

# the idaho ARGONAUT

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## Early Start Set, No Late Finals

Faculty Council nearly unwrapped a belated Christmas present for University of Idaho students Tuesday as it came close to extending the first semester of the 1975 school year two weeks into January. The move was derailed only after council Chairman Sig Rolland cast an unusual vote breaking a 7-7 tie.

In place of the January proposal, the council directed the Ad Hoc Committee on the Academic Calendar to devise a method by which the school year would start after Labor Day and end before the Christmas holidays and still contain around 78 days of classes. The Board of Regents has ordered all institutions of higher learning to establish academic calendars which total 160 days of classes per year.

After a brief debate the council also passed next fall's academic calendar which would reinstate finals week, eliminate the day off before Thanksgiving, and make students attend classes the first Saturday after school begins rather than on Labor Day.

### Kind of Ticklish

Proponents of the move to extend first semester classes into January said it would eliminate a ticklish situation with business and industry which resulted when the University changed its calendar to make school start before the Labor Day weekend.

The Idaho Wheat Commission was critical of the early academic calendar which had school starting before Labor Day and it placed pressure on both the administration and Board of Regents to change the system. They opposed it because it took students from the fields during a key harvest period.

"Starting early gives us trouble with industry, forestry, agriculture and with our students getting jobs," said Robert Jones from the law school. "Going after Christmas is just not all that bad."

Rolland retorted back that the calendar had been an experiment which had paid off and that the only objections to it came from outside the University and not from students.

To finish the semester after Christmas "would be an unmitigated disaster," said Rolland. He said students would have to go home and do term papers and professors would spend the vacation period correcting blue books.

Kelly said the University should try such a move and then "argue with the regents about it." The regents have shown concern with the first semester ending in January and have endorsed the idea of wrapping up the term before the Christmas holidays.

Jo Ann Baldrige, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Academic Calendar, said the calendar proposed for the fall of 1974 is only a one-year schedule and that the spring calendar would remain the same as this year.

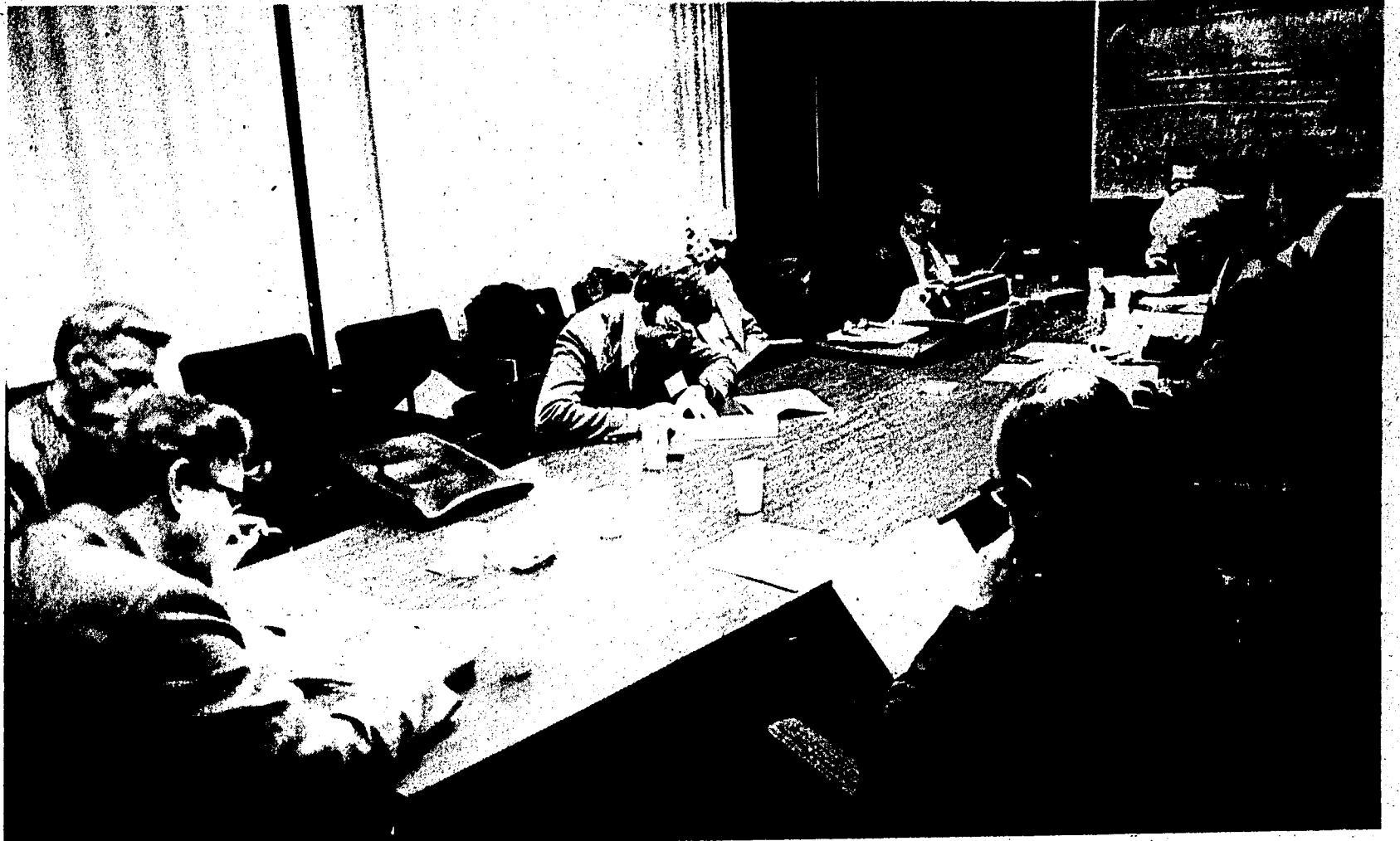
### A Difficult Calendar

Baldrige said the committee had difficulties coming up with a calendar for next fall which totaled around 78 days and at the same time began after the Labor Day weekend and ended before Christmas.

Chemistry professor Richard Porter moved the council follow the earlier suggestion of philosophy professor Francis Seaman and give Labor Day off while moving registration back a day and post-poning Wednesday's classes until the following Saturday. Wednesday night classes would still be held that night.

The council approved Porter's motion 11-3.

Baldrige said next fall's calendar would contain 76 days with 82 being picked up during the spring semester, totaling the 160 of the regent's mandate. Last fall, without finals week, students attended classes 73 days.



The accreditation team met on campus this week and didn't really confine its work to conference table discussions. Members toured campus

facilities and talked to students as part of their inspection.

## N.W. Experts Check Out Idaho

By Rhonda Brammer  
Argonaut Reporter

Once every ten years, an evaluation team comes to campus to decide whether or not the University of Idaho should remain an accredited institution.

This week, such a team, 14 university educators and administrators, representing the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, spent three days, April 9 through 11, evaluating not only academic departments, but also the library, the physical plant, student services, and the administration of the U of I campus.

The purpose of such an evaluation is two-fold, according to Susan Burcaw, Executive Assistant from the President's office. First, it assures the public that the institution meets certain standards. Second, it gives the institution a chance to check its own goals, its own progress, with the help of outside observers.

### Two Years in the Making

Two years ago, the University began preparing for this evaluation by putting together a 329-page self-study report compiled by graduate interns from the education department under the direction of Robert Coonrod, Academic Vice President. This year's report is modest in length compared to the self-study of 10 years ago which ran four volumes. It is an abstracted version of written reports, varying in length from 3 to 78 pages; supplied by individual departments.

Provided with this self-study report, general catalogs, class time schedules, the Handbook of Policy and Procedure, and a campus map, the evaluators were

free to carry out their work as they thought best, inspecting buildings and facilities, dropping in on classes, visiting professors, and talking with students.

### Write Up and Turn In

Evaluators had to write up their findings before leaving the campus. These reports, after being compiled by the chairman, will be presented at a meeting of the Accreditation Commission and the University administration in June. In the fall, suggestions and results will be available to the University-at-large, according to Burcaw.

Prior to the three-day evaluation, letters were sent to 1350 faculty and staff with instructions to "unburden" themselves "of any pent-up grievances" relating to any aspect of the University. Sixty faculty and staff replied, and those replies were read by each and every evaluator, according to a member of the team.

### Administrative Complaints

The most common complaint was about the administration. Feelings, however, varied from "resentment of dictatorial behavior" to "disgust with weak and indecisive leadership."

The second most common complaint was that academic standards are falling and that the situation is currently "being tolerated, if not actually fostered." Insufficient parking space was the third-ranking problem.

Evaluators talked with regents Janet Hay, A.L. Alford, Jr., and Dr. J.P. Munson and Mill Small, executive director for Higher Educ., at a Wednesday luncheon. In the afternoon, team members met informally with about 15 students, accor-

ding to Dirk Kempthorne, ASUI-president.

"We do our best to be of some service to the University of Idaho," explained Dr. Sterling McMurrin, chairman of the evaluation committee. He emphasized that the committee strives to be of value in its comments and criticism, while respecting the individuality and diversity of the institution.

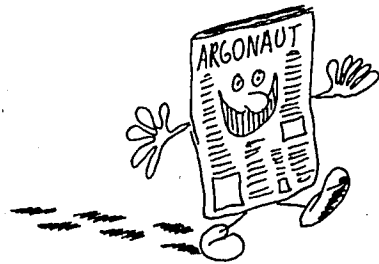
The evaluators are not paid to serve on the committee. It is "a labor of love" according to Dr. Philippe De La Mare, Professor of Music at the University of Portland, who evaluated performing arts. The University of Idaho, however, will pick up the tab for traveling expenses, food and lodging; by paying a fee to the Northwest Accreditation Association. The amount of the fee is based on University enrollment.

## The Argonaut is Alive!

The Argonaut comes to life on the screen tomorrow night.

