

11-6-2006

Arbiter, November 6

Students of Boise State University

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THE ARBITER

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT VOICE OF BOISE STATE SINCE 1933

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2006

arbiteronline

ISSUE 24, VOLUME 19, FIRST ISSUE FREE.

CULTURE

PAGE 4

The Culture section goes under the knife with cosmetic surgery while uncovering the frightening truth about date rape.

OPINION

PAGE 7

The Arbiter's Editorial board begs you to get off your asses and exercise your right to choose your representatives in local, state and national government. Vote and Live! Do It.

SPORTS

PAGE 10

Read highlights and commentary from players and coaches from the Bronco win at Wyoming Saturday.

BIZTECH

PAGE 12

Ever thought how you were going to afford your first home? BizTech writer Jordan Bradley tells you how to buy your first home on a Top-ramen budget.

ARBITERONLINE.COM

It's your last chance to hear what the candidates have to say before Tuesday's election. Click on any candidate's name and listen to their interviews in the special Election '2006 section.

Opinion Writers Shannon Morgan and Amy Bowman discuss sex after divorce in the latest edition of, "Notes from a former soccer mom."

WEATHER



TUESDAY
High: 65F / Low 46F



WEDNESDAY
High: 51F / Low 36F



THURSDAY
High: 48F / Low 31F

ON CAMPUS

TUESDAY

Majors Fair.
Student Union Jordan Ballroom.
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Boise State Career Center invites students to investigate their options as they plan their future. Representatives will be available to answer questions and talk with students.

Diverse Perspectives Series:
"Shadya." Student Union
Barnwell Room. 5:30 to 7 p.m.
Shadya, a 17-year-old Muslim girl, Israeli citizen and world karate champion fights to win her independence from the traditional life expected by her community. Part of the Diverse Perspectives Film Series.

THURSDAY

Point Of View Conference:
Student Union. 10:15
a.m. to 9 p.m. Academic presentations about citizen activism by students, faculty and community members. The theme is "Ask Not What Your Country Can Do For You: The Need for Citizen Involvement in Politics."



BY HADLEY RUSH
Arbiter Staff

Soon Boise State students will have more to read than just periodicals, reference books and encyclopedias at Albertson's Library. Students will be able to read the Starbucks menu. Construction for the well-known coffee chain will begin inside the Albertson's Library around the middle of November and should be completed in January.

"They are shooting for January, but it might be longer depending on when they start construction time so it's least disruptive to students," Dean of University Libraries Marilyn Moody said.

The building plans show the Starbucks will be built where the periodicals once were (to the right upon entrance). Most periodicals are online-accessible now and don't require the shelf-space they once occupied, explained Coordinator of User Services Janet Davis.

"The current plan calls for 1250 square feet," Davis said. "It will be pretty well-constructed, with thick walls and insulation - totally enclosed." Which, she explained, should limit possible noise problems.

But according to Moody, the first floor doesn't need to be quiet for students.

"There are different places in the library for different kinds of activities," Moody said. "The first floor is a busy floor, it's not a quiet area. The third and fourth floors are for quiet."

Coffee grinding, people chatting and other potential distractions brought about by the coffee chain's opening don't seem to bother library employees who hope Starbucks will liven up the atmosphere and bring more students through its doors.

"We're hoping people will come in to get a cup of coffee and it will make them say 'oh, I'm here, I've got this paper due, I'll go find some books, some journal articles.'"

But not everyone is so warm and welcoming. Jessica Ekburg, a Moxie Java employee on the BSU campus, said some of her fellow co-workers are concerned about the coffee chain addition.

"The biggest fear is that Moxie [Java] will close," Ekburg said.

However, Ekburg thinks there could be benefits to a Starbucks on the BSU campus. "It's a money-making label," she said. "That name just makes money."

Moody said they're trying to build an environment within the library specifically for students to "hang out."

"We were looking to add a place with comfortable seating - now we'll have it," Moody said. "We're just looking forward to the students coming in the library."



at
BSU

Careful, the paper you're
about to enjoy is extremely hot

THE HEADLINES

WORLD

Brazilians call Halloween cultural imperialism

Around a corner from Rio de Janeiro's St. John the Baptist cemetery, where Brazilians solemnly gathered Thursday to mark the Day of the Dead, lies a different kind of message about holidays and death.

"To hell with Halloween," reads a sign plastered to a wall underneath a giant beer billboard. "Long live our national culture." The message is clear, except to the millions of Brazilians who have never heard of Halloween.

To bring home the point, the word "Halloween" is underlined with red, white and blue to represent the United States. "National" is set off by stripes of Brazilian yellow and green. The latest offending export is not soda pop or Hollywood schlock. Now it's the ghosts and get-ups of Halloween that outrage.

"We must all reject this," said the protest organizers, who described Halloween as a "satanic sect, disguised as cultural expression."

Lest anyone think the protest springs from a belief that Halloween conflicts with Christianity, the Movement for the Valorization of the Culture, Language and Richness of Brazil makes clear that the devil lives not below, but above.

"We can no longer abide such subversive concessions to our culture," said the movement's anti-Halloween manifesto. "In the same way, we can no longer abide the absurd economic concessions to transnational corporations that drown in champagne and wallow in caviar at our cost."

For Jorge Becher Mezher, the idea that Halloween could pollute Brazilian culture is a stretch. After all (he pointed out while standing before a marble family crypt) the concept of embalming, entombing and revering the dead is not a Brazilian invention. It goes back to the ancients.

"This started with the Egyptians," he said. "We copy things, and the good things we copy are still with us today."

But Halloween? No, not much in Brazil. At least not yet.

"This thing with the witches, it's for the Americans," Becher Mezher said. "They are the only ones who believe in witches."

NATIONAL

Cingular, XM, Yahoo and Napster join forces

Cingular Wireless on Thursday launched the first wide-ranging subscription music service for mobile phones, striking deals with XM Satellite Radio, Yahoo Music, Napster and eMusic.

By paying a monthly fee ranging from \$9 to \$15, Cingular customers can listen to commercial-free satellite radio or choose from several million songs at three of the nation's more popular music-download sites. Short clips of songs could be sampled for free and, in the case of Napster, could be purchased for 99 cents each. Cingular, co-owned by AT&T Inc. and BellSouth Corp., ranks as the nation's biggest mobile-phone carrier in terms of customers. Cingular's decision to focus primarily on subscription music represents a different strategy than what rivals Verizon Wireless and Sprint Nextel Corp. are pursuing. The latter two allow customers to download songs directly to their phones.

Verizon charges \$2 for each direct download and Sprint charges \$2.50, although Sprint also offers access to music channels supplied by Sirius Satellite Radio. Users of Verizon's service can also pay 99 cents per song if they download to their PC.

Cingular said it would unveil a wireless-download option next year, but executives believe such an approach is unlikely to generate as much business in the long run, in light of the higher cost of delivering music that way.

The carrier's latest initiative represents a sharp turnabout from its original foray into the music business. Last year Cingular became the first mobile operator in the United States to offer customers access to a major music-download site when it launched a venture with Apple Computer, Inc. Cingular has taken

the same approach to expand its offerings so customers can choose from a variety of sites and download music in a variety of formats.

By hooking up with XM Satellite, Yahoo and Napster, Cingular might be able to attract more customers willing to pay for music on their handsets.

LOCAL/BSU

City officials warn of ploy

Nampa officials are concerned about a ploy to get into homes by callers claiming to be city water employees. Nampa Spokeswoman Sharla Arledge said Thursday that the Water Department has been made aware of individuals who are calling residents on the phone telling them they need to stop by and check the water in their house. The city is not conducting water tests from homes, she said.

"If anyone receives a call or has someone come to their door asking for entry on behalf of the Water Department, the Nampa Police should be called," Arledge said.

Officials said actual Nampa Water Department employees can be identified the following ways:

- Employees wear orange shirts with "Water Department" printed on them.
 - They carry a city identification card that includes their photos.
 - They drive white pickups with the city seal on the door.
- Nampa Police dispatchers can be reached by calling 465-2257.

Courtesy of Idaho Press Tribune

WHAT THE?

Mr. Bomber, we can see you

A man walked up to the drive-through window at a Burger King in Salt Lake City and demanded to be served. The girl refused, saying that the drive-through was for people in cars. After pounding on the window, the man then walked to a nearby phone booth and, while in full view of the employees, phoned in a bomb threat to the restaurant. He was arrested.

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Boise State University Student Union and Activities Presents

POINT OF VIEW

November 9, 2006
10:40am-9:00pm
Jordan Ballroom



"Ask Not What Your Country Can Do For You"
The Need for Citizen Involvement in Politics

Thursday November 9th, 2006

10:15-10:40
Welcome and Coffee
Catherine Naillon

10:40-11:30
Todd Shallat PhD.
The Politics of Violence

11:40-12:30
Bryan Fischer, Executive Director, Idaho Values Alliance
"When Good Men Do Nothing"
-Involving the Pro-Family Community in Public Policy

12:40-1:30
Keynote Speaker: Ed Mcluskie PhD
Points of View Without a Venue? For the Powerful, Priceless

1:40-2:30
Michael Blain PhD.
Why the Global War on Terrorism is a Fraud

2:40-3:30
Chuck Thomas: Vote for a Better Idaho
Battle Against Idaho's Forced Annexation Law, The Ethics Deficit in Idaho Politics

3:40-4:30
Ginny Eggleston and Robbi Blessin: Idaho Libertarian Party
"Political Activism: Making real differences on the local front."

4:40-5:30 Panel Discussion lead by Dusty Bodie
The Bridge Between Politics and Community Service as perceived by students, faculty, and community representatives.

6:00-7:00
Matt Dewey Graduate student, Communication
Catalyst

7:00 - 9:00
Film presented by SPB
An Inconvenient Truth

9:00 - 9:15
Closing Ceremony
Catherine Naillon

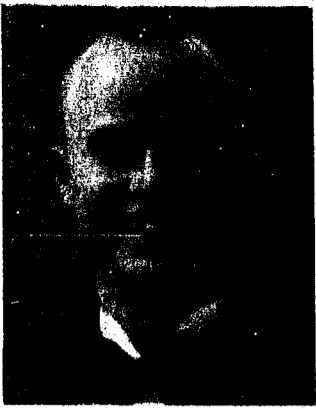
For detailed information visit:

union.boisestate.edu/pointofview



BOISE STATE

Non-newsworthy news



The power of one vote

BY CHAD MENDENHALL
News Editor

What would happen if the seats of our government were determined by the simple toss of a coin? Would George Bush have called heads or tails?

In 1996 just one meager vote could have elected a member of the Limestone County Board of Education in Alabama, but instead the election was decided by a coin toss.

On the seventh, Americans across the nation have the potential to be a part of something people have previously killed for - the freedom to vote and actively participate in their government.

The most common excuse for not voting has always been "my one vote won't make a difference." The truth is, one vote can and has made the difference.

Consider this:

- We speak English in the United States because of one vote.
- One vote awarded Adolf Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party.
- Thomas Jefferson was elected by one vote to the House of Representatives in 1800.
- One vote gave Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency of the United States in 1876.
- In 1867 the Alaska Purchase was ratified by one vote, eventually allowing Alaska to become the 49th state in the Union.
- One vote brought Texas into the Union.
- In 1846 one vote determined a declaration of war with Mexico. The victory increased the U.S. by five states - California, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada.

In Florida, only 537 votes decided the outcome of the presidential election in 2000.

If you have an opinion, grudge, bias, ideology, faith or pulse, let it be heard.

On Nov. 7 1916 voters in Montana elected Jeannette Rankin to the House of Representatives, where she became the first female member of Congress.

Rankin exercised her right to vote when, in 1917, she cast her vote against the resolution to enter World War I.

In 1941, Rankin again voted against entering another World War.

"As a woman I can't go to war and I refuse to send anyone else. I vote no," Rankin said.

The history of voter rights and eligibility in the U.S. is long and complicated.

In 1776 voting rights were based on property ownership, sex, religion and age.

The 14th Amendment extended citizenship to "All persons born or naturalized in the United States," granting citizenship to former slaves and thereby allowing them to vote.

Unfortunately, most state officials continued to deny voting rights to former slaves, so in 1870 the 15th Amendment was ratified and insisted that "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

In 1920 the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote.

Congress recognized Native Americans as citizens in 1940, but it wasn't until 1947 that all states granted them the right to vote.

The voting age was lowered to 18 in 1971.

Considering the history behind the right to vote in America, the annual turn out of voters may prove America to be one ungrateful nation.

One vote does matter.

More people, more pollution produces more smog

BY MARTEE ORTIZ
News Writer

Those who have lived in the Treasure Valley for years have experienced the smog associated with wintertime.

Smog creates a number of health risks and concerns.

Typically, grade school students are taught that heat rises - but what happens when winter chills overcome the heat?

Inversion, or the atmospheric state in which temperature increases as altitude increases, traps the polluted air in the valley.

Exhaust from automobiles mixes with the wintery air to produce distasteful air quality.

Now that cold weather has trounced the summer heat, smoke from wood stoves and fireplaces only add to the problem.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality will start to adhere to the federal six-color alert system instead of the three-color alert system used in the past.

The DEQ reports this will impede 2,500 premature deaths in the United States annually.

But with this new federal

system comes stricter standards for air quality.

For example, the Environmental Protection Agency made some changes recently.

In the past, the threshold for dusty particles was set at 65 micrograms per cubic meter. Now the number stands at 35.

Complying more strictly with governmental standards, the DEQ will issue more yellow alerts this cold season. Yellow alerts prohibit outside burning and possibly even fireplaces and wood stoves.

However, the courts will

most likely challenge this new standard.

"We are going to go ahead with the new [regulations] until we hear otherwise from the EPA," Michael DeBois, air shed manager of the DEQ, said.

As for the Treasure Valley, "The Idaho Statesman" Reporter Cynthia Sewell believes that as the population continues to grow pollution will only get worse.

"In the past 10 years, the population of Ada and Canyon Counties has increased more than 50 percent, putting 140,000 additional vehicles onto the

roads and their exhaust into the air. A comparable increase is expected during the next 10 years," Sewell said.

It is the responsibility of the people to lessen air pollution.

"I think it is really important that people who don't have health issues to be sensitive to those of us who do," school nurse Meg Lawson said. "If you don't have asthma, you don't know how scary it is when you cannot breathe. We all breathe, so we all are vulnerable. Even if we think we don't feel those particles, they are in our lungs, causing irritation."

Anyone can help better the environment and therefore reduce inversion and smog. The DEQ has four simple steps that...

Pollution Prevention Techniques

These recommended techniques reduce waste management practices from auto body to production. They waste preventing pollution is the ultimate goal.

leaks and spills and keeping wastes segregated. Reuse: If the waste cannot be eliminated or reduced, try to identify a way to reuse it, or find someone else who can use the waste. Recycle: After trying to eliminate, reduce or reuse the waste, the next option is recycling.

Eliminate

The best way to manage potentially harmful waste is to eliminate why the waste is generated. Changing a process, using different raw materials or modifying the product may prevent the waste from being generated in the first place.

