

### Council reconsiders position on grading policy

#### UI president calls for general faculty meeting

Michelle Kalbeltzer  
Staff

University of Idaho President Bob Hoover responded to disgruntled faculty by setting Feb. 6 aside for a general faculty forum.

One of the discussions planned for the meeting will be the controversial debate of whether or not to include all earned Ds and Fs into the grade point average.

Calling the forum appeared imminent after 32 faculty members petitioned this new grading regulation the Faculty Council voted for last month.

The dual action of the petition and a memorandum from Student Support Services opposing the council's vote sent the issue back to the council for further action.

This was one of the topics addressed Tuesday afternoon in Brink Hall. The council could move to do one of three things: maintain their previous vote, rescind it or reconsider their decision.

All of those present agreed the current grading system, in which a student can repeat a course several times to replace failing grades, is not working.

However, after a lengthy discussion presenting many different opinions, the group moved to adjourn the meeting and pursue it once more at the next council meeting on Jan. 28.

The decision made at the meeting will be forwarded for debate with the entire faculty on Feb. 6.

However, in order for the general faculty to influence the grading policy there must be enough faculty present to constitute a quorum.

At least one-fourth of the faculty "assigned to the Moscow campus" must attend the Feb. 6 meeting.

If fewer than a quarter of the faculty participate, the council's decision will proceed to the president for his approval. This will override any amendments the faculty may want to include in the grading policy.

The question remains: What decision will the council be sending to the general faculty to vote on?

Tuesday's discussion leaned heavily towards the idea that a

student should be allowed to repeat a D or F one time without it being calculated into the GPA. Everything repeated thereafter would count.

A few of the members rejected this solution.

Council member Ernest Biller would like to see the "every failing grade counts" policy implemented for a couple of semesters in order to evaluate its effectiveness.

Carla Egelhoff, graduate student representative, agreed with Biller.

"The truth is, nothing in life is free...students must be dedicated to it the first time around," she said. "I would like to see our university be in the same scholastic arena as our competitors."

Both student representatives, Kathleen Jolley and Julia Dickson, opposed Biller's and Egelhoff's views. Instead, they were in favor of the "first repeat not counting" policy.

Dickson expressed a commonly mentioned disagreement with the "pure grade" idea because, "We are assuming that the student failed to meet the needs or demands of the course and not considering the possibility that the course or the professor failed to meet the needs or demands of the student."

"I don't see how it (the new regulation) raises the university, because the university is here to serve its students," Jolley said.

Another member, Lots Blackburn, expressed concern that "we acted a bit hasty" when voting to make all failing grades count.

In disagreement with the new regulation, Provost George Simmons said, "The responsibility for learning is shared between faculty and students."

He believes it "puts too much of a burden on the one-time student."

Simmons also said on the whole, UI has excellent professors doing their jobs. However, he said, "We do have unfair grading systems here and there. We are not that good at assigning grades, so let's not be so particular about it."

Assuming enough faculty are present on Feb. 6, the general faculty will have their chance to amend, accept or decline the council's decision.

### Students begin MLK celebrations



Peter McKinney

Tom Hebert delivers an oration on Martin Luther King Jr. Wednesday after a candlelight vigil.

Andrea Lucero  
Staff

The opening ceremonies of Martin Luther King Jr. Week remind students and faculty of the University of Idaho that King's dream is still a goal, not an achievement.

Activities began Wednesday evening on the Administration Building Lawn with a candlelight march. About 35 participants walked through the UI campus, including the Wallace Complex Cafeteria and the Student Union Building, and sang "We Shall Overcome."

"It is important to support African Americans and Martin

Luther King Jr. If we are all equal under God, as the government claims, then supporting each other is one way of proving it," said Altagracia Salinas, a senior at UI.

Senior Beth Kroenke explained, "Martin Luther King has not been thoroughly recognized in the past. We all need to give support and help increase the numbers of supporters."

The ceremony continued with a motivational speech given by Tom Herbert, a professional writer, Peace Corps volunteer and management consultant, in the Admin. Auditorium. Herbert described King as a hero deserving placement in the stories and tales of American society.

"King must find his way into tales to become a hero, an Odysseus. He must do this in order to educate our people and our children for years to come," Herbert said.

Herbert went on to explain King's fight in the American wasteland. Using quotes from works by T.S. Eliot, Herbert said King, like a hero, ventured into the wasteland to fight America's dragons of poverty and racism and returned to tell the American public what he had learned.

"King did not fight with individuals," Herbert said. "He fought with something greater: the status quo."

• SEE MLK PAGE A2

### Two Senate seats, other ASUI positions open for students to get involved

Andrew White  
Staff

The ASUI Senate held its first meeting of the year Wednesday and student representatives expressed eagerness to begin a busy semester.

ASUI President Jim Dalton reminded students there are numerous openings in the ASUI for students to get involved. He noted that two senate positions are open.

ASUI Lobbyist Ben Rush notified the Senate that Gov. Phil Batt and the Idaho Legislature is serious about the alcohol problem at the University of Idaho. Batt told Rush if the university didn't get it act together, he and the legislature would get it together for it.

Lyndsay McCall, assistant director of Student Union Business and Operations, gave the Senate an update on Student Union activity. She said representatives from the Bill Chipman Bike Trail campaign will be at the Student Union Wednesday. Students are encouraged to ask question and pledge support.

McCall also directed attention that a new business, Flowers Etc., has opened in the Student Union.

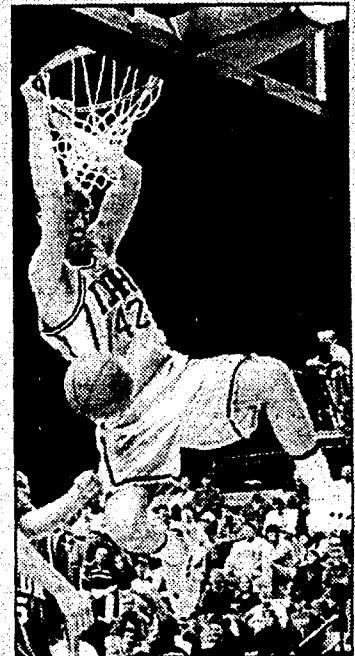
She encouraged senators to reach out to all students.

"Make some legislation that encompasses the entire student body," McCall said. Former Senator and current UI student Jay

• SEE SENATE PAGE A2

### Rules change for college athletes having part-time jobs... see page A8

### Vandals face off against Boise State in Kibbie Dome tomorrow at 7 p.m.



#### What's inside...

- Opinion.....page A6
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### MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S BIRTHDAY

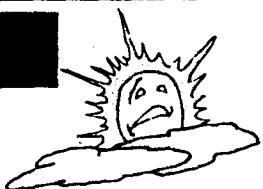


### Weather

Partly sunny today with a high of 30.

Mostly cloudy this weekend, with possible showers on Sunday.

High of 40 Sunday and Monday.



**MLK** • FROM PAGE A1

At the conclusion of the speech, Herbert left time for discussion and participants took the time to express their concerns with the racial problems that still exist in America.

"There is so much that goes on that we don't see," said Paula Coomer, who is earning her master of fine arts in creative writing at UI. "We need to get angry, to turn off our televisions and yell. We need to talk to our friends and children about what's happening."

