

3-5-2007

Arbiter, March 5

Students of Boise State University

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

THE ARBITER

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT VOICE OF BOISE STATE SINCE 1933

arbiteronline.com

ISSUE 47, VOLUME 19, FIRST ISSUE FREE.

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2007

BIZTECH

PAGE 3

The world stock market crumbles, there is assistive technology out for those who need it and learn about how to talk to your computer.

CULTURE

PAGE 4



Urban Outfitters comes to BoDo, George Clinton puts on a funky show and "Man of La Mancha" gives Boise State a musical extravaganza.

OPINION

PAGE 6

Learn about the candidates for ASBSU and their platforms. Also, a letter from your current ASBSU president and why The Arbiter thinks you should vote.

SPORTS

PAGE 8





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


ARBITERONLINE.COM

The Arbiter news team united to interview all but four of the candidates for positions on the ASBSU staff last week. These interviews are available online under the ASBSU elections tab. Hear what the candidates had to say about the future of BSU and the state of ASBSU.

WEATHER

 TUESDAY
High: 58F / Low 37F

 WEDNESDAY
High: 54F / Low 34F

 THURSDAY
High: 48F / Low 33F

ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY
ASBSU Student Elections. The Associated Students of Boise State University elections will be held online at <http://blackboard.boisestate.edu/> from 7 a.m.-11:59 p.m. March 7 and 8. For more information, call 426-1440.

Baby boomers get older

Careers in aging multiply

BY JOSLYN SALOW
News Writer

The Center for the Study of Aging at Boise State hosted a panel discussion and mixer Feb. 28 in the Student Union Lookout Room. This event was geared toward informing students, professionals and educators about how the aging population will affect their career options.

About 70 people attended to hear professionals from a variety of businesses and organizations speak about opportunities in their fields for careers in aging. After the panel discussion, guests asked questions and visited booths to obtain more information about their field of interest. The mixer gave students the opportunity to make connections for future job opportunities and professionals the opportunity to network with one another for future collaboration.

Those 65 years and older make up the fastest-growing segment of the population, affecting almost every aspect of the job market and the economy. Because of this, six of the fastest growing professions are either in or related to the field of aging; the need for long-term care workers will more than double over the next 20 years.

The panel discussion consisted of five speakers, including Bill Drake, CEO and president of es/drake, a PR and marketing business; Lori Watts, medical social worker at St. Alphonsus Cancer Care Center; Pete Sisson, Certified Elder Law Attorney at Sisson & Sisson, the Elder and Disability Law Firm; Karla Brown, vice president of the Idaho Occupational Therapy Association; and Jim Wordelman, Idaho State di-

rector of AARP. Drake spoke about different aspects of marketing for the mature audience, its needs and interests as well as how this affects the jobs in marketing.

He ended his speech with the memoranda,

"The beauty of this market is that every seven seconds somebody turns 50."

Watts provided the audience with her ideas on what kinds of things are important to older people.

She also gave an overview of what her job entails and what she provides for elderly clients, and commented on the work that she is most passionate about - her work with low-income, older patients.

"I hate seeing so many situations where older folks are having to choose - do I go get a prescription or do I go buy groceries this week?" Watts said.

Sisson commented on his efforts to improve the quality of life for elderly people in Idaho in regard to chronic care issues, financial and legal decision-making.

"What we do with my law firm is create a relationship with our clients where we follow them...as they change, as they age, as their chronic care issues develop we are there supporting them," Sisson said.

Brown spoke about several qualities of life that the aging population values, including maintaining physical and mental wellness, adaptation and adjustment to changes, leisure and social connection, security and safety.

Wordelman discussed the services that the AARP provides and the concerns that the aging have for the future.

Annette Totten, director of the Center for the Study of Aging, emphasized that this discussion was aimed at opening up career options in aging for many fields, not just in health care.

"Yes, we will need more health care workers, but with the baby boomers beginning to turn 60 in 2006 and the number of people over 65 more than doubling between 2000 and 2030, there will be many opportunities related to aging... As people live longer there will be exciting opportunities in everything from engineering (think about how we are redesigning pens, cars and houses to make them easier to use as we age) to journalism, to service professionals," Totten said.

Totten mentioned the opportunities offered at BSU in the field of aging.

"There is an undergraduate minor in aging and a graduate certificate in gerontology (the study of aging) at Boise State University. Students often ask me what they can do with this minor or certificate. Hopefully this event gave students some ideas of the possibilities and we hope to host additional events about career opportunities in the future," Totten said.

Dan Sigler, research assistant for the Center for the Study of Aging, commented on why expertise in this field is important for the future.

"We have talked to real estate companies, advertising companies, gyms, engineers and numerous other types of organizations who are all preparing new programs specifically marketed to the aging population. They will need employees who understand aging-related issues to start, run and grow these programs," Sigler said.

Mary Hall-Smith, community relations director for Willow Park Assisted Living, has already had success hiring BSU students. She said that BSU students are always ambitious, easy to train and work on their feet.

"We think it is important to have a balance when working with seniors, to have youth in the building that provide a different point of view," Hall-Smith said.

About 70 people listened to local professionals from a variety of businesses and organizations speak about opportunities in the fields for careers in aging.

Senate cuts \$10,000 check, hustles through legislation

BY DUSTIN LAPRAY
AND CHARLOTTE TAYLOR
Arbiter Staff

In the final weeks of its term, the 2006-07 Associated Students of Boise State University Senate has made a push to accomplish what it can before time runs out.

The Senate passed four pieces of legislation at its meeting Thursday in the Forum in the Student Union Building. It placed two other new pieces of legislation into committees.

The motivation to pass legislation seems to have coincided with the end of the term and the rush toward the ASBSU elections this week.

Most of the legislation was brought to the table by Senate members currently running for president and vice president of ASBSU. The Senate spent \$10,000 Thursday and could spend \$5,000 more next week.

A step toward greener living

Perhaps the most eco-friendly piece of legislation passed by the Senate Thursday was a Senate Bill which proposed that one of the res-

idence halls on campus be powered by wind energy.

"We're not talking about putting a wind turbine on top of Morrison Hall," Manager of Facility and Space Planning Whitney Rearick said.

The hall would be powered by three wind turbines at the Lewindowsky wind farm located near Mountain Home, which was purchased recently by three Boise State graduates.

These former students recently offered to sell wind energy credits to BSU, enough to provide electricity for a dormitory about the size of Morrison Hall.

"It would be the first wind powered residence hall in Idaho and possibly in the Northwest," Rearick said. "Everything about this is trying something new."

The bill asked for \$1,000 to help fund the project. Other methods of renewable energy for BSU, such as geothermal heating, have had a hard time getting off the ground due to lack of funding.

The bill was moved to the Budget and Finance Committee Tuesday and was passed unanimously Thursday.

Although the project is going to cost the university more than it will save, students from Morrison Hall will be allowed to tour the energy farm and be a part of the process. Those involved are hoping the new power source will generate energy awareness on campus.

Veterans' Memorial

The costliest and possibly most important piece of legislation passed was a bill contributing \$10,000 to help construct a new Veterans' Memorial at BSU. The memorial would be built near the current SUB Patio when the building undergoes renovation.

The old memorial was torn down in 1993 when the Alberstons Library was expanded.

The Senate previously passed a resolution in support of the memorial, but Thursday was the day to help foot the bill. The bill for the memorial was authored by Sen. Katie Jo Rupert and presidential candidate Britton J. Holdaway. It passed unanimously.

"I know it's a lot of money, but it is also a great thing to be done," Sen. Rupert said.

The SUB considered two different designs for the memorial and decided to follow the Kay Kirkpatrick design, which uses silhouettes.

"It has a huge impact visually; I think it will be a good addition to the campus," Holdaway said. "Your contribution will be very helpful, but it won't be alone."

The memorial will need more contributions to be fully funded. Its total cost should be about \$25,000.

"I think this is a great way to leave a legacy on campus," Sen. Jonathan Sawmiller said. "I think it's a great project and we should fund it with the full \$10,000."

Hate Crime Legislation

The Senate also unanimously approved a resolution, which would ask the state legislature to define a hate crime in Idaho.

Idaho currently has a malicious harassment statute that directly responds to crimes created on the basis of prejudice, but does not give heavier penalties to criminals found guilty of crimes against victims based on race, ancestry, religion, national origin or sexual orientation.

The resolution will be taken to the Faculty Senate, which is rumored to be writing similar legislation. The two documents will be taken together to the statehouse for consideration.

"We do have a bad reputation of having hate groups, even though we do not have that many compared to other states," Sen. Cyndi Blue said. "That's a really bad thing to stand for."

Idaho is only one of two states without hate crime legislation.

The legislation came with a petition with more than 500 names written on it in support of hate crime legislation.

"For 500 students to stand up and speak against something really means something," Sen. Blue said. "This is still an issue in Idaho. [Visitors to Idaho] need to feel comfortable coming to our communities. It will also help tourism."

Again, the legislation passed unopposed through the Senate.

See Senate [page 2]

Senate

[from page 1]

Diversity Day Defined

The Senate sent a bill to the Business and Finance Committee, which would allocate \$5,000 to help sponsor "D3," or Diversity Day Defined Festival.

This is the second year for the event, which was funded solely by the Cultural Center last spring.

This year organizers want to expand the event to make it more like Art in the Park or The Hyde Park Street Fair.

This year it would stretch across the SUB Patio and into the Intramural Field in tents.

"Our hope is that D3 will reach out to the entire student population," organizer of the event Kate Neal said. "We need the supports of ASBSU, especially in financial support."

The Cultural Center and the Women's Center offered about \$1,500 to help pay the cost of the festival. Neal said the Cultural Center paid about \$5,000 last year.

Neal said that themes of the festival would be acceptance, diversity and inclusion.

The expected date for the festival is April 20, 2007.

Expansion requires extra funds. Sen. Mark Getecha, Sen. Amy Ortmann, Sen. Ryan Cooper and Sen. Bakh Mirkasimov each sponsored the bill.

The money would go into the festival's general fund. It would help buy water stations, pay performers and poets and help student organizations wanting to be involved.

"It's a good way for students to wind down the semester," Sen. Getecha said. "It's open to all students with a theme of diversity. It's an event for students. With the additional funds we have, this will be a good way to put it back to student hands, give them an opportunity to ... experience diversity."

The bill could be brought to third reading this Thursday.

Absences

"The numbers in this section were tallied by the ASBSU secretary and may or may not be fully accurate."

In the last few weeks, The Arbiter has made a great fuss over the lack

of attendance in Senate meetings, but the actual number of missed meetings was not tallied, until now. Stephanie Moran, secretary for ASBSU, and Senate Pro Tempore Amy Ortmann checked the minutes from every meeting this year and created a spreadsheet detailing the attendance record of every senator.

"At this point, it is just to clarify any confusion that may have resulted from this issue," Sen. Ortmann said.

This "issue" turned out to be quite advantageous for Sen. Ortmann, because she has an impeccable record. She only missed three meetings all year and all were excused (she excuses senators but must speak to Vice President Molly George and the assistant pro tempore if she is to miss a meeting). Ortmann was also late three times.

The mass of absences were acquired by her opponents - Sen. Cooper, Sen. Mirkasimov and former Sen. Britton Holdaway.

Sen. Cooper missed seven meetings; five were unexcused (a senator with more than three unexcused absences is impeachable). He was also late five times.

He debated the validity of the attendance numbers and said he didn't believe he has missed those days and voted on some of the days that were marked as an unexcused absence.

Sen. Mirkasimov is listed as having nine excused absences, but The Arbiter can vouch Sen. Mirkasimov was present four of those nine. Sen. Mary Dawson has seven absences; all but one were excused.

Holdaway will argue his absences because he took a position as a lobbyist in the spring semester and resigned as senator. He only attended four meetings (two weeks worth) before resigning.

By far the senator with the most absences is Sen. Cyndi Blue, who missed 14 meetings; most of the absences excused. She was late for two others. Sen. Blue has only attended three meetings this semester.

The last two meetings all senators were present, except Sen. Jim Musser, who was appointed two weeks ago and only attended three

meetings. Sen. Ortmann has yet to release an official statement about Sen. Musser's status within the Senate.

Online Faculty Evaluations

Sen. Bakh Mirkasimov introduced a Senate directive, which suggests a way to cut down on paperwork for professors and students.

The directive asks for university staff to consider making faculty evaluations available online. A directive merely brings an idea to the table and does not contain any details on cost or implementation.

"It's more centralized and more timely," Sen. Mirkasimov said. "It serves as a catalyst for higher education."

Several senators seemed to approve of the idea. Having online faculty evaluations would save paper and, as implied by the legislation, be more fiscally responsible.

"It decreases overhead in the long run for storage and archiving," said Sen. Ryan Cooper, who is co-sponsoring the directive.

There was some doubt as to whether or not students would voluntarily fill out electronic evaluations on their own time. Many students already don't take the evaluations seriously. An online system is currently used by the Department of Engineering.

"The problem they have is that the students don't actually vote," Sen. Terry Gorseth said.

Sen. Getecha suggested a stipulation, which would require students to fill out the evaluations before they could get their grades.

Sen. Blue also suggested professors take students to computer labs to fill out the evaluations.

The directive was sent to the University Affairs/Public Liaison Committee, which hasn't met since September.

Sen. Getecha was appointed the chair of that committee at Thursday's meeting. Sen. Blue, the former chair, resigned her seat but still sits on the committee.

The Senate meets every Tuesday and Thursday in the SUB Forum at 4 p.m.

THE HEADLINES

WORLD

Cuban festival draws cigar aficionados the world over

For some Americans, Cuba's annual cigar festival is an enticing - forbidden fruit for which they risk hefty fines for violating the U.S. ban on travel to the island.

"We don't do anything illegal against the government policies," said Prabheet Singh, 45, a heart surgeon and Stanford University professor from San Jose, Calif. "But I think to visit any country is the basic right of a human being. We are not taking in any contraband. We just enjoy and finish the cigars here and we go back."

Cuba's 9th annual Habanos Festival, which ended Friday night with a lavish \$500-a-head banquet, drew more than 1,000 aficionados from more than 40 countries for a sampling of new product lines, tours of factories where the cigars are hand rolled and visits to tobacco plantations hours outside Havana.

No participants were more tight-lipped than the dozens of Americans who slipped onto the island illegally through Canada or Mexico for the five-day celebration of the world's finest cigars. Under Washington's 43-year-old trade embargo, U.S. citizens and residents are prohibited from traveling to the island in an attempt to stem the flow of dollars to the communist government.

Singh, a cardiothoracic surgeon who traveled here with six other doctors, said he has been smoking Cuban cigars for 27 years - longer than he has been poking into the chests of his patients. He insisted he was not breaking the law by spending money in Cuba, though admission to all festival events alone was nearly \$1,300.

"I don't see it as a violation," he said, echoing other Americans at the festival. "It's a personal right."

While Bush administration officials have remained adamant about their commitment to the embargo and travel ban, many Americans (including members of Congress) have called for easing restrictions. Last week, Sen. Mike Enzi, a Republican from Wyoming, cosponsored a bill that would remove all restrictions for Americans traveling to Cuba. Nine other senators cosponsored the Freedom to Travel to Cuba Act.

Habanos S.A., is a joint venture between the Cuban government and the Spanish-French tobacco firm Altadis. A third of the 400 million hand-rolled cigars sold in the world each year are Habanos, but they are banned in the U.S. under the trade sanctions.

Javier Terres, a vice president, said no figures were available on how many Cuban cigars are consumed or sold illegally every year in the United States. While half of the world's cigars are smoked in the U.S., Cuba has 75 percent of the premium cigar market. Sales of Habanos' premium hand-rolled cigars rose eight percent to \$370 million last year, despite public smoking bans around the world, officials said.

