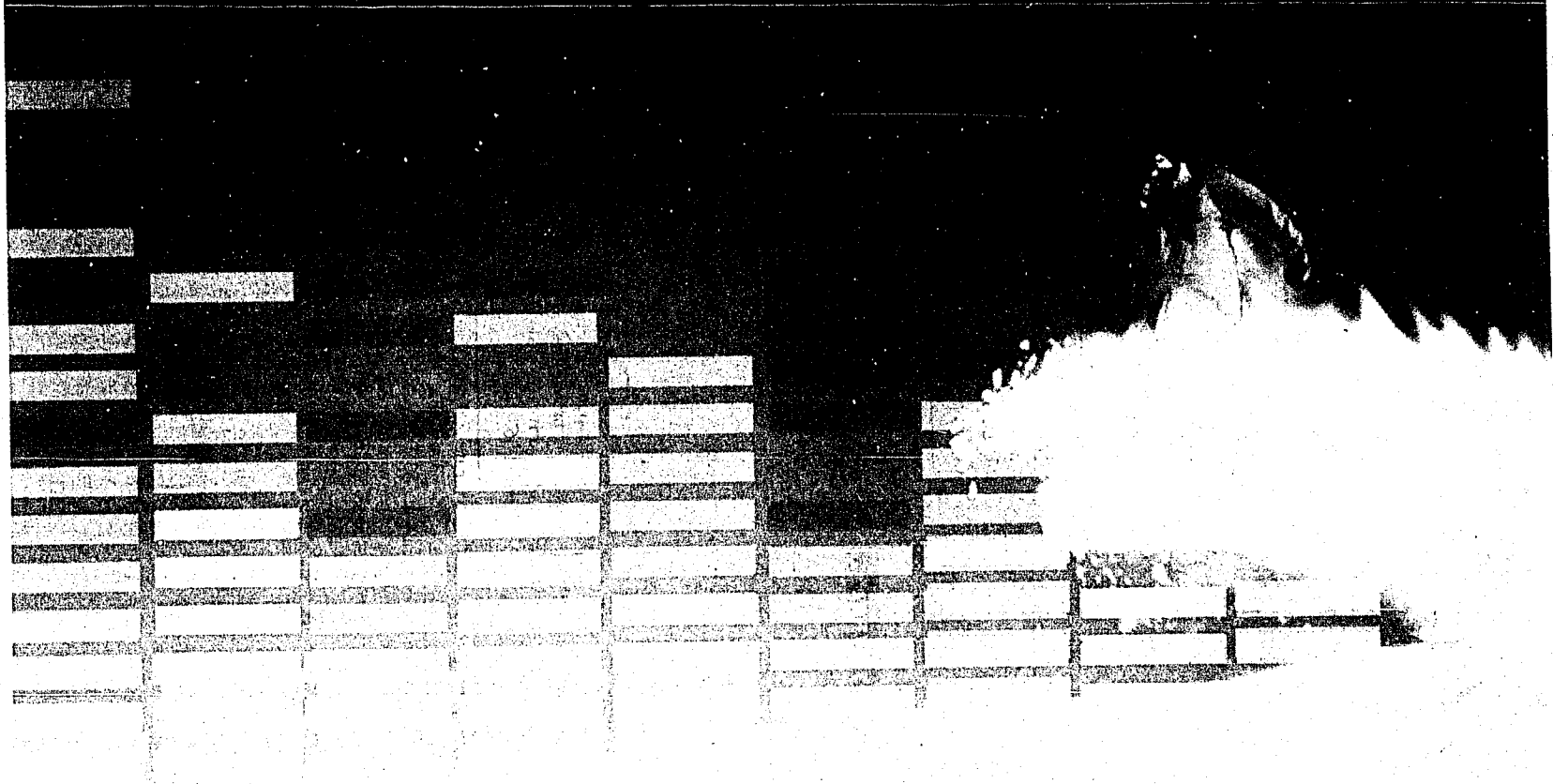
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Time to Shred

Winter Rec Guide 2005-06



Chicks Rule
pg.3



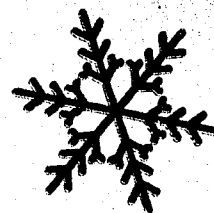
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ski team**
pg.2