Oscar Duncan II of UI said, "There is still a perception of what being black is. People, black and white, believe being black means being poor. Because I am intelligent and well spoken, I am no longer considered to be black, to be a representation of what black is."

Students and faculty all agreed that although much has been accomplished in terms of gaining

equality among the races, we still have a long way to go.

The march and speaker were hosted by R.A.A.C.E. (Recognizing African-American Concerns in Education), Student Advisory Services and the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Other Martin Luther King activities include a community breakfast sponsored by the Latah County Human Rights Task force tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the Moscow Junior High. Admission is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

A Unity Exhibition Dance and Potluck is scheduled in the SUB ballroom at 6 p.m. on Jan. 22; "Our Young Black Men are Dying," a play, will be at 7:30 p.m. in the SUB Ballroom on Jan. 24; and a Black Panther film and panel discussion will be held at 6 p.m. in the Vandal Lounge on Jan. 24.

**SENATE** • FROM PAGE A1

Feldman addressed the Senate over his concerns about student apathy. He encouraged senators to become activists. He stressed the importance of representing off-campus students in proportion to greek students.

"Activism is key," Feldman said. He also suggested the Senate hire a liaison to represent students at the Moscow City Council.

Faculty council representative Julia Dickson updated the senate on a proposal that will go before a general faculty quorum regarding the controversial grade point repeat procedures.

Currently, students may retake classes to replace Ds and Fs. The

new proposal would change the rule so that all grades are calculated in a student's grade point average.

Angela Rauch of the Safety Board told the Senate the board is again active on campus.

"Sexual Assault Awareness Week is April 14-18 and I am encouraging everyone to get involved," Rauch said.

Shanna Plasters, coordinator of Co-Curricular Learning, reminded students that this evening at 8 p.m. in the Borah Theater of the Student Union the "Friday Blockbuster Series" will begin. The featured movie is *Sleepers*.

**Announcements**

**Today:**

Computer Help Desk has a temporary station by the information desk in the SUB to help students get an account to use the computer labs.

ASUI Productions will show *Sleepers* in the Borah Theater in the SUB tonight at 8 p.m.

The Students Intl. Assoc. is throwing a World Dance Party tonight at 9 a.m. in the Gault-Upham party room. The dance is free and refreshments are provided.

**Tomorrow:**

Latah County Human Rights Task Force will sponsor a community breakfast to celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday at 9 a.m. in the Moscow Junior High School multi-purpose room. Purchase tickets in advance at Bookpeople. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children.

**Ongoing:**

Students interested in federal financial aid for 1997-98 should complete and mail the Free Application for Federal Student Aid by the end of January to make

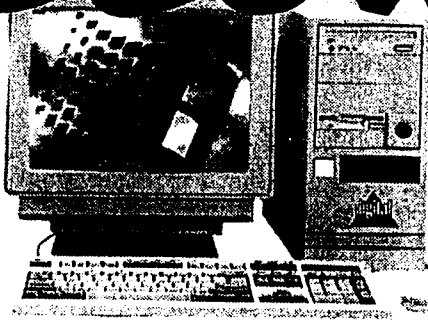
UI's priority deadline. Applications are available at Student Financial Aid Services.

**Next week:**

Narayan Shrestha, president of the Sann Research Institute, will be giving a slide show presentation about an exciting new study abroad program in Nepal on Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the Appaloosa Room of the SUB.

Palouse Habitat for Humanity will hold its annual meeting and potluck dinner Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 405 S. Van Buren, Moscow.

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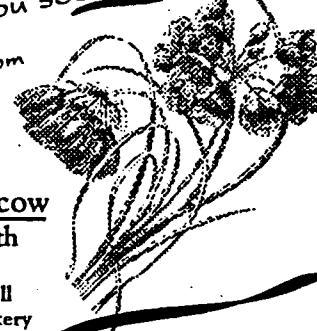
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# New owners take over The Perch

**Lokteff leaves after five years of making friends**

**Andrea Lucero**  
Staff

Goodbyes and hellos filled the Perch Wednesday as an old friend took his leave and a young couple prepared to breathe the new life into a seasoned business.

Beginning Jan. 1, Steve and Tammi Clardy took ownership of the Perch at the retirement of five-year owner Walt Lokteff.

"It was a tough decision to make," Lokteff said. "This was the best job I've ever had. I've met so many wonderful people, but I live in Kendrick and have commuted 100 miles a day for five years. I am a fifth-year senior, and I would like to graduate."

Steve Clardy said, "The kids are really going to miss Walt, especially the music students. I'm glad I can keep the store going for everyone. It's already been around for about 50 years."

Clardy doesn't plan to make many changes to the Perch. Salads and sandwiches will be added to the menu, and student opinion will play a role in how The Perch is run.

"I plan to visit all of the fraternities and sororities to introduce myself and to get their input on The Perch," Clardy said.

Clardy came to Idaho from Atlanta to attend college. He was a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity and a UI student from 1985-1990.

"I'm really looking forward to the interaction with the student body. I hope to establish a better relationship with the students, and I think I will really be able to identify with them," he said.

Previously, Steve Clardy worked in the Moscow Hotel as a bartender and recently married Tammi, a business major who also worked at the hotel.

"It's scary to own your own business," he said. "But I have had a lot of experience working in this type of atmosphere, and Tammi will be able to take care of the business aspect of things. We will learn as we go."

The Perch is located on University Avenue and is opened from 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.



Steve Clardy has been busy acquainting himself with his new business, The Perch. Peter McKinney



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# Health Center helps students kick the habit

**Erin Schultz**  
Staff

Even if you have never surfed, you can still imagine yourself with a surfboard on top of a wave on the beaches of California. As the wave crests, then breaks, you ride it out smoothly to shore.

Though this may not be a realistic scenario for some, it is part of one visualization technique used to help people overcome urges created by established habits. Whether that urge is to eat, not exercise or smoke, the key in overcoming is to "outlast the wave."

Mary Schwantes, Student Health Service dietitian, uses this wave analogy in a Quit Tobacco class she facilitates at the beginning of each new semester.

Schwantes explains that when an urge first comes on, the key is to picture yourself at the crest of a wave which will eventually break. Once the wave breaks, then you concentrate on riding the rest of it out.



"If you outlast enough of these waves, they become more and more distant."

The tobacco class, which begins on Feb. 4 and is held in the Student Health conference room, is aimed to help Moscow community members and UI students overcome smoking and chewing habits.

Sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and a maximum of 15 people is allowed.

For some, the smoking discussion is redundant, but for many in the field of health, the discussion remains as vital and relevant as ever.

"This break I was reminded of how important it is that we offer these classes when I saw two people in their young '50s die from viral pneumonia," said Dr. Donald Chin, Student Health

director.

Both patients were heavy smokers whose lungs were too weak to battle the pneumonia. For Chin, Schwantes and others in the health field, this is why a commitment to helping people break unhealthy habits remains important.

Dr. G. Alan Marlatt, who has written numerous textbooks in the psychology of breaking habits, gives six stages people go through when deciding to change something: pre contemplation, contemplation, preparation, action, maintenance and termination.