No, not a walking, talking version of the campus newspaper but those Argonauts of mythology—the friends of Jason who sailed on the legendary ship, the Argo.

"Jason and the Argonauts" will be joined by "The Seven Voyages of Sinbad" for a double feature showing at 6:30 and 9:50 p.m. in the SUB Borah Theatre, sponsored by the NROTC drill team.



## And While We're at It—

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- The GPA, Too High for Idaho?..... Page 3
- Baseball in the Rain..... Page 4
- Entertainment: A Dramatic Month..... Page 5
- Academic Standards at Faculty Council Page 6

## Fry Appointed Programs Director

Lance Fry has been appointed Student Services (Programs) Director for the ASUI by President Dirk Kempthorne.

Fry's appointment was given a do-pass recommendation Tuesday by the senate's government operations and appointments committee and will go to the entire senate next week. A majority vote of the senate is required to confirm the appointment.

### See Related Comments, Page 2

Fry has experience as Wallace Complex committee treasurer and president of White Pine Hall. When working with White Pine Fry felt he was "able to motivate them and get them working."

"Lance was the best for the criteria I was looking for," explained ASUI president Dirk Kempthorne, who appointed Fry for the position. "I think that his own style and his image on campus swayed my final decision. I was looking for someone who had not been in the ASUI spotlight previously. I was also seriously looking for someone with a business background that could effectively be incorporated into the public relations necessary to run a good programs board."

### Mutual Assistance

The junior from New York had mutually suggested the idea of working in the ASUI with Kempthorne. According to Fry, "I told him I had something to offer, a commodity to sell." Fry said he was considering both programs director and budget director.

Fry personally sees his upcoming position as one of administration. Although he has several new ideas to bring to programs, he feels that most input of that nature should be derived from the various committees.

Fry emphasized peer group pressure as a way in which to motivate people.

"Peer group pressure can be used effectively. For instance, if a committee head is not doing his job, fire him. I don't have time for somebody to be screwing off," said Fry.

Specifically he has a few ideas of his own. In the area of big name entertainment he said he is looking

for entertainment which is acceptable to the students. "I think that through Gordan Lightfoot we have found what kind of music the students like - not the hard rock. I have found that students on this campus are more conservative and don't want anything far-out."

### Mellow Music

On the other hand Fry would have supported Emerson, Lake and Palmer because he says, they have had good easy mellow music.

In addition to overseeing the big name entertainment committee, the program director oversees several other committees including art, blood drive, coffee house, college bowl, Issues and Forums, Kiddies Christmas party, People to People, Pom Pom and Rally Squads, SUB Films, Film Society, Valkries, Public Relations Board, Parents Weekend. These committees are all run by student volunteers, with their chairmen appointed by the director.

Fry said he would try to bring more autonomy to the different committees by using the programs board as a sounding board for the various committee ideas. The board would decide if the suggestions were feasible and if not they would go back to the committee.

### Area of Concern

Another area of concern to Fry is the public relations board. In relation to concert turnout either students are not concerned or they're not getting the information, Fry said. He would like to survey University students for their feelings on effects of promotional techniques for big name entertainment.

"Public relations is an important thing to work with. But there has to be something new reaching the students," Fry said. He suggested a newsletter be sent to all the hall presidents as a way of promoting campus activities.

In such an administrative position Fry sees the new director of student services as the finalization of all other committees. According to Kempthorne, "There's been some calculations about Lance's easy-going manner. This shouldn't betray the fact that Lance can make decisions. Good, sound decisions. When the pressure is on and someone has to come to grips with a situation, I think Lance will be very cool and make the intelligent decisions that are so necessary in student services."

## Did You Know That On Campus There's 3,890 sq.ft. of Pig Pens?

Did you know there are 3,890 square feet of pig pens on campus? (Side bar to Accreditation Story...)

The University should sell copies of its new 329-page self-study report for the benefit of almanac lovers, cocktail-party goers, and freshmen who need "concrete facts" for 101 themes.

Did you know at the University of Idaho (according to 1972 and 1973 statistics) that:

—One out of five math majors go to graduate school.

—The University has 3,890 square feet devoted to swine pens.

—Those who use the library two hours or less per week include 47 per cent of the faculty, according to a library survey.

—Over 50 per cent of students use the library between 3 and 10 hours every week according to the same survey.

—The student-faculty ratio in music is 9 to 1. In history it is 34 to 1.

—Women coaches are not paid for coaching women's inter-collegiate

athletics; however, no woman coaches more than three sports.

—The University maintains an 80-20 relationship between resident and non-resident students." (platonic, I presume.)

—Every professor in the history department has a PhD.

—Students pursuing a B.A. in philosophy are "not job motivated."

—In men's athletics, 93 athletes received major-sport scholarships. The average amount is \$1200.

—In minor sports, 74 athletes received scholarships which averaged \$390.

—Of faculty members, 9 have their most recent degree from Harvard University; 5 have theirs from Yale.

—And 95 of the faculty got their last degree from the University of Idaho.

—Full professors at Idaho have been teaching an average of 19 years.

—Of the faculty, 202 are full professors. Nine of them are women.

—A ten-year goal of the Alumni Association is to develop homecoming into a major event.

## Presidential Primaries:

## A Campus Question

The advantages and disadvantages of having a presidential primary in Idaho will be one of the major topics discussed April 16 at the U of I.

A forum called Presidential Nominating Systems will concentrate on this topic and others to give the people an idea of what's happening politically in their own state says Jeff Williamson, co-chairman of the event. Sessions on Idaho and Washington's system of selecting presidential candidates, caucus maneuvering and party conventions will be held Tuesday in the SUB Ballroom from 2-5 and 7-10 p.m.

Williamson said that the conferences will offer differing opinions on the issues. "No sides will be taken," he said, "and both party issues as well as independent will be considered."

The afternoon discussions will cover the nominating systems now existing in Idaho and Washington. Speakers will be John Mosier, Washington's assistant Secretary of State, and Pete Cenarrusa, Idaho's Secretary of State. Other topics to be discussed Tuesday afternoon are caucus maneuvering and the effects of political conventions. Discussing caucus maneuvering will be Cathy Rouyer, state delegate for Shirley Chisholm, and Dr. Boyd Martin, head of the Institute of

human behavior and retired political science professor. Don Todd, executive director of Idaho State Republican Central Committee will discuss political conventions

### Evening Conferences

The evening's conferences will cover the presidential primary. Giving the Republican view will be W.L. Crookham, former state legislator. The Democratic viewpoint will be presented by John Mix, also a former state legislator. Perry Swisher, former candidate for governor, former state legislator and presently a political columnist, will offer the Independent side. Also speaking on the topic will be John Corlett, political editor for the Boise Statesman, and Bill Hall, editor of the Lewiston Morning Tribune.

The series of discussions are sponsored by the Political Science Undergraduate Student's Association along with Issues and Forums, Campus Democrats and College Republicans.

Williamson said that the conferences will give the people an opportunity to find out what is happening in politics around their state. As to whether or not Idaho will someday have a presidential primary, he said that it was a "very speculative question."

continued on page 6







## End the Bombing

The military invaded northern Idaho this week to conduct public hearings in Grangeville and Lewiston on its proposal to turn this part of the state into a missile testing grounds next winter. If approved by the Congress, there would be four separate launchings of ICBM's from Malmstrom Air Force Base to Montana next winter. Debris from the missiles would fall in a projected path from the Selway wilderness area across a section of Idaho and Oregon to a final target in the Pacific.

The Air Force reported at meetings this week that previous stories on mass evacuation orders for the towns of Grangeville and Whitebird were incorrect. There will be no evacuation, according to Maj. Howard Vedery, because no debris is expected to fall on the Grangeville-Whitebird area, and Air Force predictions are extremely accurate. They'll stake the lives of several thousand people on it.

But if the Air Force can guarantee a failsafe missile firing, why are they testing the system in the first place? And if the project isn't perfected, shouldn't they be evacuating the inhabitants of those two Idaho communities? And everyone else living between Montana and the Oregon coast. And all the livestock. And all the wildlife. And all the growing things.

No super-patriotic cry for national defense can justify this military maneuver to force through an Air Force decree in spite of danger to inhabitants. Mere evacuation is not the remedy, scrapping "Operation Patriot" is.

National defense should include the protection of Idaho citizens from misguided missiles.—BALDUS

## No News Is Good News

The Argonaut is regularly criticized for its penchant for pessimism. It has oft been said "You guys never print anything positive. I can't remember an article that was published that pointed out something good that the University has accomplished. Things get distorted or taken out of context in the Argonaut."

Frankly, because of space limitations, almost every story in every newspaper is out of context of necessity. Reporters are required to condense much information into a small space.

Not cheerful enough for you, eh? Well, how about this conversation that took place yesterday in the Argonaut office—

Barb: Wow, did you see all those neat puddles outside today, Kenton, and all that glorious rain falling down?  
Kenton: It's great. April Showers bring May flowers!  
Barb: Let's print something mud-luscious and puddle-wonderful on the front page.  
Kenton: I especially like the wind and snow.

That's cheerful, but things just don't happen that way all the time. Wouldn't you rather hear it straight? Something more like:

"Let's face it, this weather really stinks." —BALDUS, BIRD

## Delivered by Mailperson—With Misspelling at that

To the Editor:  
For three years now I have tolerated the abysmal ignorance of the Argonaut staff, but last Tuesday's edition has moved me from my stunned silence and to my typewriter.

