

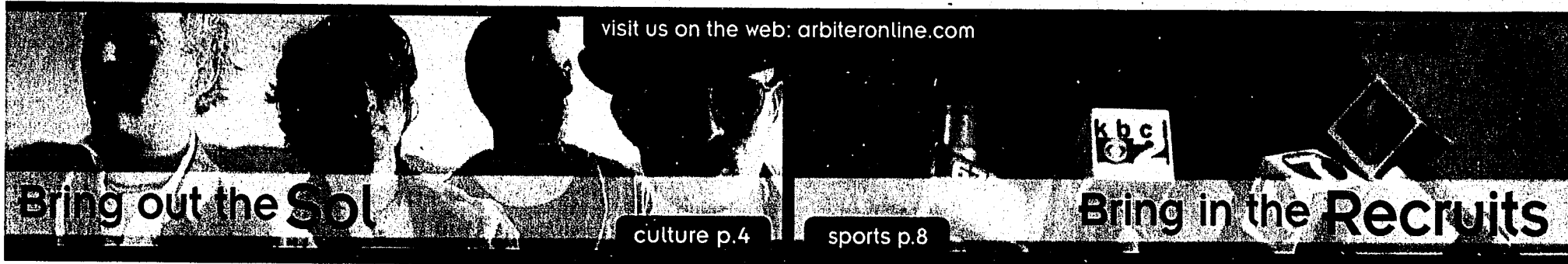
2-2-2006

Arbiter, February 2

Students of Boise State University

Although this file was scanned from the highest-quality microfilm held by Boise State University, it reveals the limitations of the source microfilm. It is possible to perform a text search of much of this material; however, there are sections where the source microfilm was too faint or unreadable to allow for text scanning. For assistance with this collection of student newspapers, please contact Special Collections and Archives at archives@boisestate.edu.

The Arbiter



visit us on the web: arbiteronline.com

Bring out the Sol

culture p.4

sports p.8

Bring in the Recruits

Student Union to propose fee increase for '06 - '07 school year

BY JESSICA CHRISTENSEN
News Writer

Boise State students could be paying an additional small fee each semester to alleviate potential upcoming stress in the Student Union budget. The Associated Students of Boise State University met Tuesday and heard from Leah Barrett, Student Union director.

As a Senate guest, Barrett pro-

posed a \$5 increase in student fees per semester to "make a difference for the SUB."

Also proposed was an additional fee of \$34 for the Strategic Facility Fee, concerning the expansion of the SUB.

Currently, the facility supports around 200 student organizations, provides event spaces for over 12,000 meetings and events each year and serves as a point of outreach to the greater community.

Listed in the 2007 Fiscal Year Proposal is a list of programs and services the SUB provides, as well as a financial forecast.

Due to the 1990 expansion of the building, the amount of principal and interest due on the series of bonds will begin to rise in 2008.

Additional operating fees for the SUB have not been increased since 2000. Even with the addition of the \$5 fee, the financial forecast reveals a shortage of funds for

capital repair and maintenance in upcoming years.

ASBSU senators will look at passing legislation to support the \$5 student fee increase for the Student Union. If the fee is not approved by the Boise State administration, programs and services would be facing cutbacks, and service fees would increase.

Among the student fees for the Student Union, the Strategic Facility Fee would increase fees for each

student by \$34, making the total fee students pay \$59 each semester.

According to Barrett, this is a fee that would be assessed to students beginning fall 2006. Justification for this fee increase involves the idea and push toward BSU becoming a metropolitan research university of distinction. Barrett said she considers civic engagement, internationalization and a welcoming campus climate for all students to be characteristic of a metropolitan

research university of distinction.

As a result of the growth at BSU, Barrett said availability of food service space has declined, availability of meeting/event space has declined and demand for student organization space has increased.

Within the building, areas such as the Bookstore, Table Rock Café and expansion of rooms and study lounges have been identified as items to be considered in the expansion.

over
85mph
at age 52

“ It’s a combination of rigorous physical training and mental imagery, seeing myself on the sled going down the track in Torino. ”

- Werner Hoeger

PHOTO COURTESY WERNER HOEGER

University Pulse starts streaming in the SUB

BY JESSICA WIGLEY
News Writer

University Pulse, Boise State's student-run radio, has been completely made over in the past six months. Last semester, BSU Radio had an unfinished studio, wasn't broadcast over the Internet and was hardly advertised.

Today, the new and improved University Pulse is making its mark on campus. University Pulse's programming currently airs Sundays from noon to midnight on AM730, all day every day online at www.pulse.boisestate.edu and is scheduled to soon be broadcast in the Student Union Building.

For the next week, the station will be in the SUB Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The programming will include everything from pop, rock, house, hip-hop, jazz, down-tempo and indie.

"You name it, we play it," said University Pulse Program Director Christian Belden.

There will be a DJ in the studio all day doing announcements and students are encouraged to request songs by calling 426-1003.

Broadcasting in the SUB will allow University Pulse to be a college radio station that students can hear daily.

Belden said the announcements will directly benefit students and organizations.

"They (students) will become more involved in all aspects of student life, from going to concerts sponsored by SPB, attending more senate meetings, etc.," Belden said.

University Pulse streaming throughout campus will boost the already high level of advertisement the station has.

"If you look around campus any day you will see at least one student with a University Pulse sweatshirt or t-shirt on," Belden said.

The Arbiter staff was approached to work with student radio producers to create short, multi-media broadcast projects.

Call 426-1003 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday to request songs

BSU professor to compete in the luge at the 2006 Torino Olympics

BY JESSICA WIGLEY
News Writer

In the risky sport of luge, where the average competitor is in his or her 20s or 30s, Boise State Kinesiology professor Werner Hoeger sets himself apart from his fellow athletes as a 52-year-old Winter Olympic luger who describes himself as having a "higher level of fitness than most of the competitors."

This month, Hoeger will travel to Torino, Italy for the 2006 Winter Olympic Games to compete in the luge, his second Olympic circuit in the past eight years. Hoeger also competed in the 2002 Salt Lake City Games.

In Torino, Hoeger will steer his sled through four runs down a course that

drops 274 feet and curves 19 times to determine his final score. Hoeger said he has been dedicated to the sport for nearly eight years and, despite his age, has been rigorously practicing for Torino every chance he gets.

Due to his work schedule, however, Hoeger said he is limited on what time he is able to devote to luge practice. His lifelong dream is to one day travel to the Olympics and represent his native country of Venezuela has kept him striving for nothing short of that.

Balancing the time between all of his activities such as training for the Winter Olympics, doing research for his textbooks, working out and keeping in shape for the games, teaching classes at BSU, and spending time with his family, Hoeger

admits that it's not easy.

"I have a very hectic life, especially during this Olympic season," Hoeger said.

Hoeger said he set very high standards for himself at a young age and began pursuing them in Venezuelan gymnastics competitions.

"I am a firm believer that you have to have goals in life. Goals keep you motivated. Goals keep you going," Hoeger said.

At age 16, Hoeger had already made Venezuelan history by becoming the country's most decorated gymnast, as the national all-around champion from 1970 to 1975, a span during which he won 34 of the 36 individual event titles.

Although Hoeger qualified for the 1972 Munich and 1976 Montreal games for gymnastics, he was unable to go as an indi-

vidual and unfortunately, the Venezuelan team failed to qualify as a team. Hoeger said he was disappointed since he's always wanted to be part of the Olympic Games.

"Every time the Olympics came around, I just had this empty feeling because I missed out as a youngster," Hoeger said.

Despite the fact that he didn't make it to the Olympics in the 1970s, Hoeger didn't go unnoticed. LaVon Johnson, head gymnastics coach for Brigham Young University, saw him compete and immediately took interest, Hoeger said.

Hoeger's early accomplishments earned him a scholarship to BYU where he met his wife, Sharon Barthule, also a gymnast. They settled down, had five children and

See Luge (page 3)

Find these stories at www.ArbiterOnline.com

Bush encourages less U.S. dependence on foreign oil

During his address, President Bush called for cutting oil imports from the Middle East by 75 percent over the next 20 years.

PHOTO COURTESY KNIGHT RIDGER TRIBUNE

Why are textbooks so expensive?



Students and parents face textbook bills that can be up to hundreds of dollars.

PHOTO COURTESY KNIGHT RIDGER TRIBUNE

3-day forecast

Friday
High: 44F
Low: 38F

Saturday
High: 44F
Low: 27F

Sunday
High: 41F
Low: 24F

FORECAST COURTESY WEATHER.COM

the headlines

2 THE ARBITER February 2 2006

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

local/bsu

Book helps engage boys in reading

Educators and parents looking for hands-on help in getting teen-age boys (and girls) engaged in reading have a new tool. "Going with the Flow: Making Literacy Learning Like Life," a new book from Heinemann Publishers, offers classroom-tested lessons and activities that get adolescent students, especially boys, reading, writing and involved in literacy learning. In this new book, Boise State University professor Jeffrey D. Wilhelm and colleague Michael W. Smith of Temple University build on the literacy research that earned them national attention in 2003 with the publication of "Reading Don't Fix No Chevys." That book earned the National Council of Teachers of English David H. Russell Award, as well as other national and international acclaim. Readers don't need to have read "Chevys" in order to effectively use "Going with the Flow." Wilhelm and Smith provide a succinct summary of their research at the start, and then provide tips and strategies for interacting with students.

The book is available in the Boise State Bookstore, through the publisher, www.books.heinemann.com, or at Amazon.com, www.amazon.com.

Wilhelm is an associate professor whose research focuses on developing readers at the middle and secondary levels. He has written more than a dozen books and worked on four textbook series. He is also the director of Boise State's National Writing Project. Now in its 30th year, the National Writing Project is dedicated to improving instruction

in the nation's schools.

Boise State's NWP offers an annual summer program for teachers at all levels, from kindergarten to university, and in all subjects. The program offers six hours of graduate credit; graduate tuition is covered and resident stipends are available. For more information on this year's program, offered from June 19 - July 12, contact Wilhelm at (208) 426-1199 or jwilhelm@boisestate.edu.

Series immortalizes Idaho filmmaker Nell Shipman

As part of "Idaho Film Day," scheduled for Feb. 14 in Idaho's Capitol rotunda, the Idaho Film Collection at Boise State University will announce production of "The Nell Shipman Collection," a series of DVDs related to the Idaho silent film writer, actress, director and producer.

First in the series of three DVDs is "A Girl from God's Country." This initial release features Shipman's 1919 international hit "Back to God's Country." The film is color tinted to match the original, with a score by British composer and musician Lindsay Cooper that incorporates the film's title song. "Back to God's Country" is the earliest surviving feature film shot (partially) in Canada and has been restored from prints found in the United States and England.

DVD extras include "The History and Restoration of 'Back to God's Country'" by Canadian film archivist D. J. Turner of Ottawa. Also included on the DVD is the Canadian History Channel's 45-minute award-winning documentary, "Ah Gee, Forgetting Me Nell Shipman," written and directed by Patricia Phillips of Great North Productions,

Edmonton.

Paul Brand of Pretty Good Productions, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, authored the Idaho Film Collection DVD while Brand's daughter, Krista, did the cover and label design.

The Nell Shipman Collection, Volume 1, "A Girl from God's Country," will be available in March from the Boise State University Bookstore and on Amazon.com (\$19.95 plus shipping and handling). Volume 2, "The Short Films," featuring Shipman's Mohave Desert chase-and-race automobile epic, "Something New," will be available in summer 2006. Volume 3, "From Lionhead Lodge," featuring Shipman's magnum opus, "The Grub-Stake," and three other films also made at Priest Lake in north Idaho, will be available fall 2006.

what the?

Look that way ...

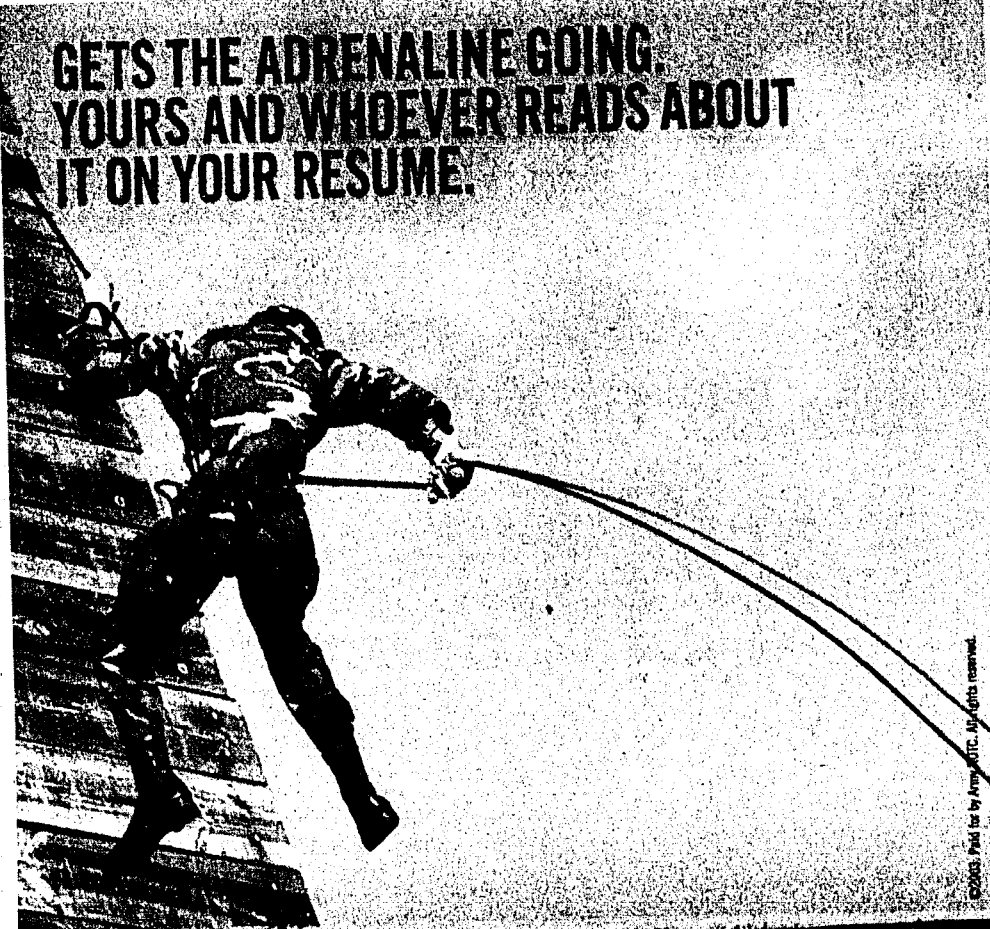
A bilingual road sign near the center of Cardiff, Wales, advises drivers in English to "look right," but the Welsh translation says, "look left."

No, I'm ok, really

Hockey players in Sweden became concerned when one of the referees began skating erratically, falling over, and making contradictory calls. He was removed when they realized that he was drunk.