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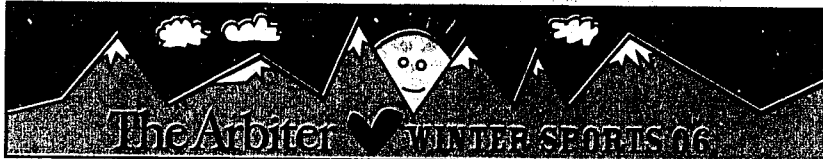
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Women's ski team blazes new trail

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY - Assistant Sports Editor

The Boise State women's ski team, that's right BSU has a women's ski team, opens its season Jan. 7-8 at the Utah Collegiate Nordic Invitational, then heads to the Montana State Collegiate Jan. 14-15.

The Utah invite is held in Soldier Hollow, Utah (the same site of the 2002 Winter Olympic Nordic competition). The invitational is held in conjunction with the U.S. Nationals.

"Not only is it the first race of the year, but it's one of the hardest courses in the country," BSU senior Taylee Foulger said.

Foulger and teammate April Sanders both compete in the Nordic (cross-country) competition. The Nordic event at Soldier Hollow is a 5 K race, but the Broncos will compete in races up to 15 K later in the season.

"I'm nervous for the pain," Sanders said. "From the start to finish is a mental battle, a physical battle, getting up those hills, flying down the hills and having enough energy to get up the next one. And our technique, that suffers when you are tired."

The team competes in five meets this season, two before school starts and three after. The meets are to be held in Montana, Colorado, Utah and California. The two-day events include a pair of races, either on Friday-Saturday or Monday-Sunday. The Broncos currently are in training at Bogus Basin Ski Resort, where they have been working since Nov. 4.

Last season the Broncos practiced mostly at Tamerack Resort, in McCall, due to a lack of snow at Bogus Basin, but this winter the early storms offered enough snow so that Bogus was fit

for practice.

BSU Nordic coach Aniya Deitz said that the girls have been in training all year, practicing on the Boise Greenbelt and other "top secret locations" on short, aluminum roller skis.

Sanders and Foulger are joined on the BSU women's ski team by freshman Jacqueline Martain, who competes in the Alpine events (Slalom and Giant Slalom). The three are the only players on the BSU team.

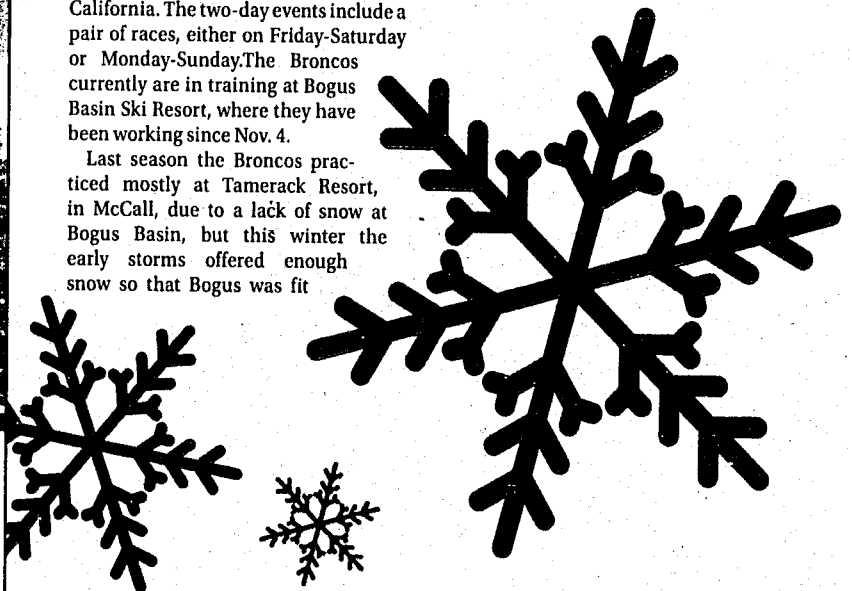
"We're looking to grow big time" Deitz said. "The next couple of years will be really progressive."

The BSU ski team doesn't get much notice around campus. Many students don't even know there is a team here. The program is only in its second year as part of the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Conference.