How to help reduce vehicle emissions

Drive less: The most effective way to reduce emissions from your vehicle is to use it less. Ride the bus or carpool to reduce the number of cars emitting pollutants. If possible, choose non-polluting travel such as walking or biking. Reduce commuting: Choose to live close to your work. Organize a carpool at your work.

Call 815-2008 for help.

Combine trips to the same area. Once you arrive, park your car and walk between destinations. Avoid idling during peak traffic hours or in stop-and-go traffic.

Maintain your car: All cars emit some pollutants, but poorly maintained cars emit the most. A properly tuned car runs better, gets better gas mileage and pollutes less. Get regular tune-ups. Vehicles with worn spark plugs or clogged fuel or air filters do not run efficiently and emit more pollutants.

Keep tires properly inflated and wheels aligned to reduce the drag on the road. Car mileage drops one percent for every pound below the recommended level of pressure. Don't top off the gas tank. This allows harmful chemicals to seep into the tank.

Drive wisely

The harder your engine works, the more gas it burns and the more tailpipe emissions you create.

Avoid carrying unneeded items. Each extra 100 pounds increases the amount of gas used by four percent.

Place items inside the vehicle instead of on roof racks. Remove roof racks when not in use. The wind drag from a rack increases gas consumption by almost one full percent per gallon.

Drive at a medium speed. Most cars get the best gas mileage between 35 and 45 miles per hour.

Drive at a steady speed. Avoid stop-and-go traffic and take it easy on the brake and gas pedals.

Use the air conditioner only when necessary. Air conditioners can reduce your gas mileage by 20 percent.

Avoid long idles at drive-up windows or when waiting. Idling a warm engine takes less fuel than letting it run for just 30 seconds.

During hot summer months, limit vehicle use in the evening to facilitate dissipation of volatile organic compounds that contribute to ozone formation.

Low-emission vehicles

Hybrid vehicles use both a conventional gas-powered engine and an electric motor to power the vehicle. With the assistance of the electric motor, the gas engine can be smaller (and therefore less polluting). Hybrid vehicles can reduce air emissions of smog-forming pollutants by up to 50 percent and cut carbon dioxide emissions in half. Currently, Toyota and Honda produce hybrid cars.

Natural foods and medicines cause uncertainty

BY CASSIE GUTIERREZ
News Writer

More and more people seem to be taking natural medicines, eating organic foods or choosing naturopathic and homeopathic doctors over more traditional health care systems.

Natural supplements are becoming more popular as the nutrition industry grows. Currently, the nutrition industry is one of the nation's largest natural supplement manufacturers. There are many reasons that people choose natural medicines over more traditional ones, but professionals warn that precautions must be taken.

"It's got to be buy or beware," Campus Nutritionist Hilary Horton-Brown said. "There are some great things out there, but you need to understand that in the supplement world and in the herbal, natural and organic world there aren't that many rules." Labeling in natural medicines can be misleading.

"Something you have to be aware of is [natural medicines] are considered foods so they don't have the

same pre-marketing and post-marketing that a drug requires through the FDA," Pharmacy Manager of St. Luke's Medical Center Catherine Gundlach said. According to Gundlach, there are two major safety measures to take with natural medicines.

"If you're going to take them, you need to try to take reliable ones and you need to do it under the direction of your physician, because they interact with other things," Gundlach said. "Also, with pediatrics, you really ought to stay away from natural medicines."

However, natural medicines are not completely unreliable.

"People are looking for this type of medicine," Naturopathic Physician of Boise Natural Health Sara Rodgers said. "And I think that the multi-billion nutritional industry knows this."

People often turn to natural medicines and remedies due to the fact that they can be less expensive.

"I think people in the United States want a quick fix to their problems - medical problems or otherwise," Gundlach said. "Some people

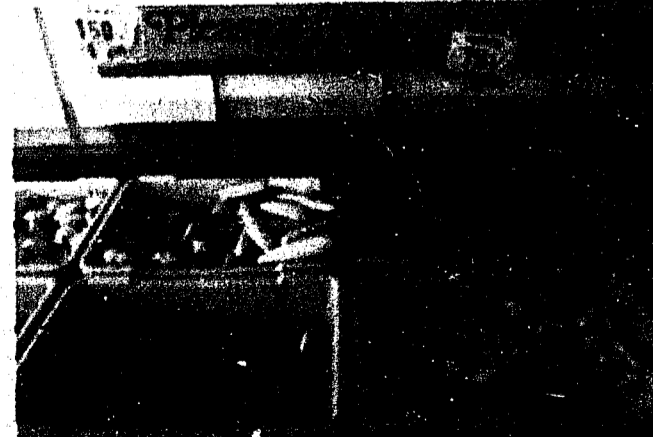


PHOTO COURTESY HCT

Eating nutritional or organic foods give people an alternative to traditional health care.

want to self-direct their care. I think they [natural medicines] are way more marketed and are sometimes more cost effective." Additionally, when an individual gives up on traditional medicine, natural remedies offer another option.

"I think some people give up on

[traditional doctors], especially if they have a disease like cancer, so that might be why they turn to alternative methods," Horton-Brown said. "If I have a patient who is looking into [natural remedies], I find everything I can [about the ingredients] and make sure there are no reasons to not take it."

Organic food alternatives are not as cautioned as natural medicines.

"There are some good reasons for organic foods," Horton-Brown said. "There's less toxic chemicals, additives and stuff like that on the crops. I think people are concerned about how many pesticides are contaminating ground water and stuff."

Although organic foods may be healthy, organic foods alone do not make a person healthy.

"My toolbox is nutrition, lifestyle counseling, homeopathy, hydrotherapy and environmental medicine," Rodgers said, referring to her medical toolbox for a healthy, disease-preventing lifestyle.

"People getting their five to nine servings of veggies and whole grains - those are going to matter a lot more than where [the food] came from," Horton-Brown said. "If those foods can be organic, then that much more power to it. But it's more important that they get the basics."

"The number one thing I would recommend would not just be organic, but more importantly, local food. Time is what destroys a lot of nutrients."

LOCALLY
GLOBALLY

WHAT'S HOT
WHAT'S NOT
IN ENTERTAINMENT



BY DANIEL KEDISH
Culture Editor

Globally

HOT

'Grey's Anatomy' off screen
While "Grey's Anatomy" continues to dominate the No. 1 spot in the ratings, one can't deny the pleasure on hearing the drama doesn't stop there. According to officials, it appears cast members just can't get along the way they ought to. With a story line involving gay bashing, fights and name calling, "Grey's Anatomy" adds a taste of reality to its already-hyped popularity.

Apparently, actor Isaiah Washington (Dr. Preston Burke) may lose his job if rumors are true, after calling his co-star T.R. Knight (Dr. George O'Malley) a "faggot." However, 10 days later, Knight admitted to the allegations and came out to the public.

Washington caused even more theatrics earlier, having brawled with Patrick Dempsey on set. The show may continue to grace the top spot in entertainment, but there's no denying the intrigue on hearing what our favorite characters are doing off screen.

NOT

Reality television to destroy NBC
NBC announced they are cutting back on evening sitcoms and dramas to give way to reality television. This means shows such as the past "Friends" and "The Cosby Show" will be replaced with "Deal or No Deal" and similar programming. The conclusion came after NBC decided to cut back on their expenses, meaning the loss of 700 jobs and \$750 million in its budget. Head officials noticed the enormous interest in reality programming versus scripted material. Considering the cheapness in production of reality television, NBC decided to cut funding and follow the masses.

Let us just hope quality entertainment may once again return to the peacock station.

Locally

HOT

Fall foliage photo shoots
Now that all the leaves have turned and the air is crisp, it's the perfect time to host a fall photo shoot with a group of friends. Busting out the cameras now will let you capture some vibrant colors and fun (even if they end up looking like ads for American Eagle or Abercrombie and Fitch).

The best part is to plan an entire afternoon. Buy some champagne, put on a scarf and roll around in the leaves. The event is sure to embrace friendships and make memories worth remembering.

NOT

The deal with political ads
It's election season again and that means only one thing: the ruthless ad campaigns attacking everything from candidates to their mothers.

This year it appears Republicans and Democrats alike are going lower than they have ever gone to deface each other, and to tell you the truth it may be funny, but we want to hear the issues, not who did what with who, where and with what. One ad targeting Congressman Harold Ford Jr., promotes the idea that he's a young playboy, which shows one woman asking him to call her in sexually-suggestive tone.

Apparently there are no limits this time around about what is acceptable campaigning and what's not. While it makes for some interesting entertainment, I find the commercials a low-blow without discussing the real matters at hand: the government and its propositions.

College students turn to a little nip and tuck for beauty

BY DANIEL KEDISH
Culture Editor

Whoever said "Looks aren't everything" probably would never believe what is happening today. Cosmetic surgery continues to take the world by storm and no one is exempt from its pressures to improve one's image - especially college students. While certain procedures help those suffering from physical ailments and disfigurements, more and more individuals are signing up to alter the way they look in hopes of stronger sexual appeal.

Even though a small percentage of society can actually afford these procedures, college students are forking over the large sums for bigger breasts and "perfect" noses thus creating even larger debt and financial hardships for the price of looking better, which can be extremely damaging to a person's body while they continue to develop and change at such a young age. In the beginning of the plastic surgery era, procedures took place in situations concerning life and death or in situations dealing with injury damages.

Extremely overweight people would have liposuction when exercise became impossible. Those with breathing issues might have undergone a nose reshaping in hopes of promoting proper breathing. However, today's society is going under the knife for numerous reasons, vain and otherwise. According to the American Society of Plastic Surgeons' yearly statistical information, in 2005 there were 3,581 breast augmentations, 3,084 liposuctions and 47,386 nose reshaping performed on people ages 18 and younger.

These issues aren't only centered around women either - men of the same age group had 4,223 breast reductions performed in the same year. While some cases may have incorporated serious issues, the overall desire to improve one's outward beauty continues to increase cosmetic surgery's popularity. One reason for the grow-

ing interest in the "quick fix" to physical looks may be the entertainment industry. Shows such as "The Swan," "I Want a Famous Face" and "Dr. 90210" center around these operations and the public can't seem to look away. Audiences watch as the shows take viewers along for the ride to an altered self-image and hopes of better self-esteem.

In most cases the operations are done purely for beauty and not for health reasons. One episode of "I Want a Famous Face" follows the story of a pair of twins who undergo numerous operations to look like Brad Pitt, while another episode shows a man getting calf implants because he wants to look stronger.

"The Swan" also focused upon the idea of a person's self image over anything else, with a beauty competition between the women in the end to see who is the most beautiful. With such programming entering homes across the globe, the cosmetic surgery movement is growing and creating even more interest in college-aged individuals who already deal with the troubles of self-image and physical acceptance.

Dani Jones, patient coordinator at Dr. Kramer's office in Boise and a local official in the plastic surgery field, spoke briefly on the topic of cosmetic surgery. While mentioning that Boise alone does not see many college students seeking work done, mostly because of expense, she does state there is growing trend throughout the nation.

"People are realizing the physical things that have always bothered them can be altered, repaired, augmented etc. to fit more closely with society's standards and expectations," Jones said. "As much as a society would like to embrace imperfection, there is still a lot of pressure to look a certain way."

Jones also made the point that many people do not realize the seriousness of the operations and weigh the pros and cons before signing the release form. She

learned this herself after having her own breast augmentation in her college years, which produced unfavorable results and the loss of even more money to pay to have them redone. While many people turn to medical procedures to increase self-esteem, there are college students who feel quite differently.

Mary Cook, a sophomore Elementary Education major at Boise State made the statement that she would never have plastic surgery.

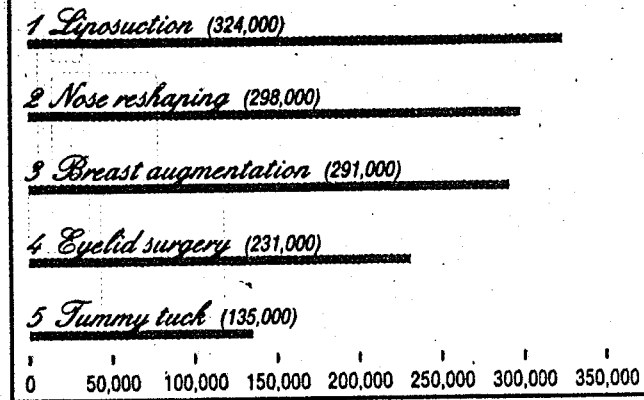
"There are things I'm unhappy about but paying someone to cut them out or add things is not the answer. I think the thought of having to change myself instead of heading to the gym or eating right is sad," Cook said. "I think it would be weird to look in the mirror and not see the same person I've been for 20 years. I think it's sad that people are doing it at such a young age, especially when your body and face are still changing."

This opinion is a popular one but there are still students saving up the thousands of dollars to have breasts augmented and lips injected. The ASPS reported that the average price of a breast augmentation in 2005 was \$3,406.

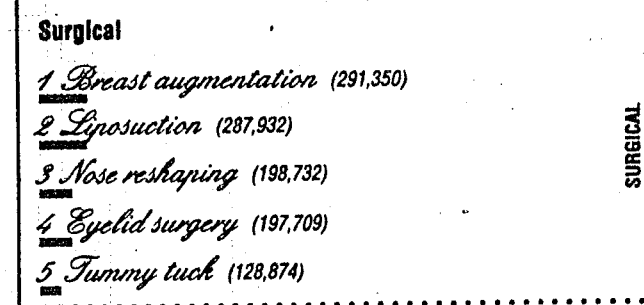
The combined amount paid for this operation alone came to \$992,230,851 that year - showing just how the cosmetic surgery movement has grown. People will continue to seek medical attention and there are a few recommendations physicians have for those interested. Patients need to do their research on the operations, consequences, side effects and especially the history of the physician of choice.

Jones had these final remarks to make, "Think long and hard about the 'pros and cons.' In most cases the pros outweigh the cons, but not in every single case. Be prepared financially as well. One must accept the risks and possible complications before going under the knife."