Naturally, I am complaining about your present copyreader or whomever you persuade to proofread your articles for errors. I can't help but conclude that this person doesn't take his duties seriously, because I constantly find glaring mistakes in punctuation, syntax, and

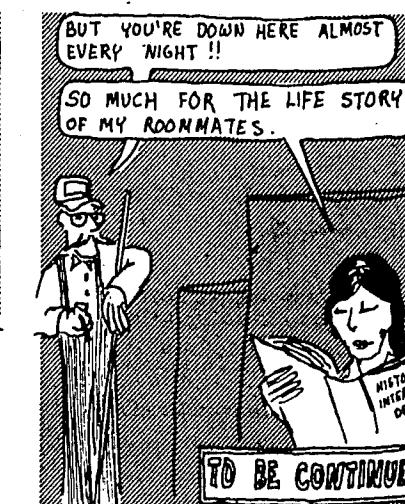
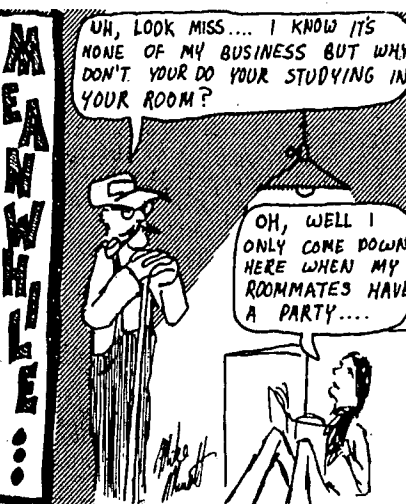
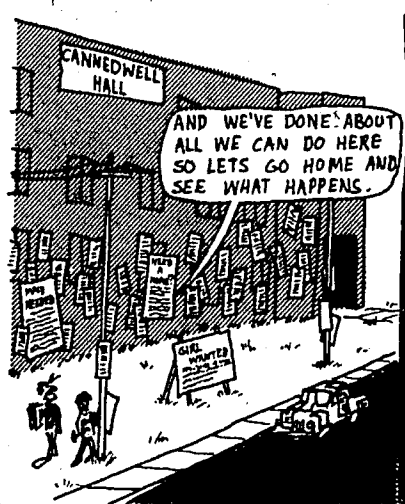
especially spelling. Now, I am no English teacher, and I admit to all these errors myself at times. You, as a newspaper editor, should see to it that the technical quality of the Argonaut surpasses the junior high level.

What really grossed me out this time was a strange word on the final page in an article about proposed English course changes. Please, what is a freshperson? It is in better condition than a staleperson, or is it some odd creature from the late show?

Honestly, at times I feel I'd cancel my subscription—if there were such a thing. It makes me want to take a nice drive on tombstone road over to Pullman—or is it now Pulperson? Will Manfred Mann now be compelled to change his name to PersonfredPerson? Should we change "manipulation" to "personipulation"? Maybe the University will let us use its gradiose (sic) computer to substitute "person" for every word containing the sequence "m,a,n".

Well, Editor, you may get honorable mention in *Ms.*, but you'd better get someone other than your staff writers to write your thank-you note. It's not very nice to mutilate a language, especially since it's the only one we have right now.  
Linda Nelson

## MACKLIN by mundt



## Kempthorne Likes Fry, Fry Likes Kempthorne

# Does Senate Approve?

Lance Fry, President Dirk Kempthorne's appointee to be the ASUI's new programs director, might not have smooth sailing ahead.

Fry just barely squeaked in by committee Tuesday and it's possible he won't be so lucky when he goes in front of the whole ASUI Senate for confirmation next week.

Most of the senate — those on the government operations and appointments (GOA) committee, in particular — don't share Kempthorne's confidence that Fry can do the job.

And the committee members are also unhappy that Kempthorne didn't offer them any alternative appointees, just Fry to be approved or disapproved.

Although Fry has served both as White Pine Hall president and Wallace Complex Committee treasurer, his experience in ASUI activities has been nil. And it's a fact that's the senators' main worry.

### Toughest and More

Next to the president, the programs director (officially known as "student services director") is probably the toughest administrative position in the whole ASUI, even bigger than the job of Argonaut editor (although we hate to admit it.)

Not only is he responsible for the most "big name" of all ASUI activities — big name entertainment — the programs director is given the almost impossible task of co-ordinating the myriad of day-to-day student services.

These services, usually considered the ASUI's "little activities" but nevertheless important to those students involved, include everything from the art displays which grace the walls of the Vandal Lounge to the annual Christmas party for children of faculty and staff members to that intrascholastic quiz program, College Bowl.

### Straight and Running

Just to keep all those activities straight, let alone make sure they are run effectively, would challenge even the most organizational of all organization men. And to drop someone without experience into that position might be like throwing a babe in the woods.

That's not to say Kempthorne didn't try

to find someone from within programs to take the directorship. He said he talked to Steve Smith, the present director, and Imogene Rush, the ASUI Programs Coordinator about possible successors to Smith.

Smith himself came up from within the ranks, having been chairman of the big name entertainment committee last year. The current BNE chairman, Scott Anderson, however, didn't assume his position until late last semester and probably hopes to continue in that job next year.

### Not That Excited

Kelly Davis, a member of the student services board, applied for the program director's position, the Argonaut has learned. But, without mentioning names, Kempthorne said Davis didn't really seem to want the job. "It was more of a 'I'll take it if it's offered situation,'" Kempthorne commented.

Kempthorne emphasized that the interviews for the position were open to any student and well-publicized and that it wasn't a cover-up attempt to pull Lance Fry out of nowhere. There were, in fact, other students who applied - but more on that later.

Kempthorne is completely sold on Fry. "Lance fits the criteria of the person I was looking for," he explained. These criteria: "Someone not in the ASUI's spotlight, someone with a low profile, a worker behind the scenes."

Fry, a marketing major, also meets Kempthorne's hope to have a programs director with a business background, the president said.

### A Brand New Face

One of Kempthorne's campaign promises was to bring new faces into the ASUI - which Fry certainly is. But he said he wouldn't bring in a new face "just for the sake of a new face."

The quality of work a person can do is most important, Kempthorne said, and Fry is capable.

Kempthorne doesn't think it's his responsibility to submit any more than one name for an appointment. "GOA is merely to confirm the person I name," he said.

"And, unless they've got some extreme objections to a person..." he commented. "I think they've got to remember that I'm picking people that best exemplify my objectives and that I'm going to be responsible for them."

The committee repeatedly asked Kempthorne for the names of other people who applied for the programs position and he refused. "Lance is my appointment," he said.

The GOA committee felt otherwise. "We felt like we were faced with a Lance or nobody situation," one member said. Committee members said they would have liked to hear some other possibilities.

The Argonaut did uncover one possibility the committee didn't hear about - and a very plausible possibility at that - Jeff Stoddard.

Stoddard, if you remember, ran against Kempthorne for ASUI President in February. (There were two other candidates, if you're interested: Rod Gramer, whose current activity can be seen below and Nile Bohon, whose Nihilist Party failed him in the clutch.)

And Stoddard, not being a sore loser, applied for budget director and communications board director after Kempthorne took office. He didn't get those jobs either, but Stoddard was used to losing by then.

### Suggestion Only

However, when talking to Kempthorne about the outcome of his other applications, Stoddard said Kempthorne suggested the possibility of him applying for programs director.

"I hadn't even considered running for programs director," Stoddard told the Argonaut. But the more he thought about it, the more he liked it, so Stoddard applied.

"I thought I was reasonably qualified," said Stoddard, who was president pro tem of last year's ASUI Senate and is currently promotion director at KUOI. Stoddard said he saw the programs job as mainly that of coordinating the various activities and that he gained a lot of that type of experience as a committee chairman for the Alpha Kappa Psi business honorary and other organizations.

But Stoddard's experience was also apparently his downfall. Sources close to the ASUI say that Kempthorne feared an appointment of one of his former opponents to a key position might sound "too political." It's reported that Kempthorne was also afraid of criticism by the Argonaut if he picked Stoddard.

### No Deals at All

But Stoddard disputed any political deals or payoffs if he was to be named program director. "I'm going to be a senior next year, I don't have any more political ambitions within the ASUI, so I don't see what Dirk's objections are."

Meanwhile, back at the GOA committee...With no one but Fry to choose from, the committee voted 3-1 to send the appointment on to the senate with a "do-pass" recommendation.



Senator Patty Hull, a former White Pine resident and a friend of Fry's, nevertheless voted against making him program director. Senators Grant Burgoyne and Mark Lotspeich cast reluctant, but affirmative votes. Bart Baranco, the committee chairman felt the same way.

"He hasn't had a lot of previous experience and he was very hesitant in front of the committee," Lotspeich said. "But I felt we should give Dirk the benefit of the doubt."

Word that there would be opposition to his confirmation at the GOA hearing had reached Fry beforehand and Lotspeich felt it's possible this could have shaken his confidence in front of the committee.

### More Confidence

"Perhaps after receiving the GOA committee's recommendation, he'll be more confident when he goes to the senate," Lotspeich added.

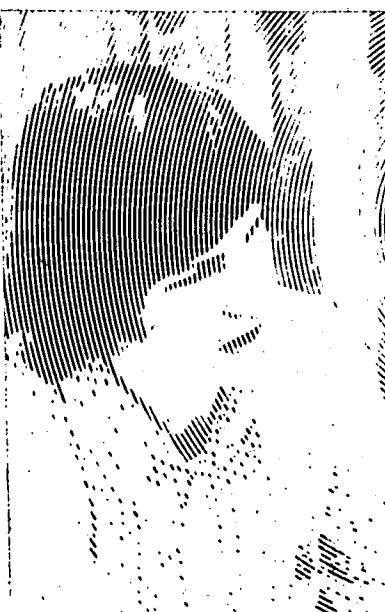
Perhaps. But you wouldn't exactly call one no and three hesitant yes's a vote of confidence. Anytime than you'd say the Board of Regents gave BSC President John Barnes a vote of confidence last week.

And we've learned that at least two of the three affirmative votes cast for Fry in committee might change to negative votes by the time his appointment hits the senate. That's not to mention the other nine senators.

What happens if Fry gets turned down? Kempthorne said he was confident the appointment would be approved. But should Fry be rejected, Kempthorne admitted he would have to re-evaluate the situation.