The festival included bus trips to one of the island's main tobacco-growing regions in the western province of Pinar del Rio.

Jesus Menendez, 39 and a father of two, has been working in one of the plantations for four years. When asked how much he earned, his boss, standing nearby, quickly interrupted.

"Nine-hundred pesos," the boss said, or about \$40, nearly four times the salary for most state workers.

"Nine-hundred pesos," Menendez repeated. "But I can't wait until the end of the month to get paid. I ask for an advance every couple of days. Times are tough."

Asked if he ever smoked a Habanos, Menendez smiled. "Never tasted one. I can't. That's for the people over there," he said, pointing to the foreigners taking the tour.

NATIONAL

Driver in street-race accident gets work-release

A lot has happened to Josh Guynn since the morning nearly two years ago when he lost control of his Volkswagen GTI during a street race and crashed into a tree, killing his best friend, Wayne Dietz.

Guynn was charged with vehicular homicide. Dietz's family has forgiven him, while some angry friends have abandoned him.

Just five months after the crash, Guynn was ticketed for speeding 87 mph in a 70 mph zone on Interstate 90 and lost his license.

And last month, as a judge prepared to sentence him in the death of Dietz, he began speaking to high-school students about his experience, urging them not to get sucked into illegal street racing.

On Friday, King County Superior Court Judge James Cayce weighed the sincerity of Guynn's actions since the fatal April 2005 crash and the severity of his crime, to which Guynn pleaded guilty.

In the end, Guynn, 20, who could have gone to prison for more than two years, was given a second chance.

Cayce agreed to a rare exceptional sentence below the standard range, allowing Guynn to move into a residential work-release program in Kitsap County, Wash., for 12 months, where he will be allowed to work at his father's plumbing business and continue to talk to students.

He was also ordered to be on probation after his release, pay restitution and complete 240 hours of community service.

LOCAL/BSU

Blueprint for a community college in Nampa drafted

A newly-formed Treasure Valley coalition has drafted a community college district blueprint they hope will put a two-year campus in Nampa by this fall or early next year.

Last month, the group led by the Nampa Chamber of Commerce initiated a petition drive to collect 1,000 signatures from voters in at least four school districts in Canyon and Ada counties for a proposed community college district.

This past week, the coalition announced it had surpassed its goal by double in Canyon County alone, with another 500 to 1,000 signatures gathered in neighboring Ada County. The proposed community college district would encompass both counties and be called the College of Western Idaho District.

"There's a huge momentum building," Nampa Chamber of Commerce CEO Georgia Bowman-Gunstream said Thursday. "We anticipate a lot more petitions coming in between now and when we take those to file them."

Organizers plan to take the petitions to Canyon County Commissioners on Wednesday in hopes of putting the proposed com-

munity college district to voters as early as May 22.

"There's already been a discussion with them," Bowman-Gunstream said of Canyon County commissioners. "They're supportive and overall the three of them are not going to stop us from moving forward. They'll comply and do what needs to be done."

Jason Lehosit, Community College YES! campaign manager, called the latest drive for a two-year school in the Treasure Valley "a wonderful plan" and a "Canyon County-driven effort."

"The citizens of the Treasure Valley — Boise, Meridian, Nampa, Star, Caldwell, Parma — have all come together to help build this," Lehosit said.

Community College YES! kicked off its campaign Thursday to put a community college measure on the May ballot and to raise operating costs.

"I think a big part of what's making the difference is that we're no longer a small rural state," Bowman-Gunstream said. "We've grown to the extent that we have a lot of people not from here, living here that have moved in from places where there are community colleges and they ask why don't we have one."

She added that a community college in the Treasure Valley would meet the demands for additional and affordable education and provide an alternative to students who want to stick close to their homes and family.

Initial plans call for a community college serving 3,500 students at the Boise State University-West campus and the university's Canyon County center, both in Nampa.

Dennis Griffin, Boise State-West's executive director, said the Nampa campus is still being considered as the home for the community college.

"Boise State wants to do everything it possibly can to cooperate to make that happen," he said, "to include the availability of land for the expansion of the campus, use of both the West campus building and the Canyon County center."

Another plan would call for a separate community college at the Nampa site with a proposed \$71 million donation from the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation.

Under that plan, the community college would be built on a 150-acre parcel at Boise State-West, and the school's Sellaand College of Applied Technology would relocate to the Nampa campus.

Boise State views a two-year college as a viable option for students who cannot afford tuition costs or fail to meet the school's high admissions standards, Griffin said.

"Every year, Boise State has close to a thousand students who do not meet the admissions requirements and are turned away, and we fully recognize they need someplace to go," Griffin said.

Courtesy Idaho Press-Tribune

WHAT THE?

You're going to have to do better than that - or else!

Police were called to a home in Lulea, Sweden, in response to a call that a woman stabbed her boyfriend. The man told police that his girlfriend knifed him after they had sexual relations, and she found his efforts to be "disappointing."

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Nasdaq Composite
2,368.00 (-36.21)

S&P 500
1,387.07 (-16.00)

10 Year Bond
4.515% (-0.041%)

LOCAL

Bank of America (BAC)
50.11 (-0.37)

Micron Technology (MU)
11.83 (-0.03)

Hewlett Packard (HPQ)
38.67 (-0.26)

Washington Mutual (WM)
42.58 (-0.36)

Qwest Communications (Q)
8.68 (-0.06)

TECHNOLOGY

Apple, Inc. (AAPL)
85.41 (-1.65)

Google Inc. (GOOG)
438.68 (-9.55)

Microsoft Corporation (MSFT)
28.90 (-0.49)

Motorola Inc. (MOT)
19.15 (+0.19)

Yahoo! Inc. (YHOO)
30.42 (-0.44)

FUN

Abercrombie & Fitch (ANF)
74.94 (-2.78)

American Eagle (AEOS)
29.80 (-1.02)

NIKE, Inc. (NKE)
103.86 (-1.43)

AT&T Inc. (T)
36.44 (-0.27)

Walt Disney (DIS)
33.95 (-0.44)

CURRENCY

USD to Euro (EUR)
0.7574 (+0.07)

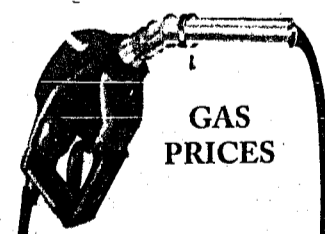
USD to Pound (GBP)
0.5145 (-0.08)

USD to Yen (JPY)
116.7250 (-0.14)

Gold
640.80 (-22.40)

Silver
12.82 (-0.76)

Numbers printed as of press time



Least Expensive:

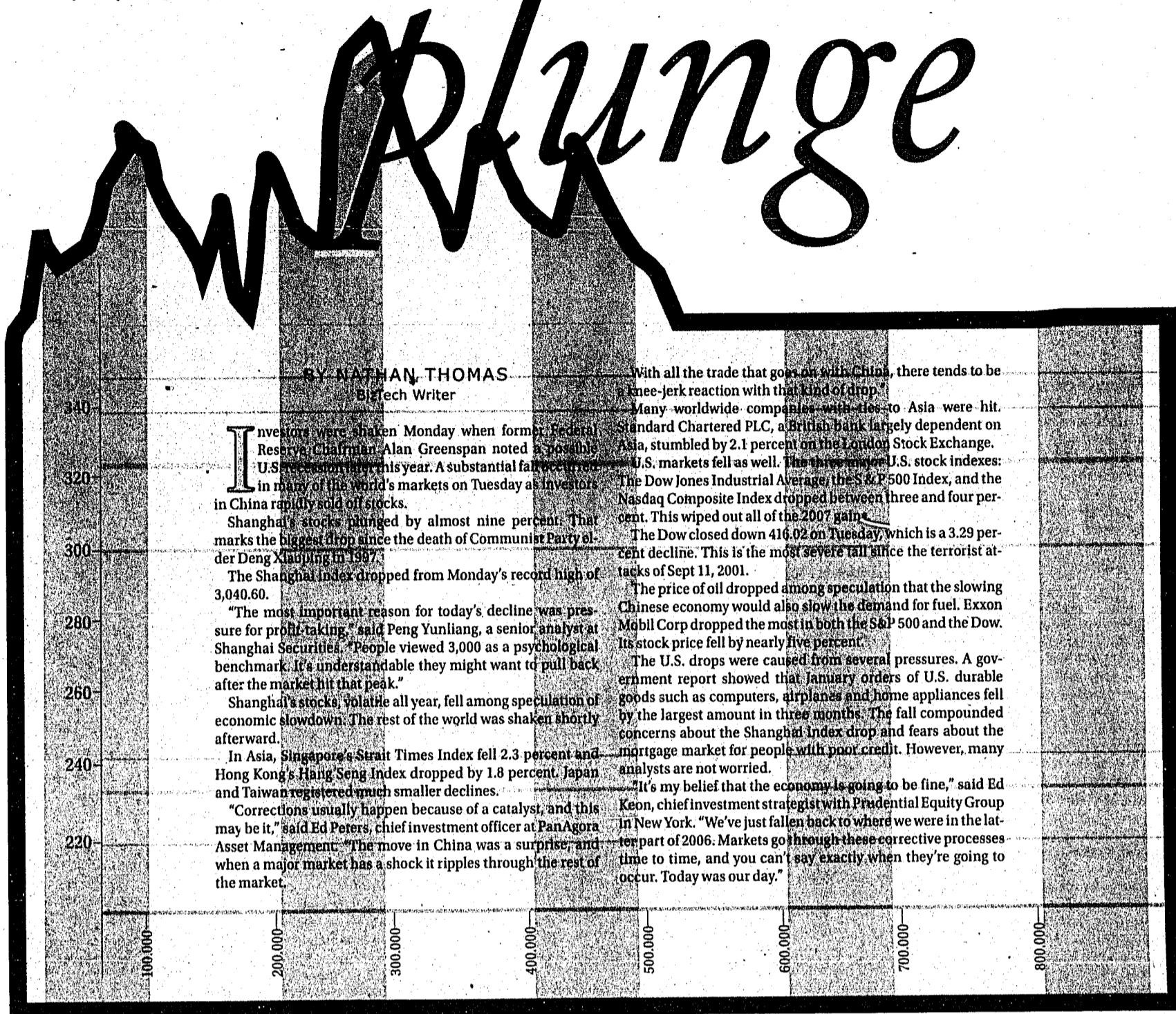
- \$2.11 - Tesoro (4115 Broadway)
- \$2.11 - Tesoro EA (8841 Exit 51)
- \$2.11 - Tesoro (Broadway and 884)
- \$2.13 - Costco (Cole Road)
- \$2.15 - Citgo (Maple Grove and Ustick)

Most Expensive:

- \$2.34 - Stinkers (State and Horseshoe Bend)
- \$2.29 - Shell (Eagle and Pine)
- \$2.29 - Texaco (E251 Vista)
- \$2.29 - Chevron (2028 Airport Way)
- \$2.29 - Jackson Foods (6010 West State)

Boise average \$2.23
USA average \$2.19

World stock markets



BY NATHAN THOMAS
BizTech Writer

Investors were shaken Monday when former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan noted a possible U.S. recession later this year. A substantial fall occurred in many of the world's markets on Tuesday as investors in China rapidly sold off stocks.

Shanghai's stocks plunged by almost nine percent. That marks the biggest drop since the death of Communist Party leader Deng Xiaoping in 1987.

The Shanghai index dropped from Monday's record high of 3,040.60.

"The most important reason for today's decline was pressure for profit-taking," said Peng Yunliang, a senior analyst at Shanghai Securities. "People viewed 3,000 as a psychological benchmark. It's understandable they might want to pull back after the market hit that peak."

Shanghai's stocks, volatile all year, fell among speculation of economic slowdown. The rest of the world was shaken shortly afterward.

In Asia, Singapore's Strait Times Index fell 2.3 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index dropped by 1.8 percent. Japan and Taiwan registered much smaller declines.

"Corrections usually happen because of a catalyst, and this may be it," said Ed Peters, chief investment officer at PanAgora Asset Management. "The move in China was a surprise, and when a major market has a shock it ripples through the rest of the market."

With all the trade that goes on with China, there tends to be a knee-jerk reaction with that kind of drop.

Many worldwide companies with ties to Asia were hit. Standard Chartered PLC, a British bank largely dependent on Asia, stumbled by 2.1 percent on the London Stock Exchange.

U.S. markets fell as well. The three major U.S. stock indexes: The Dow Jones Industrial Average, the S&P 500 Index, and the Nasdaq Composite Index dropped between three and four percent. This wiped out all of the 2007 gains.

The Dow closed down 416.02 on Tuesday, which is a 3.29 percent decline. This is the most severe fall since the terrorist attacks of Sept 11, 2001.

The price of oil dropped among speculation that the slowing Chinese economy would also slow the demand for fuel. Exxon Mobil Corp dropped the most in both the S&P 500 and the Dow. Its stock price fell by nearly five percent.

The U.S. drops were caused from several pressures. A government report showed that January orders of U.S. durable goods such as computers, airplanes and home appliances fell by the largest amount in three months. The fall compounded concerns about the Shanghai index drop and fears about the mortgage market for people with poor credit. However, many analysts are not worried.

"It's my belief that the economy is going to be fine," said Ed Keon, chief investment strategist with Prudential Equity Group in New York. "We've just fallen back to where we were in the latter part of 2006. Markets go through these corrective processes time to time, and you can't say exactly when they're going to occur. Today was our day."

Get that in writing! Speech-to-text software

BY LUCINDA SUTHERLAND
BizTech Writer

Do you ever dream of dictating letters and reports to your computer and having the documents appear without you having done any typing?

This kind of speech-to-text technology is available, but it isn't always as simple as in our dreams.

Software capable of converting the spoken word into printed text can make the most of your time, but only after you take the time to help the program recognize your speech and learn to use commands it will recognize.

One of the most popular voice recognition programs is Dragon Naturally Speaking produced by Nuance. Introduced in the 1990s, Dragon programs have gone through several transformations and updates. The latest version, Dragon Naturally Speaking 9, is a dramatic improvement compared to the older versions. Teaching your computer to recognize your speech pattern and writing style used to require the user to read a script into the computer's microphone.

This step has been bypassed. The program actually searches through the user's computer, analyzing documents and e-mail to familiarize itself with the user's style. Reading the script is still recommended, but it is only imperative for users who have strong accents or speech impairment.

Several versions of Dragon Naturally Speaking 9 are available: Standard, Preferred, Medical and Legal.

The Standard version is priced at \$99. The specialized versions costing approximately \$50 more. They are already selling on eBay for somewhat lower prices - an average of \$80 for Standard 9.

More and more of these programs are now compatible with digital voice recorders so busy people can re-

cord on the go and let their computer turn it into text later.

Dragon advertises that it is Bluetooth compatible and can be used to surf the Internet, write e-mails and business letters, as well as transcribe notes.

It is less accurate at transcribing interviews or meetings because it has difficulty recognizing multiple speakers.

Dragon Naturally Speaking 8 is available in the Albertsons Library on the BSU campus as assistive technology for students who need it.

While originally designed for PC users, versions of Dragon are also available for Macintosh users.

Most of the speech-to-text programs originated for PC users and have been adapted for Macintosh products. ViaVoice and Dragon have both been adapted for Mac users.

The iListen program, released by Macintosh in 2003, was noted for its ability to transcribe audio files. ViaVoice was not a terribly successful product, but iListen seems to have been better received by consumers.

As with Dragon Naturally Speaking, iListen requires some training time for both the user and the software.

There are also speech recognition programs specifically designed for math applications, writing eloquent business documents, writing in foreign languages and standard security applications.

The good news is that advances are bringing the prices of these technologies down to a more affordable level. The downside is the time involved in learning how to use the program and helping it adapt to your speech patterns.