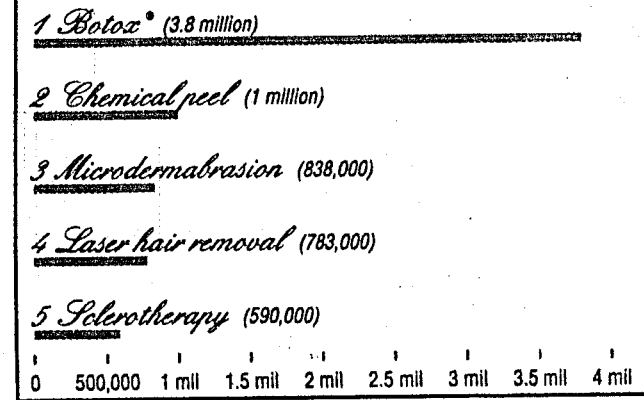
Top Five Surgical Cosmetic Procedures in 2005



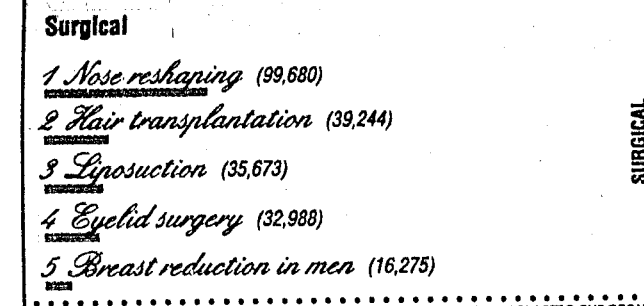
Top Five Female Cosmetic Procedures in 2005



Top Five Minimally-Invasive Cosmetic Procedures in 2005

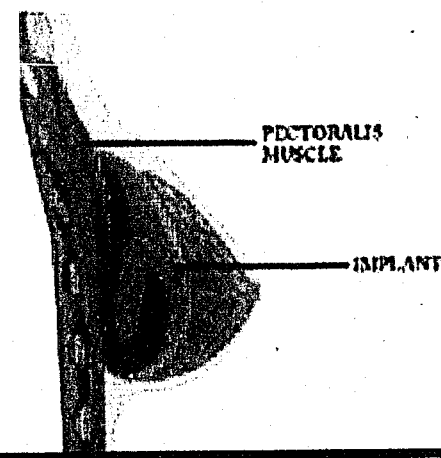


Top Five Male Cosmetic Procedures in 2005

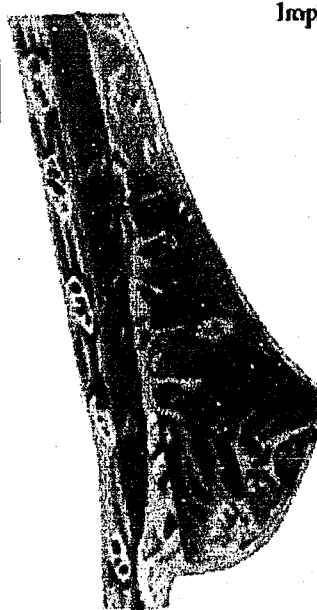


INFORMATION GRAPHICS COURTESY AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS.

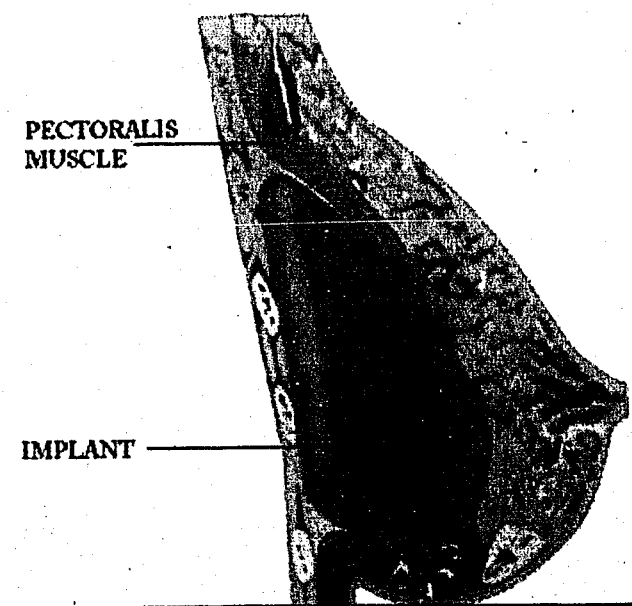
Implant may be placed above the pectoralis muscle and the breast tissue



COSMETIC PATIENTS ETHNICITY			
Caucasian	7,833,689	77%	84%
Hispanic	921,079	9%	6%
African-American	768,512	8%	5%
Asian-American	437,395	4%	3%
Other	154,128	2%	1%



Implant may be placed beneath the pectoralis muscle and the breast tissue



GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATIONS BY LEONA ELLSWORTH/THE ARBITER

'Girl gets raped' vs. 'man raped girl'

BY KATRINA L. SAVITZ
Assistant Culture Editor

It's Friday night, you hear about a group of students who are throwing a party at an off-campus house and all your friends are going. You agree to join them since you don't want to be the only one not at the party. The house is packed and the music is blaring. You look around and notice everyone holding red plastic cups. The air is full of smoke and body heat, but it doesn't really bother you since the party is jumpin' and everyone is having a blast. You grab your very own red cup and fill it up with an ice cold golden beverage served straight from a keg. It tastes gross at first,

but you keep drinking, spilling most of it on the floor while you shake your tail feather with the girls on the dance floor. Hours have gone by, but you haven't taken any notice. You're too busy droppin' it like it's hot and playing crazy drinking games like King's Cup. It's all good though - you're hitting it off with that hot guy from your Poli Sci class and he is looking better than ever. Within minutes you and Poli Sci hottie are making out in the corner of the hallway. When out of no where your stomach starts turning and you start breathing faster. "I don't feel very well, I think I

See Rape [page 6]



Eaters to und... college students

BY FRANK...
C...

counts as the option. Students
and hundreds of movie theaters

burgers. For some, the
Grill plays live music in addi
to serving burgers. Right ac

BOY

...a large num
...versity studie
...things flock
...city
...slammed on the 18, 19, and 20
...year-old college population.
...Awyes. Those transitional years
...where undergraduates leave be
...hind the immaturities of high
...school, but cannot fully embrace
...nightlife scene, have set in. As
...prom night seemed, now it
...looks like a lot of hoopla that re
...sulted in sore feet and an expen
...sive outfit never to be worn again.
...And somehow, wheeling through
...the Burger King drive-through in
...a shopping cart has lost much of
...its appeal.

...s Edwards
...es students
...\$1.50 for its movies, while the
...Flicks (located on Fulton Street
...downtown) charges students \$6
...instead of the \$8 general-admis
...sion price.
...Numerous cheaper theaters in
...hail the outskirts of Downtown
...Boise. The Country Club Reel
...Theater on Overland Road sells
...movie tickets for \$2 and Overland
...Park Cinemas offer a 50 cent
...special on Tuesdays.

Nothing goes better with a
movie than dinner. Hyde Park, lo
cated on 13th Street in the North
End, offers a wide selection of
restaurants. Lucky 13 serves up
a variety of pizzas while Harry's
Hyde Park Pub fixes custom
ers up with good old-fashioned

...erican-made and more
...But there is a lot more for un
...derage college students to do in
...Boise than sit around watching
...movies and eating food. Bowling
...is one way they can be active
...and have fun. Emerald Lanes (on
...Emerald Road) charges \$3 for one
...game with a bowling shoe rental
...charge. On Friday and Saturday
...nights Emerald Lanes offers
...Cosmic Bowling, which features
...glow-in-the-dark bowling equip
...ment and a DJ. Cosmic Bowling
...costs \$3.75 with an additional \$2
...shoe rental fee.

Being underage in Boise
doesn't have to be a drag. Take a
look around, and you'll find this
city has plenty to offer people of
all ages.

you think

problem

do for Student Union Building on a
Friday or Saturday night can also
produce a lot of fun.
Whether playing seriously or
just hanging out, bowling and
billiards are an entertaining
way to pass the time on the
weekends.

Underage drinking won't ever
come to a complete stop, but un
deragers should know that there
are more options for entertain
ment on the weekends than con
suming alcohol.
Best of all, the effects of the
weekends are also
...des. Go
...Live

If you're gonna love, use the glove

BY SHANNON MORGAN
Arbiter Staff

"My girlfriend and I have begun
having sex recently. The first few
times we did, we used condoms.
Lately we haven't. I always pull out
before I come. Is this still safe?"
"Recently someone in my hall
told me that another girl who lives
in our hall has Chlamydia. I do not
know if it is simply a rumor, but
what she told me got me worried.
I know Chlamydia is a sexually
transmitted disease, but is there
any way I can get it from her
considering the fact that we share
the same bathroom?"
"I have genital herpes, but have
not informed my new partner yet.
We recently had unprotected sex
during a time when I had no le
sions present, but may have been
infectious, i.e. experiencing irri
tation and later a tingling sensa
tion. I don't want him to find out
about this by having an outbreak.
How do you suggest I deal with this
situation?"

These are real questions from
real college students, asked and
answered in complete confidenc
iality from the comfort of their own
homes via a fabulous Website called
www.goaskalice.columbia.edu.

Go Ask Alice! is a health Q and
A Internet service compiled by
Cambridge University. It works
to provide readers with reliable,
accessible information and a range
of thoughtful perspectives so
that they can make responsible
decisions concerning their health
and well-being. According to the
Website, "Somewhere between 20
and 25 percent of college students
are or have been infected with an
STD [sexually transmitted disease,
now more commonly referred to
as a sexually transmitted infec
tion or STI]. Although there may
be differences from campus to
campus, Chlamydia, HPV (Human
Papilloma Virus), genital warts and
genital herpes appear to be the
most common STIs among college
students in general."

Wow, that's something to
think about next time you've had
your fourth Red Bull and vodka
and are out dancing at your favorite
downtown bar.

Somewhere between one-in
four and one-in-five people you
see there have a sexually transmi
ted disease - nothing like having
the moral support of a hefty case
of Crabs to help you study for that
final exam. For some people Crabs
are the least of their worries. In fact,
some don't concern themselves
with STDs or safe sex at all.

"We walk around to most of the
bars in downtown Boise and pass
out safer sex packets, which include
condoms, information on safe sex,
how to use the condom properly
and how to get tested. When we
first started a year ago it was a lot
more difficult - people were having
a problem with us passing out con
doms. There was a stigma around
who needs condoms. We heard
things like, 'I'm not gay,' or 'I'm
married,' or 'I'm not dirty' - there
was definitely a negative con
notation around it," said Duane
Quintana, executive director of
Allies Linked for the Prevention
of HIV and AIDS. ALPHA offers
confidential and free AIDS test
ing and counseling at their clinic.
Alarmingly, that seemed to be the
consensus of students I talked to

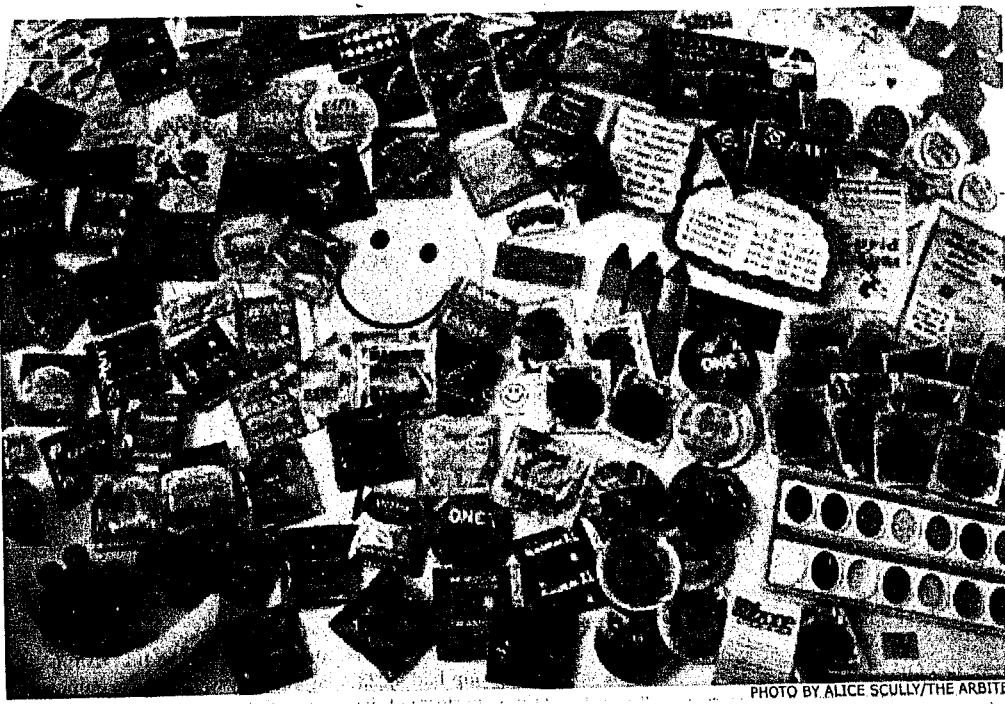


PHOTO BY ALICE SCULLY/THE ARBITER

Practicing safe sex is everyone's business, especially
with the continuing threat of STDs and the risk of
pregnancy. Condoms lessen the likelihood of either
occurring. Misconceptions about condoms can deter
sexually-active people from protecting themselves.



on campus. No one that I stopped
wanted to be quoted for this arti
cle, but I heard similar sentiments
from people I polled on whether or
not they use condoms while hav
ing sex. I got the impression from
people that, to them, things like
AIDS and other sexually transmi
ted diseases were things that hap
pened to other people, not them.

Mostly those I talked to worried
about getting pregnant far more
than they worried about getting
an STD.

"Fifty percent of all new infec
tions are [in people] under the age
of 25. A large number of people
who are being tested and have HIV
are the younger folks.

However, there is a large spike
in the older community of people
contracting AIDS, people who are
coming out of marriages because
of divorce or death and they are out
there trying to date again but never
worried about it before. There is a
real mix of people who get it these
days," Quintana said.

"One thing that's apparent in all
the testing and counseling I do is
a lot of the time alcohol and drugs
- especially alcohol - is a contrib
uting factor in somebody who has
all of the information, who knows
what they need to do and not do.
And then they get drunk and ev
erything they know goes right out
the window. I think sex under the
influence is a real huge concern
and that people should have plans
and strategies around that."

Unfortunately many of us don't
consider these things until it's
too late. For some people, asking
questions about sex and STDs
is embarrassing and taboo. Ignorance is not bliss. There is
power in being informed - it may
just save your life. So make the
decision to value yourself and your
body and take care of it.

If you're sexually active, get
tested for STDs regularly and re
member: if you're gonna love, use
the glove.

Useful information

<http://www.alphaidaho.org/home/index.htm>
For more information on ALPHA and to learn how to get a free HIV/AIDS test

www.goaskalice.columbia.edu
Search Go Ask Alice's Q & A database, which houses numerous sexual health related ques
tions and answers. Alice is produced by Columbia University's Health Education Program.


<http://www.boisestate.edu/healthservices/wellness/info/sexual.asp#articles>
Visit Boise State University's Health and Wellness Center website, which provides informa
tion on the services the center offers to students and other important resources and infor
mation on sexual health and relationships.



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Rape

[from page 4]

should sit down for a while," you say to Poli Sci hottie. You make your way to a random bedroom and sit at the edge of the bed. Sitting is making you feel worse and staring at the floor isn't any better. Just then ...

It's 6 a.m. and your head and heart are pounding synchronously. Your body shivers with cold as you stare at the ceiling. "What happened last night?" you ask yourself. "I don't know," you whisper aloud, shaking your head, just about in tears. As you sit up, you take a deep breath and swallow hard, noticing there are random people passed out all around you and there is no sign of Poli Sci hottie anywhere. Worst of all, your clothes are thrown aim-

lessly around the room.

Quietly, you gather your clothes and dress while you make your way out of the house. Back in your apartment you notice strange bruises on your arms and legs. "What happened last night?" you ask yourself again.

Is this date rape?