Does that mean Lance, nobody, or maybe somebody else?

## Rod Gramer



## First the Students, Then the Faculty, And Now, if Only the Presidents

seating positions at regent's meetings. This problem can be attributed to the far reaching educational sprawl in the state which leads the institutions to compete for government and public attention.

There are, however, indications that a thaw may be coming to this deadly situation.

In recent times students at all four institutions have observed that this cold war has contributed to the gradual decline in the public's respect for higher education and the legislature's lax attitude towards financial support. Indeed, it was this realization that led Idaho Student Lobby Director Mick Meyer to publicly reprimand the four university presidents at last week's Mosocow regent's meeting for their overt antagonism towards one another.

### Little Doubt

There is little doubt among professional observers that the condition of higher education is critical and that the years ahead promise little more than a long list of financial and in turn, academic comas. Government watchers point out that 1974 was supposed to have been "higher education's year" but somehow its bed of roses got short-shrteed by the Idaho Legislature once again.

Director of higher education Milt Small said higher education had a good year financially with the legislature, but some journalists and politicians and most

academics believe the colleges were taken. They say the \$5.9 million - \$400,000 less than the governor's proposal — allocated to higher education by the lawmakers is barely a status quo budget.

Students were the first to recognize the cold war in higher education and succeeded in establishing a detente among themselves to help bring about a thaw. Through Student Body Presidents they were able to maintain a spirit of peace rather than competition.

### Cooperation Over Competition

Now it seems that another portion of the University communities has realized the need for cooperation rather than complete competition. Last Tuesday at the Faculty Council meeting Chairman Sig Rolland introduced a proposal which would establish a Council of Higher Education Faculty which would "advance higher education in Idaho, with particular emphasis on matters of mutual concern to the faculties of the state institutions"

Rolland admitted the council is not intended to preclude competition among the four institutions, but only to promote those items of mutual concern such as salaries, retirement benefits, and the general welfare of higher education.

At worst the proposed council would merely be an extension of the current Council of Faculty Chairmen, which now operates as the "unofficial" caretakers of the four faculties welfare, but at best (and it should be at best) would be able

to help students warm-up the cold feelings currently plaguing the four institutions.

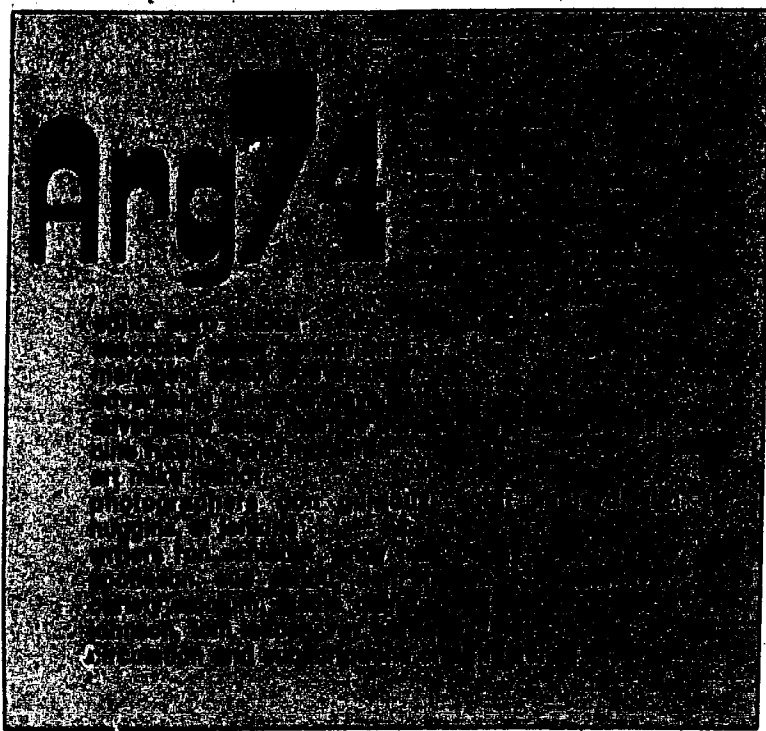
### A Cozy Attitude

Rolland said he hopes the proposed council will help eliminate the "cozy attitude" developing that higher education has a poor image.

But no matter how optimistic the future thaw of the cold war in higher education may now appear there is a critical missing link, without which the war can never end — and that is the cooperation of the four university presidents. Presently the presidents are joined together by a Council of University Presidents, but obviously this union has not succeeded in bringing peace and cooperation between the institutions.

Unlike the students and faculties, when speaking of cooperation among the four presidents the problems of personalities and individual competition must unfortunately enter in. The four presidents have fostered a great number of distrusts and personal antagonisms between them over the past five years and it will be very difficult for any one council to bring peace and cooperation to them, rather than pure competition and antagonism.

But, if the presidents do not move in the direction of cooperation, as the students and faculties have, higher education may remain in a cold war which ultimately might lead to its destruction.





# Academics Going Down

## Shaikh Ghazanfar

A committee to study academic quality and academic standards at the U of I was established by the Faculty Council Tuesday in response to the following communication submitted to the Faculty Council last month by Shaikh M. Ghazanfar, associate professor of economics.

Ghazanfar added the following introduction to his statement:

"I was asked if the Argonaut could publish the following communication which was earlier submitted to the Faculty Council and which is soon to become the subject of a committee's deliberations.

"I must confess I felt a bit puzzled when the publication suggestion was made to me, for the memo is a matter of public record, even though it was initially submitted for Faculty Council consideration.

"Further, as I emphasize in the memo, its contents represent an expression of my sincere and honest concerns about academics at Idaho and should not be interpreted as 'anti' any group. Indeed, I would argue that my concerns are pro-student and pro-education; and they are shared by a large number of faculty members (as evident from Faculty Council discussion Tuesday), and, hopefully, by many students.

"In essence, I am simply pleading that we re-examine academics at Idaho so that the students get their money's worth, and that we maintain as well as enhance the quality of an Idaho degree."

The complete text of the communication follows.

As a Faculty Council member and a member of the University community, I submit this memo for two reasons: 1) to stimulate some discussion on the subject, and 2) through this debate, to try to generate some new University-wide directions from the Faculty Council and the University administration.

Today's academic environment has become filled with mutual mistrust and suspicion; anti-student and anti-administration labels have come to be used rather frequently and too loosely (even the recent ASUI elections included a Presidential candidate who ran on the "anti-administration" slogan). While the nation has been concerned with environmental decay in general, we seem to have allowed the academic environment to pollute and degenerate. I write this memo not so much to evoke any negativistic sentiments, far more importantly, it is an attempt to express some rather fundamental and honest concerns (which I believe are shared by many) with regard to the educational process at our institution. If anything, my earnest hope is that this communication would be interpreted as pro-student and, above all, as pro-education.

There are many faculty members (perhaps more numerous than those willing to speak out) who are concerned about the deteriorating academic standards at our institution. While the contributing factors are numerous and well-known (and they need not be belabored here), a major factor appears to be the rather lax academic atmosphere that has come about in recent years. I submit we are partly responsible for it. Somewhat rhetorically I can simply raise some soul-searching questions. Have we as educators — in our efforts to maintain peace and harmony — abdicated from our primary responsibilities to the students? Have the various and sundry pressures gradually transformed us into a group which seeks to produce merely "happy" students, in contrast to what the society considers "educated" citizens? The era of "do-your-own-thing" seems to have perverted the definition of education; indeed, carried to its extreme, this new ethic means anarchy — and we have been observing some evidence of it around us. So often we seem to be guided (or misguided?) by the idealism of the youth, as though the youth have been bestowed with all the wisdom (certainly wisdom is not the exclusive domain of any particular individual or group; but clearly we would recognize that through acquired knowledge of innate qualities, some may be better equipped than others). I admit these are provocative remarks; but, I submit, herein perhaps lie the reasons why many are concerned about the plight of academics generally and at Idaho particularly.

The University is no longer to be an "in loco parentis" entity (indeed, it is not clear whether it was ever intended to be so); at Idaho we have a Student Bill of Rights and a Code of Conduct. While many positive accomplishments have emerged from these developments, it appears, however, that in the process we have gradually abandoned some of the most cherished moral and ethical values of a civilized society and as a result have contributed to the emergence of a rather

permissive, defiant, and intimidating academic environment. We seem to have been concerned with the short-run routes of convenience and have neglected the long-run consequences on the academics. So often we seem to act as followers, instead of leaders. So often we are anxious to appease and acquiesce, rather than persuade and discuss. We witness now an academic environment in which far too often we find:

- students who are least hesitant to defy any "game" rules, as well as rules of common decency, and who are anxious to almost unilaterally impose their own rules.
- students who demand performance from instructors but who are least willing to fulfill their own responsibilities.
- students who seem to feel that by coming to the University they have somehow established a "right" to a degree and the University "owes" it to them (recently a student asked me for a passing grade simply and solely on the basis of regular class attendance).
- students who seek "evidence" of superior performance but who are inclined to put forth little effort on their part.
- students who are quick to blame the instructor for their poor performance but who are reluctant to fulfill their own obligations.
- students who defiantly choose to stay absent from classes — especially after poor performance on a test, for they realize that almost regardless of performance the final grade would be satisfactory.
- students who are quick to label the instructor as "unhelpful or unconcerned" when they cannot locate him/her at the moment of their choosing but who have little regard for the assigned hours or for an appointment made.
- instructors who are vulnerable to student pressures (and who isn't these days?) and who would often go out of their way to accommodate — especially since they know that their economic (academic) welfare depends so heavily upon "satisfied" and "happy" clientele.
- instructors who may deteriorate because their performance has become less dependent upon professional competence and more on whether their clients are "content".
- instructors whose incompetency may be protected and perpetuated because professional competency has become relatively less relevant.
- instructors who are judged by students (and administrators) as "bad guys" simply because they happen to give too many "low" grades.
- instructors who under the present incentive system are often anxious to please — by lenient grading, by diluted course content, by being ever so "apologetic" and "friendly" (not that there is anything wrong in being friendly, or apologetic when warranted among fellow beings), for the instructors simply attempt to maximize their "ratings" (One faculty colleague recently remarked that the evaluation system is making "entertainers" out of educators).