If you don't mind the possibility that passers by will know what you are writing or where you are surfing, voice recognition software might be just what you need to meet your deadlines.



PHOTO COURTESY VOCAL LINKS

Need help with that? Assistive technology

BY LUCINDA SUTHERLAND
BizTech Writer

It's not a secret, no one's hiding it, but you may not know about the assistive technology offered by the office of disability services.

The office offers help to students coping with college and their individual challenges. Right here on the Boise State University campus we have technology specifically designed to help blind students, deaf students, students with mobility challenges and practically every other physical and mental impairment that makes learning at the college level a challenge.

"One of the biggest struggles is getting textbooks to students who are blind or have dyslexia, so we need to produce textbooks in an alternate format," Candida Mumford, the disability specialist with BSU's Office of Disability Services said. "We have a scanner that can scan an entire book in five minutes - a 500 page book even. We have production software called ABBYY Fine Reader that proofreads all of it and checks to see that the scanning is accurate ... if a student has a screen reader we can just send it to them and they can listen to the textbook. If not, we have a program called Dolphin that has a computerized voice so we can burn MP3s of their textbook."

Assistive technology is the phrase used to describe the machines, devices and software that help people with physical or learning disabilities. The Office of Disability Services has rooms on the fourth floor of the BSU Albertsons Library where students who need this technology can choose to use: JAWS, a program to read text and web pages aloud, ZoomText which coordinates with a closed-caption television to enlarge the printed page for the visually impaired, Dragon Dictate Software designed to recognize speech and do the typing for the student, Hearing Helper

Sound System and accessible computer workstations. Portable ZoomText units with CCTV are available for use in other parts of the campus.

WYNN is another program available through ODS which is designed to help students with dyslexia and other learning disabilities. WYNN scans assignments or pa-

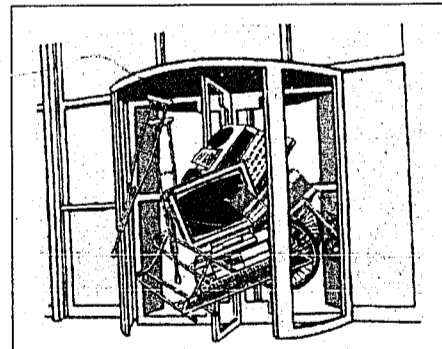


PHOTO COURTESY SOUTHERN TIER INDEPENDENCE

perwork, turning it into a word document then reading the text aloud and highlighting each word. A benefit with WYNN is that it can be adjusted to read faster or slower to suit the needs of the student.

Wendy Turner, interim director of disability services, and Mumford help students use

the assistive technology, counsel students on their rights and responsibilities and set up mentoring sessions. Mentoring gives students access to caring and informed people who are familiar with the specific challenges faced by BSU students and the assistive technology best suited to their needs.

Mumford is also the faculty advisor for Kaison, a Japanese word meaning "continuous improvement," which is a newly formed club for BSU students with disabilities or people interested in disability issues. To learn more about Kaison, contact Mumford, Jen Kitchen (club president) or Lori Lowe (treasurer).

The BSU Office of Disability Services is participating in "Tools for Life: Secondary Transition and Technology Fair" at the DoubleTree Riverside Hotel in Boise March 5 and 6, starting at 8 a.m. with special speakers and events. There will be workshops on adapting to college and using assistive technology. Technology vendors will also be demonstrating their products. There is a \$50 fee, which includes lunches. Scholarships are available for students. Registration starts at 8 a.m. Monday or you can get more information and register online at <http://www.wildboat.org/2007ToolsFair.htm>.

LOCALLY
GLOBALLY

WHAT'S HOT
WHAT'S NOT
IN ENTERTAINMENT



BY DANIEL KEDISH
Culture Editor

Globally

Hot

Harry Potter gets naked on stage
Daniel Radcliffe is taking the world by storm this summer with his role in the Peter Shaffer production "Equus."

Radcliffe plays the part of Alan Strang, which involves stripping down to his skivvies, simulating sex and smoking right on stage for a packed West End audience.

The 17-year-old star decided on the role to mix up the way the world has seen him after portraying the popular boy wizard Harry Potter for more than half a decade. However, this attempt at reinvention is proving to be a great success, with already \$3.1 million in advance ticket sales.

Radcliffe hopes the role leaves a lasting impression for future opportunities to keep from becoming a victim of type casting.

Radcliffe will make his next appearance this summer in "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," hitting theaters July 13.

Not

Beyoncé victim to hepatitis

Not only can Beyoncé add Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue cover model to her resume, she might be able to say she has Hepatitis A.

Apparently, a member of the Wolfgang Puck Catering service at the event unveiling the swimsuit issue was diagnosed with the virus afterward, having served 13 other events that same month.

Any guests who ate the sushi and raw vegetables were asked to seek medical attention to receive vaccinations, while Wednesday last week marked the final day attendees of the party could receive the treatment. You must receive the vaccination within 14 days of coming in contact with Hepatitis A.

There is no word on whether Beyoncé received the vaccine, but here's hoping she did, for Jay-Z's sake and because no one likes a fecally contaminated dream girl.

Locally

Hot

Downtown Boise's booming

Boise's downtown scene continues to thrive with two new additions: Urban Outfitters and the new hookah bar, Babylon.

Urban Outfitters opened last Wednesday, adding a new variety of clothing to the shopping scene away from the festivities of the mall. Located on Front Street, the store offers a taste of the unique style, which will hopefully add some flavor to Boise's style.

For those non-shoppers, check out Babylon, located above the Main Street Bistro at Sixth and Main Streets. The hookah bar offers an eclectic atmosphere with couches and an array of choices for smoking with over 20 flavors. Along with projectors displaying music videos on the walls and low lighting, Babylon offers a relaxing break from the crazed partygoers of the weekend.

Not

The wrath of the lost keys

If there is anything that can ruin a night out, it's losing your keys.

When it's late and all you want to do is go home, the last thing you need is finding yourself without your keys, creating a night full of stress and turmoil.

Let's not forget how expensive it can be to get a new pair of keys when you don't have a copy to go from. After calling several locksmiths around the area, the average price to replace one key is about \$100 and that's not the end of it when you have a different key to open your door and another one for the ignition.

Here are some words of advice I should have listened to a long time ago: make a spare. And I don't mean one - at least five. It may sound OCD, but trust me, having more options is always better. Even give one to a friend you trust, because you never know when the wrath of the lost keys will come into your life.

URBAN OUTFITTERS



BoDo

PHOTOS BY DUSTIN DAVIS/THE ARBITER

“ Urban Outfitters - known for selling clothes and houseware items in cities like Portland, Seattle and New York City - arrived in Boise last week, ready to introduce residents to a new definition of style. ”

BY FRANCY MARCOTTE
Assistant Culture Editor

Shopping at 10:45 a.m. on a weekday? Most people would normally spend this time earning a living or getting an education, not engaging in a frivolous activity like shopping.

However, on Feb. 28, the rules broke when crowds of people swarmed BoDo in Downtown Boise for the opening of Urban Outfitters.

Urban Outfitters - known for selling clothes and houseware items in cities like Portland, Seattle and New York City - arrived in Boise last week, ready to introduce residents to a new definition of style.

For its opening week, the store offered extra incentives to make customers' first experience in Urban Outfitters a memorable one.

First, every purchase came with a customized tote bag reading "UoBo" on one side and "City of Trees: Boise, Idaho" on the other.

Secondly, 10% of purchases went directly to Allies Linked for the Prevention of HIV and AIDS (A.L.P.H.A.), an organization dedicated to preventing and educating the public about HIV and AIDS.

Walking into Urban Outfitters transforms a once hum-drum Boise life into a hip, upbeat shopping experience, reminiscent of what one might find in a big city. An employee greets customers at the door with expressions like "hello" or "how are you today?" making each feel right at home in the expansive space.

Seriously, it's a huge store. However, considering the variety of merchandise Urban Outfitters carries, it needs the space.

The store offers everything from clothing to shoes to dinnerware and other household items. Therefore, it's not only a clothes haven, but a lifestyle store as well.

Women's clothing takes up the front portion of the store. Rows of shoes hang off the walls, displaying their leopard-print or rainbow-dotted patterns in full view.

T-shirts, sweaters and crystal bowls filled with jewelry cover round tables and floral-printed dresses hang on

racks nearby.

Admittedly, the women's clothing takes up a large part of the store's space. It starts right at the entrance and extends all the way to the back of the store, next to the fitting rooms.

Right around that area is the men's clothing. This section sports graphic T-shirts ranging from \$24 to \$48.

It may seem a little pricey, but isn't it worth it to have a shirt that says "Fight Me I'm Irish" on it? Urban Outfitters thinks so.

Guys can also expect to find a selection of sweatshirts, jackets, sweaters and shoes on display to feed their inner style cravings.

Besides women's and men's clothing, Urban Outfitters dedicates a considerable amount of space to household items.

The store exposes customers to dish sets in bold colors like red, orange and blue, flower and zebra-striped rugs, picture frames, red and yellow wicker chairs, bedding and candles.

It also offers less practical items such as "Borat"-themed drinking glasses and "G.I. Joe Kung Fu" action figures.

Despite its amount of merchandise, Urban Outfitters scores highest for its atmosphere.

Indie-rock bands like The Shins and Bloc Party play through the loudspeakers, making music an integral part of the shopping experience. In fact, customers can purchase Bloc Party's latest album "Weekend in the City" at the registers.

Antique-style cabinets and lamps also cover the store and contribute to its funky, urban vibe.

Finally, employees never hesitate to assist customers in finding an item, and leave a friendly impression on them.

A variety of merchandise from clothes to home decor packs Urban Outfitters.

However, high prices stand as Urban Outfitters' one negative point. Most clothing items start at \$24 and can reach \$100.

One zebra-striped bracelet costs \$18 - a price most college students would not dream of paying.

Though its prices can easily empty a bank account, Urban Outfitters possesses a variety of quirky merchandise new to Boise shoppers. It is a strong addition to BoDo and will certainly enjoy a long, prosperous life there.

George Clinton funks the Big Easy

BY MICHAEL MCLASKEY
Arbiter Staff

George Clinton and the P-Funk All-Stars. 700 locals. One night. The Big Easy. The Funk. The thrill of seeing the show before it is no more.

I found myself at the Ha'Penny beforehand, sipping down a \$5 Cinder Cone as I tried to keep my excitement down.

I'd wanted to see Clinton for years and decided that this time around, I would go to his show because he can't keep touring forever.

George Clinton started his music career in junior high with his Doo-wop Group the Parliaments and its hit, "I Wanna Testify" put them on the map in 1967.

George and his ensemble have changed the name and some of the lineup over the years - Garry Shider was still there, singing and dancing in his traditional diaper, but the backup singers looked young enough to have grown up on TLC, rather than Parliament.

Local hip-hop group Kampfire

Collective opened the show and I found myself bouncing to its rolling beats and rapid-fire lyrics.

It was my first time seeing them and I thought their sound fell somewhere between 311 and old-school Red Hot Chili Peppers.

At the end of Kampfire's set, the members stated their purpose and fulfilled it well:

"We're trying to cover a generational gap - from p-funk to g-funk!"

I heard whispers that George himself was signing shirts and CDs at the merchandise table.

Having spent my last dollar on the Bud Light in my hand, I didn't feel comfortable approaching him.

He walked right past me as Kampfire was wrapping up and I couldn't resist myself:

"Mr. Clinton? Your music is awesome, thank you so much."

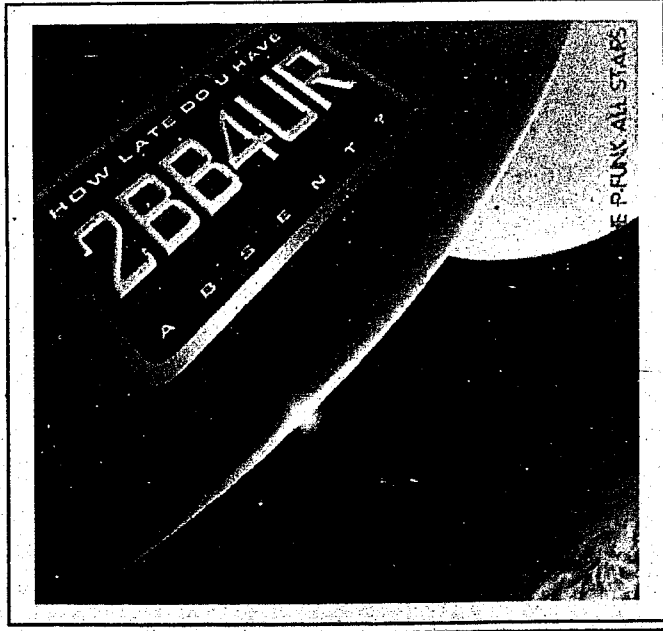
I was gushing like a star-struck teen watching the Beatles live on "Ed Sullivan."

He allowed me to snap a quick picture of us before he rambled up to the Big Easy's stage.

The group, which ranged from nine to as many as 15 members on stage, performed a rousing version of "Bop Gun" for their opening number, which got me dancing. "Tear the Roof off the Sucker" followed, which jammed into pieces of Lil' Jon's hit "Get Low," which completed the circuit from the older school of funk to the newer school of hip-hop and rap.

After a bizarre rendition of the group's classic and one of my personal favorites, "Starchild," the singers all left the stage as Funkadelic shredded one of the longest, satisfying guitar solos I've ever heard.

When the P-Funk returned with all its members, the crowd was dancing again with "Flashlight." Even though the sound gains were a bit high on the horns and bass, which drowned out a lot of the backup vocals, George Clinton and the P-Funk All-Stars put on an amazing show, with extravagant costumes, danceable tunes and a four-hour set of funky rhythm and grooves.



“ Mr. Clinton? Your music is awesome, thank you so much. I was gushing like a star-struck teen watching the Beatles live on "Ed Sullivan." ”

'Man of La Mancha'- a play within a play

BY MATTHEW BOYLE
Culture Writer

Seeing chivalry, honor and courage in himself was not enough for the lead character in the recent Boise State University Theatre Department performance of "Man of La Mancha." Miguel De Cervantes/Don Quixote set out "to dream the impossible dream" and right the wrongs of the many other characters in the play.

"Man of La Mancha," historically successful on Broadway and in many other theaters across the world, hit the spot again - this time at Boise State University. It is currently showing at the Morrison Center on Stage II.

The musical opens with financially struggling tax collector and Poet Miguel De Cervantes and his servant being thrown in jail by the Spanish Inquisition for placing a lean on a Catholic Church that refused to pay taxes.

The prisoners already in jail, mostly for murder, decide to "hold a trial" to see if they should kill Cervantes and his servant before the Inquisition gets to them.

Cervantes demands that he be granted a chance for defense against the prisoners. For his defense, he puts on a musical play, using all of the other prisoners as actors and actresses.

The role of Aldonza, a promiscuous prisoner, becomes the main female role in the musical.

Before Don Quixote comes to save her reputation, Aldonza was considered a whore by the rest of the men in prison. Quixote insists that Aldonza's name is "Dulcinea," a beautiful lady's name.

The main action in the play is that Quixote asserts that Dulcinea is a beautiful lady and not Aldonza the whore.

The plot develops in such a way that the mysteriously noble "Man of La Mancha" finds true honor, pride

and courage in the prisoners and questions the reasoning behind his current world.

The musical begs the question "Why did the noble traits in the days of knights fade?"

A dusty, crumbling, wooden prison is the set before the eyes of the spectators. The audience is seated on both sides of the stage with the main stage below the audience. The cast continually comes up and down the aisles, entering and exiting through the audience. Also, platforms rise above each side of the stage and much of the action takes place there.

The costumes worn by the characters show their background and current situation.