According to a study conducted by the National Institute of Justice and the Bureau of Justice Statistics, most victims do not report sexual assaults and/or date rapes because, "They did not see the incidents as harmful or important enough to bring in the authorities ... common answers included that the incident was not serious enough to report and that it was not clear that a crime was committed." Some victims assume, "I blacked out. My bad." But it's

not "your bad."

Sexual assault defined

The United States Department of Justice reports that, "[sexual assault is] any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient of the unwanted sexual activity ... a person does not consent to sexual activity if he or she is forced, threatened, unconscious, drugged, a minor, developmentally disabled, chronically mentally ill or believes they are undergoing a medical procedure."

There is no gray area in this definition. If you did not say yes and sexual contact is made, then its assault. Don't second guess yourself.

Date rape drugs

Not all sexual assaults and/or

date rapes involve drugs, but it is a growing trend and this issue needs to be addressed.

GHB:

Gamma hydroxybutyric acid. GHB can be in the form of a liquid, pill or powder. GHB doesn't have a scent or color. Most people who take GHB experience feelings of sudden relaxation, sleepiness, lightheadedness, queasiness, blurred vision, unconsciousness, convulsions, memory loss, trouble breathing, uncontrollable sweating, slow heart rate, coma and may be even death.

Rohypnol:

Flunitrazepam. Rohypnol is most commonly found in the form of a pill. Reactions to Rohypnol include memory loss,

lower blood pressure, tiredness, muscle relaxation or loss of muscle control, an intoxicated feeling, queasiness, slurred speech, difficulty with motor movements, loss of consciousness, confusion, blurred vision, lightheadedness and stomach problems.

Ketamine:

Ketamine hydrochloride. Ketamine can normally be found in the form of a white powder-like substance. Effect of Ketamine consist of hallucinations, lost sense of time and identity, unclear perceptions of sight and sound, feeling out of control, impaired motor function, trouble breathing, convulsions, nausea, out of body experiences, memory loss, dream-like feelings, lack of sensation, loss of coordination, ag-

gressive or violent behavior and problems talking.

Alcohol:

Beer or liquor. Although alcohol is not considered a date rape drug, perpetrators often use alcoholic beverages in conjunction with the previously mentioned drugs. Alcohol alone can cause memory loss, so it is important to control your intake.

It is vital to remember that just because you were drunk, it does not make it your fault that you were sexually assaulted and/or raped.

Students speak about sexual assault and date rape:

Is sexual assault or date rape a serious issue on campus? Freshman Kelsey O'Toole, 18, said, "Watching TV and watching the things that happen make me think about it sometimes, but I don't worry about it." Freshman Hailey Hyde, 18, said, "It's not much of an issue. You're just told to watch your drink at a party and that's it."

Would you attend a workshop on sexual assault on campus? O'Toole: "I'd think about it. If somebody would go with me I would, but probably not. It's just one of those things that you say, it's never going to happen to me." Hyde: "I wouldn't go."

Experts say that sexual assault and/or date rape occurs mainly by friends or people you know. What do you think about that? O'Toole: "I'm just thinking about my friends right now." Hyde: "That's fucking nasty!"

Is date rape something you find happens more in high school or college? Or both? O'Toole: "College." Hyde: "College. When I went to U of I my roommates would warn me because U of I is known as a party school."

Why don't people report assaults? O'Toole: "People are worried for themselves and the other person."

What do you think about those people who lie about being raped? Hyde: "That's not fair for the other girls that did get raped."

What you can do to help stop sexual assault and/or date rape from occurring:

Clinical Psychologist at Counseling Services Phares Book said, "The way we talk about it [sexual assault/date rape] has to change."

Oftentimes when people talk about a rape, they tend to say "A woman was raped," insinuating that it is the woman's fault. Instead, we should say "A man raped a woman." We need to ask ourselves who raped her.

Book also said that, "Men need to take responsibility. Sexual assault is [mainly] a male problem." It oftentimes is not interpreted that way.

"Lots of times men don't understand that what they do is wrong. Sexual assault and rape is a product of our cultural degradation toward women," Book said.

What can you do if you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted or date raped? Book encourages students to contact someone. He suggests "the Counseling Center, the Women's Center or Boise City Police. Report it and get help."

Counseling Services

Taylor Hall, B103
Phone: (208) 426-1601
or (208) 426-1661
E-mail: counseling@boisestate.edu

Women's Center
Phone: (208) 426-4259
Website: www.women-center.boisestate.edu

Boise City Police
Phone: (208) 577-3000
or 911
Website: http://www.boisepolice.org



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Miami (See Ft. Lauderdale)

Oakland
(18 miles to downtown San Francisco)

Orlando

Philadelphia

Phoenix

Providence
(A better way to Boston)

Reno/Tahoe

Salt Lake City

San Diego

San Jose
(San Francisco South Bay Area)

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The way we see it ...

Your right to vote gives your voice power

Tomorrow, as you got the polls (and you better go to the polls!), think for a second about the true power of voting. It is an opportunity and a right - a right not always held by any Joe Schmoe in any American city.

That initial population of free voters did not include the mass of Americans. The poor were excluded because they did not own land. Women, Native Americans and blacks were excluded from the voting process because of long-standing prejudices in the societies of the new Americas.

The 15th Amendment said the United States would not deny the right to vote to any of its citizens "based on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude," but even then black voters were harassed and influenced by terrorist groups like the Ku Klux Klan. Not until the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s did true voter freedom take hold.

The United States didn't give women the right to vote until 1920 with the passage of the 19th Amendment.

Both of these amendments were fought for in the Civil War with American blood, the streets of southern cities and the echoes of women shouting for equal rights under the law.

Today, the law is much more open. Every American has the right, the privilege, to cast a ballot.

We accept that a great many of you will choose not to vote tomorrow. You will invent excuses why your day became too busy or you flippantly forgot your responsibility as an American.

You have the right to vote, so do it! In our world of mixed opinions and political controversy, we must voice our power. We may not put our names on pieces of legislation, but our lives literally depend on the decisions we make in those five minutes of solitude, the black curtain pulled tight. We will instigate change in the societies we build.

This is not a space to push you and pull you in some direction as for whom to cast your votes, or whether to check yes or no.

The purpose of this opinion article is to sway you in the direction of a polling place at some point tomorrow, to make whatever decisions you may, just as long as you choose something other than inactivity.

You will vote because you want to exercise your fought-for right as a citizen. You will vote because it is your only chance to truly speak your mind in this representative government.

They say "vote or die." How about "Vote and live?" If you don't go to the polls, you will be nothing more than an uncounted American - a haphazard derelict too obstinate to do something so simple, yet so important.

Our forefathers fought and died for the right to have their voices heard. Live up to their legacy. Vote.

The way we see it is based on the majority opinions of The Arbiter editorial board. Members of the board are Drew Mayes, editor-in-chief; Troy Sawyer, business manager; Heather English, production manager; Dustin Lapray, managing editor; Brandon Stoker, opinion editor; Harsh Mantri, online editor; and Sheree Whiteley, lead copy editor.

What? That wasn't me! That's not us!

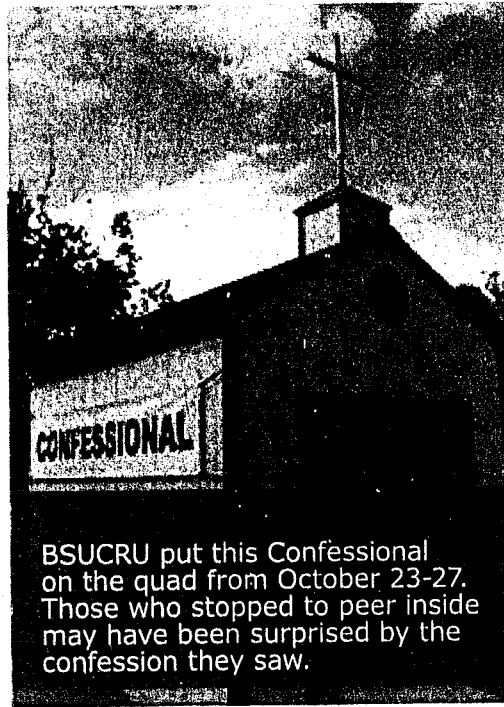
BY BILLY MOGENSEN
Guest Opinion

In last Thursday's edition of The Arbiter, someone claiming to be Billy Mogensen (me) wrote a letter to the editor titled "Join the BSU Campus Crusade." If you read it, I'm sure that it either ticked you off or made you laugh. For me it was both, though the laughs didn't come immediately. I most certainly did not write that ridiculous letter and was not aware of it until it was already in print. If you didn't read it I'm not going to waste space repeating it, but someone obviously wanted to give you the impression that I am an idiot and that Campus Crusade for Christ - known at BSU as BSUCRU - is a proud, fanatic religious group that's out of touch with reality.

What BSUCRU is really about:

Our goal is very simple. We want to let every student on campus know that God loves and cares for them and that He wants to have a close personal relationship with them. Our motive and drive to do this is because of God's love for us (2 Corinthians 5:14-15). We are about building bridges between God and people - not walls. One example of this is the confessional we set up on the quad two weeks ago.

A different kind of confessional:



BSUCRU put this Confessional on the quad from October 23-27. Those who stopped to peer inside may have been surprised by the confession they saw.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLY MOGENSEN

As passers by first glimpsed the white church labeled "Confessional" on the quad, they may have experienced a variety of thoughts and emotions. But anyone who actually took a look inside was probably surprised by what they saw. In case you missed it, here's what you would have read on two banners.

WE CONFESS AS CHRISTIANS...

we are often...

- judgmental.
- hypocritical.
- argumentative, insecure and defensive of our beliefs.
- materialistic (valuing money and things more than God and people).
- unloving, apathetic and passive toward people in need around us.
- not unified in our beliefs (thus denominations).
- uncommitted to the one we profess to be our Lord.

we often...

- make moral issues the focus of Christianity (they are not).
 - show partiality (not treating all people as equally valuable).
 - lack compassion for those hurting from bad decisions.
- We have put into church leadership people who are abusive (sexually and financially).

Because of our sin we have confused people and have gotten in the way of people understanding who God is and what He is about.

Please forgive us and look past our sin and see him.

GOD IS...

FORGIVING
FULL OF COMPASSION,
NOT CONTROLLING
HOLY AND JUST
WANTING TO CARE FOR AND PROTECT YOU
LOVING, KIND, AND PATIENT
UNCHANGING
UNWAVERING
CREATOR OF ALL THINGS
WANTING TO BE YOUR FATHER
FOR YOU

GOD MOURNS OVER HIS CHURCH AND ITS SIN. YET HE CONTINUES TO SHOW COMPASSION TOWARDS HIS CHURCH AND TO YOU.

GOD LOVES AND VALUES YOU MORE THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE

GOD WANTS TO HAVE A CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU!

It may seem a little odd to offer a general apology from Christians to the rest of the world, but we think it makes sense. People can be turned off by the behavior of Christians and hypocrisy is one of the worst sins.

If you have ever known someone who poses as a "good Christian" but acts differently according to the circumstances, you know the feeling - disdain, frustration or perhaps an apathetic "Don't waste my time."

You're not the first. In the Bible Jesus himself vehemently condemned hypocrites: "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness" (Matthew 23:27).

Jesus, on the other hand, was "a friend of tax-collectors and sinners" (Matthew 11:19). This speaks loudly about who Jesus was and what he was about.

Isn't it interesting that the people who felt most comfortable around Jesus were the "sinners," and the people who felt most uncomfortable around Jesus were the "self-righteous religious?" Shouldn't it be the same way with us as his followers?

So what's the big deal about Jesus?

I believe it can be summed up in one verse from the Bible. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

What we've all earned for our sin is spiritual separation from God (death), which has tragic eternal consequences.

But because God loves us so much he offered his Son Jesus to pay our penalty for sin for us by dying on the cross.

That's an incredible free gift that we could never earn and receiving it leads to an eternal personal relationship with God (life).

We'd love an opportunity to meet you and hear your thoughts on any of this. Feel free to drop by our weekly Thursday night meetings (9 p.m., on the corner of Euclid and Hale). If you'd rather have a casual talk one-on-one, let us know. For more information on BSUCRU visit our website, www.bsucru.com.

I plead with you:

Sadly, we have been misrepresented several times this year by sign-toting hell-preachers and deceiving "Bible-thumpers" claiming to be part of our group. My request is this: Don't blindly believe everything you read or hear. If someone claims to represent BSUCRU (Campus Crusade for Christ), compare his message to what you've read here. If the two don't match up please let me know - Billy.Mogensen@uscm.org.

Editors Note:

Mr. Mogensen's guest opinion references a letter to the editor in last Thursday's edition of The Arbiter, titled "Join the BSU Campus Crusade." Mogensen, a Campus Crusade for Christ advisor, has denied that he wrote this letter - a fact that The Arbiter has independently confirmed. The Arbiter apologizes for the mistake and is reevaluating its policies and procedures for accepting letters to the editor, also known as "The way you see it ..."

Sali is not the man I want representing me in D.C.

BY BARRY C. LEWIS
Opinion Writer

Politics are not bloodlines. No one is born Republican or Democrat.

Marty Most, my Reasoned Discourse instructor this semester, puts it (roughly) this way: if you chose your religion and political party affiliation solely based on that of your parents, then you're lazy and simply living someone else's life.

It's never too late to clear off

the table, analyze your own values and beliefs, look with an unbiased eye at what's out there, and choose for yourself. Be true to yourself and no one else.

Like you, I ignore most of the political banging of pots and pans - political ads - and seek out demonstrated behavior. This is where the rubber meets the road and runs right off it into the ditch. I hear the claim that only Republicans are fiscally responsible, then look at how the Bush Administration is spend-

ing us into oblivion today.

I hear the claim that only Republicans support traditional family values, then watch Republican Mark Foley, champion and protector of children and supporter of banning gays from the Boy Scouts, demonstrate his sexual appetite for underage boy pages.

The Republican rubber, zinging loudly with proclamations of traditional values and money smarts, runs off the road when I see the documented, illegal actions of Jack Abramoff and

Tom DeLay.

When I looked for the demonstrated behavior of Republican Bill Sali, for those non-partisan records of action that speak louder than his words, the search finally bore the fruit of observations by long-time Idaho political analyst Randy Stapilus of the Ridenbaugh Press.

"Skillful legislators build bridges; over 16 years, Sali steadily burned them," wrote Stapilus. He's been there, watching and listening and talking with those who worked

with Sali for years. "There's been the overriding feeling ... that the man simply isn't very bright (and possibly) the weakest, least effective legislator in all that time."

Actions speak louder than words for me. And no matter how many hundreds of thousands of dollars the National Republican Congressional Committee and the Club for Growth spend on pots and pans for Sali, the banging rings hypocritical and comes too late. Dinner has already been burned.

you should know

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

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

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

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The way you see it ...

Your movie reviews shouldn't ruin going to movies for me

Is it typical for The Arbitrator to spoil films in its reviews or was "The Prestige" an exception? In the Oct. 30 edition the review revealed several key plot points including the secret to Jackman's magic trick.