Indeed, we find at U of I rather concrete evidence of deteriorating academic standards. One has to be rather naive to deny such evidence. Let me enumerate a few points in this regard:

- 1) Grade inflation has been rampant at U of I (someone suggested that if we were to discount present grades into "real" terms — as we do with dollars and cents — many students would be below the minimum GPA required, and many awarded degrees will have to be recalled). Indeed, this is a nation-wide phenomena. At Idaho, the evidence is abundantly clear. While the overall GPA hardly increased during several years prior to 1969, since then it has increased at an annual rate of over 4 percent — even faster rise in recent years. At this rate, the overall GPA will be 4.00 by about 1980! (Interestingly, the grade inflation at U of I coincides with the year when the system of mandatory evaluations of faculty was initiated).
- 2) The letter grade distribution has shifted heavily toward the higher grades in recent years. About half or more of the total credits generated at U of I tend to be in the A and B categories, and about three-fourths in the top three letter grades. Indeed, there are several courses in which the only grade given is the A grade. One might hasten to conclude that higher grades simply mean students are well-prepared and have a superior background. But there is hardly any evidence to this effect. In fact, evidence suggests just the opposite — scores in the "college board" examinations given to college-bound high school seniors have shown a virtually continuous decline over the last decade or so ("U.S. News and World Report", December 31, 1973).
- 3) The pass-fall system does not seem to have fulfilled its chief objective. It is a rare student who follows this route for exploratory reasons. In the general case, passing a course under this arrangement hardly demands any performance — especially since F grades are rarely given these days (less than 3 per cent of

all grades in recent years). The result is a deterioration of the educational process. 4) Dean's lists and other honors have become almost meaningless as far as their educational and "recognition" worth is concerned. While pass-fall options and the grade inflation have made it significantly easier to obtain a high GPA, the standards for these honors have remained almost unchanged. Not long ago, a Tufts University dean studied this issue and concluded that "the whole Dean's list is a farce which I personally like to see abolished." ("Intercollegiate Press Bulletin", January 3, 1972). One colleague recently remarked to me that we would save paper if we put out lists of only those students who don't make the grade!

There are many faculty members who feel that a major cause of deteriorating standards is the present system of mandatory student evaluation of faculty. While the intent of this system is noble, it has greatly contributed to the present environment. While there may be other variables at work, it is very probable that mandatory evaluations induce many faculty members to be "generous" in order to improve their own "grades". The primary rationale for these evaluations has to be a means for instructional improvement; but when the ratings are tied to professional advancement, academic deterioration is the result and the major purpose of evaluations is defeated. Indeed, instructors are persuaded to be "rating-maximizers," they are forced to produce "happy" students.

There is considerable empirical research which corroborates the foregoing remarks. A rather detailed review of student evaluation of teachers was published sometime ago in the "Education Record" (Summer 1966). In answer to the question whether student evaluations be used as a basis for tenure and promotion decisions, the study notes the conclusions reached by a Yale University group (and, according to the study, shared by others). The answer is in the negative, "emphasizing the unhealthy atmosphere and ill feelings that may result from such."

Further, the study concludes, "the use of rating scales as a 'stick' by department heads and deans can only be injurious to faculty morale. It also encourages in students a false sense of their own capability and importance in passing judgments on professors." Specifically, the Yale group had concluded that although it was "not opposed to the idea of having the individual teacher use student evaluations for his own self-improvement... using such evaluations as a basis for tenure and promotion decisions almost certainly would be useless and vicious." There are some other rather respectable studies which empirically validate what many have postulated: faculty ratings are positively correlated with students' expected grade. In this connection, reference is made to an article in the September 1972 "Journal of Political Economy" ("Economic Man in the Classroom") and another in the September 29, 1972 issue of the "Science" magazine ("Student Evaluation of Teachers"). Students rate most highly instructors from whom they learn the least". Based upon empirical analysis, the "Science" article suggests that "perhaps students resent instructors who force them to work too hard and to learn more than they wish." Further, this study concludes that "if how much students learn is considered to be a major component of good teaching, it must be concluded that good teaching is not validly measured by student evaluations in their current form."

In conclusion, let me reiterate emphatically that the purpose of this lengthy discourse not be misconstrued; certainly it is not intended to generate more mistrust or suspicion among the students, faculty, and administration. If such appears to be the case to some, it would be an erroneous impression, and I extend my apologies for that. My purpose is perhaps too grandiose, my hopes too lofty and unrealistic in the present day and age. I ask for your reflection. I believe it is about time that some new directions evolve at this University — for the short-run and long-run interests of the students, for the encouragement of higher levels of professional competency among faculty members, and above all, for the enhancement of the integrity of higher education at our institution.

Last semester a varsity lineman (a good one, by the way) was angrily telling me — "I can get B's at this school, and not even go to class."

Talking further, one discovered that in one particular course he had skipped class several times and still received a B.

His exaggeration of lax academic standards at the U of I reminds me of Dr. S. M. Ghazanfar's statement.

There are problems with academic standards at the U of I — and students should be concerned about them. As Richard Baldo, coordinator of student evaluations said, "Academic standards here are not particularly high."

So keeping this in mind, and the football player's comment — let's examine his statement.

It might be one of Parkinson's Laws, but immediately after this journalist says something critical about a University official, he usually does something outstanding.

Like Vice-President Coonrod. At this week's Faculty Council meeting the Ghazanfar statement and academic standards were discussed for a short time.

Coonrod suggested that before any conclusions be reached, a historical study of the U of I student population should be made. "I think," he said, "Such a study would reveal some rather extensive shifts."

He stated, "We're probably not getting some students that we would have gotten years ago who usually flunked out."

**Just Out For Sheepskin**  
The implication seemed to be — the students who just want a piece of sheepskin go to one of the newer state colleges, or enter the community college system, while those who want to learn something come to the U of I.

The primary worry of Ghazanfar and others on the U of I faculty seems to be the "GPA inflation." A study like the one suggested by Coonrod would show whether the University is actually getting a higher-quality entering class — which would explain the inflation.

After all — it's quite possible that students are smarter, are learning more and studying harder. An article in the March 23 edition of The National Observer noted that students on three widely-diverse campuses are all increasingly "grade-conscious." In fact, they quoted one student as quipping: "Around here there are only two issues — mid-terms and finals."

Professor Ghazanfar cited several pieces of evidence in concluding that academic standards are deteriorating. These basically were: 1) A rise in University-wide GPA; 2) Inflated Dean's lists and lists of other honors; 3) Increasing use of the pass-fall option; 4) Lax attitudes on the part of many students and instructors towards academic performance.

Let's continue to examine that first reason, and the second which would be a direct result of the first.

**Gamma Rays or Protest Too**  
Ghazanfar seems to suggest there may be some relationship between the increase in GPA and the start of student evaluation, in 1969. (One could just as easily say that "gamma rays" brought back from the first moon landing increased the GPA or that the climax of student activism and radicalism which occurred during that period are the reasons.)

Asked whether he thought some instructors are hampered by the thought that they may be graded down if they don't "grade up", the coordinator of student evaluation Rich Baldo said that he thought some were.

But he went on to suggest a couple of solutions. The first would be in the adoption of a new computer instrument for evaluating the questionnaires, which he is working on. "Another," he said, "is to make professors aware of all the studies on student evaluations."

He thought the possibility of a relationship between students' anticipated grades and their evaluations was "equivocal, at best." He cited a study which stated there was no relationship between the two.

Soooooo — part of the problem with academic standards may be a groundless fear held by some faculty members.

# ...I Beg Your Pardon

## David Warnick



The third piece of evidence given may indeed show a decrease in academic standards. Students increasingly use the pass-fall option, not necessarily as a method of exploring new fields without academic pressures, but simply as an escape valve for these pressures. (This may be the clearest answer of all to Dr. Ghazanfar's statement — academic pressures certainly still exist — and they may have increased along with the University-wide GPA.)

Students use the pass-fall option as a method of setting priorities — of saying this class doesn't mean as much to my major, or my interests, as another.

Indeed, students may use the pass-fall option as a means of short-circuiting what they see as arbitrary requirements for graduation, or for specific majors. Students should be allowed this method of setting priorities, if they want to use it.

Certainly the option itself could be tuned up a little — like having all "pass" work be of C quality or better, instead of D- or better.

**In Scientific Spirit**  
The fourth piece of evidence presents a matter of judgement, as does Ghazanfar's entire report. Sig Rolland, the chairman of Faculty Council has suggested that the committee set up to study academic standards would do so in the "spirit of a scientist, who tests hypotheses and bases his conclusions on his findings..." (One could ask, what else has Faculty Council ever considered in scientific spirit?)

Certainly a study should be made — as Rolland said, "I believe there is a significant undercurrent among the faculty that would justify looking into the problems seemingly raised by Ghazanfar."

**Judging Attitudes**  
But how scientific can it be? Possibly a look at the "GPA inflation" can be done that way. But the reasons for using the pass-fall option, student and faculty attitudes towards academic standards are much harder to judge.

But in the end, those who want to protect the students of this University by improving the academic standards should remember it's mainly a matter of individuals.

If a student wants to dilute his credentials with easy classes and lots of "pass-fall grading" it's kind of difficult to protect him from himself.

And if the University keeps getting smarter and smarter entering classes, it's kind of hard to stop that — or even to want to stop that.

If a teacher just wants to keep his job, the students need to be protected from him.