Two characters are chained to the wall with leather masks to prevent their escape. Shabby footwear and tattered clothing hang from the characters, putting the audience in the life of a prisoner during the Spanish Inquisition.

Tremendous effort and hours of preparation are invested in this magnificent musical, "Man of La Mancha," put on by the Boise State Theatre Department.

The impossible dream is certainly being dreamt here.



Facts about the 'f' word

BY CARRIE FANNIN
Arbiter Staff

As we have been talking about weight and the factors that can cause people to be overweight these last few weeks, I thought I might share with you the statistics on our weight at Boise State.

First of all, let's define obesity. Obesity is defined as a body mass index over 30. You can calculate your BMI at the following Website (<http://www.nhlbhsupport.com/bmi/>).

It is considered ideal to have a BMI from 19-24. Moderately overweight at 25-29 and it is also unhealthy to have a BMI under 18.5. Being underweight can cause various health problems, just as being overweight does.

In 2005, the ACHA/NCHA at Boise State revealed that: 49 percent of BSU students suffer from obesity (29.9 percent is the national average) 30 percent of BSU students do not do aerobic exercise at all and 47 percent do not strength train (Statistics provided by Dr. Mary Pritchard).

So what does this mean to us? It means it is time for us to utilize our Rec Center.

Now wait just one minute. I know I told you before that you didn't have to go to the gym to get some exercise. This is true.

However, if like me, you have a BMI in the upper range of "moderately overweight," maybe it is time to add something to your current plan. I know what you are thinking. "I don't want to go to the Rec Center, it is too hard, it is too intimidating, what will others think?"

Guess what - there are others there just like you and me. And yes there is always that one skinny girl in her tight spandex that makes me wish she might trip while she runs

around the track (just kidding).

The Rec Center offers many different options for aerobic activity. They have treadmills, ellipticals, three types of stair climbers, reclining bikes and upright bikes.

Choose what you like the best and start slow. Ask for assistance if you need it. They also have an upstairs track that you can walk around. Either in silence or with your own tunes, it's all good.

They have towel service for 50 cents - I get two if I forget my own, larger sized towel.

It is easy to minimize nakedness in the locker room. The showers are private and the best part of the whole thing is the sauna.

After I work out at the Rec Center my designated Tuesday and Thursday and weigh in on at least one day, I lay in the sauna for the allotted time both days. Can you say fabulous? It just is. And that time in the sauna is one of the ways I reward myself for the intervention plan I am on. I actually look forward to working out just to enjoy my quiet 10 minutes.

So we are all in this together, except for the skinny girl in spandex running around the track, so let's work together and reach our goals to be healthier and happier.

We can do it.

Last week, there was virtually no change in my weight or measurements.

However this week I am down a little more overall. Check out www.myspace.com/cifannin for updates on weight and measurements.

Next week we will talk about fear and failure and then we will address the fight for fitness in the final installment and outline why aerobic activity and strength training are important.

Statistics provided by Dr. Mary Pritchard.

Additional facts about the state of our nation

- 65% of adults are overweight, 23% are obese.

- Obesity has increased by 1/3rd over the past 20 years.

- 15% of children are obese (10% of preschoolers).

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OPINION

The way we see it ...

Get out, get involved and vote for the ASBSU elections

Respect is a word often thrown around flippantly. Your mother and father tell you to respect your elders. Your teachers and managers demand your respect and your friends and lovers ask for your respect sometimes above all else.

With all of the respect floating around, one can begin to get overwhelmed. Students, especially now, are over worked and low on time for anything other than school, work or homework.

Why then should students take the time out of their busy lives to spend on a small aspect like respect?

This board believes the ideology of respect is important, most of all respect for someone else - you. It is worth piling more onto your plate, and we call for students to push the limits of what they can be and achieve.

Question why you are here at Boise State and what you are doing with the education presented you. Just learning material and regurgitating what you have heard may get you a passing grade.

If you are especially talented you might get above average grades but university life is not all about passing. This experience is about life, in order to set you up for later accomplishments. Dive into the inner workings of the university with an open mind and all your energy.

This is a commuter school and too often do people come and go, faceless through the years and falling through the cracks. You may see them in the parking lots, racing for a parking spot or rushing through the halls to class.

These students might not look up or even notice you are there. They leave the school, unnoticed by the administration or their fellow students.

Change this typical notion of what it means to be a Boise State student. Come together and rally behind what you think is right and just. Respect yourself and your own opinion. Do not simply glance at what is going on around campus, float through and come out in the end with a piece of paper.

That paper may guarantee you a place in the workforce. It might even make you some good money someday, but it will not buy you happiness. At some point you will have to get involved and become responsible for your own destiny. There will come a time when your heart and mind must fully engulf themselves in the tasks at hand.

Why not begin the process right here and now while there is still time to practice? Move away from the stigma of an uninvolved college student and go beyond being average. Get onto Blackboard Monday, March 4 and Tuesday, March 6 and vote for your ASBSU representatives, president and vice president.

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; Barry Franklin, opinion editor; Harsh Mantri, online editor; and Sheree Whiteley, lead copy editor.

The candidates debate and I wonder why

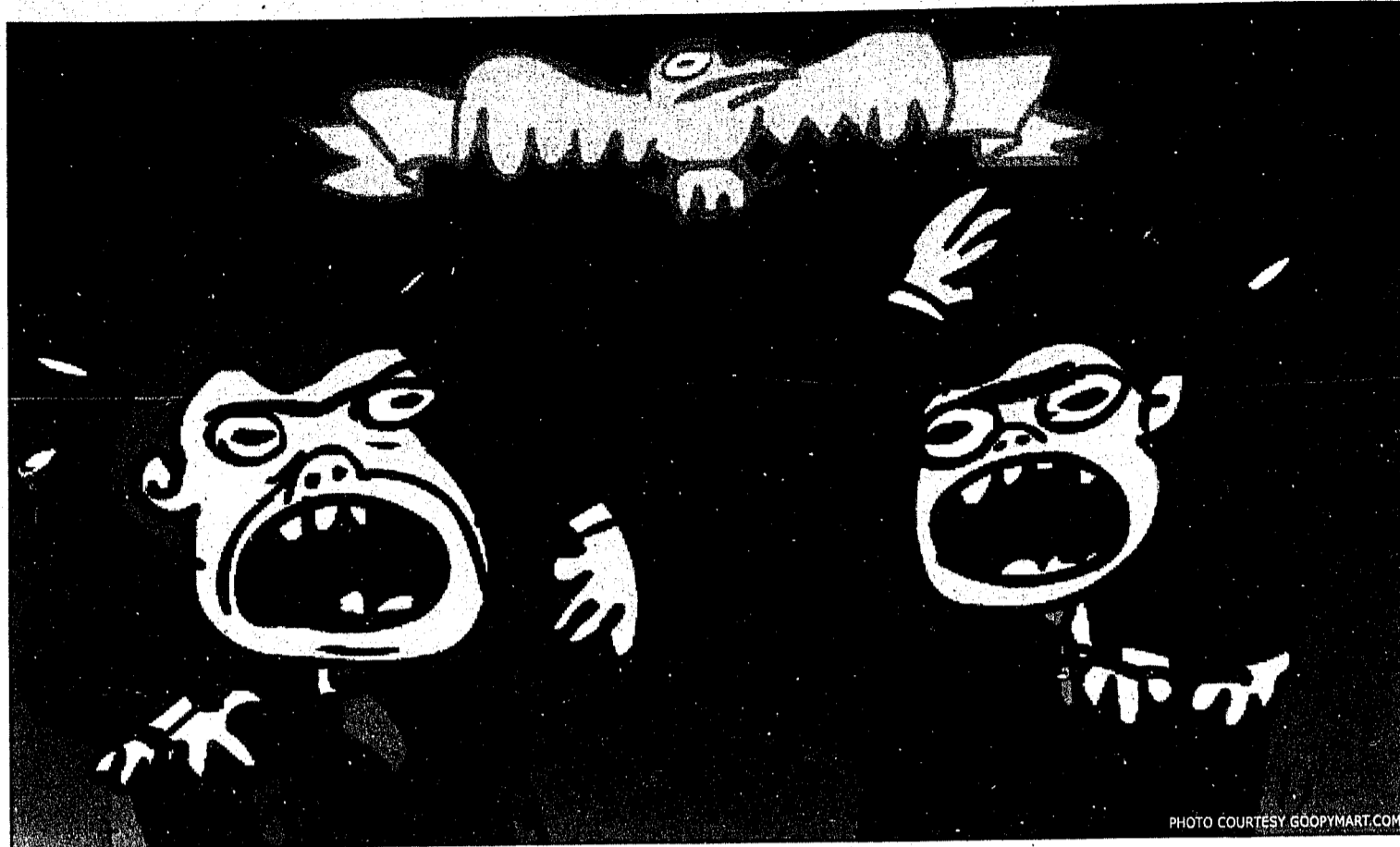


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“ I wrote notes furiously and tried to catch every word they said. I paid attention to their platforms and gave them the respect due. It takes guts to get up in front of students and debate your ideas. At the end though, after taking a long hard look at what I wrote down, nothing made sense. Most of the candidates said the same thing over and over again, simply regurgitating the same ideas. ”

BY BARRY FRANKLIN
Opinion Editor

As I sat in the Student Union Building last week, dutifully fulfilling my job as a student, listening to the candidates at the ASBSU debates, I was left wondering why I was there in the first place.

I wrote notes furiously and tried to catch every word they said. I paid attention to their platforms and gave them the respect due. It takes guts to get up in front of students and debate your ideas.

At the end though, after taking a long hard look at what I wrote down, nothing made sense. Most of the candidates said the same thing over and over again, simply regurgitating the same ideas.

When asked what they would do with extra funds, all but one candidate for At Large Senator said they would use them for scholarships. When asked what they would do for students, over half of the total candidates said they would hold ASBSU fiscally responsible.

They all said they wanted the student government to be transparent. Wasn't this supposed to be a de-

bate? Does not a debate entail differing ideas?

Yes it is hard to get up in front of students and speak. Yes the candidates all seemed engaged in the activity and yes it was good of them to show up. I know what you might be thinking - easy for you to say, Barry. You can sit down behind your computer and think out what you say. You can use the delete button.

Yes, but this is what I do. I sit down behind a computer and write. Debating ideas is what senators do. I completely expect people to hold me responsible for information and that is why I went to the debates and furiously took notes. Should we not be able to hold students running for political office responsible for the same?

I expect candidates to research the position they are running for. When certain candidates did not know whether ASBSU could use funds for scholarships my expectations were not met. I expect candidates to have thought out their own ideas long enough to come up with something different than fiscal responsibility and transparent government. Sure those are aspects we need in student govern-

ment, but what about all the other issues involved? What about other committees like Traditions or Ways and Means?

At each turn of a paragraph, however, I seek to stave the poison so easily thrown by the keyboard. This whole university thing is a learning experience and when I close my mind to that and begin taking myself too seriously. That crucial learning experience is impeded.

The students running for ASBSU next semester are students just like you and me - people looking to take a direction in life.

What I propose is for the student body not to hold ASBSU responsible for everything wrong with the school. The reality of their situation does not allow them to make any big changes. Students should, however, hold ASBSU responsible for learning, for growing and for participating. We should all hold the candidates responsible for achieving what they set out to achieve.

These debates were giant steps in engaging the candidates and helping each other further our education. Let us keep it that way.

Think before you vote

BY CHRISTOPHER HONDROS
Guest Opinion

Can somebody tell me what's going on here? Before we, the students vote, stop and think about dedication to the positions, first and foremost about the president and vice-president job.

As far as I know there are five senators or former senators running for either president or VP.

The reason I point out senators is because, they have done the government thing for at least a year and would know the game of politics, so obviously they would be the most qualified group of people. Think again!

The minutes of the senate meetings are available to the public, so anyone interested in how our student body government is run, should be able to find out.

What I am the most peeved about from looking at these minutes, is how many

absences there are from the meetings, particularly from the potential president and vice-president candidates. Senator Cooper, who is running for president is, through his absences, already eligible to be impeached.

For those of you who don't know what I am talking about, here it is: a senator is allowed at most three unexcused absences and four excused absences. Senator Cooper has two excused absences and five, count them five unexcused absences.

Senator Mirkasimov has the maximum allowed four excused absences and two unexcused absences, one unexcused absence away from being eligible to be impeached.

Senator Ortmann has three excused and one unexcused absence. Senator Stolley has two excused absences.

Former Senator Holdaway entered the position of senator and resigned after just five meetings. In those five meetings he managed to have an unexcused

absence.

This, my fellow students, is an issue of dedication.

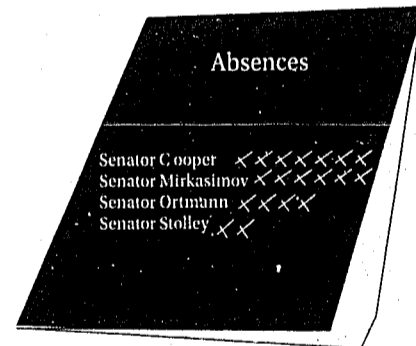
Excused absences, I can forgive however to not show up to meetings and not even have an excuse for why you miss, about this, I am irked.

These people are flat not showing up for the work students are paying them to do.

I am the RHA Vice President and I meet with the executive board once a week, show up a half an hour before the general meetings to review what we will talk about, I attend hall council meetings as part of my job and vote on budget proposals.

I do it as a volunteer position and still manage to show up to the meetings. These senators get paid to do their job, and I find that money is being thrown away every time they miss.

I myself refuse to vote for people who have not done the political thing for a



year. But with all these absences, who can I trust to lead the student body government on the right path?

It's a question of dedication, and it seems as though very few people have the answer.

For those senators who play sports, at least they have an excuse, but don't run if you know you are not going to be there.

Christopher Hondros
RHA Vice President.

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

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The way you see it ...

Candidates will work for you - if they're these guys

It's time to bust out those ballots and vote for next year's president, vice president and senators. Ryan Cooper and Bakh Mirkasimov, running for president and vice. President, are representing the Orange Party and are willing to go to work for you.

They have many great ideas and the motivation to revolutionize the student body. They want to form a student government that is more responsive to the needs of the students.

There will be no wondering what in the world is going on with ASBSU. Clarity will be an important priority, one that they are exercising even now.

They are the only candidates clearly stating their platform on their posters. In this era of skyrock-

eting fees and tuition they want to establish an extraordinary fiscal responsibility and effectively manage student dollars. Fiscal responsibility would then go hand in hand with financial accountability. Both Cooper and Mirkasimov want to ensure justification for funding and strict monitoring of the student-funded budget.

As a paying student at this university I find it hard not agree with this. I want to be able to have the assurance that my money is being used well.

With Cooper and Mirkasimov in office we can rest assured that our money will be carefully monitored and used appropriately.

With the growth in notoriety, enrollment and the rising fees at Boise State the Orange Party believes that this should lead to more scholarship and funding from the State and University. One thing a college student could always use more of

is money. Increased funding and scholarship will greatly help students. Another great thing about the Orange Party is that they have balanced viewpoints so they can better represent the entire student body and not just parts of it. In order to keep the unique diversity of our campus we need a variety of viewpoints from the speakers and events that take place on campus.

Cooper and Mirkasimov want to ensure that we get that through the committees that select these types of events and speakers.

With the implementation of a communication system through existing software (Broncweb/Blackboard), they want to solicit feedback from the entire student body.

This way everyone will have a chance to be heard. Effective communication will help to unify the student body and of course help with the effectiveness and productivity of our student government. Cooper and Mirkasimov aren't waiting until after elections to begin their work. With their honesty and high quality platform they have already begun the work of a true transparent government by

informing you of everything they will do. How much more effective do you think they will be once they will be in office?

If you truly want a party that will work for you choose the one that is asking for you to put them to work.