Marlatt believes for change to be

effective, people must go through all of these stages. Other authors stress that old habits must be replaced with new habits

Students of the class seem to agree with these ideas. One student, who is now smoke free, said that going to the bars caused him to relapse every time. Another student said that he had to stop hanging around fellow workers or friends who used tobacco.

Schwantes still gets Christmas cards and calls from many students who she has helped from past classes.

Those interested in breaking a smoking or chewing habit can call Student Health Services at 885-6693 to register for the class.



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The Argonaut is published on Tuesdays and Fridays August-May and is available on campus and in the Moscow area. First single copy free; additional copies 50¢. Mail subscriptions are \$15/semester or \$25/year. It is published by the Communications Board of the Associated Students-University of Idaho. Opinions expressed herein are the writer's, not those of the Associated Students of the University of Idaho, the faculty, the university or its Board of Regents. The Argonaut is a member of the Collegiate Press, the College Newspaper Business and Advertising Managers Association and subscribes to the Society of Professional Journalists' Code of Ethics.

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**Non-profit Identification Statement**  
The Argonaut, ISSN 0896-1409, is published twice weekly and is located at 301 Student Union, Moscow, ID 83844-4271.

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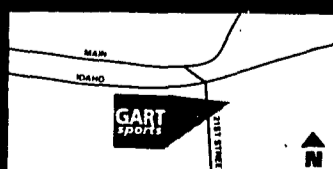
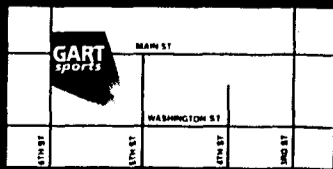
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# Emu: the new healthy meat?

*Student services offered a taste of emu to students*

**Lisa Lannigan**  
Staff

If you've never tried emu meat, maybe it's time to open your mind. In attempt to get students to try new things, the Student Health Services offered a chance to try emu meat and learn a little about its benefits.

"That's what college is all about, trying new things and new experiences," said Mary Schwantes, nutritionist for Student Health.

Emu rancher Margaret Pounder set up an informative display and free samples of emu meat at Student Health yesterday. Students had the opportunity to eat emu salami, touch emu leather and try samples of hand lotions and other products made from emu oil.

Compared to beef, emu is low in fat, low in calories and high in iron and Vitamin C. Whereas a 3-ounce serving of beef will contain 15.6 grams of fat, the same serving of emu has only 3 grams of fat. Emu is also 97 percent fat free, higher in protein and lower in cholesterol than beef, making it an alternative for the health conscious.

"It's a lot like chicken meat," Schwantes said in respect to emu's protein and caloric content. However, the dark emu meat tastes more like hamburger. "You can get a meat-like quality without the fat," she said.

Margaret Pounder raises emu at her Spring Creek Ranch at Kooskia, Idaho. For about three years now, she and her husband

Steve have been raising emu for its meat, oil, feathers and even leather.

Although originally from Australia, emu adapt to hot and cold climates. They also require less land than cattle, which is why the Pounders began raising them.

"It was the only thing we could do on 160 acres," Pounder said.

The American Emu Association says emu are actually environmentally friendly. Ranchers in Australia have found that the emu help rebuild depleted soil through their waste.

One emu hen can produce 20 chicks per year, and continue to have more chicks for the next 20 years.

Pounder said emu meat can be used in the place of beef for most anything. "My kids do not like beef hamburgers anymore," she said.

Eric's cafe in the Palouse Empire Mall serves emu burgers, and Pounder said she tries to have one every time she's in town.

"The only thing it doesn't make is a good meatloaf," Pounder said. Emu meat takes less time to cook and can be a bit drier than beef.

All parts of the emu can be used from the feathers down to the toenails. The oil is known for its healing abilities; the Aborigines used the oil for treatment of sore muscles and inflamed joints. The strong, durable leather is used in handbags and boots.

Although it's been around for a long time, emu is just now catching on in the United States. While it's hard to find in your supermarket now, the American Emu Association says its popularity is growing.

## Nutritional Comparison of Meats

AMERICAN EMU ASSOCIATION	Serving Size: 100 grams (3.5 oz.)				
	EMU* Red Meat Oyster Filet	EMU* Red Meat Ground	BEEF* Red Meat Round, Bottom Round— Separable; Lean & Fat. All Grade	TURKEY* White Meat Fryer-Roaster, Flesh only	CHICKEN* White Meat Broilers or Fryers, Breast Meat only.
Protein (g/100g)	23	22	19.9	22.3	23.1
Calories (Kcal/100g)	120	130	225	104	110
Sodium (mg/100g)	40	40	55	61	65
Iron (mg/100g)	4.5	3.4	2.1	1.4	0.7
Cholesterol (mg/100g)	45	45	65	73	64
Total Fat (g/100g)	3.0	4.0	15.6	1.6	1.2
Saturated fat (g/100g)	1.0	1.0	7.2	0.7	0.3



Erin Siemers

Margaret Pounder (above), emu rancher, rubs in an emu-based lotion made from one of her animals. Pounder said Hodgins Drug is one of the few retailers in Moscow that carries emu cosmetic products.

Sources (Left): Data for chicken, turkey and beef from USDA Handbook No. 8. Data for emu from Analytical Laboratories, Inc., Boise ID. Information compiled by the American Emu Association, 9/96.

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## OPIU

## Financial aid and frustration both begin with 'F'

The beginning of semesters is a trying time for all of us. No more forcing yourself to sleep in until at least noon to compensate for the lack of sleep you will get while in school. All the classes you need to get into are full. You actually smell your dirty clothes to make sure they are worthy of a washing, since you have to pay to do your own wash. And then, of course, is the basis of getting through school — the money.

"It's a new semester," you think, "and since financial aid was screwed up for the last three, they have to get it right this time."

You know we've all dreamed of this scenario; a smooth process of receiving our allotted financial aid without having to fight 10 people to straighten it out. Dreaming has to count for something, though it doesn't get you anywhere when dealing with money.

"Uh-huh, yeah, OK, your social security number please," you hear on the other end of the phone. At least it is progress from the busy signal you had gotten for the previous hour.

"Miss MacDonald," the voice half says, half states, "our computer shows you are indeed NOT eligible for anything."

"How can that be?" I ask. "The awards notification said I'd be getting \$3,500 in loans."

Silence lingers for a moment and I can actually hear the woman thinking: "Oh great, I've got to deal with yet another ignorant student thinking she knows it all. Well, she's got another thing comin'."

"I'm not sure where you're getting that number, but your record here indicates you already got too much last semester," she snidely remarks. "We have to go with our updated figures. There must have been a mistake in the

Who knew?



Effie MacDonald

papers you received. I have a whole office full of people to get to." Click.

After trying to clarify the situation through other people, some much more pleasant than others, I still end up where I began. I love being shuffled around on the phone, repeating myself over and over, and knowing that nothing positive will come of any of it.

Somewhere in this mess sits a bureaucratic institution that decides, indirectly, who will be able to get their educations and who will not. How does it all work?

I have yet to understand how there are so many who truly need financial aid, but do not receive it. There are some who manage to scam thousands of dollars out of the government. Fairness does not play a part in this game.