In the film, the audience receives its first hints of the secret more than 90 minutes into the film. Also Christopher Nolan's work in "Memento" much more closely resembles "The Prestige."

Perhaps next time The Arbitrator could post a spoiler alert so the reader can choose whether or not he or she wishes to have the mystery unraveled in a movie review.

Amy Taylor
Boise, ID

Sali provides solid leadership in the face of strong adversity

We constantly hear complaints of "business as usual" in politics and then people lambaste every original thinker who comes along, endlessly proving Solomon's observation that there is truly "nothing new under the sun."

For example, while serving 14 years in the House of Representatives John Adams introduced an anti-slavery bill every month.

In defiance of a rule his contemporaries passed prohibiting it. His response to their exasperation was that he was duty-bound to represent his constituents - a unique idea that earned him re-election six times.

Fast-forward 200 years to Bill Sali, another independent thinker whose public record reveals little inclination to chase lemmings - a fact easily illustrated by recalling Bruce Newcomb's now famous (and childish) "idiot" outburst about Sali's supposed lack of "compassion." Has Idaho's oath of office pledge to uphold the state and national constitutions been replaced by one mandating "compassion?" Should Sali's votes on legislation which impact the health and well-being of every Idahoan be based on factual information or on his leader's opinions?

This example perfectly illustrates Sali's commitment to principle in the face of strong opposition - a trait reminiscent of Adams' obstinacy concerning slavery.

Sali's numerous re-elections to public office indicate that he honors his duty to represent his constituents.

Keith Lunders
Elk River, ID

Issues surrounding Proposition 1 and 2 warrant little discussion

Although I'm excited about this election season, I'm surprisingly ambivalent about the debates between issues and candidates.

It's not that I don't have strong opinions about how to vote because I do. Yet the choices this year seem to warrant little discussion.

Take Proposition 1 for instance - A viable future for America requires nothing less than better education.

And when compared with our under-funded national education system, Idaho ranks 42 out of 50 states in optimal classroom size, 44 out of 50 in percentage of students who advance to college and 45 out of 50 in dollars spent per student.

I see no legitimate argument for voting against Proposition 1.

Proposition 2 is another example of needless argument. If we all lived in seclusion, Proposition 2 might be a good idea - as soon as we begin to interact with others people need the ability to create communal rules.

Proposition 2, however, is greed and selfishness leading us into a development nightmare.

Jeremy Fryberger
Ketchum, ID

Elect experience in your Idaho's next State Controller with Jones

I believe Donna Jones's experience in government, business and community service speaks volumes about her qualifications to serve as Idaho's next State Controller. Jones served six terms in the Idaho State Legislature - and for three years she served as Chairman of the powerful House Revenue and Taxation Committee, a prominent position that requires an in-depth understanding of Idaho tax and fiscal policy. For the past eight years, Jones has served as the Executive Director of the Idaho Real Estate Commission, regulating a growing industry that has played an important role in keeping Idaho's economy strong.

A number of important Idaho stakeholders that recognize Jones's qualifications, including her ability to make prudent decisions as a member of the Idaho State Land Board, include ANRI-PAC, which represents approximately 10 different agriculture groups, the Loggers PAC and the Potato Growers PAC. These PACs, along with thousands of Idahoans who have had the opportunity to work with Jones during her 30-plus years of service, are putting their confidence in Jones - and so should you.

Don't forget to vote November 7!

Zachary A. Hauge,
Nampa, ID

Boise State needs civility

BY LEAH A. BARRETT
Guest Opinion

The foundation of higher education is based on intellectual discourse and critical thinking - analyzing data, challenging assumptions and proving or disproving theories.

An essential part of that intellectual dialogue is ensuring that the discourse be civil.

University students today should be discussing the war in Iraq, gay marriage, immigration, etc. And they should be discussing it through critical conversations, the application of good listening skills and respect for individual perspectives.

This "civil" discourse is not occurring on our campus.

Over the past several months, the leadership and staff of the Division of Student Affairs have witnessed several examples of incivility by our students.

There have been hateful words used toward individual students, student organizations and university departments.

Posters have been found attacking student organizations, student leaders and specific groups of people.

Letters to the editor in The Arbitrator and letters to student organization members use language that is disrespectful and uncivil.

The First Amendment of the US

Constitution describes one of our most important freedoms - the freedom of speech.

Per the Boise State Student Code of Conduct, all students at Boise State are protected by this freedom.

Each student has the right to her/his opinion and the right to make it heard. That is not the issue.

As university leaders we want different perspectives discussed and shared. We want students to hear the facts, the theories and the multiplicity of perspectives. But we need to do this in a civil manner, with respect for each other and the foundation of higher education.

We expect and welcome dissent and disagreement; we also expect courtesy

and respect. Students need to learn to challenge opinions, not individuals or groups of people.

There is a difference between disagreeing about closing or opening the border between Mexico and the United States and attacking the Mexican people with hateful words.

Individuals' ethnicities are not something they choose; it is who they are. There is a difference between disagreeing with the United States approach to Iraq and attacking the work of our citizen soldiers. Didn't we learn that lesson during Vietnam?

And there is a difference between how different organized religions interpret the Bible and attacking the people who hold these beliefs. Our values and passions sometimes get in the way, and we

forget that those we disagree with are also people with values and passions, often as intense as our own.

We forget the Golden Rule - do unto others as you would want done unto you. Different variations of this rule can be found in the Bible, the Koran, the Book of Mormon, the Farmers Almanac and Buddhist teachings, to name a few. Shouldn't that be the standard of our behavior?

I am saddened, frustrated and disappointed by the incivility on our campus.

Our community is strengthened by the diversity of perspectives and the diversity of our students, faculty and staff.

Why do we have to attack that diversity? Why do we have to play the game of one-up? Why do we have to attack others in order to make the point that our perspective is the right or better one? Why do we have to be so mean-spirited?

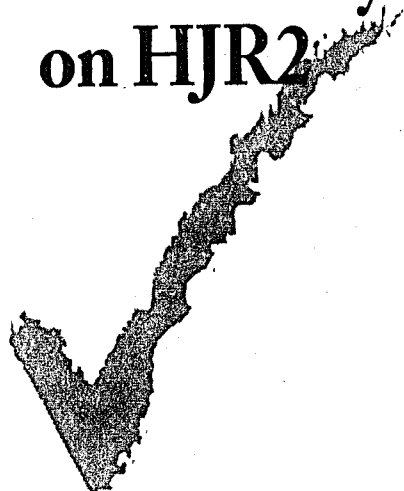
I am not asking everyone to join hands and sing "Kumbaya." I am asking for students to apply critical thinking skills, good listening skills and always apply the Golden Rule.

Boise State will be a better place for it.

Leah A. Barrett is the executive director of the Student Union and Student Involvement

BOISE STATE
UNIVERSITY
— DIVISION OF —
STUDENT AFFAIRS

Protect marriage from violence - vote yes on HJR2



BY JONATHAN SAWMILLER
Opinion Writer

"A marriage between a man and a woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this state."

This one sentence has ignited a firestorm of controversy across the state.

HJR2, the "marriage amendment," would add these words to Idaho's constitution if passed by voters this Tuesday, Nov. 7.

What immediate effect would this have on the citizens of Idaho?

None - state law (Idaho Code 32-201) already defines marriage as being "between a man and a woman."

This constitutional amendment would simply ensure that no activist judge could wrongly interpret existing law as well as reaffirm Idaho's longstanding protection of the institution of marriage.

The small but vocal Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer community around the city of Boise and here at Boise State University are up in arms at the idea of Idaho citizens protecting marriage.

Whether it's a lone handing out rainbow-colored pamphlets in the Student Union or a visiting professor debating a speaker from Focus on the Family, the GLBTQ message is always exactly the same.

HJR2 is an evil amendment that will turn GLBTQ members into second-class citizens and destroy Idaho children's chance to be raised in the loving family environment of a GLBTQ household.

Truth is though, they are wrong and they know it.

HJR2 doesn't even affect the current legal status of GLBTQ members, and they're not second-class citizens.

GLBTQ activists claim that they are denied joint parenting rights, joint ownership of property rights, inheritance rights, hospital visitation rights and medical decision rights rights to

name just a few things they are concerned about.

These don't require marriage, just one simple legal document: a durable power of attorney. Any lawyer can do this for about \$50 bucks.

The second-class citizen argument is a myth.

Anti-protection of marriage activists will tell you that GLBTQ homes are no different than traditional homes. They tell you that Idaho children would be lucky to find themselves in the warm, caring environment of a homosexual home.

Scientific data disagrees.

According to a Bureau of Justice Statistics' Special Report titled "Intimate Partner Violence," only 0.26 percent of married women experience violence at the hands of their intimate partner while the number rises dramatically to 11.4 percent for lesbian couples.

In male homosexuals the increase in violence is even more shocking - rising from 0.05 percent for married men to 15.4 percent for gay couples.

Not only are gay men more abusive, they're also six and one half times more likely than straight men to have experienced mental health issues and attempted suicide, according to a study by R. Herrel published in the 1999 "Archives of General Psychiatry."

Do we really want to legalize adoption into violent, suicidal, abusive homes?

If traditional marriage is not protected in Idaho, this could happen.

HJR2 will help prevent Idaho's kids from being adopted into homes that are statistically predicated to domestic violence.

There are many more reasons to vote for the defense of marriage.

I ask you to consider them all.

Don't listen to the rhetoric of groups like GLBTQ.

Protect Idaho's children and the sanctity of marriage by voting yes on HJR2.

Keep hate out of the constitution: vote no on HJR2



BY AMY BOWMAN
Opinion Writer

Where do you stand? If you don't know but you plan on voting remember that the so-called "gay marriage amendment" will have negative consequences for many people who do not identify themselves as being gay.

Regardless of whether or not you have issues with gay rights, there are a couple important facts that have remained quiet throughout this debate.

First of all, there are currently over 25,000 heterosexual couples in Idaho who are not married - living in civil unions or domestic partnerships, and the addition of this amendment to Idaho's constitution would leave them unprotected by current domestic violence laws and at a loss for benefits.

The amendment is aimed at banishing not only same-sex marriages, but civil unions and domestic partnerships as well.

Currently, Idaho law already makes same-sex marriage illegal: "All marriages contracted without this state, which would be valid by the laws of the state or country in which the same were contracted, are valid in this state, unless they violate the public policy of this state."

Marriages that violate the public policy of this state include, but are not limited to, same-sex marriages and marriages entered into under the laws of another state or country with the intent to evade the prohibitions of the marriage laws of this state" (I.C. 32-209).

If our version of the "gay marriage amendment" passes in Idaho as it has in other states like Utah, Michigan and Ohio, the elimination of civil unions and domestic partnerships will be devastating to those in greatest need of protection - namely women, children and the elderly.

If you think domestic violence

doesn't concern you, you might be interested to know that couples currently receiving employee benefits will lose coverage for their significant others.

At highest risk in this case are the elderly, who make up a growing number of couples that will be affected.

Many older Americans opt not to remarry and choose to live in domestic partnerships, since they risk losing their income if they are retired and will receive pension or other benefits from their deceased spouse.

Since current law already makes same-sex marriage illegal, why do we need an amendment that will pollute our constitution with hate and undermine laws that protect and benefit our citizens?

Yes - I said hate. It was only as recently as 1982 that the Idaho constitution was cleansed of its hateful language for the Mormons, particularly concerning their right to vote.

Mormons know what I'm talking about.

The purpose of the Constitution at the national level as well as the state is to protect the rights of all citizens - not to lay down discriminatory language aimed at a particular group by another group.

Personally, I am very saddened that the proposed HJR2 Amendment made it onto the ballot.

It makes me think of all those who have come before and worked so hard for civil rights and how hard people work even now toward the realization of human rights.

How long will it be until it is your group fighting for not just equality, but basic rights?

How many have been hurt for the color of their skin, their country of origin, their sex, their religion, their age, their disability and especially their poverty?

If you are still undecided, remember this: vote no on hate.

[THIS WEEK IN SPORTS]

Men's Basketball
Saturday
Wyoming
1 p.m.
Laramie, Wyo.

Women's Basketball
Friday
UC DAVIS
7 p.m.
Boise

Men's Cross Country
Saturday
West Regional Championships
TBA
Portland, Ore.

Football
Saturday
San Jose State
7:15 p.m. (PT)
San Jose, Calif.

Men's Golf
Monday-Wednesday
Turtle Bay Intercollegiate
TBA
Honolulu, Hawaii

Swimming and Diving
Friday
Oregon State
TBA
Corvallis, Ore.

Women's Tennis
Friday-Sunday
Duck Invitational
TBA
Eugene, Ore.

Volleyball
Thursday
San Jose State
7 p.m. (PT)
San Jose, Calif.

Saturday
Fresno State
10 a.m. (PT)
Fresno, Calif.

Wrestling
Saturday
Cowboy Open
TBA
Laramie, Wyo.

[SIDE LINES]

Soccer team loses on penalty kicks

The Boise State Soccer Team's season ended Thursday in a heartbreaking loss to the San Jose State Spartans in the first match of the 2006 Western Athletic Conference Tournament.

The two squads battled each other for 110 minutes to settle for a scoreless draw. Unfortunately for Boise State, the tie-breaking procedure to see who would advance to Friday's semifinal against Fresno State consisted of penalty kicks. San Jose State came out ahead, ending 4-2.

Boise State had the edge in shots on goal during the second period 3-2.

In the first overtime San Jose State sent one shot over the crossbar in minute 93. Boise State countered the next minute when Brennan Lau fired a bullet from 21 yards out that was saved by Dayton.

Overall, Boise State had four shots blocked in the first overtime period.

To start the second overtime, Parker made a great diving save to her left on a Liz Behlen shot from the right flank.

Neither team had any solid scoring chances after that, with one exception.

In the final minute Parker came up with a huge stop on a cross to the center of the box when she beat the Spartan attacker to the ball, keeping the match scoreless and sending it to the penalty-kick tie-breaker.

Officially the match ended as a 0-0 draw, with San Jose State advancing on penalty kicks.

Boise State's season ended at 7-7-4 overall, while San Jose State advanced to play Fresno State in Friday's semifinal game with a 7-10-3 overall record.

It was the final match for the seniors: Nicole Coleman, Kristin Hall, Brennan Lau, Molly McDonald, Kim Parker and Annie Tom.

They depart as the highest winning class in program history at 34-35-9 overall in four years.

Football worlds join in holy matrimony

BY JAKE GARCIN
Sports Editor

European futbol (or soccer) doesn't have many things in common with American football. As far as similarities go they couldn't be more different than they are at Boise State.

The women's soccer team lives a life of minor recognition, without any national publicity. On the other hand, the BSU football program enjoys

the luxuries of playing nationally televised games and a fan base that is possibly 50 times larger than that of the American soccer team. However, despite all the differences the two teams have been brought together through a common bond of love.

In June of 2006 Marty Tadman and Nicole James exchanged vows, uniting the second football and soccer couple at BSU.

Marty is a starting safety on the football team, while Nicole is a junior defender for the soccer team.