These look familiar

A Utah teenager stole some skis then put them up for sale on eBay. Alas, the man from whom he had stolen them went on the Internet, saw them, and called the cops.



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BUCKCHERRY	FRI 2-3
MUTE MATH	SAT 2-4
SUNDAY BRUNCH	SUN 2-5
BAYSIDE	SUN 2-5
QUEST FOR THE BEST	WED 7-8
PAT TRAVERS BAND	SAT 2-11
SUNDAY BRUNCH	SUN 2-12
MURDER MYSTERY	TUE 2-14
CLUB U	WED 2-15
SEVENDUST	THU 2-16
QUEST FOR THE BEST	FRI 2-17
RELIENT K	SAT 2-18
CLUB U	WED 2-22
SWOLLEN MEMBERS	THU 2-23
QUEST FOR THE BEST FINALS	SAT 2-25
MATT POND PA	TUE 2-28
THE ACADEMY IS...	SAT 3-11
ANTI-FLAG	THU 3-16
ANA POPOVIC	POSTPONED

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BIGEASYBOISE**

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ON 10TH & FRONT NEXT
TO THE STATEHOUSE INN

**2ND ANNUAL NW QUEST FOR
THE BEST BAND COMPETITION**

DATE • GENRE • LINE-UP
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METAL / HARD ROCK 2**

**LUST GREED ENVY
CLIPPED WING DIVINITY
OCTOBER TREE
GUERRILLA WRENCH
SUB*VERT**

DATE • GENRE • LINE-UP
**WEDNESDAY, FEB 8
URBAN**

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Campus Crime

January 15, 2006

1/17/06 - Grand Theft - Unknown suspect(s) took a wallet from a purse which was left in an office in the Education Building.
 1/17/06 - Narcotics Violation - 2 students in Chaffee were smoking marijuana in their dorm room. Report were taken, cites were issued, marijuana was confiscated.
 1/18/06 - Grand Theft - Unknown suspect(s) took a laptop from an office in the Education Building.
 1/19/06 - Bike Theft - Unknown suspect cut the lock and stole a bike from a rack outside the Taco Bell Arena.
 1/19/06 - Possible Unlawful Entry - Tenant of the Village found an extra set of her keys hanging on the doorknob outside her apartment. Nothing was missing from inside.

1/19/06 - Theft - Unknown suspect(s) stole a 3'x9' International Programs banner from a Student Union Kiosk near the practice soccer field.
 1/18/06 - Theft - a student's wallet was stolen from a locked locker in the Varsity Center.
 1/19/06 - Alcohol Violation - A non-BSU student was causing problems in the Student Union Game Center. The person was underage and had been drinking. A citation was issued.
 1/20/06 - Domestic Battery - An ex-boyfriend pushed his way into his ex-girlfriend's apartment at Manor and had a physical altercation with her based on jealousy. A report was taken, cites were issued.
 1/20/06 - Bike Theft - An

unknown suspect stole a bike that had been locked to a rack outside of Towers Hall.
 1/22/06 - Leaving the Scene of an Accident - A DUI driver went through a light and over a curb taking out trees and shrubs and hit logs in the parking lot of the Police Substation at Lincoln/University. A report was taken, suspect was arrested.
 1/23/06 - Battery - Ex-girlfriend threw objects at an individual at the Science Nursing Building.
 1/23/06 - Illegal Camping - Subject was camping illegally at Manitou and University. He was told to leave and he complied.
 1/23/06 - Disturbing the Peace - Tenants at the Square were partying too loudly.
 1/24/06 - Theft - Unknown sus-

pect took a video camera from an office in the Communications Building.
 1/25/06 - Theft - An unknown suspect took a VCR/TV from the Hemingway Center.
 1/26/06 - Underage Consumption - A 19 year-old was drinking in the Stadium parking lot. They were cited.
 1/26/06 - Vehicle Burglary - Unknown suspect(s) broke the window of a car in the Parking Garage and took 50 CDs.
 1/26/06 - Vehicle Burglary - Unknown suspect(s) broke the window of a car in the Parking Garage and took 60 cd's and 2 walkman cd players.
 1/26/06 - Battery - Suspect bumped into a parking attendant twice with his truck because he

was unhappy with the instructions the attendant gave him. The altercation took place in the Stadium parking lot. A report was taken, suspect was cited.
 1/28/06 - Bike Theft - An unknown suspect took a bike from a rack outside the University Square.
 1/30/06 - Theft - A wallet was taken from a backpack. Unknown: when, where, who or how. Person reported it from the Keiser parking lot.
 1/27/06 - Car Accident - A vehicle pulling out of a space in the parking garage struck another vehicle that was driving through the aisle.

January 31, 2006

Luge [from page 1]

moved back to Venezuela for a short time. However, when Boise State offered him a job in 1986, he took it and relocated to Boise.

For the next few years, Hoeger focused on his job as a Kinesiology professor and writing college textbooks, of which 36 editions have been published. He has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in exercise physiology, athletic conditioning and fitness-related topics. Hoeger has also received grants to conduct research in the areas of body composition changes, strength training, muscular flexibility and the assessment of physical fitness.

While watching the 1998 Olympics at his home in Boise, Hoeger saw Iginia Baccalandro, the first Venezuelan participant in the Winter Olympics in the luge, carrying the Venezuelan flag. After much research, he contacted her and began pursuing his Olympic dream again from that day on.

Hoeger said Baccalandro suggested that he would be an ideal luger based on his high fitness level and success he had as a gymnast.

"I was still doing double back flip summersaults and floor exercises when I was 40," Hoeger said. Baccalandro eventually convinced him to get on a sled.

Beginning the luge was a challenge for Hoeger. He suffered most of his injuries during the first year of practice.

"The next thing you know, I was banging into the side of the track," Hoeger said. He described the feeling of sliding down the track, steering with your hands, shoulders and feet similar to driving a pickup truck backwards in downtown Boise at 90 miles per hour. "The sport is very technical, the slightest body movement could cause you to crash," Hoeger said.

Once he figured out how to drive a sled, he enjoyed the luge, but he never thought he could qualify for the Olympics.

However, Hoeger continued practicing and it became a possibility.

Nearly one year ahead of schedule, Hoeger, at the time 48 years old, and his son Christopher, 17 years old, both qualified for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Hoeger placed 40th and Chris finished 31st, as the oldest and youngest men in the competition.

Regardless of the time restrictions that Hoeger faces and how much it limits the various tracks he's able to practice on, he said, "It's an honor to have made the top 40, a tremendous reward."

Hoeger has been traveling around the world practicing luge runs on various tracks in Canada, New York, Germany and Italy. He's also been training both mentally and physically in preparation for the Winter Games.

"It's a combination of rigorous physical training and mental imagery, seeing myself on the sled going down the track in Torino," Hoeger said.

With the Torino Winter Olympic Games only 11 days away, Hoeger is anxiously awaiting the day that he gets to compete. Until then, Hoeger said he will be lying on his sled, mentally going over the Torino track 10, sometimes 12, times per day, conditioning physically and trying to avoid any distractions that may affect his luge training.

When asked if he is planning to continue with the Olympic luge competition, Hoeger said, "This may be my last six runs, I may do it on a limited basis ... but for right now I'm going to focus on what's at hand - Torino."

Hoeger will compete in the luge Feb. 11 and 12 at the Cesana Pariol facility in Torino, Italy.

BOISE weekly



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10PM-2AM

culture

EDITOR: Mariana Bekker
(culture@arbiteronline.com)

ASST. EDITOR: Amber Fuger
(culture@arbiteronline.com)



Editor's Pick:
DVD release: "Marjoe"



Marjoe Gortner is to Pentecostal evangelists what Mozart was to composers. A natural talent, he began preaching the good word to crowds before he was old enough for kindergarten. When we meet up with him in this Oscar-winning documentary, our hero is still preaching away and saving people, but a different set of higher powers, namely, adolescence and the '60s, have chipped away at whatever faith he had in his healing powers, and he's basically in it to empty his followers' pockets.

What makes Gortner such an interesting character is his complete lack of reluctance in admitting this. He's a con, he knows he's a con, and he wants to tell you all about the con in hopes of opening the public's eyes to the shady business of evangelism. The experiment appears to be a failure 34 years later, but "Marjoe" remains a timeless, one-of-a-kind triumph that's relevant as ever today.

Celebrity news:
Dubious Distinctions



As we wade through the awards season, let us not forget the Razzies, which honor the very worst Hollywood has to offer. The nominees are in.

In the worst-picture category it looks like a tight race between "The Dukes of Hazzard," "Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo," "Dirty Love with Jenny McCarthy," "House of Wax," and "Son of the Mask."

The latter, a sequel to the 1994 Jim Carrey comedy, leads the pack with eight Razzie nominations including worst actor for Jamie Kennedy and worst supporting actor for Alan Cumming and Bob Hoskins.

Winners will be announced March 4, the day before the Academy Awards.

Health and beauty tip:
Telling your partner
you have an STD

If you've been diagnosed with an STD, part of dealing with the situation is telling your sexual partners - past, present, and future - that you have a disease. It might be difficult, but there are many reasons why you should do it:

Telling a future partner allows that person to make an informed decision about his or her own health.

Telling a past or current partner gives that person the opportunity to be evaluated and, if necessary, treated.

Telling your partner shows respect for both that person and the relationship.

Telling your partner can prevent the spread of disease if you abstain or practice safer sex.

Not telling your partner about an STD may be a criminal offense in some states.

It's natural to feel anxious and frightened about telling someone new that you have an STD, so here are a few tips:

Avoid waiting until you're in a sexual encounter or right before having sex to have a discussion about STDs.

Find a quiet, private place to talk at a time when you won't be interrupted.

Remain as calm as possible.

Compiled from
Knight Ridder Tribune



Transcending borders

one rhythm at a time

BY AMBER FUGER
Assistant Culture Editor

Subtle sounds, intense rhythms, and a distinct passion to articulate charismatic rhythms found in varying cultures have catapulted a Reno-based band to new heights. Tim Snider, Milton Merlos, Jonathan Phillips and Cody Remaklus have traveled to exotic regions to enhance their musical journey through life and to progress the exotic "fuse acoustic rock, Flamenco, and world rhythms," of Soljibe.

For the second time, Soljibe will be making a stop in Boise, tomorrow night at Reef around 9:30. Soljibe's intense instrumental world sound accompanied by passionate telling lyrics of experiences had, create a fierce emotional transcendent experience, found in the tracks of their two albums "On Your Feet" and "Marinero."

Incorporating world music into American folk rock has been and continues to be the premise of Soljibe. The founding members, Merlos, a passionate guitar player, and Snider, violinist and vocalist, met in a high school talent show, befriended one another and then decided to travel to Spain together to study music with the gypsies. When they returned, Merlos and Snider's dually enriched sound flowed

into the formation of Soljibe. Soon after their return, the two incorporated the jazzy stylistics of soprano saxophonist Phillips, and the emotionally intense percussion rhythms of Remaklus.

Continuing to learn from different cultures has become a dominant priority for the band, so Remaklus, who had studied in Cuba before suggested the band take a trip to Havana. Cuba had such a profound influence on Remaklus that he thought it absolutely necessary to share this experience with the rest of the band. "Cuba is different from any other place. The experiences are still so close to me. It has been a dream come true to have the rest of the band experience the same feeling," said Remaklus.

For Remaklus and Soljibe, Havana houses a special charisma or fire, an engrained ingredient in Cuba's music. The creative process of Soljibe constantly evolves and changes and Soljibe's new material is a direct reflection of their time spent in Cuba. Studying in Cuba taught the band how to work slower to achieve what they wanted in terms of their sound. "Every musician tries for this charisma and those who have it are celebrated there," said Remaklus. When asked if their Cuban teachers thought Soljibe had it, Remaklus humbly replied, "We were not there to show them our stuff. We were there as students."

When Remaklus performs live, he plays from a place deep within himself, an untouchable feeling reminiscent of his journeys through Cuba. "Everything I play is from that feeling and it has a place of its own," said Remaklus. The African and Latin rhythms articulated in Soljibe's performances stem from early exposure to world music. The first time Remaklus heard the sounds of world music, he instantly knew he had developed a passion he could never grow weary of.

The exposure to world music has been a strong influence on Remaklus and Soljibe, which has resulted in an ambition to give back to a community that has supported them from the beginning.

Remaklus said he wished he had been exposed to world music at an earlier age, so as a thank you, Soljibe performs for elementary students around the Reno-area. For more information about and to listen to some of Soljibe's music, log onto www.soljibe.com.

To experience Soljibe live, check out the Reef tomorrow night. There is only a \$3 cover charge for exposure to this deeply intense and charismatic band.



Soljibe will be take the stage at 9:30 Friday night at Reef in downtown Boise. Remaklus and the rest of the band will perform songs from their two albums "On Your Feet," and "Marinero." Also, listen for some new material featuring Latin rhythms reminiscent of Soljibe's adventures in Cuba.

SO,
ANYWAY...

If you're going to print one regardless,
don't ask me if I want a receipt.

BY TRAVIS ESTVOLD
Culture Columnist

Ah, the power of choice. Humans just love to flaunt it. In fact, they are willing to fight for it seemingly all the time. Teenagers rebuke their parents for it. Starbucks customers would be deathly ill without it. And registered voters sleep well at night in their cozy little beds under the illusion that they exercise it regularly.

So when, then, is the option to choose one's outcome a bad thing? Let me tell you, because as is true with most things, I know the exact answer to that question. Choice ceases to matter when the outcome has been decided for you already, regardless of what decision you make.

Case in point: my trip to the gas pump this past weekend.

Hey, I could whine all day about the prices at the ol' petrol station. Gas is still over two bucks a gallon, much less than it was - and could be if we keep fighting in countries that supply the stuff to us - but it's still a handful more than it used to be when I was growing up. (Aw crap, am I to that age already where I'm going to start talking about how the price of "blank" used to be a lot lower when I was young? Just put me out to pasture or shoot me now!) But I won't complain about that.

That's not my topic of interest for today. No sir, I'm talking about choice, and when it comes to the illusion of choice, there is no better location to visit than the local Maverik station.

I stopped there to gas up on the way to lunch last Sunday. Oh, I was headed to Donnie Mac's Trailer Park Cuisine, the new downtown, low class-themed restaurant, which ended up being closed, further adding to my annoyance. But at the time, I of course didn't know that, and my day had been quite acceptable to that point, leaving my full attention

on the pump situated just a foot and a half from my rear driver's side window.

Keep in mind as well as I spin this tale that I often stop at this specific Maverik station. Its proximity to my house and the fact that the company has convinced me that I need to carry something called an "Adventure Card" in my wallet are largely to blame. And every time I stop there, I ask myself the same question: "Is it going to print a frickin receipt?"