But thank goodness someone has guts enough to talk about the need for this "protection" of academic standards — and it's too bad that faculty seems to think the matter takes guts to discuss.

Maybe they need to be protected from themselves.

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# Vandals Stage Comeback; Team Prepared for Big Sky

by Don Shelton  
Argonaut Sports Writer

"Last year we lost a lot of games because of mistakes," recalled University of Idaho baseball coach John Smith in his Oklahoma draw. "But this year the other teams are going to have to beat us. We won't beat ourselves."

Smith has every reason to be optimistic. The Vandal baseball squad opens its Big Sky conference schedule at Boise this weekend fresh off 11 wins in their last 16 games.

After getting off to a shaky 3-6 start, everything seems to have fallen into place for Idaho.

One of the biggest factors in the turnaround has been the superb infield play of two freshmen: shortstop Mark Harris and third baseman John Klimek. Since Smith installed the two in the left side of the infield 18 games ago, they have committed a total of only four errors between them.

They've been there ever since and the infield that was booting grounders and throwing the ball away has jelled into a solid unit.

That's something for a couple of kids fresh out of high school.

Smith admitted that he was playing more freshmen than he'd like. "At times we've had freshmen pitching and catching the same time those two were playing. That's quite a bit of green out there," he noted. "I like experience, but they just beat out the rest of the men and earned their positions."

Another important switch has been Senior Alan Head's conversion from a leftfielder to a catcher. The 5'10" 185 pounder from Fresno, California was the nation's second leading hitter last year at .452 and led the NCAA in doubles with 15 as an outfielder.

**Unhindered Hitting**  
The switch doesn't seem to have hampered Head's hitting—he leads the Vandals in four offensive categories. The All-American candidate boasts a .409 average on 27 hits and has driven in 25 runs.

"Our catching was pretty weak," said Smith. "Alan has really strengthened that position."

Another Vandal concern last season was pitching. But behind the right arms of Tim Kampa and Steve Williams, Idaho has been almost unbeatable. The two Vandal workhorses each have 5-1 season records.

Kampa, a junior from Lewiston, has 50 strikeouts and an earned run average (ERA) of 1.90 in 45 innings. Williams, a sophomore from Honolulu, has averaged a strikeout in each of his 45 innings while compiling an impressive 1.20 ERA.

Smith noted that with either Kampa or Williams on the mound Idaho can beat anyone in the Big Sky. "Both of them are great competitors. They'll challenge anyone," he added.

While there is no doubt that Kampa and Williams are superbly talented, the rest of the Vandal pitching staff has to be labeled a question mark.

Sophomore Ron Barnes is the third Idaho starting pitcher. The Spokane native has appeared in six games and sports a 3-1 record and a 4.84 ERA.

"Ron doesn't throw the great fastball or the hard curve, but he's improved tremendously over last year and has pitched very well at times," said Smith.

**Pitching Hopes**  
Freshman Jim Guy is another of Smith's pitching hopes. "He's so young," commented the head coach, "but he's going to be a good one before he gets out of here." Smith explained Guy's 0-4 record as a result of very tough competition. The fireballer from Caldwell

has 19 strikeouts in 14 innings and control problems with 14 walks.

Relievers Phil Knott and Jim Elston and freshman Ken Schrom round out the Idaho mound corps.

The tough Big Sky schedule demands three solid starters but the Vandals have only two. The development of Barnes and Guy will be a key factor in Idaho's title chances.

But whatever the Vandals lack on the mound, they more than make up for at the plate.

Idaho hitters have combined for an eye-popping .306 batting average so far this season. In 24 games the Vandals have smashed 188 hits in 609 at bats. Who has the hot stick for Idaho? Just about everyone.

Start off with potential All-American Harris at .409. Then there's freshman third sacker Klimek who's hitting a sensational .390. Senior left fielder Ken Kendrick is close behind with .370 and Andy Brassey, usually a slow starter, is already in high gear with a solid .366. Junior first baseman Mike Ruscio, who looks like he should be out for football, has driven in 24 runs, one less than team leader Head, and leads in doubles with eight. If that's not enough, the burly 220 pounder from Spokane is batting a solid .362.

**Golden Gloved Shortstop**  
The rest of the Vandal starters are golden-gloved shortstop Harris at .257, veteran second baseman Bob Aoke at .238 and right-fielder Mike Clements at .203.

Smith sees Gonzaga as the team to beat in the Big Sky and adds that Boise State will be "much improved."

The Vandals begin their conference slate against the Broncos at Boise today and tomorrow. Aces Kampa and Williams will be on the mound for today's doubleheader and Jim Guy is the tentative starter for the third contest.

Smith will be trying for his second conference title in six years as baseball coach. The 1969 Vandals won the Big Sky title and beat Air Force in the NCAA regional semi-finals before losing to Arizona State, the national champions, in the finals.

This year's club boasts the finest group of sluggers in the Big Sky Conference and with a little luck and a lot of basehits, that just might be enough. Insert in story above after "Mike Clements at .203."

Freshman Steve Gregor will see some action behind the plate and carries a .308 average. Versatile senior Raoul Allen at .279, fills in at left field and shortstop and Jim Elston rounds out the Vandals with a .273 average.



Steve Williams



Alan Head



Tim Kampa

# Tennis Squad Climbs Out Of Rut

by Don Shelton  
Argonaut Sports Writer

The Vandal tennis team has had more than its share of problems so far this season. A variety of factors have contributed to the team's dismal 3-8 start, its worst in over a decade. But for anyone counting Idaho out of the Big Sky title chase head coach Jeff Williams issues a firm warning: don't.

Williams, in his last season as U of I tennis coach, agreed that his club had hit a definite slump early in the season. But he emphasized that now "they're really starting to play like they should."

If you're superstitious, the Vandal netters had several bad omens before the 1974 season had even begun. First Jeff Oates, the Big Sky's top player last year, decided to stay in California for the school year. Then Williams was fired as U of I ticket manager. A person just can't live on the meager salary of an Idaho tennis coach, so as the team began its pre-season workouts, they weren't even sure if they would have a coach at the season's end.

The final, and according to Williams, the only reason for the teams slow start, is their tough schedule.

"The schedule is definitely why we haven't done well," he explained. "Our guys are used to winning. When you play the calibre of teams we have this year, you're bound to lose a few. It was hard for them to accept that," he said.

But Williams emphasized that the squad has slowly climbed out of the early season rut and is showing renewed spirit and confidence.

According to the U of I tennis coach, senior Rich Morales, seeded fourth, has been, day in and day out, the Vandal's top performer.

Bill Benson, one of the top one or two netters in the conference, is returning to last season's form after a horrendous start for a player of his calibre. Benson began the season as the top seed, dropped down to third, and is back at number one again.

Williams admitted that the idea of improving the team with tough competition almost backfired early in the year. "Sure it hurts to lose but when the conference championships roll around we'll be ready."

Idaho's top rival for the title is again Boise State, who beat the Vandals earlier this year. But Boise State plays a relatively easy schedule, including such teams as Northwest Nazarene and Treasure Valley Community College, said Williams. He sees the tough Idaho matches as a big factor in the Vandal's hope of upending the Broncos.

Another of Williams' headaches has been money. He has watched his already meager scholarship allotment shrink in each of his last four seasons as head coach. This year Williams has only one "full-ride" of \$1,400 to distribute to his players.

"Just one additional full-ride would increase our money 100 per cent," explained Williams. He noted that one more scholarship in tennis would help the tennis program a lot more than one less would hurt football.

Williams won't have to contend with all those problems next year. The former Idaho netter disclosed plans to depart for Idaho Falls following the Big Sky championships. There Williams will take over the managerial duties of the Alpha Health Spa's brand new tennis-handball-paddleball facility. He will also serve as tennis director.

At least for the moment, Williams says he'll finish the year at Idaho.

The Vandals will get a chance to avenge those early season losses to BSC and Spokane Falls today when they open the two day Inland Empire Tennis Tournament. Six teams will vie for top honors in the bracketed, round robin event to be held at both the U of I and Washington State campuses.

Idaho's matches begin today at noon against Spokane Falls and continue in the afternoon against BSC. Tourney finals will be played Saturday at WSU. The third place consolation title will be held at both the U of I and Washington State campuses.

Williams noted that any of four teams, BSC, Spokane Falls, WSU and Idaho, will have a chance to win it. "It all depends on who's ready," he said.

Will Idaho be ready for today's tournament and more importantly for all the marbles at the Big Sky Championships later this spring? Williams and most of his tennis team were wondering earlier this season. But who knows what will happen by May?

# Pottery Expert To Give Show

Peggy Steffes, a professional potter from Montana, will be on campus Friday to give a demonstration/workshop on her craft.

Steffes will be demonstrating throwing and decorating techniques used in pottery from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. and will present a slide discussion section from 1:30 until 1 p.m. (bring your own lunch). During the afternoon she will demonstrate glazing and large-form assemblage.

The demonstrations will be downstairs in the ceramic studio in the art and architecture north building.

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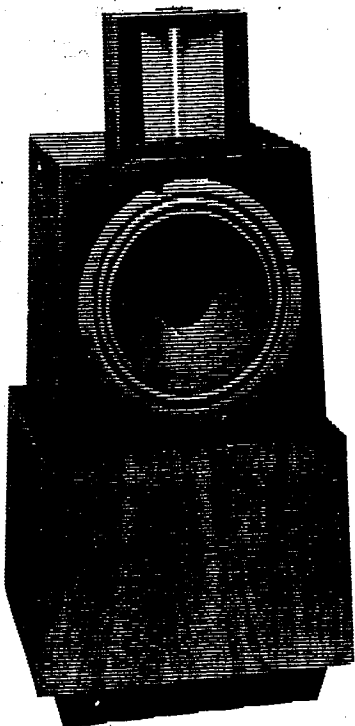
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By **ESS**

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# MORT'S

# Arts Center Opens With Dual Performances

By Marshall Hall  
Argonaut Feature Writer

With all the gala spectacle of a Broadway opening, and the excitement of not one but two highly acclaimed theatrical productions, the grand opening of the first phase of the Performing Arts Center occurs April 20.