The couple joined Brad and Brennan Lau as the second pair of married Boise State athletes. Brad and Brennan met in 2003 during the start of Brennan's freshman year on the BSU soccer team.

The two were married in June 2004 and have spent the past two-and-

a-half years as blissfully wed student-athletes.

The phenomenon of two student-athletes marrying during their college careers is rare.

While numerous college athletes find counterparts in the sports world, the ultimate commitment isn't always made.

The Tadmans and Laus have found themselves going down a similar path.

However, their journeys have been nowhere near the same.

High school sweethearts

Nicole and Marty Tadman met in the spring of 2003. Despite both Marty and Nicole attending Mission Viejo High School in Mission Viejo, Calif., the two were introduced just four months prior to Nicole's departure for college.

Nicole was a recent high school grad with plans on playing college soccer at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Marty was waiting to enter his senior year of high school, which meant the two had limited time to spend together.

"His whole idea about the reason we started dating was he wanted to make it as happy for me [during] my last four months in California," Nicole said. "He took me out to

dinner all the time, flowered me with affection and gifts. He was perfect."

The perfect life couldn't last forever. The two became separated by nearly 1,700 miles.

The distance prompted a commitment from the young couple that neither had experienced before.

"The last month before I left it was kind of rough," Nicole said. "We knew it would be to that turning point of if we would stay together for the rest of our lives or break up."

Despite their share of struggles, both remained determined to make their long distance relationship work.

As with most couples, the two saw good times and bad. The biggest challenge was presented when Marty moved to Boise in the fall of 2004 to begin his collegiate football career at Boise State.

"When he was in season we didn't see each other for at least six to eight months at one point," Nicole said.

"When you're only talking to someone on the phone and it's your only mode of communication, you learn a lot about each other. For some reason, especially with me, we felt we had to be together and that we stay through the tough times. We eventually did and I'm here now. So it leads to a happy ending, but it was really rough."

The struggle proved to be worth it - Marty proposed to Nicole in the spring of 2005. Nicole decided she was going to transfer to Boise State to finish her soccer career.

A few weeks later Marty popped the question. The two spent the 2005-06 school year engaged before getting married on the cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean at San



Fate overpowers

Brad Lau graduated from Capitol High School in 1999, a year before Brennan Erickson entered high school at Boise High. Over the next few years Brennan developed into a collegiate-caliber midfielder. Meanwhile, Brad was serving on a two-year church mission. Although he was away from football for two years, Brad had already committed to playing at Boise State.

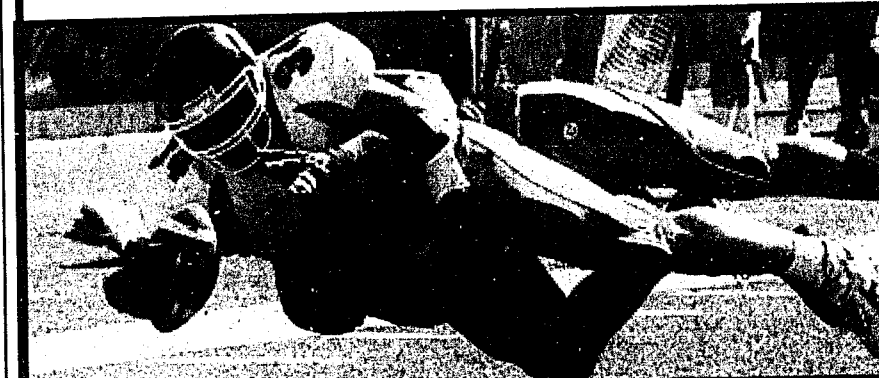
After returning to Boise, Brad spent the 2002 football season as a red shirt practice player for the Broncos. By 2003 his football career at BSU was in full swing. Simultaneously, Brennan was entering her freshman year on the Boise State women's soccer team.

The two were introduced through mutual friends on a blind date in Oct. 2003. The couple quickly began dating and in March of 2004 Brad proposed to Brennan. Just eight months after meeting the two were married (June 26, 2004). Despite the fast progression of their relationship, Brad and Brennan reflect that there wasn't any doubt that it was the right

thing to do.

"People ask me [if we were nervous] all the time," Brennan said. "They always think it's weird that I say no, but it wasn't. I just knew it was right. It's been easy. It's been fun. We've been really blessed and lucky with how well things have gone."

After two years of marriage, it is almost forgotten how perfectly things had to work out for Brad and Brennan to even meet for the first time. Whether it was fate or luck, the Laus were a mere telephone call away from leading different lives entirely. As Brennan eventually chose to pursue her college soccer career at Boise State, she was seriously considering playing at the University of Utah instead. Brennan was so serious she was actually on the phone ready to commit to Utah when she decided it wasn't the right decision. Her decision proved to be the right choice both on and off the field. Brennan recently finished her career at BSU tenth in career goals (7). She also met the love of her life at BSU. According to Brennan it has also been comforting to remain near both their families.



"I think being around my family has been such a blessing," Brennan said. "My dad passed away unexpectedly my freshman year right before I met Brad. That's just been huge, being by our families and having their support."

Because of Brad's two years away from football, he and Brennan are both finishing their final seasons of college athletics. Brennan played in her final collegiate game Thursday Nov. 2. Brad is down to three regular season football games and a possible postseason bowl game to finish his career.

"What's going to be different is in the next six months when we're both done," Brennan said. "It will be a huge change."



PHOTOS BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Splitting time

Most people assume the life of a college athlete is far too time consuming to accommodate a relationship. For both the Laus and Tadmans, however, their athletic bond seems to relieve tension through their shared personal experiences.

"I think both of us came into the relationship with similar experiences," Brad said. "We feed off of each other's strengths and motivate each other to improve and to get better every day. Being married definitely is a benefit. To some people it can be a distraction to sports, but for us I actually think it's been a strength."

Marty and Nicole both agree that the comfort of having someone to go home to after a long day has helped them recover from bad days. Whether it is in school or on the playing field.

"I have someone there for me all the time when I come home, which is really comforting," Marty said. "Knowing if you have a rough day or you're sick of football or sick of school, you can go home and have someone to talk to and hang out with. She's always supporting me and encouraging me."

Struggles still remain with conflicting schedules, which leaves little time for either couple to spend together during the fall months. With soccer and football seasons running simultaneously, time is limited for four months of the year.

Fortunately the other eight months of the year are much more wide open for a normal married life.

"The only part that's been kind of difficult was during fall camp,"

Brad said. "We're here pretty much all day long and don't get to see each other for three weeks. I would say that's the only time it's been really difficult. We actually get to see each other more during the season than we thought we would."

One thing that has helped Nicole and Brennan is being able to watch their husbands on national television while on road trips. ESPN has provided a venue for both women to see three games this year, which they wouldn't have been able to watch otherwise. However, Marty and Brad haven't had the same luxury.

"Her Sunday games at home are the only games I get to see, and those I only get to see a half of because we have football that day," Marty said. "So I talk to

her on the phone afterward and have her give me the low-down on how she played and how the team played. I love to keep track of it, but I wish I could see every game of hers and support her like she does for me."

It seems both couples have made it through the roughest times and grow closer to life together, without sports. While Brad and Brennan plan on remaining in the Boise area, Marty and Nicole are leaving it up to God to lead them the rest of the way.

"We have no idea what's going to happen," Nicole said. "Even if there is a small possibility in the NFL, he's only going to go if God wants him to go. You don't even know what could happen next week let alone next year, so we're just planning day by day."



Dunt duh duh... Superfan!

BY JAKE GARCIN
Sports Editor

Supportive, fanatical or just plain insane?

These are three of the many terms used to describe that fan. You know the fan I'm talking about. He's the guy (or girl) that would possibly give up a major organ for a 50-yard line ticket to a major bowl game.

He or she is the Superfan - the cream of the fanatical crop. Some Superfans show support by dressing in replicated mascot outfits. Others opt to paint themselves from head to toe and spell out something on their chests with ten other overweight men.

Regardless of attire, the superfan is a modern sports marvel. I'm attempting to find out if he's good for the game. One thing is for sure: Not many can rival Superfan's enthusiasm.

More often than not, a Superfan isn't representing his team for the first time. As it happens to be, the development of a Superfan is a long process. Most take 10-plus years to sculpt and mold into a super-freak sports fan. As with becoming a monk, Superfans have to denounce nearly all their possessions and commit their life to serving the team that they would consider dying for.

In Wyoming I sat in the press-box watching a fan stroll the sidelines for 60 minutes wearing nothing but cowboy boots, a cowboy hat and a barrel. From 100 yards away it was hard to determine if the student in the barrel was a freshman or a senior. As he approached, however, it became apparent we were dealing with a Superfan. The 60-year old man had a George Costanza body but wasn't about to let arthritis and sagging "man-boobs" slow his team spirit.

I have yet to see a true Superfan at Boise State. Thankfully for the rest of us there seems to be a steady dose of half-hearted Superfans to replace the one embarrassing fanatic. BSU only has people who make Boise State dog capes for their weiner dogs and carpet their vans with old pieces of blue turf.

While no real nut jobs have paced the bleachers yet this year, there have been many candidates for the Half-Off Their Rocker Award.

I embrace it. It's what makes college football the greatest spectator sport in the world.

In the pros a Superfan can't claim that they once played for the team they are rooting for. In college, however, superfan probably attended a communications class in 1978 and has been hooked on Bronco football ever since.

It's actually reassuring to know that if the school thing doesn't work out I have a future as a 7-11 clerk and a Superfan.

Of course, I've got 50 pounds to gain and a whole lot of ambition to lose. I think I'm still capable - it's all about dedication and that's something I don't lack.

So I pose the question to you again. Is the Superfan good for college football? I'd have to be crazy to say he isn't. College football brings about community pride in a way that is unrivaled by any other American sport.

Superfans simply exude a little more community pride than the rest of us.

So as BSU treks closer and closer to a coveted Bowl Championship Series game, how about a toast to the Superfan?

After all, this one's for him.

Humble Johnson climbs Heisman ladder

BY KYE JOHNSON
Assistant Sports Editor

As the Boise State football team continues to creep its way higher and higher in the national polls and rankings, Bronco running back Ian Johnson's name continues to get thrown around more seriously in the Heisman talk.

The shifty sophomore from San Dimas, Calif. leads the nation with 20 rushing touchdowns. He also ranks second in the nation with 1,317 rushing yards. The "Johnson for Heisman" talk is being thrown around all over the country, ranging from ESPN.com (where he is currently on their "Heisman Watch List") to some CBS sportsline voters who publicly have Johnson ranked as high as third in their polls.

Even with all the buzz going around, Johnson continues to remain humble.

"People know way more about it than I do," Johnson said. "I don't read the newspaper anymore. I don't watch TV. I just stay in my own little bubble. It's great for my family. It's great for the team, great for the city. It's not me that got that; it's the team. I'm just part of that team. Without the defense, without the linemen, without my wide receivers making blocks, none of

this would have happened. I just happen to be the person whose name is attached to it, since they can't say the Boise State Broncos are up for Heisman."

That all may be true, but Johnson's performances - particularly his performances on national television - have him listed among the Heisman hopefuls. Currently, most polls show Ohio State quarterback Troy Smith leading the race with a trio of players behind him. Most lists include Johnson, Rutgers running back Ray Rice, West Virginia running back Steve Slaton and Notre Dame quarterback Brady Quinn.

"I didn't even know my name was in the Heisman at first. That shows how much I was paying attention. Then to have it mentioned with me, that's the biggest honor to me ever," said Johnson. "It's one of those things where I know there's five other dudes out there who deserve their name on it also and those are my linemen."

In BSU's most recent game against Fresno State, flyers made their way around Bronco Stadium promoting Johnson and his Heisman campaign.

"I loved it," Johnson said. "I actually didn't notice it until someone threw one from the top row and it



PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

Ian Johnson is ranked as high as fourth in ESPN Heisman watchlists. Johnson is second in the nation in rushing yards and has led BSU to No. 13 in the "USA Today" college football poll. Johnson leads the nation with 20 rushing touchdowns.

hit me. I was like, 'what is this, an airplane?' Then I opened it up and I was like 'whoa, that's sweet!'" Boise State has played three

games already this season on ESPN and Johnson has performed well in each of those games.

In all three games the Bronco-

fense has given the ball to Johnson at least 22 times and he has rushed for a total of 11 touchdowns. Johnson's 11 touchdowns in three

ESPN games is more than the second rushing scorer in the WAC. Hawaii's Nate Iloa is the No. 2 rushing scorer this year with only eight touchdowns for the entire season.

But despite all of his success, Johnson is not the front-runner to win the award.

However, if he continues to perform well on national television for the remainder of the year he may at least make the trip to New York for the awards banquet, which is annually held at the Downtown Athletic Club in New York City.

"I've never been to New York, so I think I'd enjoy it," Johnson said. "It would be the highlight of my career to this point and I'd enjoy every moment of it. It's not one of those things that if it doesn't happen, I'm like, 'wow, I failed myself.' It's not one of my goals. All my goals, I have the team involved. I don't want to put myself before anyone. If the team does well and there's no Heisman, that doesn't matter."

Boise State has two remaining games to be shown on ESPN, next week against San Jose State and its regular season finale against Nevada.

"It's one of those things. If anything it would be an honor for my team more so than me."



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Men's hoops readies for preseason

BY BRIAN LUPTAK
Sports Writer

The Boise State Men's Basketball Program kicked off the season last weekend with two games in Taco Bell Arena.

Instead of jumping right into regular play, the Broncos played two exhibition preseason games to evaluate where the team is at. The objective behind the exhibition games was to put the players out under the lights, giving them a feel for the environment of the arena.

The mission was accomplished, and at the same time the Broncos tore apart their helpless opponents by margins of 40 and 50 points. The victims were the Wolves of Western Oregon University and the Thunderbirds of Cascade College.

Bronco Head Coach Greg Graham is hoping the good start will carry over into the official preseason. In years past the Broncos have experienced a slow start and faced mediocre teams. This is not the case this year, however. Graham and the Broncos are preparing for perhaps the toughest start to a season since Graham took over in 2002.

"It's going to be a lot harder," Graham said. "Our conference is by far the best since I've been here, so hopefully it will get us ready for con-

ference play."

Just last year the Broncos began their season facing easier matchups such as Weber State, Montana State-Northern and Idaho State. This year, however, is a different story. The first competitions of the season are guaranteed to require a substantial amount of effort.

"We have to play a 6-10 kid at Colorado State that's going to be drafted and a 6-10 kid from BYU that's going to get drafted," Graham said. "We're playing at Wyoming and maybe one of the toughest places to play is at Montana. They're loaded up with most of their guys back."

With such challenging competitors in the very near future, the exhibition games raised some questions about whether overconfidence could be an issue. Some fans felt that beating two teams by nearly 50 points each would create big heads going into tougher games, such as the season opener in Wyoming.

"It's really not the opponent, it's all about us," junior forward Matt Nelson said. "It doesn't really matter who we play, what the score was in the last game - we're just going to try to go out there and play our game and do the best we can at our game regardless of the opponent."