Normally, when I ask a question like this, I'm at an iffy ATM or a lagging self-checkout at the local grocery store. But no, when I'm at the gas station, my question comes because I do not - I repeat, do not - want a receipt to print. When I first began paying for all my gas purchases with a credit card, I toyed with idea of keeping paper copies of all the transactions for my records. This notion waned by about my second fill-up.

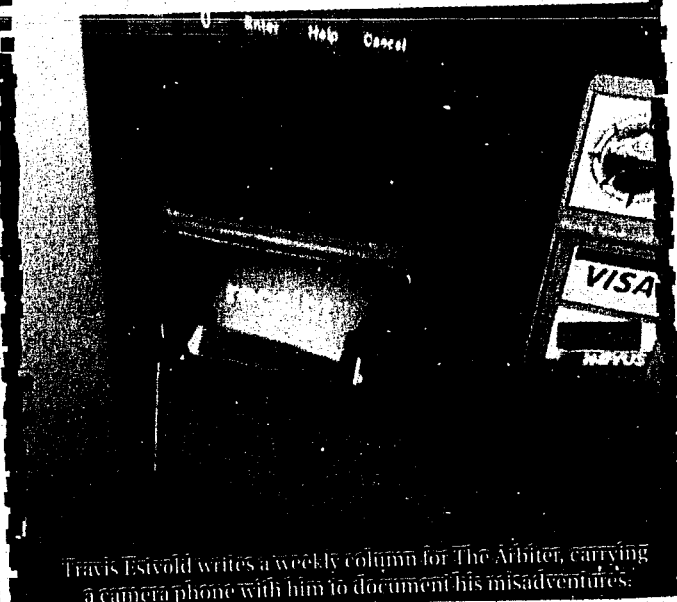
Hence, I no longer want the pump to print anything when I've finished topping off my four-door.

And yet (and here's where I get back to my original point), the pump asks me every single time before I fill up if I would like a receipt after the transaction is complete, and every single time, I say, "No. No, I would not like a receipt."

But then, playing the role of a teenager to my parent, the machine flagrantly disregards my response and prints one anyhow.

So, anyway, my tirade is over. And as for what I plan to do next time I'm asked if I'd like a receipt, I will say, "Yes. Yes I would." My plan? Empty the machine of all its paper so that nobody can have one.

Hey, I didn't say it was a good plan, but I will feel better knowing I'm getting something resembling retribution - and I can feel like my freedom to choose actually meant something.



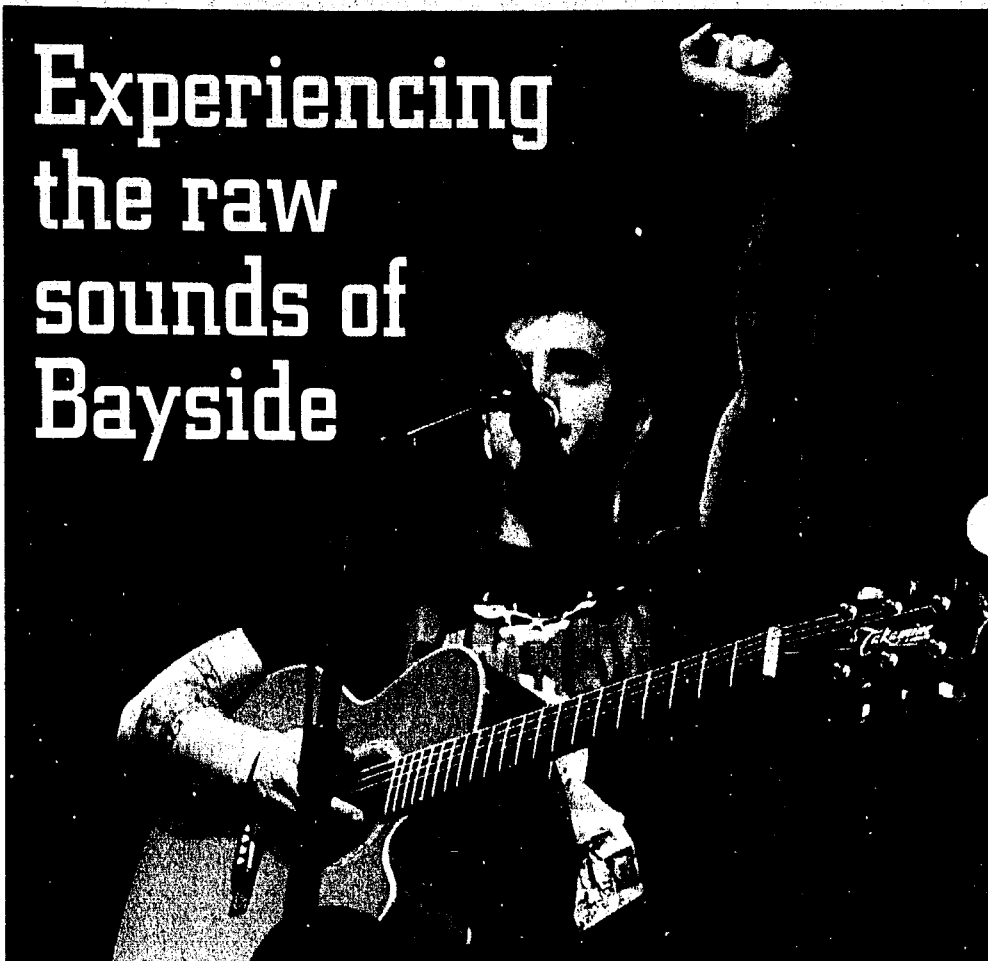
Travis Estvold writes a weekly column for The Arbitrator, carrying a camera phone with him to document his misadventures.

Poetry Corner
Deep Inside
BY GARY BELL
Special to The Arbitrator

Fear is powerful
It drowns our dreams
And covers our eyes,
It chokes our every wish
And it lies to our world
It stunts our growth
And love within
Lowering us to things less sweet
Suffocating no breathing
We, ourselves, keep it but deny it,
Fear of being loved
Fear of being stronger than
Fear itself.

Submit your poetry to
culture@arbiteronline.com

Experiencing the raw sounds of Bayside



BY HADLEY RUSH
Culture Writer

From the heap of CDs my editor handed me to review, Bayside caught my eye. Perhaps it was the cover depicting an implied yet graphic picture of a guy who's leaping from the top of a building—or perhaps my attention was nabbed because of the name, Bayside, reminiscent of my youth spent watching "Saved by the Bell," with all the witty shenanigans of Zack Morris at Bayside High. Regardless, I wasn't disappointed when I fed Bayside into my famished CD player and their Jimmy Eat World-esque sound dripped through my speakers.

The vocals of Anthony Raneri are angry, yet simultaneously somber and diplomatic. The theme of Bayside's album sounds like an annoyed ex-lover who opted for song writing as an alternative to exorbi-

tant therapy sessions. Some of the songs on the album have entertaining names like "Don't Call me Peanut," and "Hello Shitty," while others, such as "Existing in a Crisis" and "They Looked Like Strong Hands," have a more distressed, grave tone.

In my personal favorite, "Don't Call me Peanut," Raneri sings, completely acoustic, directly to an old flame, "Drink up beautiful/I filled your cup with angst and a heart attack/cuz I've got so much trapped and it's all because of you." He tells her he's spent sleepless nights contemplating whether or not to let her back into his life—yet he knows if he gives her a second chance all she'll give him are explanations for why she's does what she does; ultimately he'll remain submissive. "She'll recite her excuses/I'll put my tail between these legs of mine/like I do all the time."

In a more disturbing song, "Dear Tragedy," Raneri sings "I'd grab your hair and I'd hack it off/and put it on display at the front of the yard on a stick that's decorated with a little pink bow..." he then refers to his ex-lover as a "breath taker, smile faker," and tells her the years he's spent with her have eaten him alive.

In another unsettling song, "Existing in a Crisis (Evelyn)" he says he hopes "Evelyn" ends up in a grave as shallow as she is.

Aside from Raneri, Bayside is comprised of band members Jack O'Shea on the guitar, Nick Ghanbarian on bass, and John "Beatz" Holohan on the drums.

For more information on the band visit Bayside's Web site at www.baysideisacult.com. Or to hear them live, thieve yourself a ticket for Feb. 5 when they play at the Big Easy.

Bayside is comprised of band members Anthony Raneri (left), Jack O'Shea, Nick Ghanbarian, and Jack Holohan. Their new self-titled album is currently out in stores. Later this month, Bayside will release a CD/DVD combination which will feature performances from their show at the House of Blues in Chicago. They will be making a stop in Boise Sunday night, Feb. 5, to perform at the Big Easy.

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The Front Door equation

BY TAMARA PARTEN
Culture Writer

What do you get when you add delicious thin crust pizza, a full bar, late-night hours, and a 6th and Main Street location?

A brilliant idea.

Your liquor-kissed taste buds will certainly think so the next time you stumble out of the bars on a Friday or Saturday night with the 2 a.m. munchies. You no longer have to limit yourself to hotdogs and Gyros; because, the Front Door has opened its doors at its 105 South 6th Street location (directly below the Reef) to invite you in for some high-quality appetizers, salads, soups, sandwiches, and of course pizza that won't break a Ramen Noodle budget.

At only \$1.50 a slice (after midnight on Friday and Saturday nights), I was surprised to read on the menu such words as 'organic' and 'fresh'. As stated in their menu manifesto they make their dough daily with organic, high-protein flour from Sperry Mills and use only whole milk mozzarella cheese and San Marzano plum tomatoes, which combined, makes some pretty yummy pizza.

"The whole idea is that it's simple but good," says Dave Krick, owner of the Front Door as well as other Downtown Boise favorites such as Bittercreek, Red Feather and Reef. The Front Door's menu, atmosphere, and name for that

matter is a testament to Krick's vision of 'simple quality'—two words, especially the latter which Krick recognizes must be a prerequisite for new Downtown Boise restaurants if Downtown Boise is to develop into an urban cultural hub with character and originality.

The Front Door's menu is limited to a total of only 25 ingredients "to make sure everything is fresh," and its atmosphere with its high, industrial ceiling, brick walls and portraits of mobsters (to, as Krick says, "pay homage to where pizza comes from") lends itself to both the late night crowd, as well as those looking for a good place to take the kids for lunch or dinner. In fact, come on a Monday night and you'll enjoy free popcorn and a movie from 8

p.m. 'till 10.

Apart from the fresh food and laid back atmosphere, what struck me the most about the Front Door is its recognition for those of us in the service industry.

"I want the Front Door to be a hangout for service industry people," says Krick. "I like all people but I especially like people in this industry because I've worked with them for so long."

So in honor of those who develop varicose veins from being on their feet too long, and for those who have grown to master smiling while gritting their teeth, rest assure that you can go some place after work, sit down, and enjoy a draft beer or well drink with 50 cents marked off the price.

So, what do you get when you add delicious thin crust pizza, a full bar, late business hours and discounted drinks for those who spend their time serving others?

A nice place to hang out.

The Front Door is the new pizza place located directly below the Reef on 6th Street in downtown Boise. The scrumptious slices at really low prices are sure to attract hungry and broke college students at all hours of the day or night.

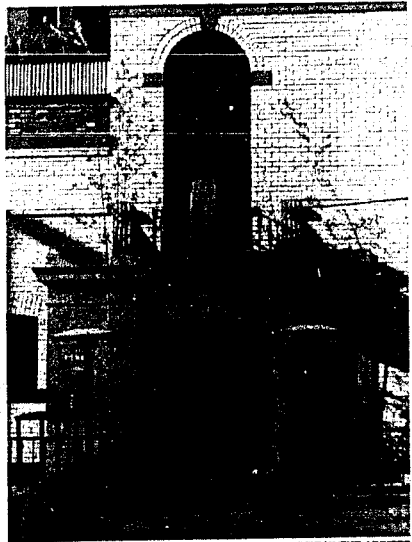


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FIFTH and IDAHO
downtown boise

Gender benders are crossing over, into your living room

BY JOE NEUMAIER
Knight Ridder Tribune

Sure, "Brokeback Mountain" is riding atop solid box office (even in red states) and is lassoing every award in sight.

But the real sex story du jour in American pop culture? Try transgender people: Women identifying as men, and men as women. In movies, at the bookstore and on TV, people are passing for the opposite sex. In many performance spaces, drag queens and drag kings reign supreme. And the very human stories they're telling are dragging people in.

In publicity photos for some projects, femininity and masculinity are a mascara smudge away from each other.

Felicity Huffman took a break from being a desperate housewife to play a he becoming a she in "TransAmerica" - and after a recent Golden Globe win for Best Actress

in a drama, Huffman is a front-runner for a Best Actress Oscar.

A buzzed-about new non-fiction book, "Self-Made Man: One Woman's Journey Into Manhood and Back," chronicles its female author's year and a half of living manfully. The before and after pics are as different as X and Y.

And when even a straight-and-narrow icon like Barbie becomes part of the discussion, you know something's up.

So is it only a matter of time until that paragon of gangly girliness, Paris Hilton, dons a suit and fake facial hair to see what all the excitement is about?

In her Globe acceptance speech, Huffman saluted people "who brave ostracism, alienation and a life lived on the margins to become who they really are."

In last fall's critical hit "Breakfast on Pluto," Cillian Murphy, hot off villainous turns in "Batman Begins" and "Red Eye," played a transvestite-about-town in 1970s Ireland.

In the current nonfiction book "Self-Made Man," lesbian author Norah Vincent chronicles 365 days of being a man among men, thanks to a paste-on beard, classes with a vocal coach and pinstripe suits.

On Showtime's "The L Word," newcomer Daniela Sea joins the cast as Moira, girlfriend to Mia Kirschner's Jenny, who will become "Max" by the season finale.

Last year's Sundance Channel reality program "TransGeneration" followed four transgender college students (two male-to-females and two female-to-males) as they transitioned from one gender to the other during a school year.

In a recent scandal that still has publishing tongues wagging, a San Francisco woman, Laura Albert, created a male pseudonym, "JT LeRoy," as the author of two books, including a "memoir" about growing up as a sexually confused male prostitute. Albert hired a woman to play Mr. LeRoy at events before the scam was exposed.

The trend was dressed for laughs in fall 2004 when TBS debuted the reality show "He's a Lady," featuring burly, ultra-macho guys all dolled up to experience life in high heels.

The collective result has created a higher profile for a community long relegated to the fringe.

"We're becoming more visible," says Mara Keisling, executive director at the National Center for Transgender Equality, "and so we're more likely to be represented in popular culture. Fifty years ago, people used to freak out about women wearing pants. Fortunately, humans evolve."

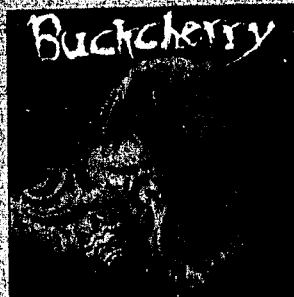
Some humans, though, don't want Barbie to evolve. Earlier this month, a Christian conservative group, the Concerned Women of America, attacked the iconic plaything's Web site (www.Barbie.com) for an online poll it had run that asked children for their age and sex. One choice for the answer was "I don't know."