Beginning the night of April 17 and on through Saturday, April 26, the University of Idaho's Theatre Arts Department will present two plays in repertory: Lawrence and Lee's hilarious new comedy, "Jabberwock," and John Steinbeck's classic American drama, "Of Mice and Men." The plays being presented on alternate nights provide something relatively new in the area of theatre arts, according to Forrest E. Sears, associate professor of theatre arts.

"We wanted to do it to give our audiences a variety with two opening nights, and because we're also anxious to show off the new facility," Sears said. This is the first time this year that the Theatre Arts Department has presented alternating performances, and of course the first time in the new center. With the dual performances comes the added dimension of dual acting roles by some of the drama students. "Several students are doing two roles, a minor role in one play and a major role in the other," Sears stated.

The first performance on the night of April 17 is already sold out to the major contributors and donors to the completion of the first phase of the Performing Arts Center. The plays will be running for eight performances and students will be admitted free upon presentation of the ASUI identification cards.

Jabberwock, directed by Edmund M. Chavez, professor of theatre arts, is the lighthearted story of the boyhood of the beloved American humorist James Thurber, and explores the rich vein of his most hilarious antic comedy sketches. "This is definitely the premier performance of Jabberwock in the Northwest,"

stated Sears. Being a member of the American Playwrights Theatre the U of I Theatre Arts Department can lease a new play prior to any professional performance, Sears explained. "This play is somewhat nostalgic and lighthearted akin to 'You Can't Take It With You,'" said Sears.

"Of Mice and Men" is under the direction of Sears who feels that the play has a classic American script. John Steinbeck's own adaptation of his world-famous novel, is the story of George and Lennie, two migrant farm workers who search for the meaning of the American dream in a poignant and searing drama of American life.

"Steinbeck's play won the Critics Circle Award in 1937 as best play, and it is one of the few times a major American author has dramatized any of his work," Sears stated. "It's a very contemporary play when compared with today, and many students and townspeople can identify with it," he said. "It's nostalgic in a way also, somewhat like the movies 'The Sting' and 'Paper Moon'. I feel it's a moving, touching drama that I hope will have real emotional impact on the audience," Sears said.

With the large scale production of two plays at one time and in the same theatre, the question of set construction and play rehearsals is an important matter. The aspect of two separate rehearsals was simple enough as each cast takes turns practicing in the center one day, then alternates with the other cast to the University Hut the other day.

The construction of large realistic sets is a mammoth effort in itself, but when coupled with the set of another play on the same stage it becomes stupendous. But because of the design of the Performing Arts Center, a large construction area is located directly behind stage. "Both of the 20 foot sets are mounted on casters, so each day we shift one set with the other," Sears said.

The semicircular house with its handsome, natural wood, acoustical panels and 429 alternating gold, blue and

orange seats, provides a comfortable and intimate type atmosphere for the audience. The theatre also features the possible use of two different type stages; the traditional proscenium arch stage, and the contemporary thrust stage. Both performances scheduled for the opening will use the thrust stage setup. The thrust stage brings the audience closer to the actors, giving the illusion of being more of a part of the play, rather than just spectators. The thrust stage, or front part of the stage closest to the audience can

be removed to give an area for an orchestra in cast of musical productions. "Both stages give the theatre much more flexibility," Sears declared.

The theatre portion of the Performing Arts Center will be dedicated by President Hartung on Saturday morning, April 20. Because of Parent's Weekend, Alumni and donor's theatre parties, advance reservations to both plays are recommended. Curtain time for both plays is 8 p.m. each night.



The drama department has been preparing for the grand premiere of "Of Mice and Men". The play is to be presented during the opening ceremonies of the Performing Arts Center. Shown above, left to right, are Bruce Gooch, Jim Cash, Hank Smith, John Naples, Bill Smith and James Lewis.

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# Great Authors for a Gala Opening

by Stacie Quinn  
Argonaut Reporter

Steinbeck and Thurber...these two men have far outclassed competitors in their gifts to American literature.

John Steinbeck is renowned for his expertise in writing novels and short stories with sympathetic themes varying from social dislocation to havoc wrought by uninformed prejudice.

Many Americans recognize the name of James Thurber through his close association with "The New Yorker" magazine. Thurber's delightful whim has been illustrated for years in frequent essays, fables, tales, and drawings in "The New Yorker."

Both of these men will be indirectly brought to Moscow in the Theatre Arts productions of "Jabberwock" and "Of Mice and Men," which will run alternate nights from Wednesday, April 17, through Saturday, April 26.

Steinbeck, born in 1902, has enjoyed great popularity and serious literary acclaim throughout the latter part of his career. In his writing, Steinbeck mingles travel, journalism, and public utterance on questions of the day.

John Steinbeck is presently the only American novelist who successfully transformed a novel into a play. In this work, "Of Mice and Men," the author's sympathy is shown with his treatment of two itinerant farm hands.

The playwright's skepticism is illustrated by these two migrants, who drift from place to place searching for the meaning of the American dream. Ultimately and inevitably, the moron character is killed.

Steinbeck is also famous for his novels "Tortilla Flat" and "The Grapes of Wrath"; and his stories short "The Red Pony" and "The Pearl".

James Thurber, the lesser known of the two men, began his career in journalism at Ohio State University.

Thurber settled with E.B. White to begin his work on "The New Yorker" and was the original composer of the well-known column, "Talk of the Town".

He is in contention for the title of the leading humorist of our age. Thurber's humor is in the American tradition of exaggeration and the tall tale. T. S. Eliot has been quoted as saying, "There is a criticism of life at the bottom of his writing."

As an example of his comedy, one of Thurber's themes that brought him great fame was entitled "The Domination of the American Male by the American Female."

Some of Thurber's better-known works include "My Life and Hard Times," "Thurber Carnival," "Owl in the Attic," "Thirteen Clocks," and "Is Sex Necessary?"

Although not written by Thurber himself, "Jabberwock" is a series of comic sketches of the American humorist's boyhood and adolescence. "Jabberwock" explores the rich vein of his most hilarious antics as Thurber was growing up.

One of the articles included in "Jabberwock" is called, "The Night the Bed Fell", which is a short, but intricate sketch which outlines the family's nocturnal phobias ranging from Cousin

Briggs Beall to Aunts Sarah and Gracie Shoat.

These two shows, "Of Mice and Men" and "Jabberwock", will open the new Performing Arts Center in repertory.

(Repertory style is when more than one show is in production at the same time.) "Jabberwock" will be the initial show, running April 17, 19, 25, and 27. "Of Mice and Men" will be seen on April 18, 20, 24, and 26.

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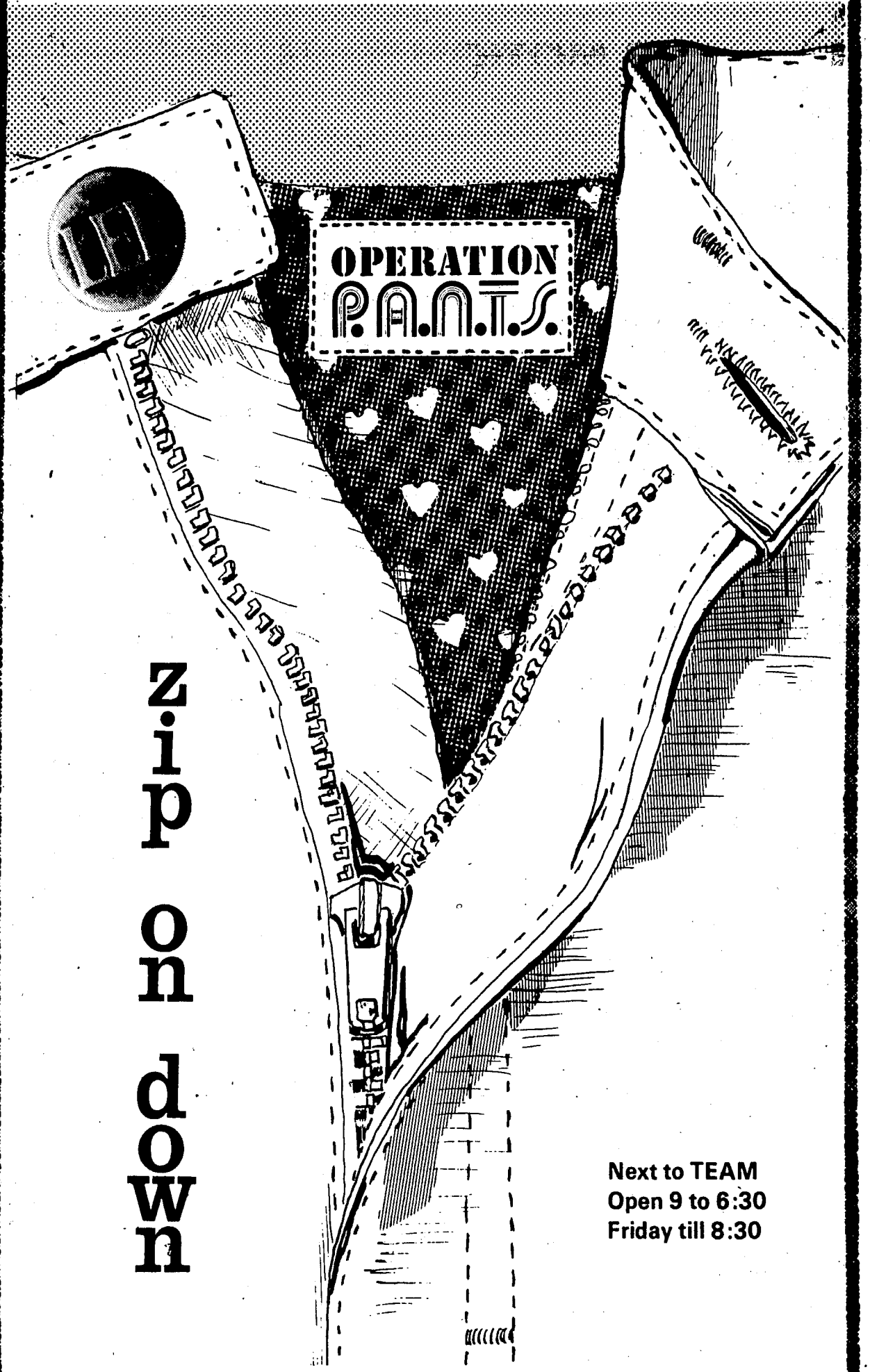
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# Faculty Council Begins to Study University's Academic Quality

After a short, but heated exchange the Faculty Council established a committee Tuesday to study the "academic quality of the University of Idaho."