"People on campus are like, 'What? You ski?' No one really knows about it," Sanders said. "That's kind of frustrating because we put in all the training and the practice, and nobody really knows about us."

The team will spend the holidays in Utah. All three athletes and coach Deitz are Utah natives.

"We're going to be skiing the entire time," Deitz said.



Female Snowboarders Rise on the Rise and Representin'

BY AMBER FUGER
Assistant Culture Editor

Ripping and roaring through fresh powder, busting indie-grabs and rodeos off 30-foot jumps, and competing with the best of the best. One might think that this describes the most recent competition or scene at a ski resort, which is absolutely right, except - what gender pops into the mind when describing big air and sick tricks? Most likely it's a man. Well ladies, tune in because pro-female snowboarders are on the rise and they are representing.

In the third annual TransWorld Snowboarding Business/National Ski Areas Association survey released in 1998, female snowboarders were said to comprise 38.4 percent of snowboarders shredding down the hill. This same study claims that the greatest effected areas by this growing female trend will be resorts in the Rockies and Pacific West. According to a TransWorld Industry news article by John Stouffer, over the last 13 years snowboarding has grown a total of 269 percent. "In 2003 the total number of riders grew from 7.69 million to 7.82 million in the United States."

According to a report from the New York Times, 1.8 million are women and in the 2004 National Skier/Boarder Opinion Survey, 40 percent of riders were female, as stated on graystrays.com.

In past major competitions and tours, women have been allotted a few categories. Now there are competitions, tours, films, and clinics re-

served for females looking to shred and show off their skills, just like the men.

Just hours from Boise, where snow seems to always land, is Grand Targhee. This resort holds multiple clinics designed solely for women. From tele-skiing to alpine skiing to snowboarding, females can partake in clinics designed to enhance performance, skill level, and passion for their chosen sport.

On Feb. 24-Feb. 26, the infamous "Chick's Rule Snowboard Camp" will be held. According to Grand Targhee's Web site, "This camp is for Women only," so guys, even if you think chick's rule, take your board's elsewhere. "In this friendly learning environment we stress camaraderie over competition and you'll quickly improve your riding in a nurturing group setting. Our team of professional coaches will cover a multitude of topics from basic carving to switch riding and much more."

Clinics like Grand Targhee's heighten the female snowboarder to a different level, one where competitions and tours are quickly revamping categories to include and single out the female facet of the progressing world of snowboarding.

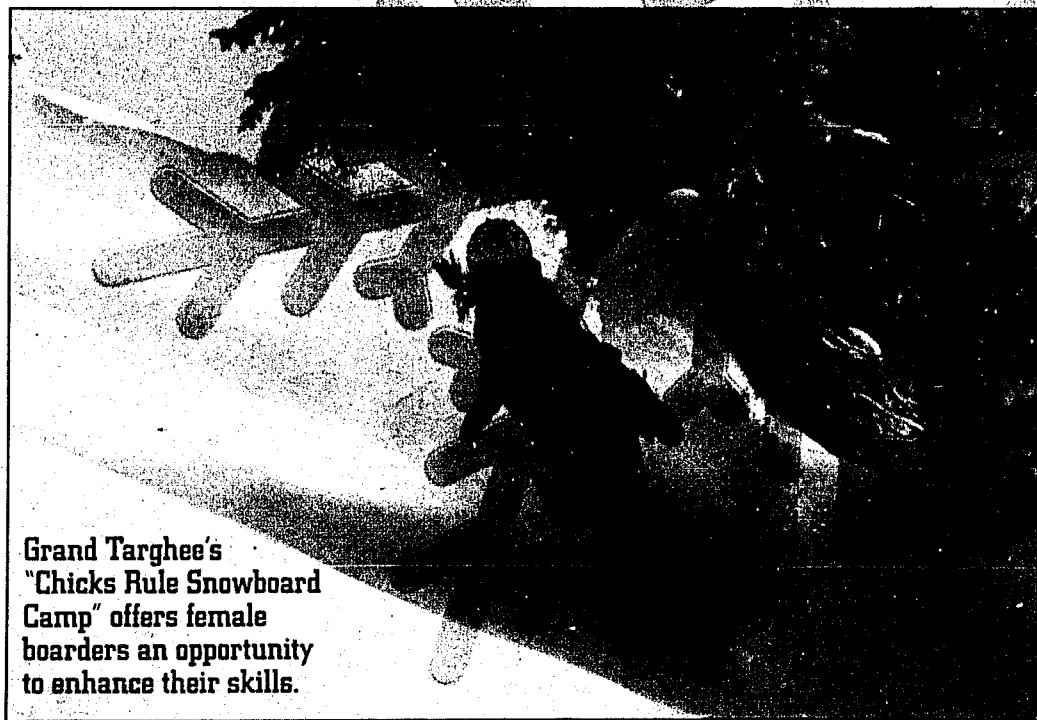
Female riders, like Barrét Christy, Tara Dakides, Jessica Dalpiaz, Jana Meyen and others are paving the way for ladies looking to make their mark or just earn some respect on the hill. In an interview posted on gnu.com, Christy offered some advice to young ladies looking to break the sexual divide and delve into the life of female professional snowboarding. "Just have fun and keep riding. Don't