The CWA's Culture and Family Institute fumed that Mattel, Barbie's manufacturer, "was being influenced by the transgender movement." Mattel stated merely that, "I don't know" should instead have been "I don't want to say." The choice for the answer has since been altered.



Buckcherry is Back, Friday at The Big Easy

Buckcherry has been one of the most successful true rock 'n' roll bands in recent years. Their self-titled first record contained three hit singles, including "Lif Up," with the narcotic-influenced chorus "I love the cocaine, I love the cocaine." The tour for this record took them to some of the biggest stages in the U.S., and gave them the chance to play for over a quarter of a million people at the last Woodstock Festival.



Now Buckcherry is back, reunited and ready to go another round with their AC/DC influenced rock 'n' roll sound. Eager to get back in the game and with no time to wait in line, Buckcherry recorded their new record without a record label. The band completed recording in only 15 days, and for that reason they have named the record "Fifteen."

Having just returned home from a tour in Japan with Motley Crue, the band is gearing up for the U.S. release of their first new record in four years on April 11. Buckcherry's reunion tour will stop at the Big Easy Concert House this Friday, Feb. 3.

The tour is the second coming of Buckcherry; the band temporarily broke up after the release of "Time Bomb," their second CD. One of the contributing factors to the breakup was the band's label, Dreamworks Records, going out of business.

During the downtime, the band that was often tagged by critics as "a poor mans Guns N' Roses," would take part in the formation of the band Velvet Revolver featuring three former members of G'N'R.

This week's column will be a little flashback news story on the events that led up to that band's formation, and Buckcherry's role in getting it started.

Flashback 2002: Buckcherry and the beginnings of Velvet Revolver

It all started April 29, 2002 with a benefit show for the family of recently deceased Ozzy Osborne drummer Randy Castillo at the Key Club in Los Angeles. A quick line-up was put together. Buckcherry singer Josh Todd and guitarist Keith Nelson would perform with former Guns N' Roses members Slash, Duff McKagen and Matt Sorum. The show was billed as "Cherry Roses," and was intended to be one night only.

Cherry Roses played a combination of Guns N' Roses and Buckcherry songs and was joined onstage by Steven Tyler of Aerosmith for a performance of the song "Mama Kin." The night went so well that it left all of Los Angeles a buzz with news of the show. Word on the street was that the greatest rock 'n' roll band in the world, Guns N' Roses, were back with a new singer and guitarist.

That show was the spark that rekindled the fires of Guns N' Roses. G'N'R Guitarist Slash took on the role of leader and decided he wanted to build something permanent out of it. The five members of Cherry Roses started writing and rehearsing under the temporary band name The Project.

For reasons that were never officially told, this first line-up of the band did not work out. The Buckcherry guys went their separate ways; former Guns N' Roses guitarist Izzy Stradlin joined for a short time, and The Project began what would be a year-long search for a singer. This ended when Scott Weiland of Stone Temple Pilots fame was offered the job, and soon after, the band was officially named Velvet Revolver.

So, Buckcherry's Josh Todd and Keith Nelson may no longer be a part of the all-star band that is Velvet Revolver. But their influence can still be heard in the music. The third single and video from Velvet Revolver's platinum debut album "Contraband," "Dirty Little Thing" is co-written by Buckcherry guitarist, Keith Nelson.

After taking part in what was originally billed as a Guns N' Roses reunion band, Todd and Nelson decided it was time for a Buckcherry reunion. The new record was released first in Japan, and the band spent the end of 2005 touring and promoting overseas. Now, with the American release two months away, the band has set their sites on re-conquering the states.

Don't miss the chance to see them in a club setting like the Big Easy. In no time at all Buckcherry may be back to playing arenas, which is where they belong.

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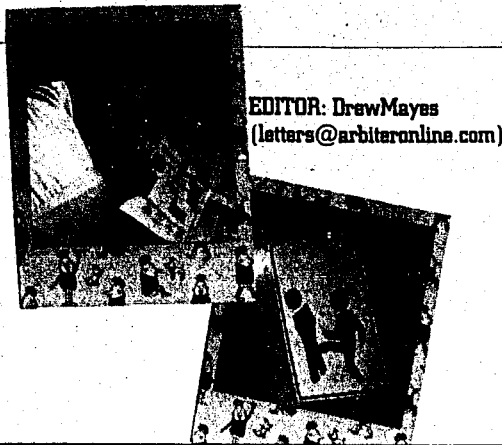
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"FREEDOM AND ITS ENEMIES"



EDITOR: Drew Mayes
(letters@arbiteronline.com)

opinion

It really is Adam and Steve

BY JASON WARD
Opinion Writer

Same-sex marriage is a ridiculous issue to have to deal with anymore. Many of the arguments against same-sex marriage are based on religious ideas of what is morally acceptable based from a conservative viewpoint. I am a firm believer that religion has no place whatsoever in politics or lawmaking. It's time for the government to quit deciding how people should live their lives.

Marriage is an institution, and that institution requires commitment. My interpretation of this is that you have to be crazy to get into such an institution no matter what sexual orientation you are.

Everyone deserves an equal chance to be miserable with one person for the rest of their lives.

The reasoning against legalizing gay marriage can be as ridiculous as anti-marijuana propaganda, i.e. pot is a gateway drug that leads to other drugs. In this school of thought, people think that legalizing gay marriage will open the door to marrying family members and animals. Most of these people can be seen for whom they really are, silly and ignorant. However, there is a certain argu-

mentative phrase that proponents of hetero-only marriage invariably utter when discussion of non-gender specific marriage arises. A gem they pull out when logically sound arguments are of no further use to them. It's a phrase that boils my blood, especially when I hear it spoken by someone who believes what they're saying is valid and true.

"No matter what sexual orientation you are, everyone deserves an equal chance to be miserable."

The phrase, "When God created humanity it was Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve."

First of all, the idiots that use this in actual conversation think they're

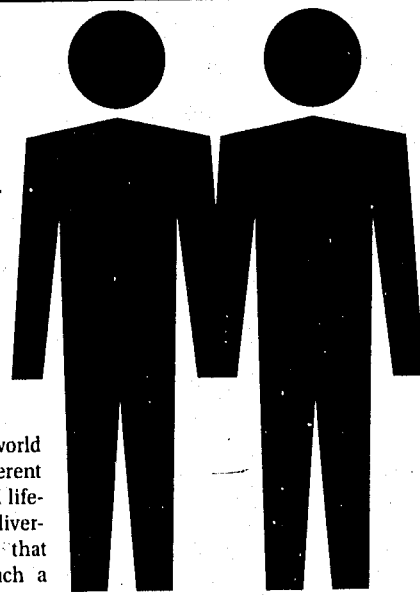
laying down some end-all argument stopper when it's just their ignorance being put on display. Secondly, you can't get any clearer about having extreme biblical prejudices.

Conservatives love the story of Sodom and Gomorra, clearly showing that God is against homosexuality and it has no business being allowed in a holy union. It seems so strange that they don't argue the story of Lot in the cave to try to get incestuous rape legalized. Nevertheless, there isn't really any use in continuing to talk to them (which is probably why they think spewing such garbage-wins arguments).

Lastly, it perpetuates a stereotype against guys named Steve, which I

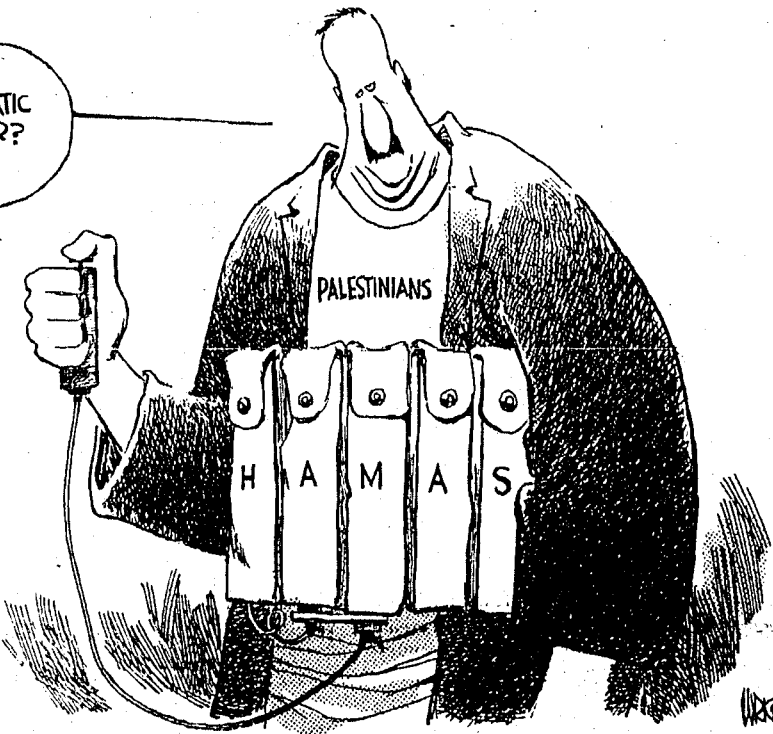
think is just wrong. I'm sure some Steves are undoubtedly gay, but I just don't think it should be a stereotype, just like men who buy "Sex in the City" on DVD shouldn't be stereotyped.

It's a great big world with many different kinds of people and lifestyles, and it's the diversity of this nation that makes America such a damn great country to live in. We have the freedom (for now) to be who we want to be, do what we want and say what we please. Its just not right for a coun-



try that is great in so many ways to limit the freedom of choice in a marriage partner for a select group of people, just because they're gay.

WHAT ARE FREE, DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS FOR?



Terror wins at polls

Palestinian election of terrorist group raises concerns

BY JONATHAN SAWMILLER
Opinion Writer

The Palestinian people have finally shown their true colors—the green and white of the terrorist group Hamas. In an overwhelming display of support for the Islamic Resistance Movement, better known as Hamas, over 77 percent of voters in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip came to the polls and gave Hamas 76 of the 132 parliamentary seats up for grabs in the Palestinian Legislative Council. The landslide win, which gives Hamas absolute authority to form the new Palestinian government, was a surprise to the western world, Israel and even the Palestinians.

Why did no one expect Hamas to win? Unlike Fatah, Yasser Arafat's

ruling party that it defeated, Hamas is not just another corrupt gang of Palestinian thugs claiming to be a political party. Rather, it is internationally recognized as a terrorist organization.

Since its creation in 1988, Hamas has been responsible for the deaths of over 500 Israeli civilians. Although the terrorists of Hamas often indiscriminately fire rockets, mortars and artillery from the West Bank into Israeli cities and villages, killing civilians at random, their favorite method of murder has been the use of suicide bombers.

Hamas suicide bombers, after making video testimonies to inspire other bombers, have blown themselves up in the name of Allah in dozens of Israeli restaurants, hotels, buses, shopping centers and nightclubs. Hundreds of innocent men, women, and children have been slaughtered by Hamas and thousands more have been maimed and wounded.

No organization is more deserving of being classified as a terrorist

organization than Hamas.

Yet, this same gang of murderers was democratically elected by the Palestinian people to rule them. What is going on here? It's nothing more than a reflection of the beliefs concerning Israel held by the Islamic majority of Palestinians. For decades, Palestinians raised in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip have been indoctrinated into fundamentalist Islamic beliefs, non-recognition of the State of Israel, and unrelenting warfare against Jewish civilians.

This propaganda of hatred and violence is proclaimed daily in Palestinian schools, mosques and media. Since Hamas has established its own network of schools, mosques and religious institutes, the jihadist indoctrination has grown even stronger.

Given this, rejection of the secular Fatah party as corrupt and weak, and support for the Islamic Hamas campaign of "Reform and Change" was to be expected. The Islamic Palestinians of today, along with Hamas, emphatically

deny the existence of the state of Israel and have vowed to destroy it. They are in ardent agreement with Article 13 of the Hamas charter, which states, "There is no solution to the Palestinian problem except by Jihad" and says "[Peace] initiatives, the so-called peaceful solutions, and the international conferences to resolve the Palestinian problem, are all contrary to the beliefs of the Islamic Resistance Movement."

Article 16 lays out a required duty for members of Hamas, saying, "I indeed wish to go to war for the sake of Allah! I will assault and kill, assault and kill, assault and kill."

Noble sentiments from the platform of the controlling party of a democratic government, eh? It's just sad that it has taken an election such as this to see that the terrorist problem in Israel is not being caused by isolated extremists, but by the masses of Palestinians who subscribe to a religion of hatred and violence, of Islamic fundamentalism and jihadist doctrine.

Big brother is watching you

BY BRANDON NOLTA
Opinion Writer

Most people who have a concept of personal liberty fear oppression to some degree. Of those people, I'd wager nearly all of them fear it coming from the government. In today's world, the golden age of cynicism, fear ranges from mild distrust to outright fear of black helicopters. But, even given recent revelations such as Bush's use of the National Security Administration to monitor domestic com traffic (which, if memory serves, is not part of their charter), the bloated, inefficiency of most government agencies is such that the general threat seems less and less likely from that direction.

However, big business seems to be ready to step up to the plate. Under the guise of business practices, people have found themselves fired from jobs due to blogging (First Amendment? That's not in our mission statement), unable to get jobs due to credit checks, or in many cases, flat out broke thanks to malfeasance at the top (paging Ken Lay).

As if the economic hegemony weren't bad enough, businesses are being far more open about pulling the strings of government. When Congress passed the more restrictive bankruptcy laws last year, did anybody actually think they were striking a blow for fiscal responsibility? Banks and credit companies popped a lot of corks that day.

It really is brilliant to go about it this way. The mythos of the American Dream is an economic one; material plenty in the richest nation in the world can be yours, for the low, low price of hard work and dedication. That's a hell of a deal.

Although corruption, graft and human frailties have always played a part, the American model of capitalism works. America is a success, and has been for decades, but

that same economic dream has a way of going sour quickly. Why? Essentially, for the same reason communism doesn't work: it fails to take human nature into account.

Free-market capitalists (you know, the ones who are always trying to get rid of government regulation) would have you believe that a totally free market is self-policing, that the brutal Darwinian nature of the game will weed out the liars and the cheats and the inefficient, leaving a cornucopia of joy for the consumer. The trouble with that is it assumes that market players are these impersonal trends and forces that respond purely to supply and demand, and other well-mapped economic variables. But, that isn't the case; companies are made up and led by people who aren't always playing the same game, who sometimes value their personal goals over their fiscal responsibilities, who are perfectly willing to can thousands of employees in order to raise stock prices a few cents per share.