I know, blaming it all on the "system" is a petty cop-out. I have to tell you though, I don't know who else to get mad at when I get the slap in the face from good ol' Uncle Sam. "Effie, so sorry, but we have chosen you and thousands of others whose last name starts with 'Mac' to screw out of their financial aid. Good luck next time."

Ahhh yes, then there's the loan. Funny how most of us get excited

when we see that we can take out thousands of dollars a year in loans. For some reason or another it is just nice to know that, no matter what form money is in, we are more than willing to accept it. But, the deal with loans is mind-boggling. How is it this oh-so-helpful agency can see it fit to deny students money that has to be paid back, with INTEREST?

Frustration is a key emotion when financial aid comes — or does not come — around. Sometimes you get more than expected and wind up worrying endlessly about whether or not you'll be hauled off to jail for not reporting it. Sometimes what you get is not enough. And sometimes what you get is absolutely nothing.

What you get is determined by all the figures in a computer. Who are we to dispute the figures? Lord only knows, nobody has ever input something incorrectly into a computer — that explains why some of the data in my records was wrong before. I am certain no other mistakes could be made.

Would it be too much to ask to be notified of such mistakes? Apparently it is.

Fortunately for me, being denied the financial aid I was counting on for the semester does not put me in dire straits. My lifestyle will be somewhat toned down, I'll have to stock up on ramen noodles, and those darned credit card companies will have to make due with the minimum payments every month. But, I know not every student trying to make ends meet can say that.

I don't have the answers, but I do have a suggestion for financial aid employees: be patient and helpful. We students, while being treated rudely and like idiots, are, after all, the ones hoping to get the educations we need to take care of you in the future.



## Universities forge students; foundries forge slugs

This is an open letter to all of the totalitarian professors out there. You know who you are.

You're the ones who require 100 percent attendance upon penalty of failure or lowered grades.

You're the ones who give seven tests over the course of the semester, not counting that killer mid-term and the comprehensive final exam.

You're the ones who say "This will be the hardest class you've ever taken."

You're the ones who say "No one gets an A in my class."

Well, I'm the one who dropped your class. And so have many other people.

It is truly ridiculous to expect full time students, who have 12 to 21 credits, outside jobs, extracurricular activities and some semblance of a social life to dedicate this much of their time and energy to your class alone.

Besides, study after study has shown that this type of environment is not conducive to learning or retaining information.

But if your goal is to produce an entire generation of minds that can do nothing but

spew out rote memorization, keep it up.

I realize that it is the students' responsibility to learn and take an active part in their own education. But it is also the teachers' responsibility to disseminate information and present it in a manner that can be understood, discussed, debated, learned and retained.

This is not supposed to be a battle where only the strongest minds survive. This is not supposed to be a test to see how long students can go without sleep or a decent meal.

This is a university. And if you open your general catalog to page one you will discover what that means.

"A university is...an alma mater, knowing her children one by one, not a foundry, or a mint, or a treadmill."—John Henry Newman.

I wonder how many instructors and administrators know the names of the students. I wonder how many consider them something more than the nameless faceless masses.

I wonder how many staff members that grow weary and short-tempered and rude from their work loads realize that we have work loads too. And that our futures lie in

the heart and hands of this institution.

The personal relationships, the one on one communication and understanding is all but gone from this institution.

The willingness to help, the positive attitude, even common courtesy have vanished completely.

I know these existed at one time. There is evidence of it in old photos of on-campus coffee shops, the tradition of hello walk, the friendly exhibition matches between UI and WSU where the losing team had to walk the 8 miles to the other town.

I know it once existed because I hear the creaking wood floors in the hundred year old building on the hill, floors which geniuses and leaders trod upon unknowingly.

I know it because the marble steps in that same building have been worn down with the footsteps of countless individuals.

I know it because the faces of the portraits lining the halls of that building look at me with eyes that possess the knowledge that we come here not simply to obtain a degree or make a living, but to better ourselves and our world.

Stop and ask yourself why you are here.

Do you love what you do? Do you work to help the students or do you exist to make their lives more difficult? Do you realize that you could not exist without us? Certainly we know we depend on you. Every time we strive to achieve something only to have hurdles placed in our path which must be obediently crossed we are reminded of the power you have in our lives. But we are the reason you are here. The only reason.

This university—all universities—exist to carry us upwards towards pinnacles of success. But it is difficult to soar when encumbered by chains.

A university is more than an alma mater, more than the sum of its parts.

It should be a place of sanctity, of learning, of growing. It should be a home you are as welcome at today as you will be 25 years from now. Above all it should be a place of irreproachable character and dignity, where the people who remain after we've all gone truly know and represent what it means to teach, to touch a life, to shape a future.

—Corinne Flowers,  
Editor in Chief

## Letters to the Editor

### Criticism of film review reeks of imperialism

After reading Justin Cason's review of the recent film *Michael Collins*, entitled, "One Man's Fight for Independence," Lee Mulliss responded in a letter to the editor, evincing his "disgust at [Cason's] casual approach to the subject," and

stating further that he doubts "that Mr. Cason knows that much about the situation in Ireland." How ironic, then, the Mr. Mulliss exhibits in his response the very characteristics for which he condemns Mr. Cason.

Mr. Mulliss begins his critique by indicating that "the IRA have [sic] never waged war upon the British. The IRA are terrorists and always have been. They prey upon

the innocent and easy targets, who do not carry bombs to kill and maim." Mr. Mulliss' assertion would come as something of a surprise to the British high command, who, from 1916 onward, have had frequent occasion to busy themselves with the matter of shipping dead soldiers home to Britain.

The six counties of the north of Ireland are held as Britain's last

colony, the final vestige of a spent power unwilling to face its own deterioration. Any American familiar with our own revolutionary origins will understand the imperial decrepitude. The history of Ireland is largely about the cruel suppression of its native people. We need only remember Britain's response to the series of famines that racked the nation in the 1840s, or, more recently, its failure to rein in union-