There's no better form of government than the one that wants to serve and that's exactly what Orange wants to do, serve its student body. Vote for Ryan Cooper and Bakh Mirkasimov, they are willing and asking to work for their student body.

Sonia Trevizo
Student at Boise State University

I'm going to see Hans Blix

Weapons of Mass Destruction? Perhaps you have heard of the protest by the Conservative Students Coalition here at Boise State. Maybe you have heard of the war happening in Iraq.

And just maybe you have heard of what the new Democrat-led Congress is proposing to do in Iraq. If you have heard of any of these

things you will not want to miss the latest installment of the distinguished Lecture Series.

March 12 Hans Blix will present his experience as the Chief UN Weapons Inspector in Iraq during the build-up to the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003.

If you haven't heard of the aforementioned things turn the page. Dr. Blix will speak at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 12, in the Morrison Center. His lecture is titled "Looking Ahead: Controlling Weapons of Mass Destruction."

The lecture is free and seating is limited. Doors open at 6 p.m. As I move from one social circle to another I find that everyone has an opinion on George W. Bush and the one thing that can be said is that they are varied.

I like to keep quiet in these discussions and ask questions.

I have found out that the people who most dislike Bush put it in the most modest terms; they like to say things like "Bush is an idiot."

Though, I come across people from time to time that absolutely love Bush, like the Conservative Students Coalition.

Also military personnel seem to

also support Bush, saying things like "he is a gutsy president."

Whether one likes or hates Bush, the argument usually ends up centered on the war in Iraq, and inevitably seems to drift to the linchpin argument of whether or not there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq before Bush invaded.

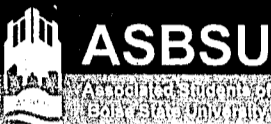
I have heard everything from, "There is no way that there were weapons of mass destruction; they looked and found nothing," to "There is a lot of desert out there he [Saddam Hussein] could have simply dug a hole and thrown them in."

I want to get as close to the truth as I can, so I am going to go listen to Hans Blix speak.

I want to find out the processes and procedures that one uses to detect WMDs. I want to hear from the man that was there. I want to be in the same room with the man who was there knocking on the doors of suspected sites of terrible weapons and asking to see what was there.

I am going to see for myself. I am going to see Han Blix.

Wyatt Parke
ASBSU President



ASBSU Election Ballot 2007

March 7 & 8, <http://blackboard.boisestate.edu/>

President/Vice-President Ticket (Vote for One ticket)

- Britton J Holdaway/ Jennifer Stolley
- Peter Babichenko/ Andrey Nosalskiy
- Ryan Cooper/ Bakh Mirkasimov
- Amy Ortmann/ Evan "Swatch" Stein
- Lawrence "Bronco" Johnson/ Tony Volponi

Senator at Large (Vote for One—eight seats available)

- Bobbi Woolum
- Jessica Martin
- Evan Meriwether
- Ashley Callis
- Seren Horton
- Brian Lawatch
- Lacey Vander Boegh
- Angelica Garcia
- Daniel G. Gibson
- Gabe Murphy

College Senator (Vote for One per college)

- Larry Seland College of Applied Technology**
 - No Candidates.
- College of Arts & Science**
 - Nicole Ridgeway
- College of Business & Economics**
 - Terry Hurless
 - Denis Parshin
- College of Education**
 - Write-in candidate
- College of Engineering**
 - Mariah Fowler
- Graduate College**
 - Chadwick Davis
- College of Health Sciences**
 - Cameron Wiemerslage
- College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs**
 - Tyler Gaylord
 - Kayleigh Jack
 - Tim Kistle

Students can vote yes or no on each of these ballot questions

Ballot Proposal 1

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution

Article 1, Section 3

To take effect upon passage.

The intent of the amendment is to allow each branch leader to decide when to remove a member when they do not meet requirements for ASBSU office. This does provide ASBSU branch leaders the discretion to allow students serving in the military, or who suffer detrimental emergencies to remain on ASBSU, even if they fall below minimums.

All executive officers, student justices, and senators of the ASBSU, elected and appointed, must be full-fee paying students. All student personnel of ASBSU, elected, appointed, and hired must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.0 grading scale. All executive officers, student justices, and senators of the ASBSU, elected and appointed, who receive a service award, must undergo training, as designed by Student Involvement Activities staff. The heads of each branch is are authorized to approve alternative training methods for members of their branch. The heads of each branch are further authorized to administratively remove any member of their branch for failing to meet any of the previously mentioned requirements. An administrative removal shall not occur prior to the tenth day of the fall and spring semesters, nor will administrative removals occur while an academic grievance, filed by the officer in question, is underway.

Ballot Proposal 2

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution

Article 2, Section 3

To take effect upon passage.

The intent of this amendment is to simplify the constitution and clarify the power of the Vice-President.

Section 3. The Vice-President of the ASBSU shall be the President and Chair of the ASBSU Senate, but shall have no vote, unless the ASBSU Senate is equally divided or to make or break a two-thirds majority.

Ballot Proposal 3

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution

Article 3, Section 4

To take effect upon passage.

The intent of this amendment is to make the language of the constitution consistent. Other areas of the constitution note the Vice-President will chair "non-caucus" Senate meetings. However, this section contradicts the rest of the document.

5. The ASBSU Vice-President shall serve as the Chair of all non-caucus ASBSU Senate meetings.

Ballot Proposal 4

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution

Article 5

To take effect in the 2008 election cycle. All officers elected in March 2007 shall serve until April 2008.

This amendment moves the ASBSU elections to April. The benefit of this will be that the ASBSU officers who manage the fee proposals will be the same students who present said proposals to the State Board of Education. Of all the universities in Idaho, only Boise State, currently, has different student government officers managing the fee proposal process and the final presentation to the State Board. This change will correct that.

Section 2. Elections for the ASBSU President, ASBSU Vice-President and ASBSU Senators shall be held in the second (2) week of March April for a period not less than two consecutive week days but not more than five (5) consecutive week days, as determined by ASBSU Code. The ASBSU Judiciary may, if necessary, set different dates than what is provided for in this Constitution for any emergency purpose.

Section 3. All ASBSU elected officers shall be installed no later than ~~three (3)~~ two (2) calendar weeks following the last day of polling. This section may be temporarily suspended by the Judiciary should it be necessary for the general welfare of the ASBSU.

Ballot Proposal 5

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution

Amendment 1

To take effect upon passage.

The purpose of this amendment is to make current ASBSU's non-discrimination policy.

The ASBSU will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of age, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, veteran status, political affiliation, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation in matters of employment, services, requests for funds, educational programs, or other activities.

Ballot Proposal 6

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution

Amendment 3

To take effect upon passage.

The University, now, has expanded its recycling program on campus. All funds from ASBSU for recycling were moved toward the University managed process in 2006. To require ASBSU to have a recycling coordinator could conflict with the University program, and could cost students more money through duplication of efforts.

The ASBSU will maintain and promote a campus-recycling program. The program will function under the ASBSU Executive Staff personnel.

Ballot Question 1

The purpose of this question is to poll student opinion only. It is not a binding resolution.

When the Student Recreation Center was opened in 2002 an aquatic component (swimming pool) was put on hold due to financial constraints. Campus Recreation now has enough money to construct an aquatic addition, however does not have the funding for continual operation. Would you support a student fee increase of approximately \$10 over the next 2-3 years to offset ongoing operational expenses?

SPORTS

[THIS WEEK IN SPORTS]

Men's Basketball
Tuesday-Saturday
WAC Tournament
TBA
Las Cruces, N.M.

Women's Basketball
Tuesday-Saturday
WAC Tournament
TBA
Las Cruces, N.M.

Men's Golf
Monday-Tuesday
Braveheart Classic
All Day
Beaumont, Calif.

Gymnastics
Sunday
University of Florida
2 p.m.
Boise

Men's Tennis
Friday
Pacific
1 p.m.
Boise

Saturday
University of Idaho
10:30 a.m.
Boise

New Mexico
1:30 p.m.
Boise

Women's Tennis
Friday-Sunday
Boise State Invitational
TBA
Boise

Track
Friday
NCAA Indoor Championships
All Day
Fayetteville, Ark.

[SIDE LINE]

Zabransky to be cover boy for EA Sports NCAA Football 08

Last week, video game company guru Electronic Arts Inc., announced that former Boise State University quarterback and Tostitos Fiesta Bowl MVP Jared Zabransky will appear on the cover of NCAA Football '08, scheduled for release this summer. NCAA Football '08 will be available on the PlayStation2 and PlayStation3 computer entertainment systems, and Xbox and Xbox 360 video game systems from Microsoft.

"This has been a magical season for me and seeing my face on the cover of NCAA Football '08 is yet another unforgettable moment in what has already been a great year," Zabransky said. "This video game truly embodies the spirit of college football and I'm very proud to be a part of it."

Karl named First Team All-WAC

Boise State senior Coby Karl was honored by the Western Athletic Conference as a First-Team All-Conference selection this weekend for his efforts this season.

Karl has averaged 14.8 points per game for Boise State this season. He is only the second Bronco to be named to the all-conference first team since Boise State joined the WAC.

But he isn't the only Bronco to be honored.

Freshman guard Anthony Thomas was voted the WAC's Freshman of the Year after averaging five points per game and 1.6 rebounds per game this season. Thomas has also won a WAC player of the week award this season, and is the first freshman since Gerry Washington in 1996 to win the conference's Freshman of the Year award for BSU.

Juniors Matt Nelson and Reggie Larry were both named to the Western Athletic Conference All-Newcomer team and Senior Eric Lane earned a spot on the WAC All-Defensive Team.

BSU men's preview

BY TATE CASTLETON
Sports Writer

Just three days before Saturday night's match-up with Hawaii, things appeared to be near perfect for the Boise State men's basketball team. The Broncos found themselves in a position that was better than what they expected.

A No. 3 seed in the Western Athletic Conference tournament this week and a shot at the NCAA tournament later this month laid within grasp of the Broncos.

All they had to do was win the final two games of the regular season on the road against conference opponents they beat at home in late December. Simple enough, right?

Not quite. The opportunity slipped away when Boise State did what it has done a lot this season on the road: lose. Boise State fell Thursday night to Fresno State, 78-77, after holding a seven-point lead with less than two minutes remaining, and then 92-75, Saturday night to Hawaii.

As a result, the Broncos must settle for the No. 6 seed and a first round match-up with Fresno State who beat Utah State Saturday to clinch the No. 3 tournament seed. Boise State now needs to win the WAC championship out-right for a berth in the big dance.

As much as Bronco head coach Greg Graham would have loved to head into the tournament with a higher seed in hand, he's quick to point out that at the end of the day, what seed you get when you finish in the middle of the pack really makes no difference. "From a playing standpoint I'm not sure that there is any advantage to which seed you get because three through six play each there anyway," Graham said. "We're all jammed in there. It's just going to be jumbled up."

Confidence has been hard to come by for the Broncos (16-13 overall, 8-8 WAC) when they travel. Eight of Boise State's 13 losses this season have been by four points or less.

On three occasions on the road the Broncos have squandered leads of seven or more points

in the fourth quarter. Boise State has struggled from the free throw line all season long, a fault which has doomed the Broncos on more than one occasion.

"We've been so close so many times on the road," junior forward Matt Nelson said. "We just have to get over the hump and win one of the close ones and we'll be right on track."

Nelson has certainly done his part this season, posting 10 double-doubles and leading the team in rebounds.

Although the Broncos head into the WAC tournament without the seed they set out to get, they have reason to be optimistic.

Boise State has beaten every team in the tournament field except for Nevada and New Mexico State, the top two seeds.

"We know we can play with and beat any team in this conference," Anthony Thomas said. "We've played well against everyone at one point or another. Now it's just a matter of putting it all together when it counts the most."

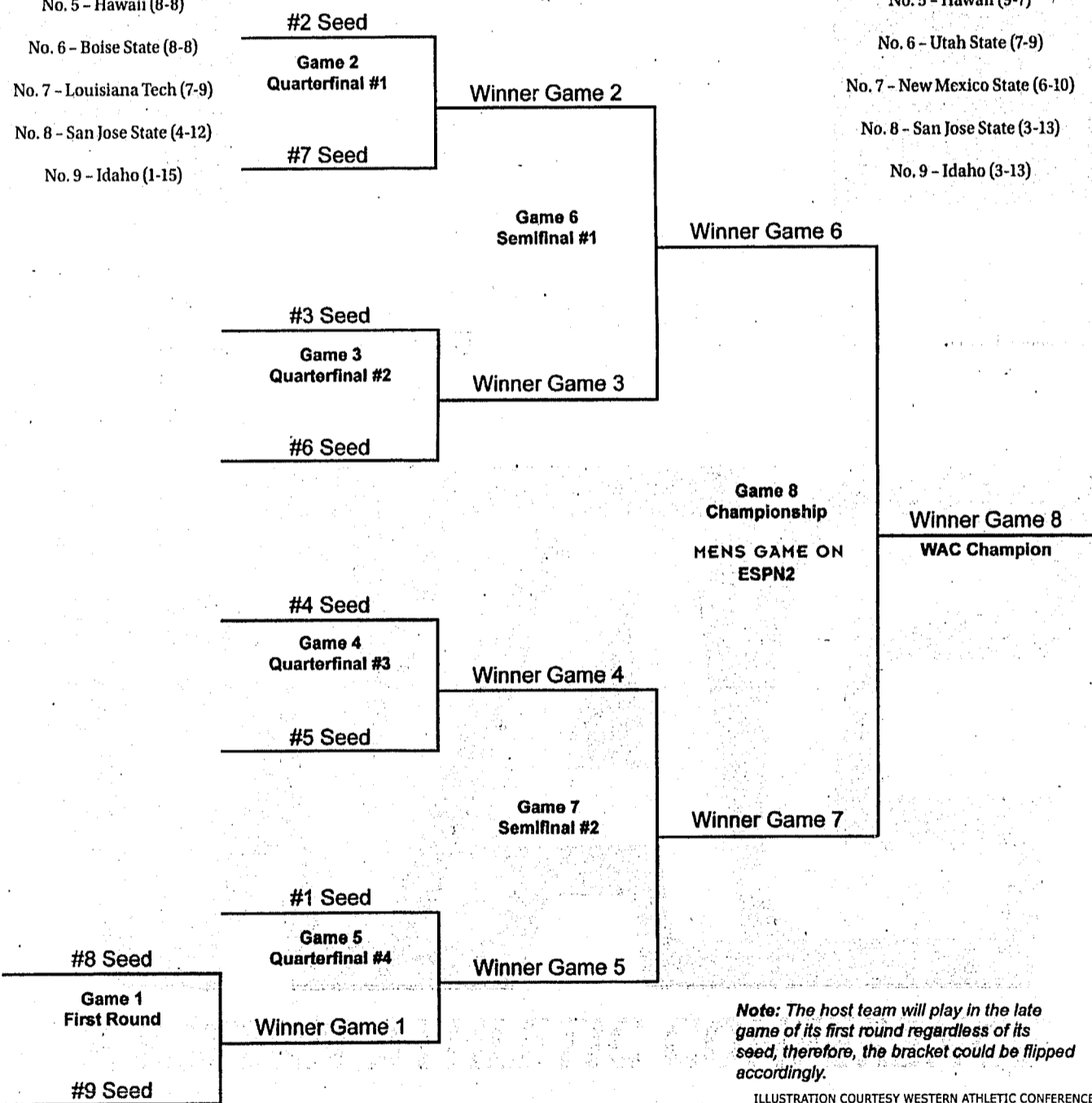
2007 WAC TOURNAMENT BRACKET

Men's Seeds

- No. 1 - Nevada (14-2)
- No. 2 - New Mexico State (11-5)
- No. 3 - Fresno State (10-6)
- No. 4 - Utah State (9-7)
- No. 5 - Hawaii (8-8)
- No. 6 - Boise State (8-8)
- No. 7 - Louisiana Tech (7-9)
- No. 8 - San Jose State (4-12)
- No. 9 - Idaho (1-15)

Women's Seeds

- No. 1 - Boise State (12-4)
- No. 2 - Louisiana Tech (12-4)
- No. 3 - Nevada (10-6)
- No. 4 - Fresno State (10-6)
- No. 5 - Hawaii (9-7)
- No. 6 - Utah State (7-9)
- No. 7 - New Mexico State (6-10)
- No. 8 - San Jose State (3-13)
- No. 9 - Idaho (3-13)



Broncos ride high into tournament as No. 1 seed

BY KYE JOHNSON
Assistant Sports Editor

A month ago, the Western Athletic Conference women's regular season championship was Boise State's to lose.