It's these agents who present the greater threat to us. Government actions affect us all in ways great and small, but it's the pocketbook that's nearest and dearest. Those effects are immediate and often painful; how many of you are stuck in a job you can't stand because you can't afford to quit? How many of you are juggling bills? This is the real oppression; these are the real threats to us.

A people who are forced to make choices based mainly on money are a people easily led astray. In a nation where thousands of jobs are being shipped overseas, shunted to temporary and managed service agencies to avoid paying benefits and consolidated into lower numbers of employees, desperate to keep what they have, these threats have become far too real.

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[THIS WEEK IN SPORTS]

Men's basketball
Saturday
Fresno St. @ BSU
2:05 p.m.

Women's basketball
Saturday
BSU @ Fresno St.
1 p.m. (PT)

Women's tennis
Friday
BSU @ Weber State
Saturday
BSU @ BYU

Men's tennis
Saturday
BSU vs. Illinois State
9:30 a.m.
BSU vs. New Mexico
In Albuquerque, N.M.

Wrestling
Saturday
BSU @ UC Davis
7 p.m. (PT)

Indoor track and field
Friday-Saturday
United Heritage Invitational
Jacksons Track, Nampa,
Idaho

Gymnastics
Friday
Alaska-Anchorage @ BSU
7 p.m.

[SIDE LINE]

Women's tennis drops home loss, heads to Utah

The Boise State University women's tennis team suffered its first loss of the season, Jan. 29, with a 4-3 defeat at the hands of Oregon.

"This is probably the best match we have played in two or three years," head coach Mark Tichenor said. "We had our chances, but they had a great crowd and I think if this match was played at our home or on a neutral site we probably would have won."

The Broncos held a 1-0 lead after clinching the doubles point against the Ducks, who are ranked No. 27 by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, but Boise State lost four singles matches and fell to 2-1 on the season.

After jumping out to an early 5-1 lead, freshman Tatiana Ganzha and senior Alanah Carroll defeated Anna Leksinska and Claudia Hirt, 8-5. Junior Tiffany Coll and Jana Mackova also won their doubles match for the Broncos, defeating Anna Powaska and Carmen Seremeta, 8-5.

The team is on the road again this week, traveling to Utah for matches with Weber State and Brigham Young.

Men's tennis on the road again

The Boise State University men's tennis team goes on the road this week for two matches in Albuquerque, N.M.

The Broncos, ranked No. 31 by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association, will play both Illinois State and New Mexico, Feb. 4, at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., respectively.

Illinois State (2-1) is currently unranked by the ITA. Three members of the Redbird squad captured titles at the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Individuals Tournament, Jan. 29.

New Mexico dropped its season opener against Arizona, but bounced back to defeat Montana State the following day. The Lobos (1-1) are ranked No. 64 by the ITA.

Letter of Intent Day

Broncos sign 17 players

BY TREVOR HORN
Sports Editor

Chris Petersen has the hard part of his first year as head coach at Boise State done now—he made it through the month of January, flying from state to state, recruiting the 2006 class of players to Boise State.

And he couldn't be happier Letter of Intent Day has come.

"I'm glad this day is here and if I would have known a month ago, what I know today—I would have slept a lot more," Petersen said.

Boise State announced Wednesday the signing of 17 players—15 from high schools, one sophomore and a junior college transfer.

"We're thrilled. We really feel good about the guys on list," Petersen said.

Of the 17 players, three came from the Boise area. Two players are from Timberline High School (kicker David Lowery and offensive lineman Nate Potter) and tight end Kyle Efaw from Capitol High School.

"It's nice to be able to feel like there is a guy in your backyard that is truly the type of player that you are looking for," Petersen said.

Potter is a big player (6 feet, 6 inches, 265 lbs.) and Petersen said, "we've had our eye on him for a long time and had him in our camp. That guy could have gone a lot of places."

Efaw was an all-state selection at three positions following a stellar season at Capitol.

"They've been saying he is one of the best athletes to ever come through Capitol High School," Petersen said. Efaw caught 53 passes for 675 yards and 10 touchdowns during his senior season.

Lowery was a three-year letterman at Timberline.

"He has got a very powerful leg and we think the kicking aspect that he can bring to this program will help us tremendously down the road," Petersen said.

The departure of only 11 seniors from the 2005 team, Petersen and his staff were less concerned with how many players they signed, rather concerned with the style of the players.

"These are Boise State—blue-collar type players," Petersen said.

The Broncos did sign three players that are nationally ranked by national publications. Quarterback Mike Coughlin (6-5, 215 lbs.) was named third-team all-state by CalHSports.com during his senior season at Mira Mesa High School in San Diego, Calif.

"Mike was in our camp this summer, so we got an up-close and personal look at him," Petersen said. "We had some really good quarterbacks come to our camp, and he was one of those kids."

See Intent [page 9]



PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Boise State head coach Chris Petersen spoke with local media on Wednesday afternoon about the 2006 recruiting class. Petersen said his coaching staff hit a 'homerun' with the 17 players signed. Petersen officially became the head coach on Jan. 1 after Dan Hawkins signed with CU.

Boise State 2006 football signees

NAME	POS	HT	WT	CL	HOMETOWN (HS/Jr. College/St. College)
Derrell Actey	LB	6-2	235	Fr.	East Highland, California (Redlands East Valley)
Ben Chandler	LB	6-3	220	Fr.	Loomis, California (Oro High School)
Michael Coughlin	QB	6-5	215	Fr.	San Diego, California (Mira Mesa High School)
Kyle Efaw	TE	6-4	200	Fr.	Boise, Idaho (Capitol High School)
Tommy Gallarda	TE	6-8	220	Fr.	Brea, California (Brea Olinda High School)
Jarvis Hodge	TB	5-9	193	Fr.	Phoenix, Arizona (Mtn. Point High School)
Jeron Johnson	S	5-11	190	Fr.	Compton, California (Dominguez High School)
Will Lawrence	DL	6-2	260	Fr.	Upper Marlboro, Maryland (C.F. Flowers High School)
David Lowery	K	6-0	185	Fr.	Boise, Idaho (Timberline High School)
Xavier Lucas	WR	6-4	200	Fr.	Phoenix, Arizona (McClintock High School)
Kelth McGowen	CB	5-10	165	Fr.	Lynwood, California (Lynwood High School)
Nate Potter	OL	6-6	265	Fr.	Boise, Idaho (Timberline High School)
Kapono Rawlins-Crivello	DE	6-1	240	Fr.	Molokai, Hawaii (Kamehameha High School)
Jason Robinson	S	6-0	185	Fr.	Los Angeles, California (University High School)
Kevin Saplen	OL	6-4	260	Fr.	Torrance, California (West Torrance High School)
Slone Tavake	DL	6-1	270	Jr.	Salt Lake City, Utah (East High School/Mt. San Antonio College)
Garrett Tuggle	LB	6-1	225	So.	Pleasanton, California (Foothill High School/Chabot CC)

Cuaresma is a gymnast with explosive power

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
Assistant Sports Editor

Boise State senior gymnast Kea Cuaresma has been involved in gymnastics since she was five years old.

It sounds like that same old story, but Cuaresma's plot will thicken this spring, when the Alaska native graduates with a degree in communications from Boise State University. What she will do after, is up in the air.

"I'm trying to keep it open for now," Cuaresma said. "It's a pretty broad field and it's open for whatever I want to do later."

She said that for starters, she will return to Alaska for the summer, then eventually return to Boise to settle for a while.

"I love the summers in Alaska," Cuaresma said. "But the winters are awful. I'm going

home for the summer. Then, I'll probably come back to Boise. It's a lot like Alaska There's mountains and fishing, although I've never been fishing here."

Cuaresma said that after gymnastics is over she will try to inspect other sports and activities that she just doesn't have the time to try, while on the team.

"I wouldn't say that there's any one thing that I want to do," Cuaresma said. "I'd say that I'm lucky that I get to do what I do, and I'm excited that I'm almost done, in the sense that I can try things I want to try. I want to definitely try snowboarding and other sports and other things that gymnastics had kept me from being able to do because of time restraints and stuff like that. I'm excited for the season. I'm sad that it's almost done, but I'm also kind of relieved at the same time."

Cuaresma was named a Western Gymnastics

Conference All-Academic honoree last season, setting bests as a junior, including a 9.875 on Feb. 26 on vault as well as a 9.875 on floor on March 11.

She was also named all-Western Athletic Conference in 2004 after finishing fifth on vault at the WGC championships with a score of 9.8. Cuaresma won the WAC in 2003 with a vault of 9.975, and was a co-champion on the floor exercise with a 9.9.

Cuaresma, a team captain, explained why she was involved in gymnastics.

"It's the competitiveness about it," Cuaresma said. "It's such an individual sport, but we only get one team fall. You try to do the best for you, but you still get the team aspect of it. It's pretty amazing. We have 12 girls and we're all a bunch of sisters. We all just get along re-

See Cuaresma [page 10]

Rugby Club looks for members to join the scrum

Club sports looking for new players

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
Assistant Sports Editor

Club sports season is starting up this spring and all students are invited to join.

The men's and women's lacrosse teams are practicing. Again, soccer will be offered. So will baseball, bowling, cycling, judo, kenpo, softball, taekwondo, triathlon, snowboard/ski, rodeo and coming to a field near you, rugby.

Students can sign up to participate in all of these sports this spring. But they won't get a scholarship to play. They won't get to call dibs on the classes that fit perfectly into their schedules so they won't miss practice. They won't get a lot of things that varsity athletics promises its athletes. But, what they will get is a chance to play.

"(Club sports) create(s) more of a campus community feel, like you are invested in your university, because you are involved, not just inside the classroom but outside the classroom," BSU Intramural and Club Sports Director Alain Rodrigue said. "You're creating friendships."

There are more than 20 club sports at Boise State University. For a minimal fee, any student can play. The fees pay for equipment, travel and other expenses. Some teams, like lacrosse, travel extensively and play in leagues across the country.

There are also multiple intramural sports available at the campus recreation center. Monday was the deadline for students to sign up teams for racquetball, basketball and 4-on-4 volleyball. Floor hockey is now available for registration (\$15 fee) and badminton, 4-on-4 football, tennis, softball, Ultimate (disc) and golf will become available later this spring.

Rodrigue said that students are not only allowed to play these sports, but are encouraged to do so, and also to check out the rec center for its basketball courts, swimming pool, climbing facility, outdoor program, fitness programs, etc. Students may also rent snowshoes, rafts, kayaks and camping gear from the center.

Students, like Andy Villegas, took initiative and started their own clubs. All it takes is a student willing to fill out the necessary paperwork and bam! We have a Rugby Club.

"I really enjoyed (rugby)," Villegas said. "I thought 'this is a really cool sport.' When I got here, there wasn't a team, so I figured I'd start one."

Villegas and his Rugby Club (though he prefers not to think of it as his) started practice earlier this week and play their first match Feb. 25 against Idaho State University's team.

"There's rivalry and stuff like that, but afterwards it's all about camaraderie," Villegas said. "There's always a 'social' afterwards, where the teams get together. We get together and talk about the game and declare a 'man of the match.'"

The BSU Rugby Club is still looking for a full team. Villegas said he has 10 players on his roster, but 15 are needed to play. He said that some people are worried about playing because of the physical nature of his sport, but he assures that rugby collisions aren't as violent as football collisions and that hits above the shoulders are illegal. He likens rugby players to beefed-up soccer players.

"We need everybody of all sizes," Villegas said. "We need 15 guys on each side."

If Villegas can't field a team, he said he would look to the Snakes, a city of Boise team, to fill empty positions. Club sports must have a certain percentage of BSU students

See Rugby [page 10]

Intent

(from page 8)

"We feel very good. He committed a long time ago and has held tight through all the craziness."

Coughlin threw for 25 touchdowns his senior year.

"We think he's been well coached and was in an offense that throws the ball a lot," Petersen said.

Another highly touted player is linebacker Derrell Acrey. The 6-2, 215 lb. linebacker was named All-CIF after recording 139 tackles his senior season.

"We think he is a big strong—he might be even 240 (pounds) right now. He is your true Mike linebacker," Petersen said. "He can fill a hole and he is going to take up a lot of space."

The Broncos also grabbed a highly touted defensive end from Hawaii.

Kapono Rawlins-Crivello was named No. 16 on the Northwest 2006 Hot 100 list.

Rawlins-Crivello recorded 86 tackles, 18 tackles for loss and nine sacks his senior season at Kamehameha High School in Honolulu.

For Petersen, he said that being in charge for the first time since taking over as the head coach officially on Jan. 1, after Dan Hawkins departed for Colorado, was not much different than it has been in the past.

"That really hasn't been that different because you hire a staff and you trust those guys and you like to have each position coach make those decisions and then they show you the tape and you are either agreeing or you are not," Petersen said. "So, it really didn't feel that much different."

Petersen said that the three players at defensive line, Rawlins-Crivello,

Will Lawrence (6-2, 260 lb. Freshman from Maryland) and junior college transfer Sione Tavake, may be the best overall position that the team signed this season.

"We are hoping one of those guys will be able to come in and do a little something down the road," Petersen said.

Despite losing just 11 seniors, three seniors did take a bit of a chunk out of the runningback position. Lee Marks, Antwaun Carter and Jeff Carpenter were all seniors last season—leaving sophomore Ian Johnson as the only returning running back who saw significant time in 2005.

The Broncos signed one running back (Jarvis Hodge, 5-9, 193, Phoenix, Ariz.), but the return of Jon Helmandollar should ease the load on Johnson and allow the Broncos to red shirt Hodge.

Petersen did say that the use of grey shirting a player—which allows them to join the team in the spring of 2007, could give the players (like linebacker Ben Chandler from Loomis, Calif., a player who injured his knee in the final game of his senior year) more time to learn the system and get stronger, along with allowing the program to use the players later down the line and have them in the system longer.

"Now-a-days people are seeing the advantage that you are actually getting a whole three-quarters to a half a year extra in your development," Petersen said.

One player that will not be a Bronco is Cody Hawkins. The son of Dan Hawkins and standout quarterback at Bishop Kelly signed with Colorado today. Petersen said he "has known for a while," that Cody was going to Colorado.

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Super Bowl Media Day: News of the Weird

BY REGGIE HAYES
Knight Ridder Tribune

DETROIT - I'm standing in Ford Field on the third row of a set of bleachers, which surround a small barricade, which surrounds a booth, which houses a dais. Behind the dais sits Seattle Seahawks running back Shaun Alexander.

Right about now, I'm starting to think this might not be an intimate one-on-one chat.

And then things get weird.

Alexander starts talking about his spiritual beliefs while, in the next booth over, alleged comedian Gilbert Gottfried waves an ESPN2 microphone toward Seahawks defensive end Grant Wistrom and asks what kind of hair gel he uses. In a lapse of journalistic focus, I miss Wistrom's answer.