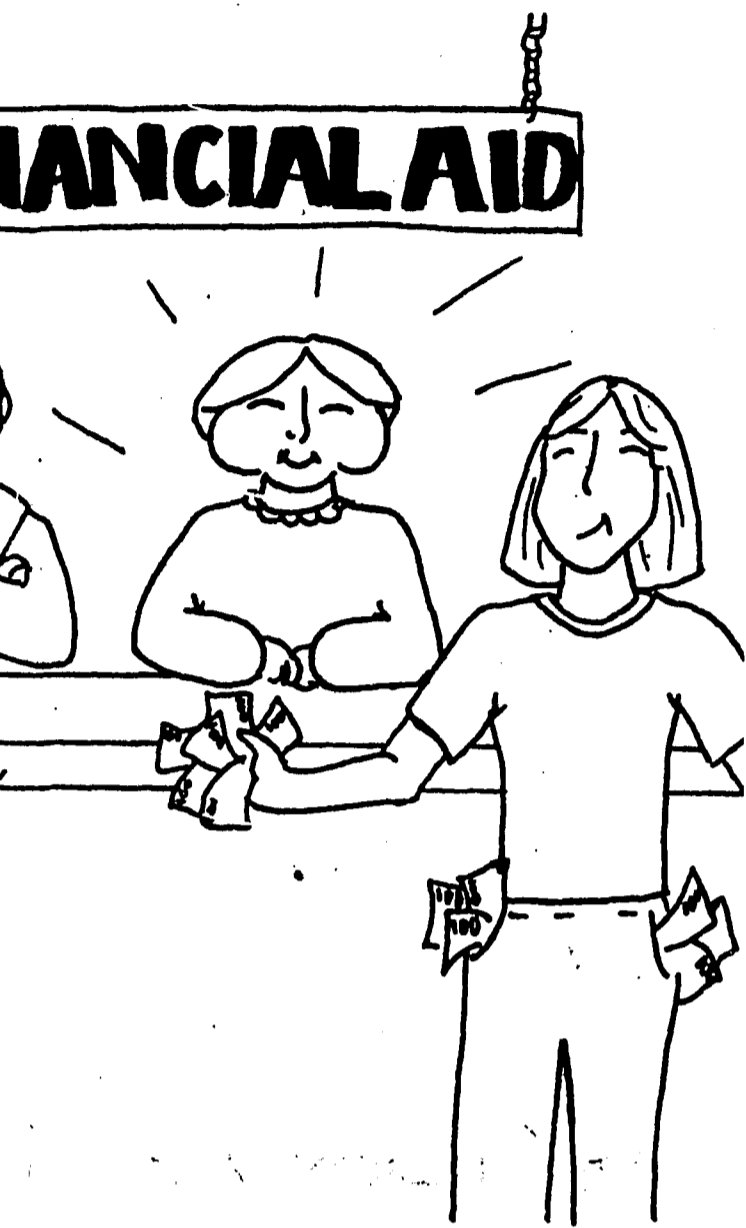
ist paramilitaries in the 1970s, to find where Britain's heart lies.

Mulliss, give up your practiced prating. Ireland will be at rest when all Ireland is free.

D.A. Blanco  
Kevin Donovan  
Lisa French  
Ann Therese Gurnett  
Lisa D. L. Hilton  
Kerry Ellen McKeever

OPINION

# ...but so do friendly and fiscal fluidity



**O**f all the problems I've had trying to wade my way through the bureaucratic waste of this university, I've never once had a problem with Financial Aid Services.

Maybe I'm just lucky, or maybe this department really has its act together. Whatever the reason, I've had my fees paid on time with a little cash to spare.

Take for example the FAFSA form. It's a pain to fill out the first time I know, but after that it's a breeze. They fill it out for you! All you do is check it over, sign it and you're good to go.

Even if you don't qualify for financial aid, there may be a scholarship made just for you. Everyone gives away scholarships! You'd be surprised just how many there are, and just how many go unclaimed. Some are open for everyone, and some are limited to certain people. For instance, your elementary school may have an alumni scholarship. Hey, don't laugh, mine gave away \$300.

Go down to Financial Aid and take a look. Those nice people down there are paid to help find you money. Everywhere you look there is some sort of pamphlet or flier about money you can apply for.

Imagine my smile last semester when I discovered I didn't have to stand in line at the Kibbie Dome to pay fees. They were taken care of by the folks and Financial Aid. And how about the residual check I'd have to stand in line for? By filling out a little deposit slip it can be automatically sent to my bank account. The only line I have to wait in is the one at the SUB Food Court, but I try to avoid

*No, really*



**Lisa Lannigan**

that one.

My upcoming marriage will soon alter my financial situation. When I asked the people at Financial Aid what to do, they were more than happy to help me with every step of the process. The advisor I talked to even offered to help fill out the paperwork. Talk about service!

And speaking of service, Financial Aid is always hosting seminars and workshops on how to fill out forms, get the most aid for your situation, and eventually pay back your loans. They want to help, but not everyone takes advantage of the help they give.

Next Tuesday, Jama Sebald from the Financial Aid Office will present the "do's" and "don'ts" of filling out the FAFSA form. You know, stuff like "remember to sign this part" and "don't forget to mark the 'yes' box for the university to receive your results" and so forth. The program begins at 12:30 p.m. in the Women's Center.

Financial aid is a blessing. Many people going to school wouldn't be here if it wasn't for help they get from the government. Education is

the key to advancement, and without the funds some of us would be stuck flipping burgers for a living. Everyone should have the chance to go to college, and because of financial aid, everyone can.

Most of us take for granted the money we do receive from financial aid. We expect it to be there, to feed us and clothe us and keep us out of economic distress. But rather than spending wisely, we squander it on a new car stereo and drinks on Thursday night. I'm sure many of us were looking at our residual checks thinking "Alright! Party Time!"

No wonder some legislators want to put student financial aid on the budget chopping block.

I've got news for you, bub. That isn't your money. Most likely you are borrowing it from Uncle Sam or receiving it as a gift from some kindly old lady whose dying wish was to help struggling students get the education they deserve. Now aren't you ashamed of yourself?

One day you'll have to pay all that money back, but guess what? Financial Aid will help you with that, too. They give advice on how and when to pay it back and can get you in touch with the right people. Who knows, join AmeriCorps and you may never have to pay it back.

Nothing in life is perfect, and the Financial Aid Office is no exception. Stuff messes up, information gets lost and often it's the students getting the shaft. But that's not to say we should bag the whole system. The people at Financial Aid work hard, and I for one am glad they're there.

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# SPORTS

## NCAA vote passes, affects Idaho athletes

**Kindra Meyer**  
Asst. Sports Editor

The long standing debate concerning athletes being held back from working had a revolutionary breakthrough Monday.

For the first time in the history of the University of Idaho's athletic program, all student-athletes will be able to hold part-time jobs.

Following nearly an hour of heated debate, the NCAA voted 169-150 in favor of the legislation.

The proposed bill allows Division I student-athletes to earn legitimate on and off-campus employment income during semester or term time. However, such income in combination with other financial aid included in the student-athlete's individual limit can not exceed the student's cost of attendance at the institution.

Although this idea has been on the NCAA agenda for years, many board member's concerns have kept it in the wings.

"The reason that it didn't pass in years past is because there is potential for abuse," Senior Associate Athletic Director Kathy Clark said.

Clark believes the reason the vote succeeded was because many felt

they were putting some student-athletes at a disadvantage.

"The welfare student-athletes should be our uppermost concern. They shouldn't suffer because of a few bad apples," Clark said. "We advocate treating regular students and student-athletes equally, yet we are disadvantaging those athletes who are not able to meet the cost of attendance."

This vote is monumental for the NCAA, creating possibly the most drastic change in years. Repeatedly, students participating in athletics have been disgruntled with the fact that they were not able to work in their spare time. Students such as these may have helped push the envelope, as the student-athlete advisory committee continued strong pleas throughout debate.

The condition to the new decision is that students are only allowed to earn the difference between the value of their scholarship and the full cost of attendance at their school. This even pertains to those on full ride scholarships, because such a scholarship only fills "academic" expenses. The difference between academic expenses and the cost of attendance is that the latter not only includes tuition, room and board and books, but necessary

expenses (toothpaste etc.), and money to get home for the holidays.

There are a number of fears concerning this change.