Senior guard Eric Lane shared

Nelson's opinion that consistency is a goal for the Broncos this season. Neither player is expecting to see the team take advantage of its confidence-boosting weekend.

"This year is about us," Lane said. "Regardless of who we are playing, we're going to bring our 'A' game. Our game play shouldn't change whoever the team is."

Another advantage of the exhibition weekend was giving playing time to the younger players. Coach Graham was pleased to see the freshmen on the team get out on the floor, since they will more than likely red shirt and not get another chance this season.

The biggest payoff, however, will be if the two competitions can rid the team's nervousness for the beginning of the season and prepare them for their tough opponents. The Broncos will begin their 2006-2007 journey this Saturday when they travel to Laramie, Wyo. There they will face the Cowboys, who lost the Mountain West Conference Championship last year in overtime to San Diego State.

"It will definitely get us ready for the conference," Graham said. "We're going to play some good people. We have to be ready to go. We need to make sure we take care of ourselves and get us one."

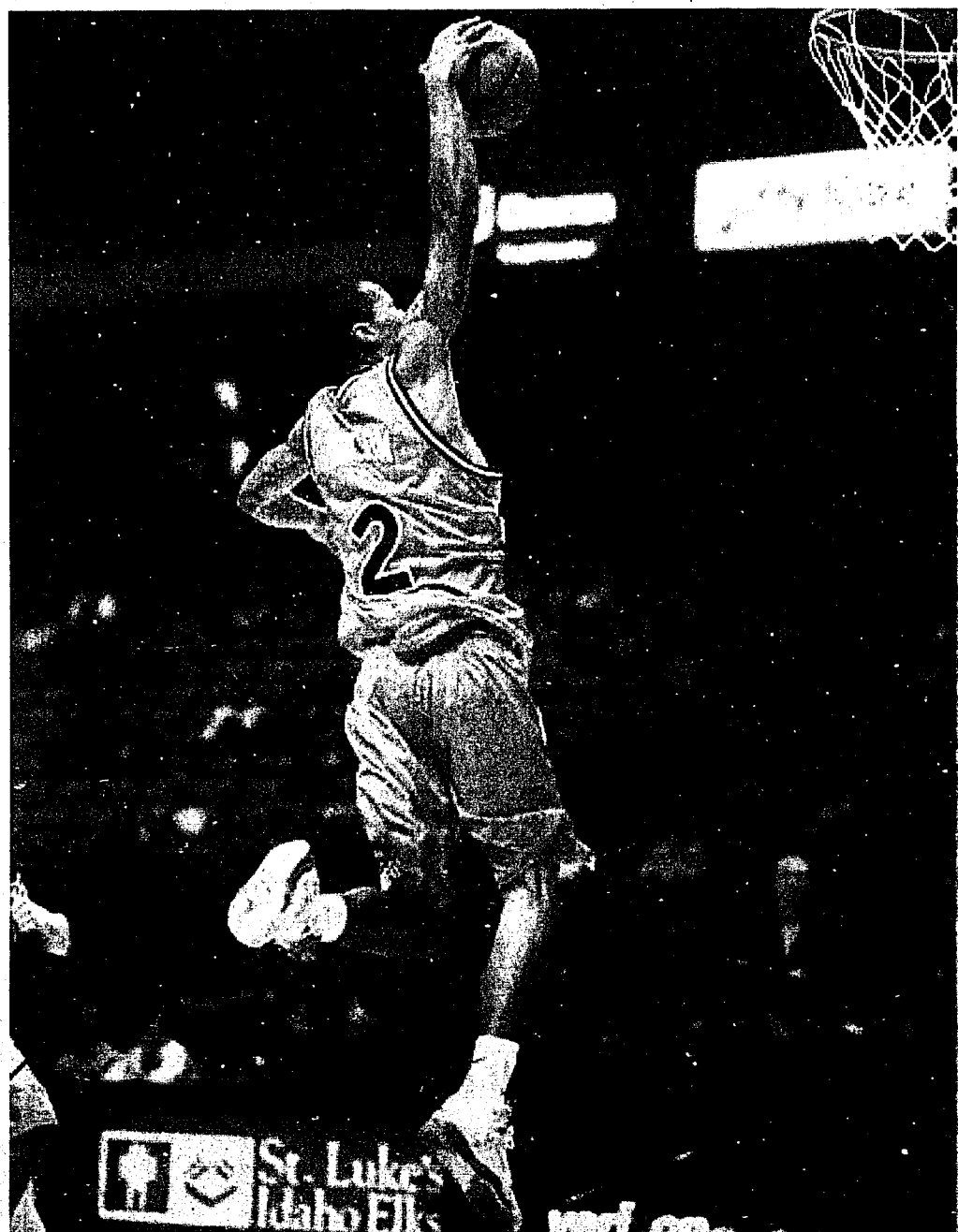


PHOTO BY STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

The Broncos trip to the University of Wyoming for the preseason opener Saturday.

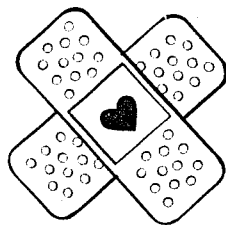
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FLU SHOT CLINICS

November 8, 9, 15, 22, 29

Health, Wellness and Counseling Services will be offering Flu Shot Clinics for all interested students, faculty and staff.

When: Wednesday, November 8, 6:00am-6:00pm
Where: Health and Wellness Center, 2103 University Drive

When: Thursday, November 9, Noon-2:00pm
Where: Canyon County Center, 2407 Caldwell Blvd, Room 140

When: Thursday, November 9, 3:00pm-6:00pm
Where: Boise West Campus, 5500 E. University Way, Student Services Conference Room 107

When: Wednesday, November 15 at the Health Fair, 10:00am-3:00pm
Where: Jordan Ballroom, SUB

When: Wednesdays, November 22 and 29, 8:00am-5:00pm
Where: Health and Wellness Center, 2103 University Drive

How: Walk-in patients will be accepted only during the Wednesday and Thursday clinics as noted above. Students may call 426-1459 for an appointment to receive the vaccine at other times. Departments, clubs, etc., that wish to receive the vaccine as a group are asked to please call Betsy Johnson, RN, BSN, at 426-2354 prior to walking in to ensure that adequate staff are available to administer the vaccines.

*Students and employees must bring ID.

Cost: \$19 for students; \$22 for faculty/staff. Students enrolled in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) will not be charged this fee. SHIP will be billed. Other insurance plans may cover the vaccine (check with your plan). Departments that purchase vaccines for staff members should forward a roster to Betsy Johnson, RN at betsyjohnson@boisestate.edu, or by fax at 426-3005.

For More Information: Please contact Betsy Johnson, RN, BSN, 426-2354.

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Run Forest run

Forest Braden won the WAC and now runs his route, chasing the top of the NCAA



PHOTO COURTESY BRONCOSPORTS.COM

BY ANDREAS KREUTZER
Sports Writer

The Boise State cross country team runs more miles a week than most people drive - 90 miles per week to be exact. The team meets six times each week and runs up to 18 miles on a single day. Depending on the time in the season, the runners have two to three "hard days" a week on which they rack up a lot of mileage. On the other days they do what they consider "easy running" for recovery.

All the hard work has paid off for senior All-American Forest Braden. Braden, of Bonners Ferry captured his first individual Western Athletic Conference cross-country championship title Saturday, Oct. 28 at Woodward Park. He beat out Utah State's Vance Twitchell by 28 seconds to become the first Bronco to ever win an individual WAC title in cross-country running and showed his significance to the program.

"He is pretty much considered to be the No. 1 runner to be produced out of the state of Idaho," BSU Cross Country Assistant Coach David Welsh said. "He's helping to put Idaho distance running on the map."

With his 8,000-meter time of 24:15, Braden broke a nine year-old track record at Woodward Park that had been set by Southern Methodist University's Clyde Colenso in 1997.

"Colenso was a very good runner from South Africa," Welsh said. "Forest breaking his record was pretty significant."

Welsh has coached Braden for the last four years and has seen the runner continually progress. Braden was not considered a blue-chip recruit coming out of high school, but had shown the signs of a strong runner, Welsh said.

"He was kind of a second-tier guy," Welsh said. "Idaho has a lot of second-tier guys. They just don't get to run against the competition that some of the big states have. Because of that the times aren't as fast and therefore they're not considered blue-chip, but they're every bit as tough and every bit as talented. They just don't get the exposure."

In his freshman year at BSU, Braden was considered among the top four runners on the team. Some fifth-year seniors on the team helped him to improve coming into college, Braden said.

"In my sophomore year I came in with a new mentality," Braden said. "I came in strong and was No. 1 from my sophomore year."

Braden considers the WAC title as a four-year project. He finished third in 2004 and 2005. His plan of improving every year allowed him to attain his goal of claiming the championship.

"It's been a progression," Braden said. "It's something I've always been looking for and I really wanted to get the WAC Cross Country title under my belt. To be the first Bronco [to do that] is pretty big."

Coming out of Bonners Ferry High School, Braden looked at various colleges including the University of Portland, Montana State and Iona. He chose BSU after a visit to Boise.

"I had a buddy going down here, so I just came down and visited and loved it," Braden said. "[Boise has] a lot of good trails, the Greenbelt and the foothills. I feel really lucky. I have a good team, a lot of good teams to train with and a good coach. I just feel like it was a great decision."

Braden started running in seventh grade. His decision to make cross-country running the sport of his choice was influenced by

his older brother.

"Going to the high school races and watching him just got me into it," Braden said.

Being a runner and being named Forest has not always been easy for Braden. He has heard his share of "Run Forest, run" jokes.

"When I was little, I would hear it and I'd kind of get mad about it," Braden said. "Now it's just funny, I kind of like it."

Ever since he started running in junior high school, Braden has been driven to push himself. Braden said that his teammates have helped him a lot.

"It's been great having Ty (Axtman) on the team," Braden said. "He's up there with me every workout. He's pushing me, ahead of me sometimes. Having the goals in sight and thinking about the competition, going to the regionals and the big events we've been to, has definitely been a big motivator."

Braden will start in the West Regional Championships on Saturday. The race will be held at Blue Lake Park in Portland, Ore.

Braden has to finish among the top five individuals at the regional meet to earn a berth in the NCAA Championships at Terre Haute, Ind. Coach Welsh expects him to accomplish this goal and to finish among the top runners at the nationals as well.

"He has qualified for nationals twice in cross country before and I expect him to make it again this year," Welsh said. "He'll look to have a top 15 finish (at the nationals) for sure and if everything goes OK he'll possibly have a top 10 finish."

The tournament will feature the two top teams from each region as well as the five best individuals. There will be around 250 runners competing for the national title.

Senior cross-country runner Forest Braden won Boise State's first individual WAC title at the conference championship meet Oct. 28. Braden also broke the course record which had been previously set in 1997. Braden is set to compete Saturday at the Regional Meet for a trip to the NCAA championships Nov. 20.



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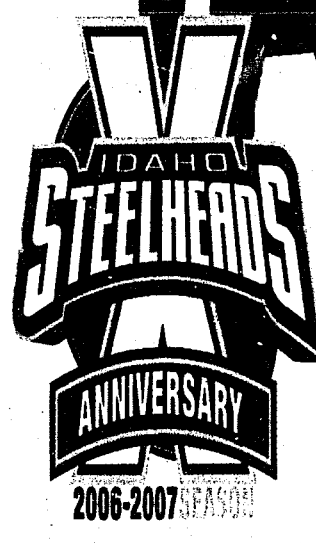


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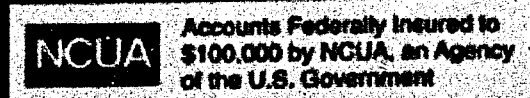
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Numbers printed as of press time

How to purchase your first home on a Top Ramen budget

BY JORDAN BRADLEY
BizTech Writer

As college students, how many of us have asked why we are dedicating four years and at least \$25,000 to earn a degree?

I imagine that the answers vary from personal fulfillment to saving the world from some catastrophe, but the most common answer will be some variation of "to increase my value and wage-earning capabilities."

Despite these reveries of financial fulfillment, we face the reality that money is tight and fee increases every other semester only enhance the difficulties.

So, what can we do, beyond attend class, to justify the money invested and make our dreams a reality upon graduation?

The most rudimentary step that any college student can take is to build his/her credit

and any student can do this even those on a Top Ramen budget. Purchasing your first home can be a difficult task, and mortgage companies love making it more difficult than necessary - they earn more money that way.

A good credit score can save you tens of thousands of dollars over the life of your mortgage - that hard earned money could be saved for early retirement, vacations, etc.

The most common problems

that people run into when they are trying to purchase their first home are low credit scores and short job histories. Most mortgage companies require you to have spent at least two years with your current employer. When purchasing a home, not having credit is equivalent to a bad credit score, and a good to excellent credit score may lower requirements in other areas - such as job history.

Here are the secrets to over-

coming the first hurdle in home buying: but only if used as part of a budget.

Credit is a fine wine - it must be carefully attended to throughout the aging process. However, there is one caveat - if you overindulge in the wine, a bad headache will ensue. But don't worry, it only lasts a day.

(This article is not to be treated as grounds for suing Jordan if you can't control your budget)

1. Always make a budget. Learn to be good with money, payment due dates and avoid impulse purchases. Until you can do this, the rest of the steps will only get you into trouble.

2. Having credit cards is imperative to establishing credit. One credit card is not enough to establish an adequate credit history to purchase a home. Find credit cards that don't charge annual fees, or that provide bonus points for purchases. Finding a credit card at a specific store is the best, since it

creates a credit history and facilitates budget management since it cannot be used outside that store, i.e. a gas card with your preferred gas brand, a card with your favorite clothing store or a card with your preferred auto mechanic. Major bookstores also offer credit cards which not only offer various discounts, but offer reward points for

usage - which could help cut the bi-annual bill at the Boise State Bookstore. If you open up these lines of credit and pay the entire bill the following month it will bolster your credit score. And after two years, even if your usage of these cards is sporadic, you will have a strong credit history built up for the purchase of your first home.

3. Don't have too many credit cards. There really is no reason to have more than four different cards; having too many cards increases the opportunity to overspend and it lowers your credit score.

When a bank looks at your credit history and sees that you have nine different credit cards with \$500 to \$750 limits, the bank will likely decline to offer a

loan, or it will only offer a high interest rate - even if you pay all of your bills on time! Why? Because you have the ability to spend at least \$4,500 in one day with all your cards, and unless you have an income that can support that spending, you will then default on your mortgage.

As I said before, the magic number is four; having up to four open credit lines with good payment histories will qualify you for the best interest-rate

discounts without risking the credit to income ratio problem.

In closing, may I re-emphasize the most important part to your plan for purchasing a new home: budget, budget, budget. Using a few retail credit cards will help you develop a strong credit history while buying the things you needed to buy anyway. Credit is a very good tool and good credit will make your hard-earned dollar go even farther.

WEB SITE OF THE WEEK

http://www.neave.com/planetarium/

Take a trip through time with neave

BY DREW MAYES
Editor-in-Chief

Enter the world of a self-proclaimed serious flasher (Web, not a creepy man who walks up to a young girl in a raincoat type of flash) with Paul Neave's www.neave.com.