Gottfried then wanders over to Alexander and asks him to tell the funniest joke he knows. Alexander says he'll get back to him. Gottfried then tells Alexander to repeat any dirty joke he can remember. This is a minute or two after Alexander has explained how he became a Christian. Weird just became awkward.

In fact, I'm offering that as the NFL's new marketing slogan, free of

charge:

"Super Bowl Media Day: Where Weird Meets Awkward."

Over the course of two hours Tuesday - an hour apiece for the Seahawks and the Pittsburgh Steelers - almost every possible topic will be fully unexplored. Hundreds of reporters converge in one glorious glob of media excess. The only thing missing is insight.

Alexander, besides graciously declining to tell Gottfried a dirty joke, wins the award for saying the most while saying the least.

The league MVP has been waiting for a long-term contract for a long term now. He is asked if he'll give the Seahawks first shot at signing him.

"Yes."

Moving on, then. Alexander satisfies Gottfried's continued queries by saying quarterback Matt Hasselbeck is the funniest guy on the team, or at least the one everyone laughs at. Or laughs with. Alexander is a little vague.

Gottfried traipses over to Hasselbeck's booth and tells him that Alexander singled him out as the Seahawks' funniest player.

"Tell me a joke," Gottfried demands.

Say what you will about his an-

noying voice and foul mouth, but when Gottfried says "jump," NFL players don't even wait to consult their agents.

"There are three kinds of people in the world," Hasselbeck says. "Those who are good at math and those who aren't."

OK, it's not sidesplitting funny, but on a day when the comedians/roving reporters include Gottfried and Tom Arnold, we'll take any semblance of humor we can get.

In fact, we'll take anything to relieve the torture of too many stories from too many angles in too loose of a format.

Solemn questions are followed by goofy questions which lead to inane questions. A reporter from a Spanish-language media outlet conducts interviews with a hand puppet. The puppet sports Troy Polamalu-style hair. Cute, but can the puppet make deadline?

Some questions even address football, but that doesn't necessarily improve the situation. For example, Seattle coach Mike Holmgren offers this revealing analysis into the key to Super Bowl XL, which will be played this Sunday:

"The difference in the game will be who turns the ball over the fewest times," Holmgren said.

While I am unable to confirm this at press time, rumor also has it that the team who scores the most points will win.

The Seahawks are trapped for an hour with no easy escape, but at least they can take solace in the Steelers suffering the same plight.

The Steelers, too, find themselves surrounded by microphones attached to sporadically coherent owners. Most seem very interested in finding out if Jerome Bettis is from Detroit.

New York Giants defensive end Michael Strahan, masquerading as a reporter for The NFL Network, approaches Steelers receiver Hines Ward.

I anticipate Strahan has a question but, alas, my instincts fail me. "The only man in football with a better smile than me is you," Strahan tells Ward.

Strahan says something about Ward trying to block him, then inquires whether Ward has a nastier visage in his facial repertoire.

"Give me a mean mug," he tells Ward.

Ward scrunches up his face.

He looks not unlike Gilbert Gottfried.

Now that's funny. In a weird, awkward sort of way.



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16x23	40.99	42.99	44.99
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16x25	44.99	46.99	48.99
16x26	46.99	48.99	50.99
16x27	48.99	50.99	52.99
16x28	50.99	52.99	54.99
16x29	52.99	54.99	56.99
16x30	54.99	56.99	58.99
16x31	56.99	58.99	60.99
16x32	58.99	60.99	62.99
16x33	60.99	62.99	64.99
16x34	62.99	64.99	66.99
16x35	64.99	66.99	68.99
16x36	66.99	68.99	70.99
16x37	68.99	70.99	72.99
16x38	70.99	72.99	74.99
16x39	72.99	74.99	76.99
16x40	74.99	76.99	78.99
16x41	76.99	78.99	80.99
16x42	78.99	80.99	82.99
16x43	80.99	82.99	84.99
16x44	82.99	84.99	86.99
16x45	84.99	86.99	88.99
16x46	86.99	88.99	90.99
16x47	88.99	90.99	92.99
16x48	90.99	92.99	94.99
16x49	92.99	94.99	96.99
16x50	94.99	96.99	98.99
16x51	96.99	98.99	100.99
16x52	98.99	100.99	102.99
16x53	100.99	102.99	104.99
16x54	102.99	104.99	106.99
16x55	104.99	106.99	108.99
16x56	106.99	108.99	110.99
16x57	108.99	110.99	112.99
16x58	110.99	112.99	114.99
16x59	112.99	114.99	116.99
16x60	114.99	116.99	118.99
16x61	116.99	118.99	120.99
16x62	118.99	120.99	122.99
16x63	120.99	122.99	124.99
16x64	122.99	124.99	126.99
16x65	124.99	126.99	128.99
16x66	126.99	128.99	130.99
16x67	128.99	130.99	132.99
16x68	130.99	132.99	134.99
16x69	132.99	134.99	136.99
16x70	134.99	136.99	138.99
16x71	136.99	138.99	140.99
16x72	138.99	140.99	142.99
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16x80	154.99	156.99	158.99
16x81	156.99	158.99	160.99
16x82	158.99	160.99	162.99
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16x84	162.99	164.99	166.99
16x85	164.99	166.99	168.99
16x86	166.99	168.99	170.99
16x87	168.99	170.99	172.99
16x88	170.99	172.99	174.99
16x89	172.99	174.99	176.99
16x90	174.99	176.99	178.99
16x91	176.99	178.99	180.99
16x92	178.99	180.99	182.99
16x93	180.99	182.99	184.99
16x94	182.99	184.99	186.99
16x95	184.99	186.99	188.99
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16x36	66.99	68.99	70.99
16x37	68.99	70.99	72.99
16x38	70.99	72.99	74.99
16x39	72.99	74.99	76.99
16x40	74.99	76.99	78.99
16x41	76.99	78.99	80.99
16x42	78.99	80.99	82.99
16x43	80.99	82.99	84.99
16x44	82.99	84.99	86.99
16x45	84.99	86.99	88.99
16x46	86.99	88.99	90.99
16x47	88.99	90.99	92.99
16x48	90.99	92.99	94.99
16x49	92.99	94.99	96.99
16x50	94.99	96.99	98.99
16x51	96.99	98.99	100.99
16x52	98.99	100.99	102.99
16x53	100.99	102.99	104.99
16x54	102.99	104.99	106.99
16x55	104.99	106.99	108.99
16x56	106.99	108.99	110.99
16x57	108.99	110.99	112.99
16x58	110.99	112.99	114.99
16x59	112.99	114.99	116.99
16x60	114.99	116.99	118.99
16x61	116.99	118.99	120.99
16x62	118.99	120.99	122.99
16x63	120.99	122.99	124.99
16x64	122.99	124.99	126.99
16x65	124.99	126.99	128.99
16x66	126.99	128.99	130.99
16x67	128.99	130.99	132.99
16x68	130.99	132.99	134.99
16x69	132.99	134.99	136.99
16x70	134.99	136.99	138.99
16x71	136.99	138.99	140.99
16x72	138.99	140.99	142.99
16x73	140.99	142.99	144.99
16x74	142.99	144.99	146.99
16x75	144.99	146.99	148.99
16x76	146.99	148.99	150.99
16x77	148.99	150.99	152.99
16x78	150.99	152.99	154.99
16x79	152.99	154.99	156.99
16x80	154.99	156.99	158.99
16x81	156.99	158.99	160.99
16x82	158.99	160.99	162.99
16x83	160.99	162.99	164.99
16x84	162.99	164.99	166.99
16x85	164.99	166.99	168.99
16x86	166.99	168.99	170.99
16x87	168.99	170.99	172.99
16x88	170.99	172.99	174.99
16x89	172.99	174.99	176.99
16x90	174.99	176.99	178.99
16x91	176.99	178.99	180.99
16x92	178.99	180.99	182.99
16x93	180.99	182.99	184.99
16x94	182.99	184.99	186.99
16x95	184.99	186.99	188.99

Olympians to compete in Nampa

Courtesy Broncosports.com

Five Olympians, including former Boise State University track and field All-American Jared Rome, will compete this Friday and Saturday in the United Heritage Invitational at the Idaho Sports Center in Nampa.

Former Olympians competing along with Rome include Americans A.G. Kruger, Ian Waltz and Brian Clay and Libor Charfreitag of the Slovak Republic. All five Olympians will also be available for an autograph session on Friday night, following the men's weight throw at approximately 8:30 p.m. at the southeast corner of the Idaho Sports Center.

Rome and Waltz will compete in the shot put on Saturday beginning at 2:45 p.m. Rome, a six-time NCAA All-America in the discus and shot put when he competed for the Broncos from 1996 to 2000, won the 2004 United States Olympic Trials in the discus and competed in the Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. At last year's World Championships he placed seventh with a throw of 221-1 (67.39m), the best by an American in 2005. Rome is currently the world's fourth ranked discus thrower.

Waltz, a former NCAA All-American from Washington State University, finished second to Rome at the 2004 USA Olympic Trials and also competed in Athens. Waltz is currently ranked sixth in the world in the discus.

Charfreitag and Kruger will both compete in the men's weight throw on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. Charfreitag is currently ranked No. 1 in the world in the 35-pound weight throw and is the Idaho Sports Center record holder at 82-11 (25.28m). He is a three-time NCAA National Champion winning the outdoor hammer in

2000 and the indoor weight throw in 1999 and 2000. Kruger is a former NCAA Division II National Champion in the hammer and was a member the United States Olympic team in Athens. His all-time best in the indoor weight throw is 78-10.

Also competing in the weight throw will be current Boise State student-athletes Mattias Jons and Staffan Jonsson. Jons is the school record holder in the event at 70-10.50 (21.60m) and is currently ranked No. 3 among collegiate throwers. Jonsson is ranked 17th with a personal best mark of 65-6.25 (19.97m).

Clay is currently the worlds No.1 ranked decathlete and will compete four events this weekend. On Friday evening he will compete in the long jump and the prelims of the 60-meter dash and 60-meter hurdles.

On Saturday he will compete in the shot put. Clay was the silver medalist in the decathlon at the 2004 Olympics with 8,820 points and in 2005 won the World Championship with 8,732 points. He is also a two-time USA Champion in the event and earned 23 NAIA All-American titles while competing at Azusa Pacific.

Two of the world's former top ranked weight throwers, Lance Deal and Robert Weir, will also be attending this weekend but not be competing.

An assistant coach at the University of Oregon, Deal is the current world record holder in the weight throw at 84-10.25.

He is a four-time Olympian and won the silver medal in the hammer at the 1996 Olympic Games. Weir is the head track and field coach at Stanford University and is a three-time Olympian for his home country of Great Britain. In 1983, Weir set the world indoor record for the 35-pound weight throw with a mark of 77-6.25.

Cuaresma

[from page 8]

ally well. We're really tight. As a senior I try to set an example, keep everybody in line. They're very good. We have six freshmen and they're awesome."

Those freshmen have been doing well under the guidance of coach Sam Sandmire and with the help of the older athletes. Each athlete has to fit a role on the team and perform well under pressure when they are asked.

"I think that's one of the main things that's hard on the freshmen, because coming in, you do club gymnastics and it's not a team at all, you just compete for yourself," Cuaresma said.

"That's one of the things that us seniors have to teach the freshmen, that it is a team sport; your scores are going to help the team."

Cuaresma said exercises like the vault and the floor come most naturally to her.

"I like vault because it's so quick and it's fast, you can go hard and then it's over with," Cuaresma said.

"Kea is one of the most powerful, gorgeous gymnasts I've ever seen," Sandmire said. "She looks like an anatomy poster. She's lean and strong and powerful. Her gymnastics is very exciting. When she's tumbling, you can walk under her and not get hit in the head, it's so high."

The vault requires an explosion of energy to lift the body and a focus to maneuver with grace. Cuaresma said she has that power in surplus.

"I have big leg muscles, unfortunately," she said.

Sandmire is confident in her senior, one of only two on the team.

"Kea is a great teammate," Sandmire said. "She's a captain this year, and that's selected by the girls. That means a lot, when your teammates pick you as a leader. She's very sincere, smart, responsible, honest, she has a great work ethic. She's just a nice person."

The Broncos fared well on the road trip to UC Davis, despite a nagging cold that has been spreading through the team.

They downed Davis 191-55-190-775.

The team now returns to Taco Bell Arena to take on both Alaska-Anchorage and Southern Utah Friday night at 7 p.m.

"This last meet, half the team was sick," Sandmire said. "I was really proud of how the girls came through. We're a very close team. We travel together, eat together, sleep in the same rooms. The team did very good, for being sick."

Southern Utah is in the WAC with the Broncos and defeated BSU rival, Utah State, last week.

"For us, because the opponent really doesn't matter that much, for us I expect to get more consistent," Sandmire said.

"We've gotten better every meet. The young people are starting to figure things out. Taylor did beam last week and did really well. Mainly the freshmen need to get some experience under their belt."

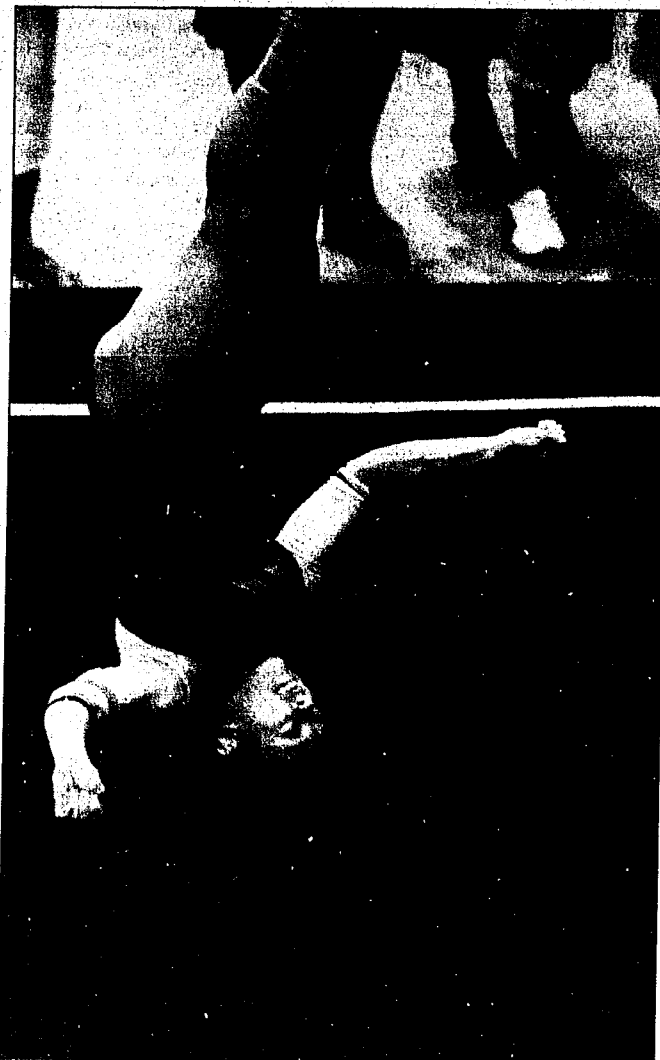


PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Boise State senior Kea Cuaresma performs her floor routine at a recent competition. Cuaresma, a communications major, has been a gymnast since age 5 and is one of the best vaulters on a Bronco team that ranks in the top 20 in the nation.