Some worry letting athletes work invites cheating, and schools could inflate earnings to persuade prospective athletes to attend. Also, there has been talk that the jobs would create an administrative disaster — keeping track of earnings etc.

"That is definitely going to be a bit of a challenge, but I wouldn't call it a nightmare yet," Clark said.

Another aspect opposing the bill is that a job may take away from study time, which may be detrimental to eligibility.

Although there are a number of concerns, the decision was made based on the recognition that students play a much larger role than they have in the past. Those pulling for the program's success hope that not only will it help out athletes financially, but that it could encourage them from finishing their degree after their scholarships run out. Some believe there is a possibility that it could keep key players from leaving college early to turn professional, but most are skeptical about that prospect.

"Everybody has too look at the

fact that if you have the chance to go pro, and make that kind of money, you should take it because you can always go back and finish college," said Ryan LaPointe, a junior tight end at UI. "If you stay that extra year you could risk being injured and losing that opportunity."

UI athletes are extremely excited about this new development.

Even those on scholarship agree that the money is not enough and those without the means to get funds elsewhere may end up dropping out. In addition, there are a number of walk-ons who receive no help, and must direct the burden solely on their families. Many athletic participants have made the point that the university is making money off their hard work and that keeping them from being able to meet the cost of living is simply unfair.

Amy Lemm, a freshman walk-on guard for the Vandals is not currently on scholarship, and although she thinks it's great to have the opportunity, she can't picture herself having the time.

"I don't know when they will have time to work. Right now I could never consider it," Lemm said. "Between classes, studying,

practice and games, there's no time. I guess you might be able to in the off-season but it would still be hard."

LaPointe has similar concerns.

"It's good that athletes have the option to work now but I also think it would be difficult for an athlete to work. It's not at all possible during season, and in the off-season it would still be tough. I think it's in the best interest of the athlete not to work because their grades are going to suffer," LaPointe said.

Some skeptics predict a potential problem with boosters and contributors. Quite possibly, an athlete could be taken aside and offered large sums of money for such facile tasks as washing a car or house sitting.

Although most agree the new decision certainly won't eliminate the problem of corruption, some believe it may cut down on the illegal activity.

"Nothing is going to stop boosters from giving kids money," LaPointe said. "If it's available, athletes, especially the stars, are going to expect money without really working for it. At Idaho it's not really available but other places it happens."

## Pacific lands in 3-pt Nirvana, tames Idaho

**Damon Barkdull**  
Sports Editor

It's always tough on the road. Just ask Idaho coach Kermit Davis.

On Thursday night, Davis's decimated Idaho squad rallied the troops, played feisty defense and center Jason Jackman grabbed a season high 17 points and 10 rebounds.

Yet, like the old cliché says, "when it's raining, it really pours," as the Tigers nailed eight second half 3-pointers and clinched the 64-54 Big West Conference victory in front of a rowdy, boisterous crowd in Stockton, Calif.

"We knew coming into this game — it was going to be tough," said UI freshman Jarrett Wendt, who played 18 solid minutes off the bench and scored a clutch 3-pointer in the second half. "We just don't have the bench support."

The 10-point margin of victory doesn't do justice to an Idaho team that fought and clawed to the very end.

At the 5:37 mark in the second half, the Vandals thwarted a 5-0 run and cut Pacific's lead to 50-45 after a crucial 3-point bucket by Kris Baumann.

Although, time began to run out and each team battled through a scoring drought before Idaho eventually had to put the Tigers on the foul line in hopes of winning the game. Pacific then made 6 of 8 free throw attempts (11 of 15 total) and Baumann tossed up an unsuccessful 3-point shot to assure the Pacific win.

"Kris played so darn well," Davis said. "I'm extremely excited by our effort. We got some great play from our bench."

One of those key bench players included UI wide receiver Robert Scott, who recently walked on to the Vandal team in hopes of contributing some solid minutes. Indeed, Scott gave an effort which would make any football player proud as he chalked up six minutes of playing time and grabbed three boards.

"We got very good play from Wendt and Scott," Davis said. "They played their tails off."

Pacific (11-1, 3-0) earns an important conference win while the Vandals (7-9, 0-3) continue to fight for their first conference victory.

"I liked our team tonight," Davis said. "We've just got to continue to make progress.

That team right there played as hard as they possibly could. That's a lot of credit to our players."

Idaho entertains Boise State on Saturday at home in the Kibbie Dome.

Meanwhile, Pacific continues to impress Tiger followers. The win tonight along with a 17-point victory over Georgetown has the Stockton folks dreaming of the NCAA Tournament in March.

"This is the best team in the league," Davis said. "But we controlled the tempo in the first half."

Against probably the toughest opponent on the Vandal schedule, Idaho did in fact play an impressive first half and jumped out to a shocking 6-0 lead just a few minutes into the first half.

Pacific guard Mark Boelter then canned a couple treys to tie up the score at 8. Boelter (pronounced bell-ter), belted Idaho with his game high 18 points.

Idaho and Pacific traded leads and were tied up three times in the first half. Idaho tied it up at 17 after a successful shot and free throw conversion by Jackman. The Tigers then went on a 4-1 run and held the 21-18 lead going into half.

Going into halftime, Davis had to be optimistic. Pacific's 7-footer Michael Olowokandi was out with an injury, so the Vandals weren't feeling his shot blocking presence down low. And besides missing a few easy shot attempts, the Vandals were playing remarkably aggressive on both ends of the floor.