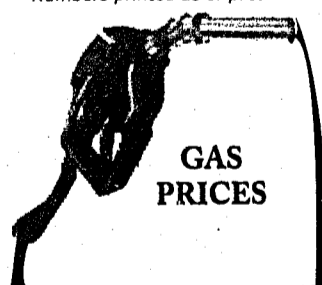
Neave.com is gaining popularity among the 20-something crowd for its usual, yet fun features - some of which brings its users back to their youth.

Although neave.com offers a variety of interesting photos, zoomable maps, a basic home page version of a planetarium, and many other features, it's also more fun to watch when you're an avid game player. If you will

has the mass-market appeal that the games section does.

Here you can feel like you did the first time your weird older cousin broke out his Atari with classic 1980s retro games. You can blast aliens and spaceships away in "Space Invaders," save Barth by shooting down some big rocks in "Asteroids" and test your hops while you avoid getting smashed like a bug in my personal favorite 1980s game - "Frogger."

Avoid the trap of becoming obsessed with the games' high scores and try George Costanza's "Shuffle" because the high scores are erased weekly. Also note that these games are unofficial replicas and not endorsed by the trademark and copyright owners. While there are other planetarium sites, Neave.com's great planetarium gets you up to speed and gives a few hours of your life away.



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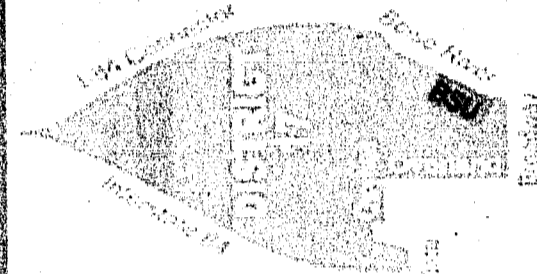
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AS BSU's representative I've voted to raise the salaries of BSU and state employees and for an expanded Canyon County campus. I also voted to increase the fairness of the state university funding formula. In the past, the formula favored full-time students, shortchanging schools like BSU with large numbers of part-time students.

You may vote for me if you live in the boundaries of District 17. To find the polling places nearest you, call Ada County Elections at 287-6860 or use the polling place finder at <http://www.idahovotes.gov/yourpollingplace>.



RE-ELECT Janet Miller DISTRICT 17B

- Member, Idaho Women's Network
- Endorsements:
 - Boise Metro Chamber
 - Idaho Education Association
 - Many individuals and students
 - Idaho Realtors

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Sudoku By Michael Mepham

Level: **1 2 3 4**

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

Thursday's Answers

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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

Level: **1 2 3 4**

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

Level: **1 2 3 4**

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

Thursday's Answers

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads may be placed four ways: on our website at www.arbiteronline.com, email: classifieds@arbiteronline.com, phone: 345-8204 ext. 100, or stop by the office at 1605 University Drive. (across from the SUB).

SAY IT RENT IT RENT IT SELL IT

BSU CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS

BRONCOSNEED-JOBS.COM We need paid survey takers in Boise. 100% FREE to join click on surveys.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BSU STUDENT NURSES ASSOCIATION wishes to express our appreciation to Doug Eby and Doug Hicks of Career Uniforms and to Swire Coca-Cola for their support of our 2006 New Student Orientation Picnic

WEALTH BUILDING SEMINAR MEET "THE MILLIONAIRE MAKER"

DISCOVER THE SECRETS OF BECOMING A MILLIONAIRE WITH FEATURED SPEAKER BILL FOX. THE SEMINAR IS THURSDAY NOVEMBER 9, AT 730 PM AT THE COMFORT INN SUITES OFF THE FREEWAY IN MERIDIAN. JUST A FEW TICKETS REMAIN FOR THIS AMAZING OPPORTUNITY!! TO GET IN ON THIS PHENOMENAL EVENT CALL MBL MARKETING (208)514-9426.

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HOME/FURNITURE

Mattress, king pillow-top mattress & box. Never used. Still in factory wrapper. Cost \$550, sacrifice \$295. (208) 919-3080.

Queen orthopedic pillow-top mattress box. New in plastic. Cost \$400, sacrifice \$195. (208) 919-3080.

Pool table, 8 ft. table, 1" slate, leather pockets, Aramith balls, acc. pkg. included. New in box. Cost \$4,500, sell \$1,450. (208) 362-7150.

Dining set, cherrywood, 63" hutch & Buffet, 78" table w/2 leaves, 6 curved back chairs. Dovetail drawers. Side server also available. Cost \$9,000, sell \$2,800 firm. (208) 362-7150.

Bedroom set, cherrywood, solid wood construction. Sleigh bed, 2 nightstands, dresser w/ mirror, tall chest, TV armoire, dovetail drawers. Will sell all or part. Cost \$10,000, sell \$2,900. (208) 362-7150.

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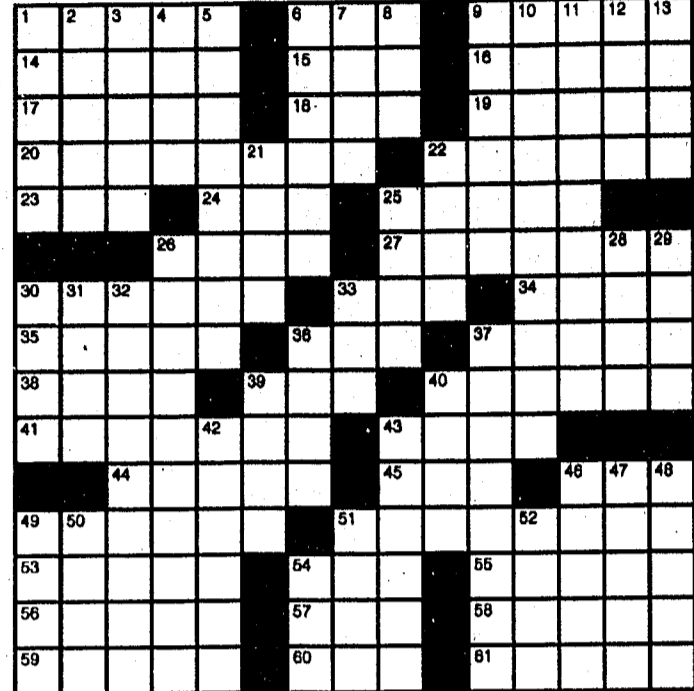
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Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Convulsive breaths
 - U.K. channel
 - Partially melted snow
 - Like frustrated needs
 - Org. with maps
 - Actor Sal
 - French farewell
 - Landed
 - Llama land
 - Attendance check
 - Passionate
 - Rapping Dr.
 - OSS, today
 - Church table
 - Frigid
 - First, second or third infielder
 - Lively parties
 - Moines, IA
 - Depravity
 - Was sore
 - Classifieds
 - Deadly poisons
 - HOMES part
 - 911 call respondent
 - Most rational
 - Admonish
 - Austrian range
 - Phrygian king
 - Kind of race
 - 987-65-4321 grp.
 - Aristocratic classes
 - Beautifully designed
 - Gobbled up
 - Can. province
 - Puppeteer Lewis
 - Salad green
 - Pause fillers
 - Carried
 - German state
 - CD's rival
 - Planted items



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11/8/06

- DOWN**
- Backcourt player
 - Choice of conjunctions
 - Happy expression
 - Strip
 - Finished with cement
 - Narrative song
 - out (eject)
 - Hip dude
 - Suffers a stinging pain
 - "Dynasty" co-star
 - Weaken the foundation of
 - Spotted
 - Emcee
 - Has something
 - Lamenter's cry
 - Vigoda and Lincoln
 - Joy
 - Poker bullets
 - Brooding place
 - Pugilist Max
 - Field measure
 - Fellow sailors
 - Lic. to pull teeth
 - Home of Iowa State
 - Protestant sect members
 - Tanguay and Gabor

Solutions

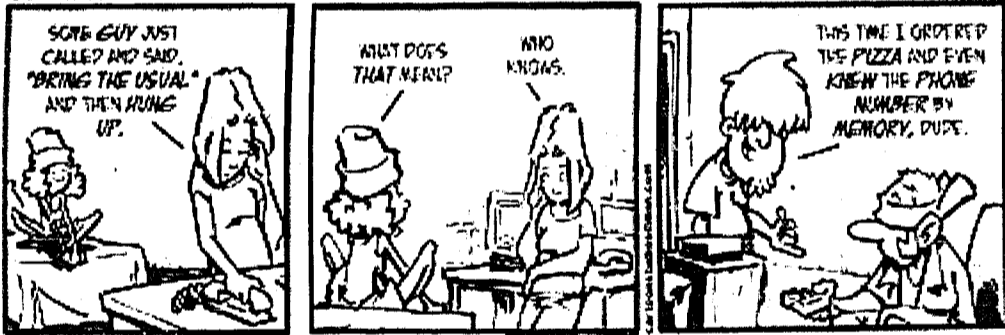
S	O	E	S	L	V	O	E	S	S	E	H
O	E	L	O	L	S	B	E	S	S	E	H
I	R	V	H	S	E	N	O	N	E	L	A
C	I	L	S	I	L	H	V	S	E	N	A
A	S	S	L	V	A	S	V	D	I	W	
	S	P	L		E	L	O	R	P	E	
I	S	E	N	V	S	S	M	E	E	I	E
S	E	N	V	B	S	D	V	D	E	H	O
E	O	I	A	S	E	D	S	E	H	S	V
N	V	A	S	V	B	A	S	D	T	O	C
	H	A	L	T	V	A	I	C	E	R	
I	N	E	D	E	L	V	L	C	O	L	O
S	E	O	N	V	A	A	V	A	A	M	E
H	O	N	E	N	I	N	E	A	A	M	E
S	L	U	S		B	B	C				

- Trellis part
- Danish port
- Apprehend
- Assert
- Begot
- Etching fluids
- Training sch.
- Loser to the tortoise
- Mystique
- Oxford or brogue
- Letters in math proofs

COMICS

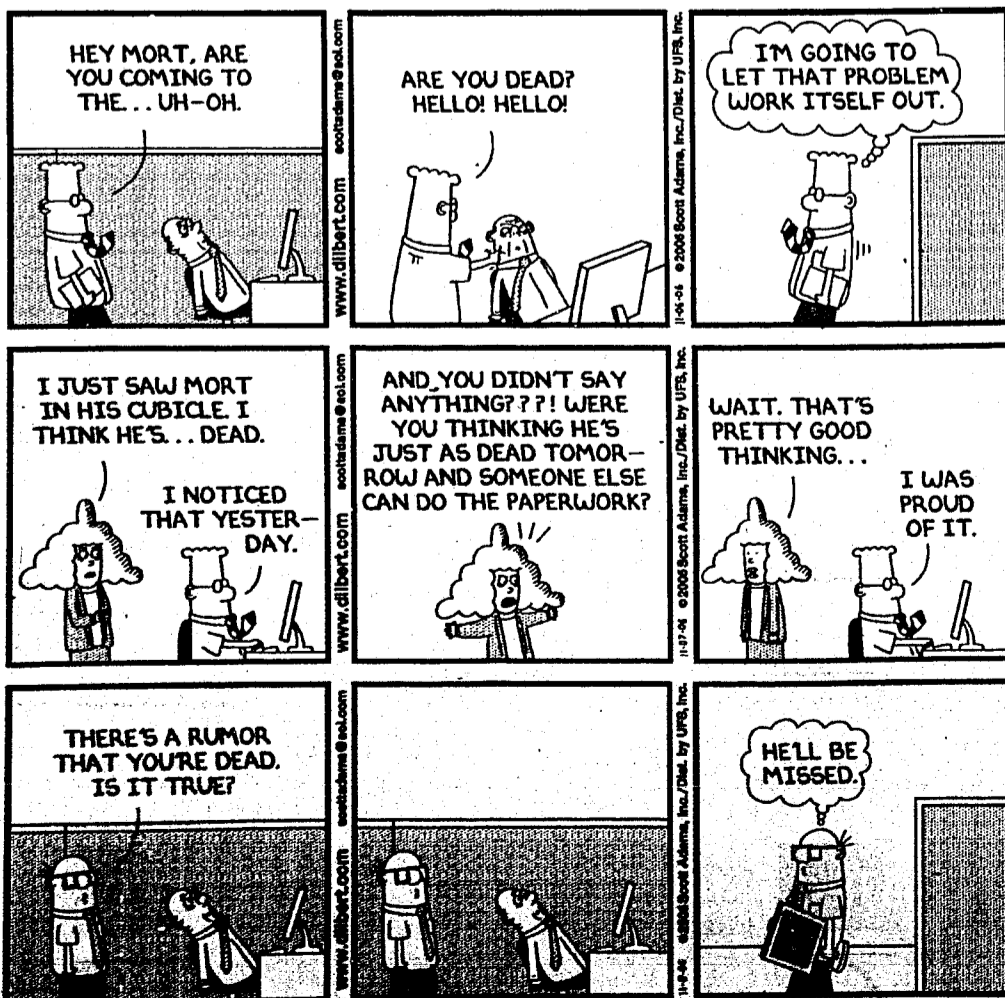
Two Dudes

by Aaron Warner



PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE MRBILLY.COM/PAUL



arbiteronline.com
BOISE STATE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

HOROSCOPES

BY LINDA C. BLACK
Tribune Media Services

Today's Birthday (11-06-06)
You'll be challenged in new ways this year. The more consideration you show, the more powerful you'll become. It seems backwards, but it'll work.
To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19)
Today is a 7 - You can be very wealthy. Don't be afraid. This is not achieved by luck. It's more like taking very carefully calculated risks.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)
Today is a 7 - Luckily, you're very good at standing firm. Be gracious, but don't flinch. You win by being stubborn. You're a natural.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)
Today is a 6 - Staying quiet's not easy for you but do it a little while longer. Be watching for changes and hidden agendas, and keep your head down.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)
Today is an 8 - You're in a good mood, and that's helpful. There will be a few awkward moments. Something you thought would go one way is more likely to go the other.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Today is a 5 - If you have to choose between career and family, choose family. It's forever. You can always get another career but you probably won't have to do that.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Today is an 8 - You keep things clean and well organized, which gives you a nice advantage. You'll be able to see an awkward attempt to cheat, and, of course, you'll avoid it.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Today is a 6 - Even if you can afford to spend too much, don't do it. Put all that extra money in your own savings account, instead. You'll find a good use for it later.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Today is an 8 - Negotiations require diplomacy, tact and a poker face. Luckily, you have plenty of all those.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Today is a 6 - Don't take the time to talk things over, until the job is done. Count your winnings later, too.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Today is an 8 - The trick is to give your complete attention to each person, in turn. This gets easier with practice. Taking notes also is helpful, and makes a good impression.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Today is a 6 - If you hadn't noticed by now, you have some quite stubborn friends. Some of them can be quite annoying, too. They'll lighten up in a couple of days. Don't bother to hold a grudge.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)
Today is an 8 - Resist the temptation to take off on a wild goose chase. It could cost you more than the thing you're after is worth. Catch and have it delivered.

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