Rugby

[from page 8]

to operate.

Villegas wants to make this rugby team last. Other club sports have dwindled and re-emerged over the years, such as soccer, which is making a vibrant comeback.

"I'm doing this because I like the sport," Villegas said. "I want rugby

to be here. I just want to go out there and play. I'm not sure I'll even be here next year. I want it to be started here because I want rugby to stay."

Rodrigue said that teams that get into a league stand a better chance of lasting. It gives athletes something to play for.

"It creates a bond, rather than students just coming to classes and then going home," Rodrigue said.

"You're competing with people who have the same interest, you're playing with someone who enjoys playing basketball."

Rodrigue said that he gets emails from students who make their decision to come to BSU (or not to come) based partly on the quality of the club sports program. Others come here and get a sport started.

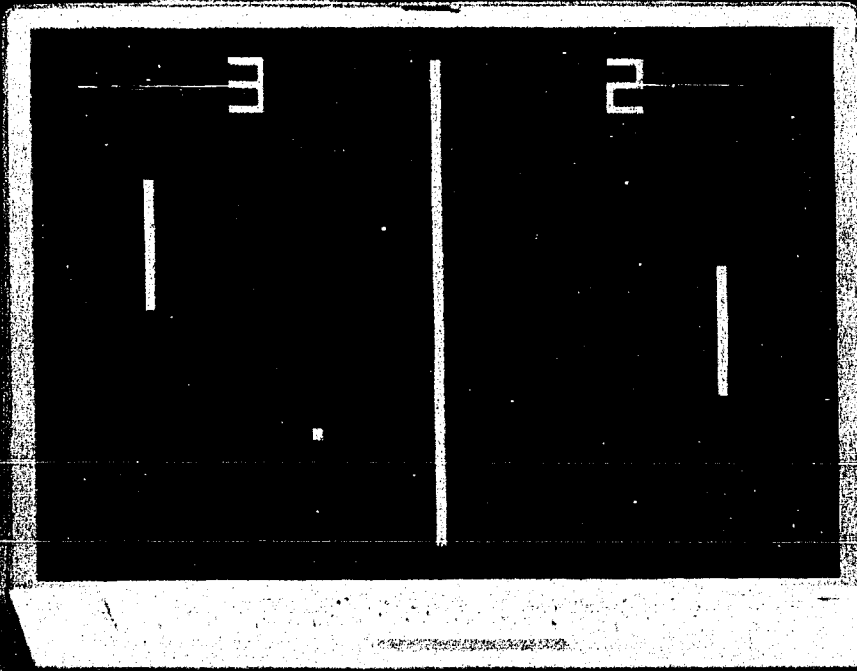
"They want to be part of some-

thing," Rodrigue said. "They want to see it grow. They want to compete."

As for the Rec Center and its tools of athleticism, Rodrigue said that all students should take advantage of its free facilities.

"If you're a full-time student, you already pay for it," Rodrigue said. "It's all open to you."

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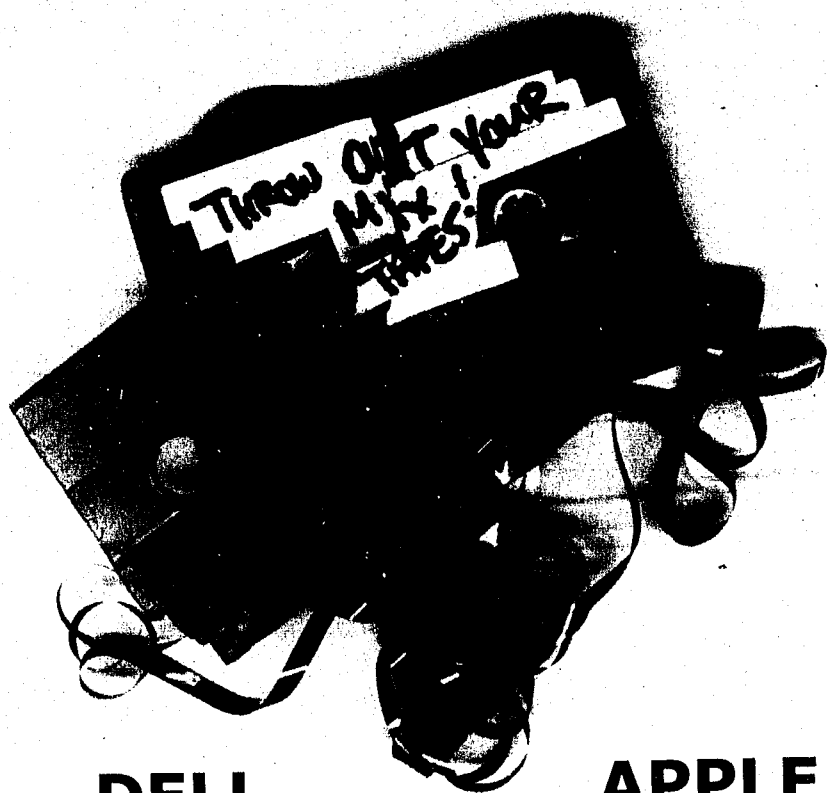
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Nampa

Business & Tech



DELL DJ DITTY

BY AMBER FUGER
Arbiter Staff

The reason I purchased the Dell DJ Ditty was due mainly to the fact that I purchased a Dell notebook this summer. I've read in numerous publications and heard from many of my techie friends that it is better to buy the same brands of accessories as your notebook for compatibility reasons.

The Ditty is comparable to the iPod Shuffle. It has 512 MB and holds up to 220 songs, depending of course on the length of the songs. I have a few Chili Peppers songs from their "Live in Hyde Park" albums that feature tenacious guitar solos, which took up some space. I also have some Mos Def and other hip-hop jams that are a tid bit on the long side, but that's what I love about them.

Anyhow, I really like the Ditty. It is easy to manage; all I have to do is use the Dell MusicMatch program that came with my computer to manage my device. I can remove songs easily and I can add playlists, albums, artists, etc. The battery life is great; I think I have charged it once this week and I have four bars left.

This device is new to me so I am still fidgeting with it, trying to figure out how to use the play mode options and so on. But I can download audiobooks and upload them to my Ditty, which is super cool, and the shuffle option has been wonderful as I bop around campus.

You can even download songs off the Internet through Dell MusicMatch which is powered by Yahoo. For more information on the Ditty log onto dell.com and it should lead you to the spot.

APPLE VIDEO IPOD

BY SARA BAHNSON
Arbiter Staff

I got the new Apple video iPod on Christmas Day and like any other technological novelty, the excitement of the ability to have over 10,000 songs as well as music videos and episodes of television shows at my finger tips wore off within two days or so.

Not that it's not great. It's super skinny and very light. The screen is a lot bigger than any of the previous iPods and the video quality is amazing. I downloaded The Killers' "All These Things That I've Done" music video and the continuity between the audio and video was spot on.

However, downloading that one four-minute video took my iTunes with dial-up Internet about two hours. Who knows how long it would take to download an episode of "Lost," "Desperate Housewives," or the newest offerings from MTV's "Jackass" and "Laguna Beach."

The Apple people not only added video to the iPod, but they also added storage space to the device, totaling 30 GB on the main model. For someone like me who for the most part uses my iPod while I'm walking on campus or working out, that's about 25 GB more than I need. Still, maybe I'll use some of those gigs when I spend eight hours downloading an episode of "Late Night with Conan O'Brian." Or not.

Be aware that the screen scratches really easily. A case is definitely recommended. I've also heard that it'll save your battery (which apparently costs around \$50 to replace when it wears out) if you keep the iPod fully charged as much as you can.

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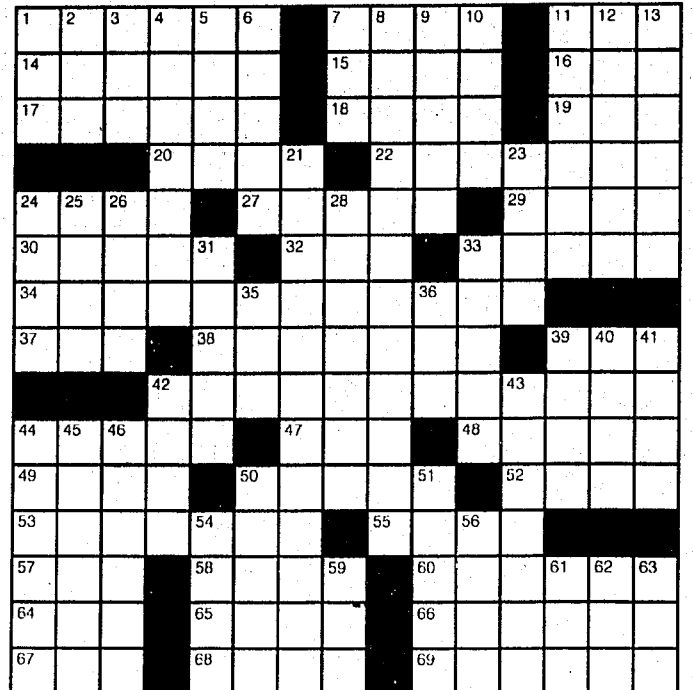
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 7 Knife thrust
 11 Owns
 14 Plant a second crop
 15 Distinctive atmosphere
 16 & so forth
 17 "The Lion in Winter" star
 18 Wide smile
 19 What person
 20 Grange
 22 More destitute
 24 Ivey or Carvey
 27 Strongboxes
 29 Diarist Frank
 30 Teheran man
 32 Wee lad
 33 Cuban export
 34 Barnard, Smith, et al.
 37 Cow chow
 38 Bruise
 39 Extinct bird
 42 Uninvited guests
 44 Knights' weapons
 47 Swallow
 48 Eddie Murphy movie
 49 Stanley Gardner
 50 Little misses
 52 Disorderly jumble
 53 Oven-cooked
 55 Cream shade
 57 Chewy treat
 58 Seth's son
 60 Give a new title to
 64 Psychic letters
 65 Provoke
 66 English pope
 67 Moines, IA
 68 Arizona city
 69 Combined, as resources

DOWN
 1 Theater sign's letters
 2 Hanoi holiday
 3 Gone by
 4 Nonreligious
 5 "Damn Yankees" vamp

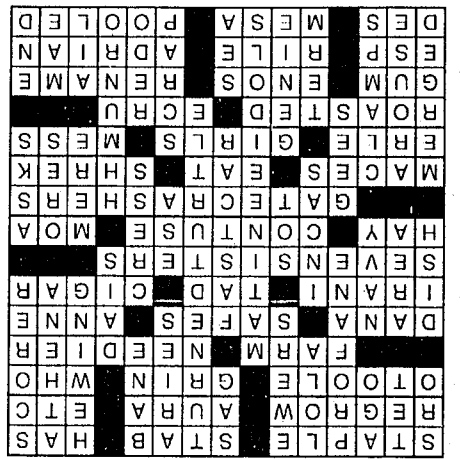


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2/2/06

Solutions

6 Fancy pitchers
 7 Sink in the middle
 8 Capsized
 9 Zodiac's first sign
 10 Cause of ruin
 11 Felling
 12 Goddess of wisdom
 13 Olympics official
 21 Screen stars
 23 Podium
 24 Part of a table setting
 25 Neighborhood
 26 Dark blue
 28 Ferrari, e.g.
 31 Andes people
 33 Salad green
 35 Wino
 36 ISS partner
 39 Little more than
 40 Underground deposits
 41 Queries
 42 Force on astronauts?



43 Saki's real name
 44 Combined
 45 Stir up
 46 Bracing devices
 50 Bottle resident?
 51 Assign to the junk heap
 54 Part of the school year
 56 Reconstruct
 59 Black or White
 61 Be ill
 62 Miss West
 63 Pull the plug on

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comics

I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD STOP BY THIS WEEKEND AND SHOW ME HOW TO INSTALL MY WIRELESS NETWORK.

UNDER WHAT THEORY ARE THE COMPETENT OBLIGED TO HELP THE INCOMPETENT?

WOW. THIS IS AWKWARD. WATCH WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I JUST STARE AT YOU.

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YOU'LL EXPLAIN HOW OUR PRODUCT WORKS WITH THEIR CURRENT SYSTEM. ALAN WILL CRACK JOKES AND COLLECT A HUGE COMMISSION.

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DO YOU EVER THINK WE MIGHT BE IN THE WRONG JOBS? I'M NOT GOING TO KISS YOU.

SUDOKU

Easy

		9	2	3				
2		5			1	8		
	8	6		7	5		9	
						7		
9	4	1				3	8	5
		3						
	9		3	5		6	2	
		8	7			1		4
				8	6	9		

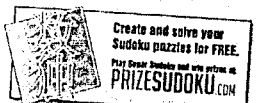
Hard

		5	9		4			
							7	5
3						1		
		3			4		8	9
5		7	9		6	3		4
1	9		8			7		
		6						3
2	3							
				3		4	9	

'The Arbitrator' Sudoku

SUDOKU

To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.