The move was in response to a memo written to the council by economics professor Shaikh Ghazanfar, who concluded "today's academic environment has become filled with mutual mistrust and suspicion. . . . While the nation has been concerned with environmental decay in general, we seem to have allowed the academic environment to pollute and degenerate."

Ghazanfar, at Tuesday's council meeting, charged that numerous professors are concerned about the academic atmosphere at the University, but are afraid to come forth with criticism because of the negative weight of mandatory student evaluation forms.

In his letter to the council he said "pressures gradually transformed us into a group which seeks to produce merely 'happy' students, in contrast to what the society considers 'educated' citizens."

The committee established Tuesday will be made up of five faculty members who will be elected by Faculty Council. It will be charged with investigating the academic atmosphere of the University by soliciting input from faculty members, administrators and students. At the end of its investigation the committee will submit its findings to the council for its consideration.

Academic Vice-President Robert Coonrod, who will be taking President Ernest Hartung's place in May while the president is on sabbatical leave, agreed with Ghazanfar saying "we need higher

expectations from the students here now."

Coonrod said he is "convinced" the academic character of students at the University of Idaho have changed over the last few years and said a study must be made to evaluate the new academic characteristics.

Law professor Robert Jones told the council too much emphasis has been placed on the "teaching" abilities of professors and not enough given to the other academic areas such as research.

Student council member Ken Marcy showed concern that the proposed committee would conduct a witch-hunt on policies such as student evaluations and the pass-fail option. "I hope this committee helps the academic environment rather than acting as a vehicle to attack policies already established."

Mathematics professor Paul Dierker disagreed with Marcy saying the committee should have free hand at reviewing all areas of the academic community and perhaps "Attacking those that need to be."

Council Chairman Sig Rolland said he "sympathized" with Marcy and said the whole tone of Ghazanfar's evaluation of the academic community is "condemnatory." He said it borders on the "ridiculous" to make an evaluation of such a thing as mandatory student evaluations before such a thing has been tried.

Rolland told the Idaho Argonaut he could not understand why academics and scientists like those on the council would point out a complex problem and come to conclusions concerning the problems before a scientific study has

been carried out.

In his report to the council Ghazanfar cited four main areas where academics at the University have deteriorated: accelerated rises in University-wide GPA, inflated Dean's lists, increasing use of the pass-fail option, and lax attitudes on the part of many students and instructors toward academic performance.

He said the over-all GPA did not rise significantly before 1969, but since then has risen at a rate of four per cent per year. He predicted at that rate the average GPA by 1980 would be 4.0.

He cited the mandatory student evaluations of professors as the main cause of academic decay.

In the past year all institutions of higher learning in Idaho came under severe fire from the legislature for their tenure policies. One of the areas of reform emphasized by both the legislature and the Board of Regents was more emphasis on student evaluations while considering tenure and promotion of faculty.

"There are many faculty members who feel that a major cause of deteriorating standards is the present system of mandatory student evaluation of faculty," said Ghazanfar. While the intent of this system is noble, it has greatly contributed to the present environment."



Movies sponsored by the Bench and Bar will begin at 8:30 tonight. Charley Chaplin, Roadrunner, Flash Gordon, Dick Tracy, and Torro are some examples of what you will see during the three and one half hour movie salad. Admission is \$1.

Anyone interested in being an exchange student can still obtain applications but they must be returned as soon as possible. If you have any questions contact Corky Bush at 8285.

The Staff Personnel Office has full time job openings this week for Secretary 1 and Clerk 2; Director, Child Care Center, Farm Equipment Operator; Journeyman Sheet Metal Worker; Apprentice Machine Shop Mechanic; Research Extension Associate; Technical Aide; and Assistant Cashier are also available. Interested applicants should contact Staff Personnel Office, Room 228 of the Classroom Center, phone 885-6496.

Location of the sunrise service has been changed from the administration lawn to the University Golf Course. People may bring blankets to sit on the ground.

A "Las Vegas Night", sponsored by the Architecture students, will be held at the Moose Lodge tonight at 7:30. The night will feature all types of gambling (with play money), beer, pizza, dancing, and door prizes to be bid on with the play money winnings. The cost will be \$2.50 a couple for \$100 in chips, and \$1.50 singly for \$50 in chips.

This April 12, at 3:15 p.m. there will be a Campus Good Friday Service at Saint Augustine's Chapel. This is jointly sponsored by the Campus Christian Center and Saint Augustine Center.

Interviews for ASUI and Student-Faculty Committee positions will be held next week. The days for interviews are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, April 17, 18, and 19, at the Student Union Building and at the Wallace Complex. All interested students are encouraged to attend. For further information concerning the duties and responsibilities of the members of these committees, call the ASUI offices at 6331.

## Primary Here:

continued from page 1

The presidential primary will yet become a reality in Idaho, according to David Warnick, chairman of the Idaho College Republican League.

A draft petition for a presidential primary was turned into the Secretary of State's office Wednesday by a group of the College Republicans.

Warnick stated, "The rank and file party members and voters of Idaho should have a say in the presidential nominating process—and this proposal will establish that."

### Change in Election Date

The proposal would change Idaho's primary election date to the same day as Oregon's, the fourth Tuesday in May, and would establish a "quasi-regional" presidential primary, according to John Ruffin, College Republican legal advisor. Nevada's primary election date is on the same day.

Before this issue can go to the voters in November, 24,700 signatures of legal voters must be collected, said Warnick. The submission of the draft petition to the Secretary of State is the first part of the process. Then the Secretary of State checks the petition for form and sends it to the Attorney General's office. The Attorney General gives it a short title, and then the form is returned to the group so it may circulate valid petitions. All the

signatures must be collected and turned in to the Secretary of State by July 5.

According to Warnick, the College Republicans feel that their proposal will help restore faith in the political system. Also it would strengthen the system by involving more people actively in politics.

Warnick said that the group is eager to have any help in carrying through the petition. "This is a big task—and the issue itself is an important one—whether the citizens of Idaho can have a direct share in the nomination of presidential candidates." Anyone interested in helping the College Republicans is urged to contact them, at Rt. 3, Box 202, Moscow, Idaho 83843 or phone 882-5619.

If the College Republicans can get the required number of signatures on the petition, a referendum will be on the November ballot. Idaho voters will be asked if they wish to vote for presidential candidates in primary elections. Upon the passing of the referendum, candidates would pick a list of Idaho delegates to attend their national party conventions. Each candidate would receive a number of convention delegates according to the percentage of the popular votes he received. Delegates are presently chosen by party officials, but this would give each voter a part in choosing the delegates.

## SM TWTFS

Today  
7:30 - Las Vegas Night - Moose Lodge

8:30 - Bench and Bar/Veg-a-matic Movie Salad - SUB

Saturday  
8:30/9:50 - NROTC Drill Team Movie/"Jason and the Argonauts" and "Seventh Voyage of Sinbad" - SUB

Monday

8:00 - Palouse Audubon Society field trip - life science building

4:00 - Bill Snyder, flute, Roger Logan, French Horn - Recital Hall

## Preview '74

Preview '74 is aired nightly from 10:10 to 11 p.m. without interruption on KUOI-FM 89.3.

DATE	ARTIST	ALBUM TITLE
FRIDAY	LES VARIATIONS	MOROCCAN ROLL
SATURDAY	GENESIS	TRESSPASS
SUNDAY	FIRESIGN THEATRE	THE TALE OF THE GIANT
MONDAY	RICK CUNHA	RAT OF SUMATRA CUNHA SONGS

## Election Reform Hearings To Begin This Sunday


Open hearings dealing with election reform will be Sunday at 1 p.m.

Five U of I students have been appointed to a fact-finding committee examining associated student election practices.

According to Chuck Daw committee member, "The entire election code needs rewriting." Daw said the rules are generally poorly written and of the ones they have reviewed in their meetings so far only about 10 per cent of the rules are worth saving. The committee has already gone over around 100 separate rules.

Other members of the committee are Roy Eiguren, past president of the ASUI (1971-72), John Orwick, Ed Littenecker, and Mark Beatty. Eiguren stated two specific goals of the committee. One is to establish a criterion for proof of ASUI membership—receipt showing payment of registration fees or a student identification card, explained Eiguren.

Another possible outcome of the committee findings would be to place a limit on the amount of money candidates can put into their campaigns.



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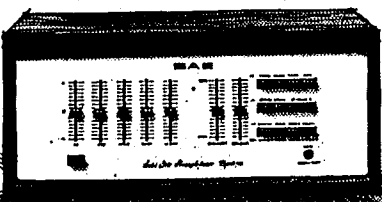
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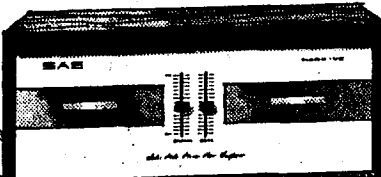
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