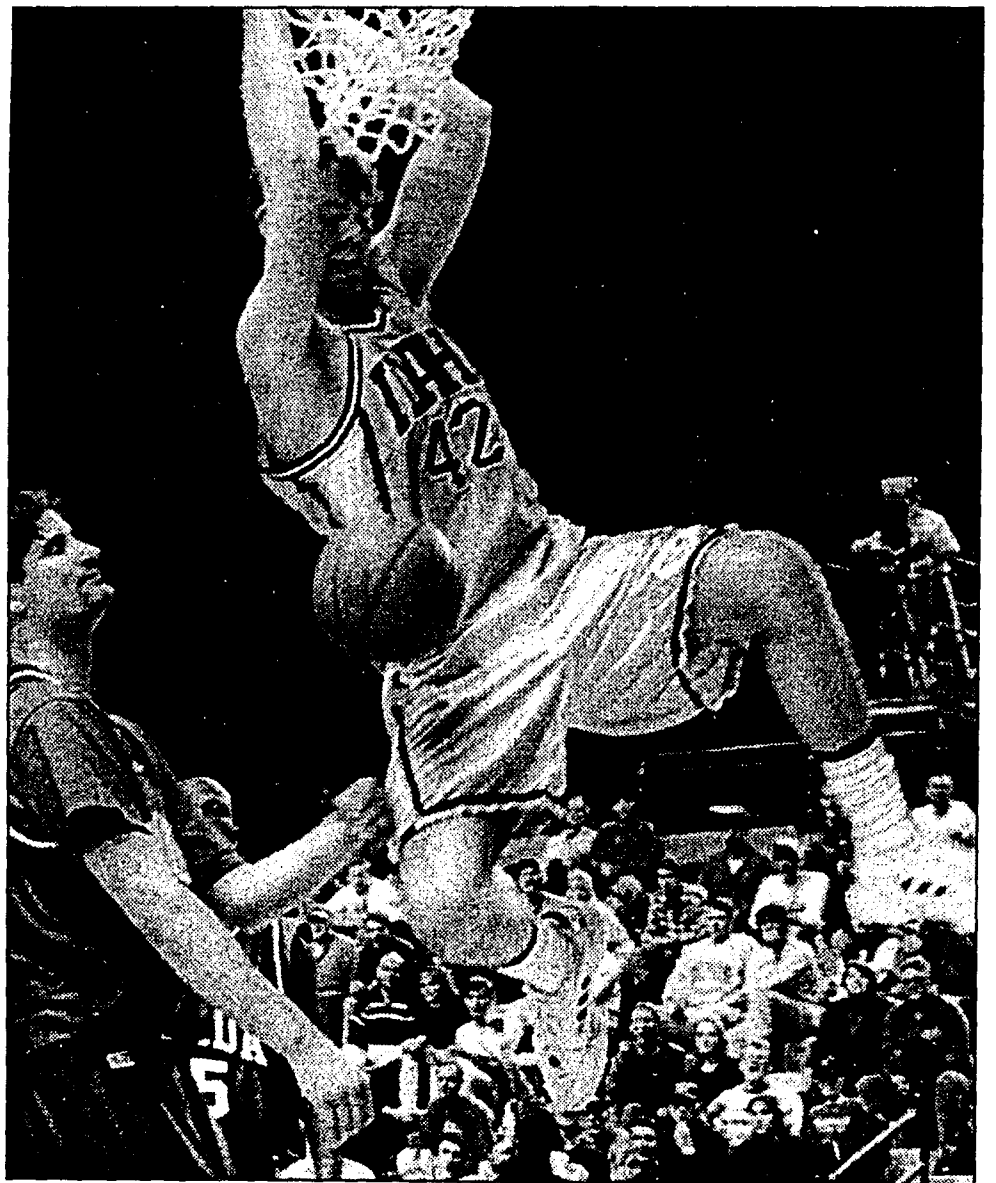
In the other locker room, the Tigers must have been saying their 3-point prayers and amens.

Just into the second half, Boelter launched a pair of NBA treys and highlighted Pacific's 10-4 run which gave the Tiger's a 31-22 lead.

The Tigers then continued to share the long range high as Pacific's Rayne Mahaffey, Monty Owens and Corey Anders contributed to the seven-second half Tiger 3-pointers. At the 19:00 mark, Pacific held a commanding 46-36 lead.

Idaho, though, kept battling — both teams held each other in check defensively.

At the 6:11 mark, Idaho came within eight points of Pacific's 50-42 lead and then eventually cut the margin to five after Baumann's trey. Although, with time running out, the Vandals could only foul and the Tigers hit their free throws to capture the defensive ball



UI center, Jason Jackman, is hoping to throw down a few dunks against Boise State on Saturday.

Bruce Twitchell

game.

Idaho shot 12-25 for 38 percent on the outing. Pacific's 73 percent free throw shooting along with the onslaught of second half 3-pointers truly sealed the Vandals' fate.

Baumann and Eddie Turner chipped in 12 and 13 points respectively for the Vandal cause.

"We knew we had to do something tonight

but we just couldn't get it done," Wendt said. Obviously the Vandals felt good about their performance, although, the loss had to seem a bit monotonous — considering the Vandals have had several close losses this season.

"We follow the game plan to a tee," Wendt said. "We just need to put in 40 minutes. I really think we're right there."



# Broncos are Coming to Town

# Vandal news and notes

**Byron Jarnagin**  
Staff

The men's Vandal basketball team brings excitement back under the lid of the Kibbie Dome Saturday in a stand-off with the Boise State Broncos to mark the 56th straight meeting of the two teams.

The Broncos will be defending a one game advantage in one of the oldest rivalries in college hoops with a 28-27 series lead over the University of Idaho. Not only does Boise State hold the upper hand in the series, but they can also claim higher statistics in other categories which brings a little rivalry to the table. As history would tell it, Idaho has struggled with the Broncos at home, building a losing record of 10-12.

The last meeting between these two teams was a mirror image of last Sunday's Idaho Utah State game. The team who controlled possession of the ball, and committed the least amount of turnovers was sure to pull out a victory.

This last game against BSU, like that against the Aggies, turned out for the worst for the Vandals. In the first half, neither team could find range consistently from the floor, and as a direct result BSU was ahead 25-22 going into the half. Combined, both Idaho and BSU shot only 40 percent from the field and committed 26 turnovers that first half.

Idaho started the second half with an impressive 12-4 run, beating the opposition for the first five minutes of the second period, in rebounds, shot attempts, and points from the charity stripe. Like the second half action Vandal fans witnessed against Utah State, the lead

changed hands six different times, and ultimately BSU would claim a 57-53 victory over the Idaho Vandals.

Coming into the Big West Conference, Boise State has had some experiences that parallel the Vandals. Both Idaho and BSU have recently lost to the University of Nevada Wolf Pack and the Utah State Aggies. The Broncos lost to Utah State by a 13-point margin as opposed to the Vandal loss by 3 points.

The Broncos bring a playing style to the Dome on Saturday that mimics the recent Idaho offensive production on the court. Both teams offenses play with severe intensity the first half but have a tendency to slack off shooting, make bad passes, miss passes, and run up the turnover count in the second half.

BSU's first two conference games at home were controlled by the Broncos through the beginning of the second half, but drought offensive production cost them games both to the Aggies, who had two huge second period runs of 18-4 and 12-4, and the Wolf Pack from Nevada, who had a second half run of 18-3 during the final five minutes of the game.

At the conclusion of these two games, Boise State had been outscored 62-49 in the second half. The Broncos shooting percentage of 34.5, going 20-58, is more than proof of the trouble BSU has in the last few minutes of basketball games. In the final two minutes of both games, the Broncos only managed to find the hoop for a total of 10 points.

Fans are going to witness a defensive battle Saturday. Both the Vandals and the Broncos have sound defensive numbers and have both recently struggled in the

offensive category. Both teams will place a heavy emphasis on defense this weekend. So far this season, BSU has held 8 of 12 opponents to 65 points or less with five of those 12 being held to less than 60 points.

Another big battle on the court that seems to make a huge difference between wins and losses on the road or at home for the Idaho Vandals is the turnover category. The last meeting between these two teams saw a total of 26 combined turnovers.

Moving along this season, the Broncos have improved slightly on giving up 16 turnovers per game. However, Boise State has also forced their opponents to cough up more than 20 times per game.

In Idaho's game against Utah State the turnover ratio was a bit more even between the two teams. The Vandals gave the ball up 12 times and forced 13 out of the Aggies. On Saturday, Idaho will have to ask to its team leaders to counter balance mistakes, turnovers, and missed field goal opportunities.

Six-foot-5 veteran Jason Jackman has responded this season with an average of 18 points and 5.4 rebounds per game. Also doing well is junior college transfer Troy Thompson who has contributed 10.8 points per game and has come out strong off the offensive and defensive boards with a 4.9 rebounding average.