The Broncos were red-hot. They were off to a 9-0 start in conference play and they were closing in on school records while they were at it.

They had beaten multiple top-25 ranked teams and they demolished Louisiana Tech in Ruston, La. It was the first time La Tech had lost at home in nearly a decade.

Then that same La Tech team paid a visit to Boise for one of the most anticipated women's basketball games in recent BSU history.

La Tech scored a big win on the road and Boise State's season started to take a wrong turn.

BSU dropped three of its next

five games, all three losses coming on the road. What seemed like a sure thing to win the WAC title was quickly turning into a desperate attempt to win games consistently.

But the Broncos were able to pull out two wins to end the season and clinch a share of the regular season title. A tiebreaker over La Tech allowed BSU to snag the No. 1 seed in this week's tournament.

Amid player injuries, overtime losses and a little bump in the middle of the season, the Broncos were able to regain their swagger right in time.

A lot of focus was placed on the fact that BSU lost two starters due to injury and sickness during that rough stretch, and whether or not their absence had everything to do with the team's losses is debatable. What hasn't been debatable is the consistently outstanding play of sophomore point guard Tash

Harris. Harris averaged more than ten points per game for the season and led the team in assists with nearly three per contest.

During the stretch where the Broncos desperately needed someone to step up and turn into a star, she was there. Harris has played well in the past six games, averaging 15 points per game and adding more than three assists. She has quietly had one of the best seasons of any point guard in the WAC this season.

BSU heads into this week's tournament with confidence from its two consecutive wins to end the season.

"We're going to win that championship. That's how I feel," Jackie Thompson said. "We're going to go down there and show everybody that Boise State is in the running. We're going to get a little bit more

respect and we're going to show everybody that we're here to stay."

Jackie and Jessica Thompson have both been starting to play more during the final two games of the regular season, after they both missed a handful of games during the rough stretch in the middle of conference play. But with both players back, the team feels confident about where it is.

"It gives us a lot of confidence to have a full team," senior Michelle Hessing said. "Even though they might not bring all the minutes they have been used to, it's just the attitude that we have confidence in them. We skipped a beat for a second, but we're right back where we were when we left off."

Not a bad time to be hitting your stride again if you ask most people. The Bronco players just hope they can translate it into success during the WAC tournament week.



Zabransky's own video game?

BY JAKE GARCIN
Sports Editor

I finally realized how far the Boise State football program has come when my underground informant, "Ed the Insider," text messaged me Friday morning from Portland, Ore., just to let me know former BSU quarterback Jared Zabransky has been named the cover boy for EA Sports NCAA Football 2008.

I was initially blown away that the Insider came across this information before I - the student newspaper sports editor - was even aware that the 2008 version of the game was coming out this summer.

A few minutes later I turned the television to ESPN2 and saw Zabransky talking about it on "Cold Pizza." Turns out I wasn't just behind the Insider - I was behind the rest of the country.

After some self-reflecting time on the job I was doing, I let go of my slip up and began pondering the most important questions this news brings up. When will the avalanche of new publicity stop? And could anything be cooler than a BSU player on the cover of a major video game?

Well I'm sure we all share the same sentiment in hoping the publicity never slows down. Whether or not the video game is the tip of the iceberg, however, I'm sure we can think of a few more things to strive for.

Picture a series of talking Cabbage Patch dolls - we'll call them the Bronco Series.

The line would obviously be headlined by Holly Homemaker (Ian Johnson) who says cute, humble phrases like, "I'm nothing without you," and, "I just try to be as good as the people around me."

There would certainly be some serious consumer studies done before releasing the Coach Pete doll.

As warm as his personality is in real life, I'm not sure kids would stay excited over a doll that only says, "That's awesome," "You're awesome," and "Stay awesome."

From the dolls we could branch into a cartoon series during the Saturday morning pre-game spot. I am thinking something similar to Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. How inspiring would it be to see an animated group made up of Ryan Clady, Marty Tadman and Jeff and Pete Cavendar?

What makes this group so dynamic is their versatility in the story line. Clady is the muscles of the group, who can break down walls and stop a runaway train dead in its tracks.

Tadman swoops in to the rescue on the Razor he rides all over campus and carries them away to his safe compound on the California coast. The Cavendar brothers then morph into one giant blocking machine with no real purpose other than I think morphing is really cool.

Finally we could produce a breakfast cereal. I figure this way kids can sit around Saturday morning eating Bronco Bites, watching animated Broncos kick butt, while playing with their Bronco Cabbage Patch Kids. How proud would a BSU dad be to wake up to this sight five hours before kickoff against Fresno State?

It almost sounds like brain-washing but I don't even care. Fifteen years from now the ramifications will be so overwhelming we'll all be glad we pursued the venture. How many kids do you think will go to University of Idaho after playing with BSU Cabbage Patch Kids all their life? Not many, I would say.

I guess for now the movie and video game are awesome but let's not get too satisfied with the present. I say we keep eyeing the future; after all, a cartoon? Come on, that takes the cake.

Women's hoops clinches piece of WAC crown

BOISE STATE
Assistant Sports Editor

It was a magical night and a great way to end the regular season for the women's basketball team Saturday night in Hawaii.

Boise State clinched a share of the Western Athletic Conference regular season title following its 66-58 victory over Hawaii.

It's unbelievable that we were able to win the WAC championship, said Begay. It was a great feeling. It's a great feeling in the world right now. It was senior night, we came in and beat them. It's a great feeling.

The Broncos got out to an early 8-5 lead, but were really unable to pull away or make any big runs in the first half. Despite Hawaii shooting only 29 percent from the floor in the first half, BSU went into the break only leading by nine.

The Bronco offensive attack was led by Begay, who nailed three big three-pointers in the first half to give her a game-high nine points heading into halftime.

Also making a big impact for BSU was freshman center Ja'ara Walker. Walker had a very pro-

ductive first half, despite the limited floor action.

"She had five boards in five minutes in the first half," Head Coach Gordy Presnell said. "She's really improved, and she has kind of brought in. So I'm really excited about our future with her."

To go along with her five rebounds, she had a couple emphatic blocks.

Starting center and local senior Michelle Heggling led the team in the first half, picking up more points than anyone before halftime. But Presnell was going to make sure the second half was different.

"We were going to have a lot of rebounding in the second half," Presnell said. "And right now, we're going all in."

Heggling scored 13 second-half points and helped the Broncos pull away.

"He didn't give me a choice," Heggling said about being more productive in the second half. "The coaches and the players had enough confidence to where they just kept feeding it to me inside."

Boise State had three players score in double figures on the night.

Sophomores Tasha Harris and Rebecca Kepilino both went in double-figures along with Heggling to lead the way.

The Rainbow Wahine scored seven unanswered points to cut the lead to seven, but that was as close as they got.

PHOTO STANLEY BREWSTER/THE ARBITER

BSU gymnastics finishes third at home quadrangular meet

BY TATE CASTLETON
Sports Writer

The Boise State gymnastics team improvements simply were not enough to come out on top when they hosted a quadrangular meet, welcoming No. 11 ranked Oregon State, University of California Davis and Seattle Pacific University at Taco Bell Arena.

The Broncos finished third overall with a 192.35 score behind first place Oregon State (196.475) and second place UC Davis (192.775). Seattle Pacific, having won only one meet all season, was shown no mercy and finished last (192.05).

After beginning their season just 1-7 overall, the Broncos have continually improved on the road with wins against Southern Utah, Illinois State University and Illinois-Chicago to improve to 5-7 coming into last Friday's meet.

Although the Broncos vastly improved in several areas, such as beam and vault, they fell short in places they usually stand tall - like floor exercise and uneven parallel bars. That proved disastrous.

"We had good vaults and really good beams tonight," BSU Head Coach Sam Sandmire said. "We had to count a couple falls on bars and a couple falls on floor and that's not real typical for us and ultimately ended up hurting us pretty bad."

The Broncos have been led by one of the youngest squads in team history. Seven freshmen and seven sophomores help make up a roster full of inexperience.

That inexperience has proven to be a challenge for Sandmire in what is ironically her final season at the

helm.

"We have a lot of new, young and inexperienced gymnasts and that can be good or bad," Sandmire said. "But they have melted into a very, very tight-knit group and they really care about each other and I think that has made all the difference."

Freshman DeAvera Todd led Boise State, finishing third with a 38.8 in the all-around and had a team-best 9.85 on the uneven parallel bars and 9.85 on the vault. She was followed closely on the vault by teammate Shaniece Craft, who finished with a 9.825 score.

"In a year like this one, when our older stars are hampered by season-ending injuries, it's nice to see the younger girls step up and just fight as hard as they can to do well," Sandmire said.

Senior Lindsey Ward and sophomores Taylor Jacobs and Ashli Rainboth all suffered season-ending injuries earlier in the year.

"The younger girls see these girls in practice who still work as hard as they can and that sets an example for them to follow," Sandmire said.

Since 1990, the Broncos have dominated Seattle Pacific 25-2, having not lost to the Falcons since 1992. On the other hand, Boise State was a perfect 11-0 against UC Davis coming into Friday's meet and are now 0-10 competing against nationally-ranked Oregon State.

"These were good teams here tonight with a high level of skill," Sandmire said. "I'm a little disappointed with the way we did some things tonight because, had a few things gone our way, we could have perhaps snuck in second."

Sandmire now faces the chal-

lenge of preparing her squad for one of the biggest matches in recent program history.

March 11 the gymnastics team will welcome the top-ranked team in the country to Taco Bell Arena. No. 1 ranked Florida will bring a talented, athletic and polished team to Boise.

"Florida has just been killing everybody," Sandmire said. "They've got really big tricks - meaning huge difficulty on every event. Florida doesn't hold back and they will certainly entertain."

The Broncos plan to bring their best performance to the table against the nation's best.

"We're very excited because we feel like we do better when we have better competition," Sandmire said.

With just three meets remaining in the regular season and the WAC championships on the horizon, Coach Sandmire can feel the door to her career slowly closing after 20 years in the gymnastics program.

"It has been an incredible 20 years," Sandmire said. "I've had so many wonderful athletes and we've done so many neat things here."

Sandmire will certainly leave behind a legacy of winning and a philosophy of teamwork.

During her tenure Boise State has finished in the top 25 nationally on eight occasions.

"It's been my life and I've loved every minute of it," Sandmire said.

In the meantime, the Broncos look forward to their match-up with Florida March 11 at 2 p.m. in the Taco Bell Arena.

"We hope we get a large crowd who will no doubt see some great gymnastics," Sandmire said.

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[March 5, 2007, 2nd section]

THE ARBITER
BRINGS YOU

the 2007 ASBSU elections

16 empty seats...

Who will you vote to fill them?

Inside:

Candidate Bios

Forthcoming ASBSU Constitutional Amendments

The Arbitr Executive Endorsement

College senator candidates

Mariah Fowler



Position campaigning for: Senator from engineering
Age: 29
Year in School: Junior
Major: Mechanical Engineering
Political Affiliations: N/A

Experience in government: Single Parents' Club treasurer.

Mariah Fowler said if elected to be Senator from Engineering, she will focus on what students from engineering want and need, but will also represent all Boise State students.

Fowler said it is an honor to be representing such a great university, and that senators should act accordingly and look out for students. According to Fowler, tuition and fees are increasing every year, and ASBSU should be a fiscal accountant for student fees, looking at where the

money is going. "I believe there are a lot of changes that need to be done."

Fowler said she tries to look at the big picture of everything and tries to find the solutions for different problems. "I'm a hard-working, dedicated person," Fowler said. "I'm

responsible." Fowler is affiliated with the Student Success Program, the Returning Women's Group, and is Treasurer of the Single Parents Club. She is also a mentor in the Women's Center Mentor Program and PTA President for one of her kid's school.

Tyler Gaylord



Position campaigning for: SSPA Senator
Age: 23
Year in school: Sophomore
Major: Political Science
Political affiliations: N/A
Experience in government:

Four years in high school student government, community service.

"Everyone should do something to give back," Tyler Gaylord said. It is this belief that prompted him to run for office. Running for the Social Science

and Public Affairs college, Gaylord would like to see alternative forms of transportation become available to students, such as a shuttle, to encourage people to not drive and park on campus.

He would also like to see better options within student health insurance, including dental and

vision coverage.

Gaylord said he is prepared for the demanding time schedule that comes along with being a senator- he currently is taking 15 credits, as well as working nearly full time all while maintaining a respectable GPA.

If elected, however, he is prepared to scale back his work sched-

ule to ensure he is able to tackle the responsibility that comes with a senator position.

According to Gaylord, he will represent the entire student body, but also a specific group in particular.

"[I represent] anyone who wants to see positive change," Gaylord said.

Terry Hurlless



Position campaigning for: Senator for the College of Business and Economics
Age: 22
Year in School: Junior
Major: Marketing/Human Resources Management and an Economics Minor

Political Affiliations: Team Bronco

Experience in government: Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity Secretary.

Terry Hurlless was prompted to run for Senator of the College of Business and Economics (COBE)

seat because he wants to work with students and faculty in efforts to provide more resources.

"I think that COBE is already doing fairly well in supplying resources to students that will help them achieve success, but I believe that there are opportunities that have not been fully realized," Hurlless said. "I believe that students enrolled in COBE

should be able to get the most out of their education."

Hurlless said it is a fair opportunity for students to view examinations and quizzes from previous semesters and use them as study guides.

"I realize that this is up to the professor to provide this resource, but that is what my campaign is all about," Hurlless said. "I also want to

help all COBE clubs and organizations with their fundraising options and in their marketing."

Hurlless is an active member of the Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity and has been affiliated with the Men's Lacrosse Team, Boise State Honor's College, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and the Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society.

Kayleigh Jack



Position campaigning for: SSPA Senator
Age: 21
Year in school: Senior
Major: Psychology
Political affiliations: Orange Party

Experience in government: Wrote an article that Dirk Kempthorne read in Washington D.C.

Kayleigh Jack said the lack of productivity and low popularity of the current senate prompted her

to run for the Social Science and Public Affairs Senate seat.

In her opinion, in order to remedy the situation, ASBSU needs to increase communication with the students by creating more effective lines to the student body.

Jack said she would like to work

to reform or abolish the plus/minus grading system, due to the fact that the student majority voted against implementing the system.

Since ASBSU does not have the power to eliminate this system, Jack said she would organize a student-led research project to

see where the plus/minus system was successful or unsuccessful throughout the country.

According to Jack, not having a lot of experience in government is not necessarily a negative point.

"Since I don't have that much experience, I represent my college and the students," Jack said.

Tim Kistle



Position campaigning for: SSPA Senate Chair
Age: 23
Year in School: Junior
Major: History/Social Studies with option of Secondary Education
Political Affiliations: Team Bronco

Experience in government: Various Political Science classes. Writing to congressmen. Sitting in on ASBSU Senate meetings.