take it all too seriously. You don't need to hire a coach to learn how to become pro, just watch and learn and ask your friends or other riders how they do it," Christy said. It just so happens that Christy's favorite place to ride is Jackson Hole, Wyo. just hours away from Boise.

Dakides has been said to be "hands down the best female snowboarder in the world." Dakides, like fellow pro female riders, has had to cross the gender barrier in the sport. She has taken the snowboard world by storm with her ability to "rise above most men in the realm of freestyle," according to blockattahoe.com.

As females strap in and get ready to glide down mountains upon mountains of prime powder, groomed runs, or some wild backcountry, they will represent to the fullest extent. Women all over are tuned in and ready to ride.



Grand Targhee's "Chicks Rule Snowboard Camp" offers female boarders an opportunity to enhance their skills.





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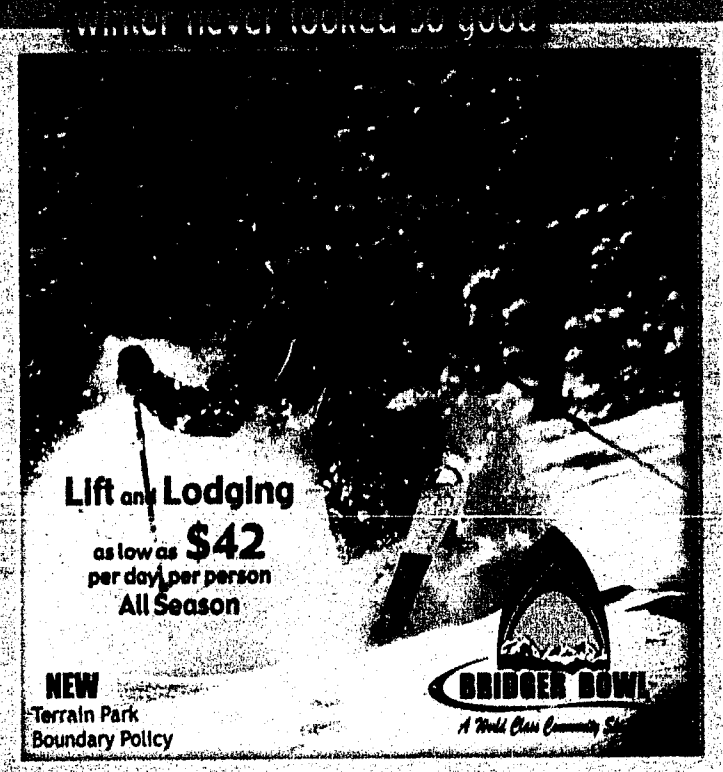
17. The Canyons
370 miles from Boise; estimated travel time: 6.5 hours

23. Mt. Bachelor
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Estimated travel time: six hours

25. Dragon
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2,600-foot vertical drop
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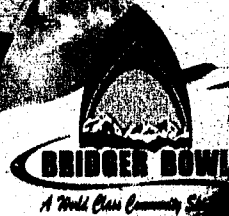
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Ode to SNOW