1	6	9	2	4	7	8	5	3
9	8	5	6	4	3	2	1	7
3	2	7	8	1	6	4	9	5
6	2	7	3	5	8	4	1	9
4	1	3	9	2	6	7	8	5
8	9	4	5	7	1	3	2	6
2	5	7	9	1	4	8	6	3
7	5	9	2	4	1	6	3	8
5	2	4	1	8	6	9	3	7
6	3	8	7	9	2	1	5	4
1	9	7	3	5	4	6	2	8
7	5	3	8	1	9	4	6	2
6	4	1	9	2	7	3	8	5
8	9	4	5	7	1	3	2	6
3	8	5	4	7	9	2	6	1
2	7	5	6	9	1	8	4	3
4	1	9	2	3	8	5	7	6

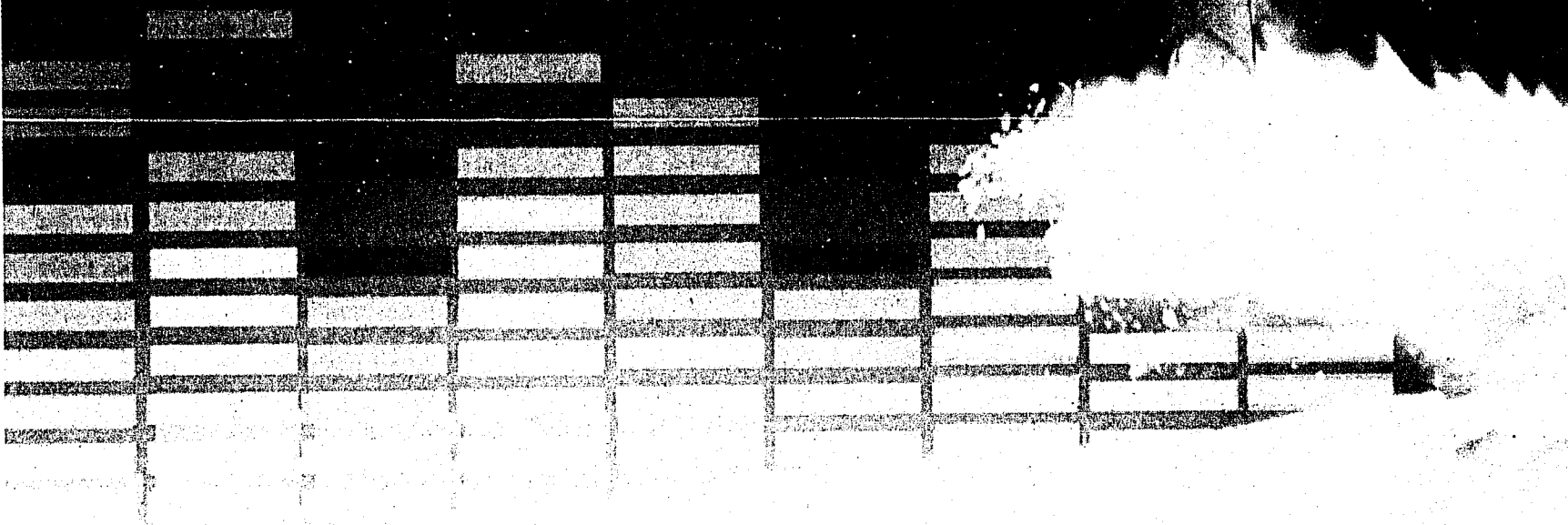
get your fill twice

Tues Weds Fri Sat Sun

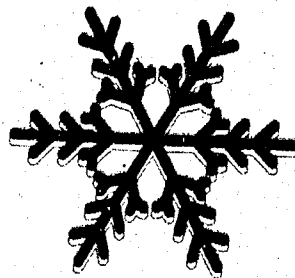
The Arbitrator

Time to Shred

Winter Rec Guide 2005-06



Chicks Rule
pg.3



**Tamarack
a year later**
pg.7



**Info. on 32
regional
resorts**
pg.4&5



**BSU
ski team**
pg.2



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BOISE STATE

making connections

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 Tamarack 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.

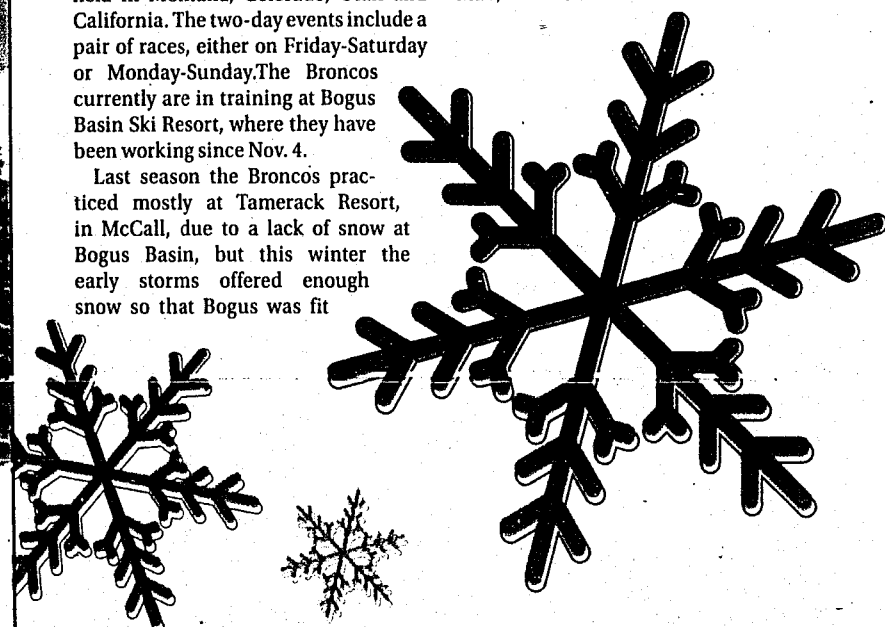


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Female Snowboarders Rise on the 'Chicks Rule' and Representin'

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 Barret 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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Children 6 and younger, free; seniors older than 69, free
 2005/2006 season events
 to attend: Dec. 17-USASA
 Boulder Cross and Skier Cross
 Competition; Jan. 21-22
 USASA Slalom and Giant Sla-
 lom and Feb. 11-12, Feb. 18-
 19 Winter Games of Idaho;
 Feb. 25-USASA Boulder Cross
 and Skier Cross and Final on
 March 17; March 17, 24 and
 31-Last Tracks
www.brundage.com

Backyard shredding:

1. Bogus Basin

16 miles from Boise
 Estimated travel time: 40 min.
 (good roads)
 2600 ride-able acres
 54 runs with terrain park
 1,800-foot vertical drop
 250 inches average snowfall
 2005/2006 season events
 to attend: Jan. 7-XTreme
 Team freerider and terrain
 park skills; Feb. 15-16-Dottie
 Clark Races; Feb. 17-19-Trudi
 Bolinder Super G.; Feb. 22-
 Winter Games of Idaho; Feb.
 25-Women's TeleExperience
 Clinic.
www.bogusbasin.com

2. Brundage

Close to 106 miles from Boise
 in McCall
 Estimated travel time: 2.5
 hours
 1,340 ride-able acres
 51 runs two terrain parks (de-
 pending on conditions)
 1800-foot vertical drop
 300 inches average snowfall

3. Tamarack

Close to 94 miles from Boise
 in Donnelly
 Estimated travel time: two
 hours
 580 ride-able acres
 2,800-foot vertical drop
 35 runs with 500-foot super
 pipe and terrain park
 300 inches average snowfall
 2005/2006 season events to
 attend: Dec. 29-Warren Mill-
 er's "Higher Ground" Film Tour
 showing; Dec. 31-Tamarack
 FreeRide Series: Rail Jam;
 Jan. 14-Annual Idaho Nordic-
 Tamarack Resort Loppet Race;
 Jan. 4-5 and 14-15 and March
 4-5-Tamarack FreeRide and
 Payette River Valley USASA
 Snowboard Series: SlopeStyle
 and Super Pipe; Feb. 11-12-
 Winter Games of Idaho: Super
 Pipe and Nordic Race
www.tamarackidaho.com

Neighborly distance shredding:

4. Soldier Mountain

Close to 115 miles from Boise
 in Fairfield; estimated travel

time: two hours
 1500 ride-able acres
 2,800-foot vertical drop
 35 runs with 10-15 acres of
 terrain park

5. Sun Valley

Close to 153 miles from Boise
 Estimated travel time: three
 hours
 2,054 ride-able acres
 3,400-foot vertical drop
 75 runs with terrain park
 220 inches average snowfall
 2005/2006 season events to
 attend: Dec. 17-Second An-
 nual Lumiere Festival; March
 16-18-Bill Janss Pro-Am
 Classic
www.sunvalley.com

6. Pomerelle

Close to 190 miles from Boise
 just outside of Albion
 Estimated travel time: three
 hours
 500 ride-able acres
 1,000-foot vertical drop
 24 runs with dispersed terrain
 features around the mountain
www.pomerelle-mtn.com

Southeastern and Eastern Idaho representing:

7. Pebble Creek

Head to Pocatello for about
 three hours. Stay on freeway
 headed towards Salt Lake.
 Take Inkorn exit and follow
 signs to Pebble Creek. Esti-
 mated travel time: 3.5 hours
 1,100 ride-able acres
 2,200-foot vertical drop
 54 runs with terrain park
www.pebblecreekskiarea.com

8. Kelly Canyon

Head to Idaho Falls, then to
 Swan Valley. Follow signs to
 Kelly Canyon. Estimated travel
 time: four to six hours
 740 ride-able acres
 1,000-foot vertical drop
 26 runs with terrain park
www.skikelly.com

9. Grand Targhee

Close to 355 miles from Boise
 Estimated travel time: five to
 6.5 hours.
 Bogus Season Pass holders sk
 for free when lodging at Grand
 Targhee.
 3,000 ride-able acres
 2,200-foot vertical drop
 72 runs with two terrain parks
 500 inches average snowfall
 2005/2006 season events
 to attend: log onto www.grandtarghee.com for a list of
 weekend clinics

Up North:

10. Lost Trail Powder Mountain

50 miles outside of Salmon
 Estimated travel time: five to
 six hours
 1,000 ride-able acres
 1,800-foot vertical drop
 35 runs with a rail park
 300 inches average snowfall
www.lostrail.com

11. Lookout Pass

Just outside of Wallace, north
 of Coeur d'Alene
 540 ride-able acres
 1,150-foot vertical drop
 23 runs with two terrain parks
 including a 1,111-foot
 quarter pipe
 400 inches average snowfall

gion Ski/Snowboard Resorts

12. Silver Mountain

Outside of Kellogg, east of
Coeur d'Alene

1,500 ride-able acres
2,200-foot vertical drop
67 runs with terrain park
www.skisilver.com

13. Schweitzer

Eleven miles northwest of
Sandpoint

2,500 ride-able acres
2,400-foot vertical drop
67 runs with 250 acres of ter-
rain park
300 inches average snowfall
www.schweitzer.com

Over yonder...

UTAH

14. Alta

367 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: six to
seven hours
2,200 ride-able acres
2,020-foot vertical drop
www.alta.com

15. Brighton

383 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: six to
six and a half hours
1,050 ride-able acres
1,745-foot vertical drop
www.skibrighton.com

16. Powder

315 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: five to
six hours
5,500 ride-able acres
2,105-foot vertical drop
www.powder.com

17. The Canyons

370 miles from Boise; esti-
mated travel time: 6.5 hours

3,500 ride-able acres
3,190-foot vertical drop
www.thecanyons.com

18. Snowbasin

321 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: five to
six hours
2,660 ride-able acres
3,000-foot vertical drop
www.snowbasin.com

19. Park City

370 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: 6.5
hours
3,300 ride-able acres
3,100-foot vertical drop
www.parkcitymountain.com

20. Snowbird

367 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: six to
seven hours
2,500 ride-able acres
3,240-foot vertical drop
www.snowbird.com

21. Solitude

370 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: six to
seven hours
1,200 ride-able acres
2,047-foot vertical drop
www.skisolitude.com

OREGON:

22. Anthony Lakes

140 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: two to
four hours
300 ride-able acres
900-foot vertical drop
www.anthonylakes.com

23. Mt. Bachelor

317 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: six

hours
3,683 ride-able acres
3,365-foot vertical drop
370 inches average snowfall
www.mtbachelor.com

24. Mt. Hood Meadows

403 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: six and
a half hours
2,150 ride-able acres
2,777-foot vertical drop
www.skihood.com

25. Mt. Hood Ski Bowl

411 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: seven
hours
960 ride-able acres
1,500-foot vertical drop
www.skibowl.com

WYOMING:

26. Jackson Hole
370 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: seven
and a half to eight hours
2,500 ride-able acres
4,139-foot vertical drop
www.jacksonhole.com

MONTANA:

27. Big Sky
476 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: nine
hours
3,600 ride-able acres
4,350-foot vertical drop
www.big-mountain.com

28. Bridger Bowl

476 miles from Boise estimat-
ed travel time: nine hours
1,500 ride-able acres
2,600-foot vertical drop
www.bridgerbowl.com

29. Discovery Basin

498 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: seven
hours
614 ride-able acres
1,670-foot vertical drop
www.skidiscovery.com

WASHINGTON

30. 49 Degrees North

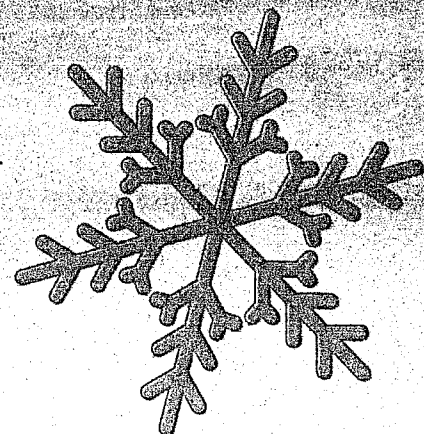
475 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: eight
hours
2,325 ride-able acres
1,600-foot vertical drop
www.ski49n.com

31. Blackwood

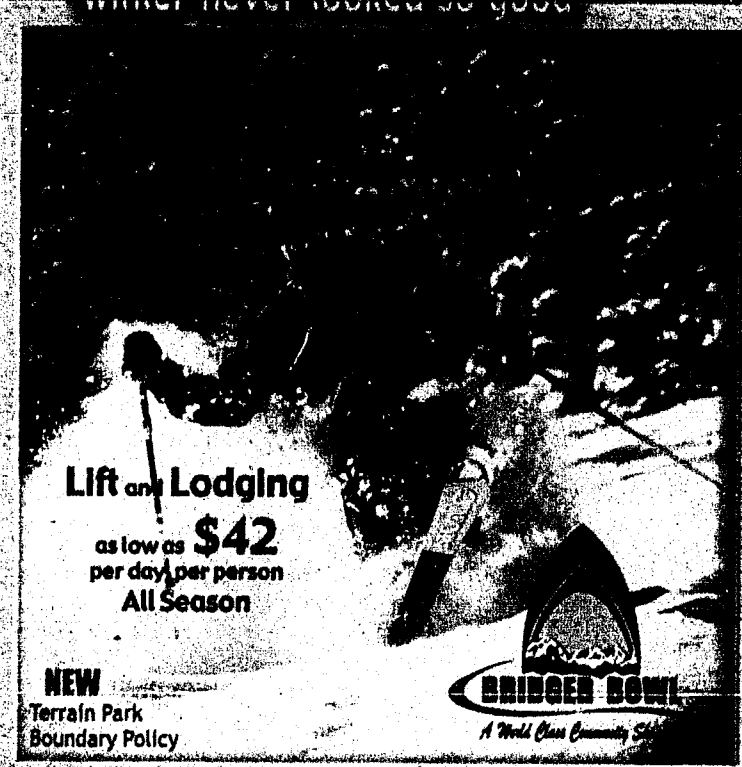
290 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: five hours
430 ride-able acres
1,125-foot vertical drop
(509) 382-4725

32. Crystal Mountain Ski Resort

Close to 500 miles from Boise
Estimated travel time: 7.5
hours
2,300 ride-able acres
3,100-foot vertical drop
www.skicrystal.com



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You Frozen H2O cluster
falling in hordes
dragged by gravity's tug
and whipped by the whimsy of wind

Ode to Snow

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY

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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