Tim Kistle said there were may issues that made him want to run for

the SSPA Senate Chair. However, Kistle said the main issue that prompted his campaign was that Boise State's current government does not seem to be very connected to the student body lately and is not voicing anyone's opinions but their own.

"We need to unite the student body and government," Kistle said.

"We need to be a united front of change." According to Kistle, he has trouble conveying to the students how much he cares and how devoted he is to the position he is campaigning for.

"I'm really passionate about running for student senate," Kistle said.

According to Kistle, there are many people who run for ASBSU po-

sitions to pad their resume.

"I had no idea about running for a resume builder," Kistle said. "That just makes me sort of sad." Kistle said he represents the students who want democracy to work, who care, and who want to create change.

"I want every demographic from our 18 thousand plus population to come talk to me," Kistle said.

Denis Parshin



Position campaigning for: COBE Senator
Age: 21
Year in school: Junior
Major: Finance/Math

Political affiliations: Orange Party
Experience in government: One year in Senate at the College of Southern Idaho as the treasurer.

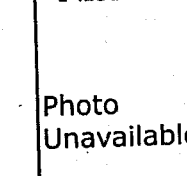
Denis Parshin feels that his past experience in student government while attending the College of Southern Idaho will help him represent the students at Boise State. As a member of the Orange Party, Parshin has several ideas for

changes to be made in government on campus.

"As a party- we have a plan," Parshin said. Part of the plan that Parshin discussed with The Arbiter involved increasing recycling on campus, as well as focus-

ing more on musical and artistic talent. In addition, Parshin and the Orange Party would like to remodel ASBSU, particularly after observing the Senate this year. "This year was chaos," Parshin said.

Nicole Ridgeway



Position campaigning for: College of Arts and Sciences Senator
Age: 18
Year in school: Freshmen
Major: Music Education
Political affiliations:

Team Bronco
Experience in government: Programs coordinator of Residence Hall Association, social chair of ambassadors.

"I want to create change for stu-

dents who may not have the time or knowledge of who to go to, to make changes on their own," Nicole Ridgeway said.

This is the reason why Ridgeway chose to run.

If elected, she would like to establish office hours so students

could stop by to discuss any ideas or concerns they might have.

Ridgeway said she spoke to Senator Amy Ortmann about the time commitments before deciding to run.

"If I could not fully commit to ASBSU, I would not be running,"

Ridgeway said. "I never do anything halfway. If a student comes to me with a problem on campus he or she wants to see changed, I will do everything I can to make that change happen, and if I can't help them, I will direct them to someone who can."

Cameron Wiemerslage



Position campaigning for: Health/Science College Senator
Age: 19
Year in school: Freshmen
Major: Nursing
Political affiliations: Team Bronco

Experience in government: Alpha Kappa Lambda recruitment chair.

If elected as the Heath/Science College Senator, Cameron Wiemerslage would like to focus on several key issues including stress

and sexual health. He also plans to increase the awareness of the available counseling center on campus, and work to increase physical fitness of the students through correct workout plans and diet planning. Other than his own plans, Wiemerslage said he is open

to the student's input.

"I'm really approachable," Wiemerslage said. "I'm always open to any ideas.... anything can be investigated into." Wiemerslage is a member of a number of clubs and associations, among them the Student Nurse's Association, the National

Student Nurse's Association and the BSU Triathlon Club. He said his main goal is to bring health issues that are a concern to the forefront, but he will not just focus on these issues. "I think I could really represent all the students at BSU," Wiemerslage said.

—Senator at-large candidates

—Angelica Garcia



Age: 18
Year in school: Freshmen
Major: Music Education and Pre-Medical Studies
Political affiliations: Team Bronco

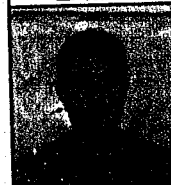
Experience in government: N/A
A friend asking for support for Team Bronco and realization of the opportunity to make a change inspired Angelica Garcia to run for the Senator At-Large position

this election.
If elected, she will work to make more scholarships available to students, remedy the parking problems on campus and allocate funds for additional professors.
Garcia is a member of several

organizations including Kappa Kappa Psi fraternity- a national honorary band fraternity, the Pre-Med Club and the Spanish Club.
She does not have any past experience in government but does not see this as a problem.

"I'm excited about participating in student government," Garcia wrote on The Arbiter's questionnaire.
If elected, Garcia said she will be dedicated and available to the students as an informer.

—Daniel G. Gibson



Age: 27
Year in School: Junior
Major: Social Work/Leadership
Political Affiliations: Moderately Liberal
Experience in government:

Educated in government.
According to Senator At-Large candidate Daniel G. Gibson, he wants to be involved in social issues such as making the university more unified, creating more equality, and

promoting more involvement.
"Leadership is something I love," Gibson said.
Gibson said one of the things he wants to do as a senator is make sure all different populations are all included, as well as making sure ev-

eryone has a voice.
"Everyone deserves equality," Gibson said. "I want to hear what everyone wants."
According to Gibson, leadership and being involved in social issues is his passion.

"I will give my whole heart in the service of their needs," Gibson said. Gibson is a member of Phi Alpha, the National Social Work Honors Society Fraternity, and OSSW, which is an organization affiliated Phi Alpha.

—Seren Horton



Age: 21
Year in school: Junior
Major: Pre-Speech/Language Pathology
Political affiliations: Team Bronco
Experience in government:

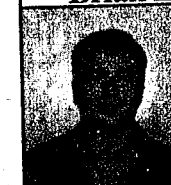
Blue Thunder Drum Major, LDSSA committee chair, Orientation leader.
For Seren Horton, becoming attached to Boise State University led to her decision to run for the Senator At-Large position.

"I've been here for three years. I've grown to love BSU and I want to help work towards good changes," Horton said.
As a member of Team Bronco, Horton would like to see more lighting on campus- making it safer for students with night classes, and

combining tutoring centers to make it easier for students to seek help in various subjects.
Horton has been in leadership positions before and said she is prepared for the challenge that being a senator poses.
"I know it is going to take some

time and some effort," Horton said. "I know what to expect."
Horton said she wants the students to know she is approachable.
"[I'm] here to listen and help make BSU an even better place to go to school," Horton said.

—Brian Lawatch



Age: 24
Year in School: Junior
Major: History
Political affiliations: Moderate
Experience in government: U.S. Army Veteran

Kappa Sigma Fraternity vice president.
By running with Team Bronco, Senator At-Large candidate Brian Lawatch has four basic points that makes up his platform, including academic success,

campus safety, tradition on campus, and a more open ASBSU Senate. Lawatch feels the current senate does not effectively portray the students' voice.
"I want to see more involvement with the students on campus," Lawatch said. "I believe that stu-

dents need a voice." According to Lawatch, as a senator he will listen to students and their opinions.
"As a senator I will always put the students' concerns first with an open door and an open mind," Lawatch said.
Lawatch encouraged that

next year every senate meeting has full attendance from all the senators. According to Lawatch, candidates who are running need to make time to be a senator.
"I will schedule my classes around the [senate] meetings," Lawatch said.

—Jessica Martin



Age: 20
Year in school: Junior
Major: Political Science
Political affiliations: Team Bronco
Experience in government: Alpha Chi Omega Sorority,

OGEE, Honors Student Association.
Wanting to be a part of the changes as they occur on campus pushed Jessica Martin to run for the Senator At-Large position.
"I think BSU's awesome and I

want to take on more of a leadership role," Martin said.
Martin is running with Team Bronco, which as a group would like to focus on academic success, campus safety, establishing campus tradition and increasing accessibility of the student

government to the students.
Martin also has several points of her own, including making sure everyone feels they have a voice that can be heard and continuing towards environmental sustainability.
"I'm going to try to represent everyone," Martin said.

Being a senator takes a large amount of time and this is something that Martin understands.
"I am really dedicated to things I take on," Martin said.
"I want to work for the student's interests and do what's best for them."

—Evan Meriwether



Age: 19
Year in School: Freshman
Major: Political Science
Political affiliations: Liberal
Experience in government: Speech and Debate in high

school.
Candidate Evan Meriwether first became involved in politics and government over the three years he spent on his high school on a debate team. "I've always had an interest in government," Meriwether said. "I re-

ally want to get involved in student government." Meriwether said that as a current freshman he doesn't really see what goes on with the current student government.
If elected, Meriwether said he would actively participate in the rebirth of ASBSU, making it

more transparent and responsive. According to Meriwether, it's important for the students to know that they can sit down with the senators. He said he could talk with any of the students about their problems. "You can come talk to me," Meriwether said.

If elected, Meriwether wants to increase incentives such as scholarships to encourage students to take leadership positions. Meriwether is a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, the Boise State Forensic Team, as well as the Civic Leadership Residential College.

—Gabe B. Murphy



Age: 25
Year in School: Sophomore
Major: Political Science
Political affiliations: Moderate Conservative
Experience in government: N/A

Senator At-Large candidate Gabe B. Murphy said one of the reasons he is running for the position is that he wants to help students be aware and well prepared for the rising costs of attending BSU.
"I think we need to be aware of the increasing costs of tuition, as

well as books and health care," Murphy said.
According to Murphy, there is not only going to be an increase in fees and tuition, but an influx of cultural diversity as well, which he wants to prepare the school for. "We're going to have cultural diversity at the

school," Murphy said.
Regarding the rising diversity, Murphy said he wants to make sure that all organizations receive proper funding. Murphy said he wants to look at the whole of the student body and establish goals to unify it. According to Murphy, he represents

student body as a whole, not just the majority but also the minority and all-inclusive. According to Murphy, he traveled the country a little before settling down at BSU and also owned a business for a while. "I'm 25 and I've had the opportunity to have real world experience," Murphy said.

—Lacey Vander Boegh



Age: 20
Year in School: Sophomore
Major: Communication
Political affiliations: N/A
Experience in government: Page for Chief Clerk in the Idaho House of Representatives

Intern for Idaho representative High School Jr. class president Sophomore vice president National Honors Society Secretary.
According to Senator At-Large hopeful Lacey Vander Boegh, one of the most important things being

a communication major taught her was to listen.
She emphasizes that everyone and anyone can come talk to her because she wants to make a difference for them.
"I am running for this position to make a difference on campus. I will listen to people," Vander Boegh said. "My platform is to make Boise State

more of a safe community."
Vander Boegh has worked as a Paige and an intern for Idaho representatives. She was also involved in student government while in high school.
According to Vander Boegh, she represents the whole student body.
"If you're not representing everyone, then you have a bias opinion,"

Vander Boegh said.
Even though being involved in ASBSU is time demanding, Vander Boegh said she is well prepared.
She is a member of the Blue Thunder Marching Band and belongs to the Civic Leadership Residential College.
Vander Boegh said if her life weren't busy, she wouldn't be living.

Need Space?

The Student Organizations Office is accepting applications for the Student Organization Complex closets, cabinets and offices.

Applications are due **March 16** to the Student Organizations Office.

Visit <http://clubs.boisestate.edu/forms/> for the application, or stop by the Student Organization Office, second floor SUB. 426-5951.



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Elections brings amendments to ASBSU Constitution

This year, as students choose who is going to represent their voice and opinions in student government, they will be casting their votes online for the first time.

Voting will take place Wednesday, March 7 and Thursday, March 8 from 7 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. at <http://blackboard.boisestate.edu>.

In addition, students will also be voting on six ballot proposals, which all seek to make amendments to ASBSU's constitution, as well as a ballot question. They are listed below as they will appear on the ballot, courtesy of ASBSU:

Ballot Proposal 1

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution Article 1, Section 3

To take effect upon passage.

The intent of the amendment is to allow each branch leader to decide when to remove a member when they do not meet requirements for ASBSU office. This does provide ASBSU branch leaders the discretion to allow students serving in the military, or who suffer detrimental emergencies to remain on ASBSU, even if they fall below minimums.

All executive officers, student justices, and senators of the ASBSU, elected and appointed, must be full-fee paying students. All student personnel of ASBSU, elected, appointed, and hired must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.0 grading scale. All executive officers, student justices, and senators of the ASBSU, elected and appointed, who receive a service award, must undergo training, as designed by Student Involvement Activities staff. The heads of each branch is are authorized to approve alternating training methods for members of their branch. The heads of each branch are further authorized to administratively remove any member of their branch for failing to meet any of the previously mentioned requirements. An administrative removal shall not occur prior to the tenth day of the fall and spring semesters, nor will administrative removals occur while an academic grievance, filed by the officer in question, is underway.

Ballot Proposal 2

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution Article 2, Section 3

To take effect upon passage.

The intent of this amendment is to simplify the constitution and clarify the power of the Vice-President.

Section 3. The Vice-President of the ASBSU shall be the President and Chair of the ASBSU Senate, but shall have no vote, unless the ASBSU Senate is equally divided or to make or break a two-thirds majority.

SEE Amendments (page 5)

THE ARBITER

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Amendments (from page 4)

Ballot Proposal 3

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution Article 3, Section 4

To take effect upon passage.

The intent of this amendment is to make the language of the constitution consistent. Other areas of the constitution note the Vice-President will chair "non-caucus" Senate meetings. However, this section contradicts the rest of the document.

5. The ASBSU Vice-President shall serve as the Chair of all non-caucus ASBSU Senate meetings.

Ballot Proposal 4

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution Article 5

To take effect in the 2008 election cycle. All officers elected in March 2007 shall serve until April 2008.

This amendment moves the ASBSU elections to April. The benefit of this will be that the ASBSU officers who manage the fee proposals will be the same students who present said proposals to the State Board of Education. Of all universities in Idaho, only Boise State, currently, has different student government officers managing the fee proposal process and the final presentation to the State Board. This change will correct that.

Section 2. Elections for the ASBSU President, ASBSU Vice-President and ASBSU Senators shall be held in the second (2) week of March ~~April~~ for a period not less than two consecutive week days but not more than five (5) consecutive week days, as determined by ASBSU Code. The ASBSU Judiciary man, if necessary, set different dates than what is provided for in this Constitution for any emergency purpose.

Section 3. All ASBSU elected officers shall be installed no later than three (3) ~~two~~ (2) calendar weeks following the last day of polling. This section may be temporarily suspended by the Judiciary should it be necessary for the general welfare of the ASBSU.

Ballot Proposal 5

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution Amendment 1

To take effect upon passage.

The purpose of this amendment is to make current ASBSU's non-discrimination policy.

The ASBSU will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of age, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, disability, veteran status, political affiliation, gender identity/expression, or sexual orientation in matters of employment, services, requests for funds, educational programs, or other activities.

Ballot Proposal 6

Proposal to amend the ASBSU (Student Government) Constitution Amendment 3

To take effect upon passage.

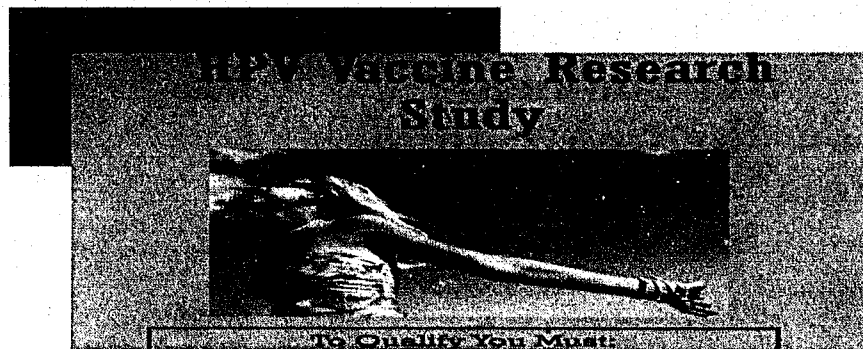
The University, now, has expanded its recycling program on campus. All funds from ASBSU for recycling were moved toward the University managed process in 2006. To require ASBSU to have a recycling coordinator could conflict with the University program, and could cost students more money through duplication of efforts.