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY



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You twitched my nose last night, falling
in that indescribable slit of open air
between hat & scarf and I licked
your supple droplet as the heat of
my tongue destroyed your infinite
structure of individuality

I smell you at least 2 days coming
I can feel you in my knees
taste the change
in the barometric gauge

At first the earth is too warm
it melts you into run-off gutter races
But you hang in shadows until
November becomes February and you
cling to The Frozen ground,
like immigrants troubled by bearings,
yet secure in footholds

I catch you on my boots when
I trumble through fields
stacked with your cousins and friends
I ball you up & toss you at mine, just to
get a rise out of their everyday motions

I see you paint my mountains
I wallow in your excesses
I glide across your surface
on waxed appendages

I praise your chill, for in May you are a
run-away youth who only returns home
when it's too cold to stay out all night

Tamarack Resort

Idaho's first all-year resort expands terrain, lodging facilities

BY SARA BAHNSON
News Editor

Tamarack, the newest addition to Idaho's ski and snowboard resorts, has expanded its terrain this winter to include ten new runs, two new quad lifts, as well as new lodging facilities. The resort is located in Donnelly, Idaho and is two hours north of Boise.

Tamarack skiers and snowboarders now have access to 14 trails and 250 acres on the top half of the mountain.

The number of named runs have also increased from 25 to 35 and the off-trail terrain will double, according to www.tamarackidaho.com.

Jessica Flynn of the Tamarack Resort Public Relations Team said Tamarack will become a two-pod mountain, which means skiers and snowboarders will have two different types of terrain to experience. She said 140 acres are now available on the north side of the mountain.

"There's more snow, more trees and more of an opportunity for off-terrain skiing and snowboarding," Flynn said.

Flynn said this new terrain should be open by Christmas.

More snowmaking capabilities will allow Tamarack to stay open at least until Mother's Day, as well as provide for more Nordic skiing on the 30K trail system, Flynn said.

Tamarack Resort's second season started Nov. 23 with hundreds of skiers and snowboarders hitting the slopes.

The resort received national attention when President George W. Bush

visited with his wife in August. During their week at Tamarack, the Bushs rode through the resort on a 16-mile mountain biking route, toured Lake Cascade and fished off a pontoon boat.

"We got so much media coverage," Flynn said. "The Tamarack name is really out there and I think it [Bush's visit] highlighted Tamarack as an all-season resort."

Tamarack has also seen success this year with the sale of their new Village Plaza condos. The condos were introduced to the public on Oct. 22 this year and all 129 dwellings were sold within the day.

"Four of our five real estate resales have been sold out," Flynn said. "We still have real estate available and we do two resales a year."

Flynn said the Village Plaza should be open with all of the amenities in 2008.

New lodging should be open at the beginning of 2006, Flynn said. The Members Lodge and Spa will be the first hotel at Tamarack Resort, and will include a spa, Morel's restaurant and a Nordic shop.

The resort is the first all-season resort to be built in the U.S. in over 23 years. Tamarack provides for a number of activities including skiing, hiking, mountain biking, and golfing. The resort also emphasizes its close proximity to Lake Cascade and the swimming, boating, fishing, sailing and sea kayaking it has



to offer.

Tamarack and Brundage Mountain Resort will host the Payette River Valley Snowboard Series, a United States of America Snowboard Association sanctioned competition this winter.

The event will include three Slopestyle and SuperPipe events at Tamarack. Point leaders of the competitions will qualify for the USASA National

Championship at "Northstar-at-Tahoe" in Truckee, Calif. The Payette River Valley Snowboard Series begins at Brundage on Dec. 17. The events at Tamarack begin Jan. 14.

"It's a big deal for people to be able to qualify for nationals at Tamarack," Flynn said.

Tamarack will also be hosting the Winter Games of Idaho during the second week of February. The games will include a SuperPipe freestyle competition and a "Big Air" competition.

The competitions will be broken down by age, gender and skier or snowboarder. Registration for the event ends Feb. 8. The Winter Games will also include a "Nordic Race" competition.

Tamarack's lifts are open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. More information is available at www.tamarackidaho.com.



Above: Fresh tracks and prime powder. Left: Snowboarders on Tamarack's opening day. Below: Skier tearing it up in terrain park.

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