~~The ASBSU will maintain and promote a campus recycling program. The program will function under the ASBSU Executive Staff personnel.~~

Ballot Question 1

The purpose of this question is to pool student opinion only. It is not a binding resolution.

When the Student Recreation Center was opened in 2002 an aquatic component (swimming pool) was put on hold due to financial constraints. Campus Recreation now has enough money to construct an aquatic addition, however does not have the funding for continual operation. Would you support a student fee increase of approximately \$10 over the next 2-3 years to offset ongoing operational expenses?



To Qualify You Must:

- Be Female 18-45 years old
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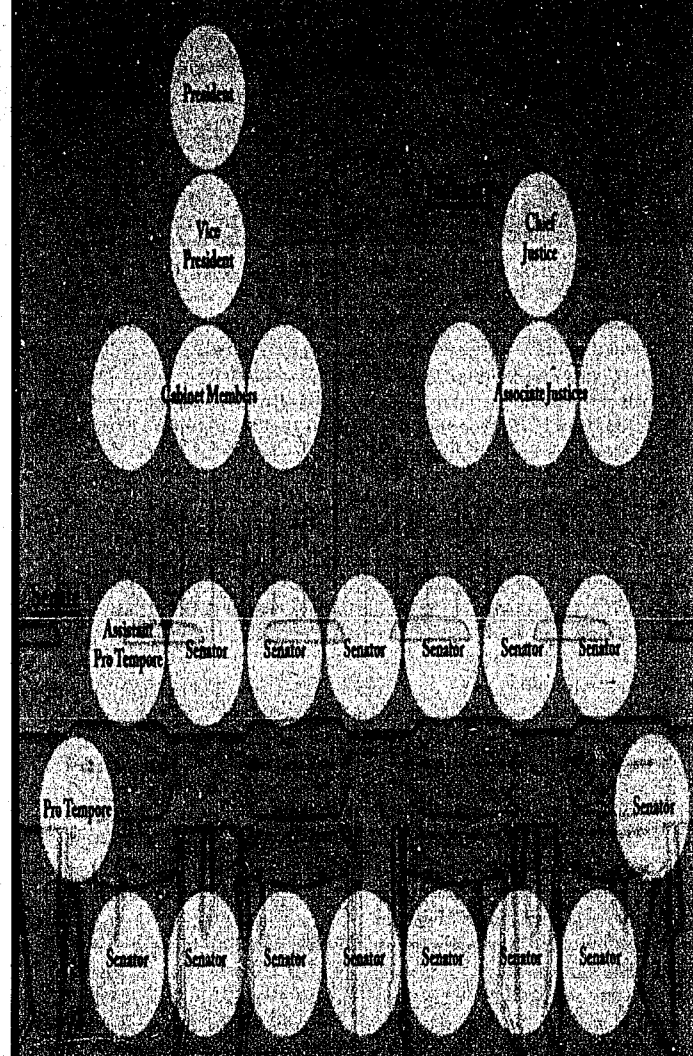
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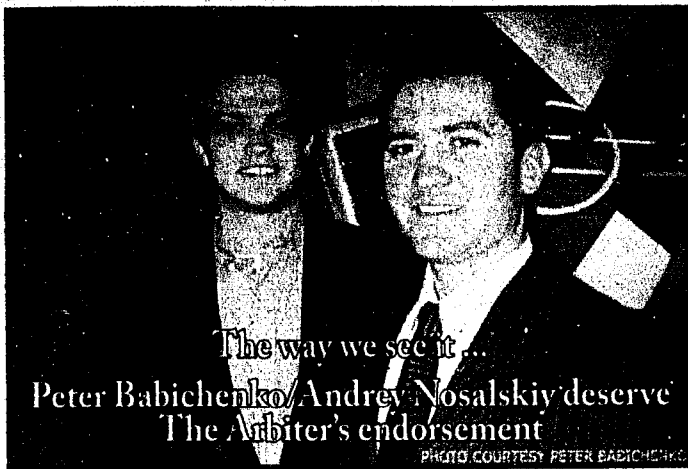
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BOISE STATE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933

THE ARBITER

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The way we see it...

Peter Babichenko/Andrey Nosalskiy deserve
The Arbitrator's endorsement

PHOTO COURTESY PETER BABICHENKO

In the last few weeks, the members of this board have had the opportunity to meet these two gentlemen. They were a mystery. None of us had ever met them, or even heard of them before the elections.

The real thrill of these young men is that they have nothing to tarnish their pasts. They have clean slates because they've never had to work with the Associated Students of Boise State University before.

We are worried that their platforms are possibly unachievable. They want to revamp the Math Department, which doesn't fall under the guise of ASBSU. But it is something that interests students (GPAs drop when you fail classes). Who knows? Their influence might spark change within the BSU administration.

It wasn't their policies, which swayed us in their direction. It was their character. It was the fact that they have no idea how ASBSU truly runs and hence can run it how they want, without finding loopholes in which they can get away with being lazy, collecting checks.

They have drive and they have personality. Best of all, their resumes say nothing with ASBSU on it. We are ASBSU watchdogs. These sheep have led each other in circles and to the teetering edge of humiliation. And we recently called them

on it, just when they thought they were getting away with it. The old adage states that familiarity breeds contempt, so does stagnancy. Even senators who don't show up get paid.

It is time for change. You can call it reform, because that's what it should be. The organization needs reformed, from the ground up. Students need to participate and we need leaders who can get them involved. These men have what it takes. They are web savvy (check out BSU-2007.com). The ASBSU Website has been a disgrace for years. It is never updated and in this age of computer communication, the Website is a vital link to students. These guys say they will provide a link on the BSU site. We say they should rebuild it altogether and make it more accessible to students.

We may be wrong. These guys might not get elected, but we are willing to take the chance. Just because it is called student government does not mean it must be run by wannabe politicians, building resumes and hiring their friends. It needs to be run by young, intelligent people with the drive, diversity and distinction to force change, not merely sit and wait for it to come strolling along into their offices.

Peter Babichenko and Andrey Nosalskiy have our votes and they should have yours too.



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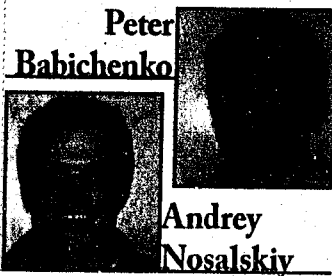
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— Presidential/vice presidential candidates —



Peter Babichenko
Position campaigning For: President
Age: 27
Year in school: Senior
Major: Health and Science,
Business Minor
Political affiliations:
Republican for Change
Experience in government:
Member of Young Republicans

Andrey Nosalskiy
Position campaigning For: Vice President
Age: 25
Year in school: Senior
Major: Psychology
Political affiliations: Moderate
Experience in government:
Leader in local youth group

Peter Babichenko, presidential candidate, and Andrey Nosalskiy, his vice-presidential candidate, may not have been a part of ASBSU in the past, but they are not going to let that stop them from making some changes around campus.

"I think Boise State needs a change. The current student government is not effective," Babichenko said.

The pair's platform includes reformation in the math department to combat the 70-75% failure rate. According to both candidates, the students are not to blame. They would like to see professors being sent to additional training seminars in order to enhance their teaching capabilities.

Another area in which they would like to see reform is within health insurance. They propose that BSU's website give quotes from several other insurance companies.

As far as the current relationship between ASBSU and the student body goes, Babichenko feels that there is no "working relationship."

"I believe that BSU government needs to be more accountable to students," Babichenko said. "We need to rebuild trust between students and government."

In order to start this process, Babichenko suggests a link to the student government website being placed directly on the Boise State and Bronco web home pages. Babichenko has some background in government and leadership positions. He used to be affiliated with Young Republicans in Portland, OR, and he is currently a business owner.

"I don't have any interest to use this [position] to my advantage to get a better job," Babichenko said.

Nosalskiy said that attending BSU the last four years has given him a chance to better understand the students.

Anyone who would like to know more about Babichenko and Nosalskiy can visit their website at www.bsu2007.com.



Ryan Cooper
Position campaigning For: President
Age: 22
Year in school: Senior
Major: Biology,
Human biology emphasis
Political Affiliations: Orange Party
Experience in government:
Two terms in ASBSU Senate

Bakh Mirkasimov
Position campaigning For: Vice president
Age: 22
Year in School: Senior
Major: Finance/Economics
Political affiliations: Orange Party
Experience in government:
One year — Student Senate at the College of the Southern Idaho
One year — ASBSU COBE Senator
One year — Westminster International University Executive

Presidential candidate Ryan Cooper thinks it is time for a lot of reform in ASBSU by restructuring the student government from the ground up.

"I'm running because I've been in the senate two years in a row and I've begun to see that ASBSU has begun to deteriorate a little bit," Cooper said. "This has left the student voice weakened in recent years."

According to Cooper, his platform is a compilation of interaction with the majority of students into what he thinks will matter to students.

The two points of his platform include the fiscal responsibility, or the effective management of student funds, and the financial accountability, strict monitoring of the budget and the appropriation of student organizations funding, of ASBSU.

"The funds that support the ASBSU budget come directly from the students, so it is of utmost importance to manage these funds responsibly - especially since student fees and tuition have been skyrocketing in recent years," Cooper said.

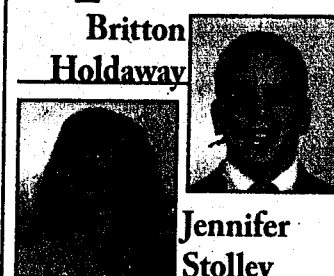
If elected, Cooper said he would represent the entire BSU campus, including the under-represented west campus, because all voices must be heard.

"Student Government was designed to voice students' concerns to administration and faculty on campus," Cooper said.

According to Cooper, technology on campus is falling behind. He plans to update Bronco Web and access Wi-Fi in important places like the residence halls.

Cooper said BSU does not adequately serve student artists and musicians by providing them the locations and the tools in which to display their work or perform before the student body.

"Art and music bring entertainment and culture to campus," Cooper said.



Britton Holdaway
Position campaigning For: President
Age: 25
Year in school: Senior
Major: Political Science
and Economics
Political affiliations: Conservative
Experience in government:
Four years in student government
Student Union Board of Governors
chair and current vice-chair
Rec. Board of Governors, 2003
Veterans Memorial Intern for Union
Pacific Railroad lobbyist
Assistant campaign manager for
Royce Chigbrow for state controller

Jennifer Stolley
Position campaigning for: Vice president
Age: 34
Year in School: Junior
Major: Political Science
Political affiliations: N/A
Experience in government:
Current ASBSU Senator At-Large
president of Single Parents' Club
treasurer of 2nd Amendment Gun Club

Having been at BSU and involved in the student government for 4 years, candidate Britton Holdaway feels he has the most experience and this experience best qualifies him for the Student Body President position.

"I feel like I have the most credentials," Holdaway said. "I know what works and what doesn't work."

Jennifer Stolley, running beside Holdaway as Vice President, said she likes to hear about problems and fix them and feels there are a lot of issues on campus that need to be taken care of.

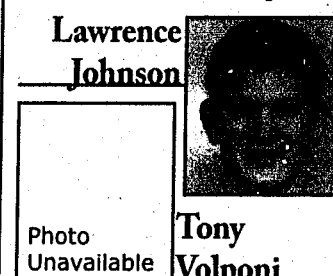
Stolley said one of those issues is that student government in general has not been the powerhouse it should have been in recent years at BSU.

According to Stolley, she worked with Holdaway to look at what they can reasonably accomplish as president and vice president and emphasized the importance of focusing on realistic goals that can actually be met.

What she feels they can do to make a difference is look at the students on a broad scale. "We can save the students money. We can give them more bang for their buck," Stolley said.

The four points that make up Holdaway and Stolley's platform include eliminating sales tax on text books, improving student health insurance, increase the quality of education, and implementing a drop-in daycare.

According to Stolley, they know that they cannot give students back a large chunk of money, "but every penny adds up." Stolley said she and Holdaway want to make sure the majority of students are benefiting from the money that is spent.



Lawrence Johnson
Position campaigning for: President
Age: 19
Year in school: Sophomore
Major: Business Administration
Political affiliations: Conservative
Experience in government:
Precinct Committee man for
state politics
Work with multiple state legislatures
on the run to election
Constitutional convention for ASBSU
appointed to Senate Seat by Wyatt Parke

Tony Volponi
Position campaigning for: Vice president
Age: Unavailable
Year in school: Unavailable
Major: Unknown
Political affiliations: Unavailable
Experience in government:
Unavailable

According to Lawrence Johnson, he was prompted to run for the Student Body President position so that he can stand up for what the students need and want. According to Johnson, he has a strong voice that he can use for the benefit of the students.

"I feel like I can make a difference," Johnson said. "My ambition pushes my voice for the students."

According to Johnson, the six things he and his running mate, Tony Volponi, would like to do for the school if elected is drop plus-minus system, fix the parking system, promote safety, promote student involvement, put park benches in the quad, and also have the Bookstore match the Idaho Promise Scholarship for students.

According to Johnson, he is well prepared for the demanding time schedule that is required for the presidential position.

"I have 60 plus hours a week to designate to the office," Johnson said.

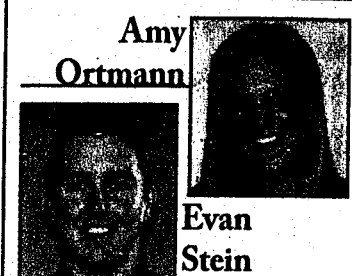
Johnson is affiliated with Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and is a member of Travel for Success and the Constitution Convention for Boise State.

According to Johnson, he represents the average student.

"I work and go to school," Johnson said. "I require the same needs as most of the students."

Editor's note:
Vice presidential candidate Tony Volponi did not show up for any of The Arbiter's interviews. He also did not attend the debates.

Johnson said that Volponi plans to graduate this spring. He said that, if elected, Volponi would work for the rest of the semester and then Johnson would appoint the senate pro tempore as vice president.



Amy Ortmann
Position campaigning for: President
Age: 22
Year in School: Senior
Major: Health Science
Political affiliations: Team Bronco
Experience in government:
Elected Senator At-Large March 2006
Appointed Senate Pro-Tempore by fellow senators October 2006

Evan Stein
Position campaigning for: Vice president
Age: 21
Year in School: Junior
Major: Business Management
Political affiliations: Team Bronco
Experience in government:
Alpha Kappa Lambda current
vice president

Presidential candidate Amy Ortmann and her running mate for Vice President Evan Stein are representing the executive ticket for Team Bronco. As a party, there are four major points to their platform, but their underlying theme is "unity."

"With the idea of 'unity', we promise to strive to improve academic successes for all students," Ortmann said.

Ortmann, who was elected as a Senator At-Large last year, before being appointed Senate Pro-Tempore by her fellow senators, said that being on the senate opened her eyes to certain things that need to be changed.

"Since being elected as a Senator last year, I have realized the importance of changing the face of government here at Boise State," Ortmann said. "It is my goal to make student government more accessible to the students of Boise State."

Stein is the current Vice President of Alpha Kappa Lambda, and said he wants to make Boise State more for the students. "I believe I can make a change," Stein said.

One of their ideas is to create a centralized tutoring center. They also would like to do everything they can to amend the plus/minus grading system in order to bring back balance to academics.

In addition to academics, Stein and Ortmann would like to increase lighting around campus, add more "blue light" phones and increase security personnel on and around campus.

Lastly, the two of them would like to increase the accessibility of ASBSU to the students, and ensure that as BSU grows, excitement on campus is not lost. Stein said he wants the students to feel the same way about all other aspects of the university as they do about the football team.

Ortmann said she challenges all students to let their voices be heard.

"I am very passionate about Boise State and I want to be a part in making a difference," Ortmann said.