Kris Baumann has also started to make a name for himself as a threat from behind the three-point arch and has become the "go to guy" in clutch shot situations. The Vandals will have to effectively utilize

• SEE BRONCOS PAGE 10

## Idaho women at home this Friday and Sunday; win a cruise on Cda' Lake

The University of Idaho Athletic Department is having an attendance contest for all living groups for the remaining seven women's Big West basketball games. The living group that has the greatest total attendance at the end of the season will win a reserved, two-hour cruise aboard the Kootenai cruise ship on Lake Coeur d' Alene.

Just sign in at Memorial Gym right before each game. Each living groups attendance numbers will be calculated throughout the season. Sunday tip-offs are "double attendance" games. If you come to a Sunday game, your attendance number will be doubled for your living group.

The attendance contest starts this evening as the Vandals take on the University of Pacific. Gametime is at 7 p.m. in Memorial Gym.

Also, the first 400 adults at the door this evening will receive a free Idaho Lottery ticket.

If there are any questions, please call the athletic department at 885-2794.

## Vandals travel to Cheney for Indoor Track opener

Idaho's Track and Field season officially gets under way this weekend when both teams travel to Cheney, Wash., for the Eastern Washington Invitational on Saturday.

Joining the Vandals and host Eagles are Washington State and the University of Washington.

Both teams will send a limited number of competitors for the first meet of the season as student-athletes return from an extended Christmas vacation.

The Idaho men will send a field of sprinters, including seniors Montrell Williams, who missed all of last season after winning both the 100- and 200-meter sprints at the 1995 Big Sky Outdoor Championships, and Niels Kruller. Some weight-event competitors also will attend the meet.

The women, under head coach Yogi Weigel, who begins her first full season as head coach for the Vandals, will send eight athletes. They are led by thrower Jill Wimer, who also is strong in the shot put.

— Courtesy of UI Sports Information

## Tennis opens 1997 at University of Oregon

The University of Idaho men's tennis team travels to Eugene, Ore., on Saturday to take on the University of Oregon of the PAC-10 Conference at 3 p.m. in its first match of the season.

The Big West Vandals had a strong fall season, especially at the Rolex Tournament in Tucson, Ariz. Third-year head coach Greg South said UI had, "almost three times the showing," compared to last year.

In addition, the doubles team of freshman Darin Currall and senior Keith Bradbury upset the No. 2 seed of the tournament, UNLV, at the ITA last fall.

— Courtesy of UI Sports Information



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# Moscow native sparks Vandals

**Nate Peterson**  
Staff

Guard Kelli Johnson was one of the most prolific high school players in Idaho history. She decided to stay here in her hometown of Moscow and play for the University of Idaho.

Johnson, a junior, led the Moscow High Bears to three state A-2 titles. Her knack for winning, coupled with her dominating scoring abilities, brought attention from many colleges. Johnson, however, liked what the program had to offer.

"I knew I was going to be able to contribute right away," Johnson said. "I knew I was going to get a lot of playing time as a freshman, and that was important to me."

The coaching staff especially made an effort to keep Johnson at home. Their persistence and straight forwardness were recognized by Johnson.

"I didn't want to stay here," Johnson said. "But the coaching staff recruited me since the seventh grade. They wanted me and they were honest with me."

In Johnson, the Vandal program acquired not only a great athlete and player, but also someone with the winning mentality to be a leader on the floor. Her high school success was not something that all athletes carry with them into college.

"The most important thing is that it taught me how to win, and expect to win, and be on top, and have that

confidence that no one can beat you," Johnson said. "It gives me the experience to be a leader on this team."

On the court Johnson contributes in more ways than one. Last year Johnson was the Vandal's third leading scorer averaging 9.6 points

per game. She was also second in steals (46), second in assists (68) and led the team in three point goals (52).

Johnson's sweet touch from the outside has her ranking second on Idaho's career three point goal list and is just 27 short of taking over the number one position.

"It's been in the back of my mind," Johnson said. "It hasn't been a big focus point. The three pointer is a big asset of mine and I do work extra hard in developing my shot. I broke the record in high school and it would be a record I would like to have in the school."

Although Johnson is a great shooter, she finds her role on the team lies more on the defensive end than on the offensive end. "A big focus for me has been my defense," Johnson said. "My role on this team is not to score but to be a defensive spark plug. It's a better role for me on this team, as well as being a leader on the floor."

This season Johnson and the rest of the Vandals have more to work with than UI teams of the past. The 96-97 season is Idaho's inaugural season in the Big West. With a new and bigger conference comes bigger challenges.

"I think that we are going to find quicker athletic teams in the Big West as opposed to the Big Sky," Johnson said. "With a bigger conference it is going to be more competitive and we are going to have a bigger conference tournament than the Big Sky."

Johnson knows the team has a long road ahead of them, one which carries with it many road games in



Bruce Twitchell

Johnson has been a team leader for the Vandals this season.

## BRONCOS •FROM PAGE 9

Baumann who shot 3 of 9 from three-point land and chalked 13 total points to lead his team in both three pointers and points in their loss to Utah State.

With this kind of talent, the Broncos may have their hands full on defense. Despite offensive weapons like Baumann, Jackman, and Thompson, the Vandals will have to come together as a team to beat the Broncos and try not to depend on one individual player to do all the work.

Haunting the Idaho offense is the absence of Reggie Rose, whose 12 points a game average and 43 percent from three-point range has been lost due to a season ending injury. The Vandals will also be without 6-foot guard Derrick Elliott, who has been suspended indefinitely. However, new to the basketball scene is Robert Scott, a wide receiver for the Vandal football team. Scott has been practicing with the basketball team and may even get some playing time against Boise State. Scott has the honor of

unfamiliar surroundings. But she is optimistic for the future and what it holds for her and her teammates.

"Our team right now is rebuilding," Johnson said. "Right now we have the drive to get back on top and win the Big West. I want to help this team get back on top."

Besides winning the Big West, Johnson has personal goals that she would like to accomplish before her career is over.

"I would like to be first team in the Big West and lead our team in steals."

There are certain things that Johnson would like to see among her teammates as well.

"I just want this team to pull together and be a unit," said

becoming only the second football/basketball player since Marvin Washington. Washington is an eight year NFL veteran with the New York Jets who played Idaho basketball during the 1987-88 season, and participated in Vandal football later in 1988.

As a team, BSU will have to tackle Idaho's higher scoring average (71.3), a better field goal percentage (48), three-point percentage (37) and a slightly higher assist average for the season.

However, the Broncos hold better numbers in the categories that have spelled out sudden doom for the Idaho Vandals. BSU has Idaho beat in free throw percentage (74), rebounding average (30.3) and turnover average on defense with an average of 20.8 percent. To win this game Idaho will have to capitalize on free throw opportunities, prevent costly turnovers and not slack off offensively in the second half.

All of this great Big West basketball action begins at 7 p.m. tomorrow in the Kibbie Dome.

Johnson. "It is something that we have gotten away from and this team has a lot of potential to win the Big West."

For the Vandal women, Johnson gives them a perfect formula for team chemistry. For opposing teams, Johnson is a competitor who doesn't back down. Behind Johnson's leadership, the Vandals may make a run for the Big West title.

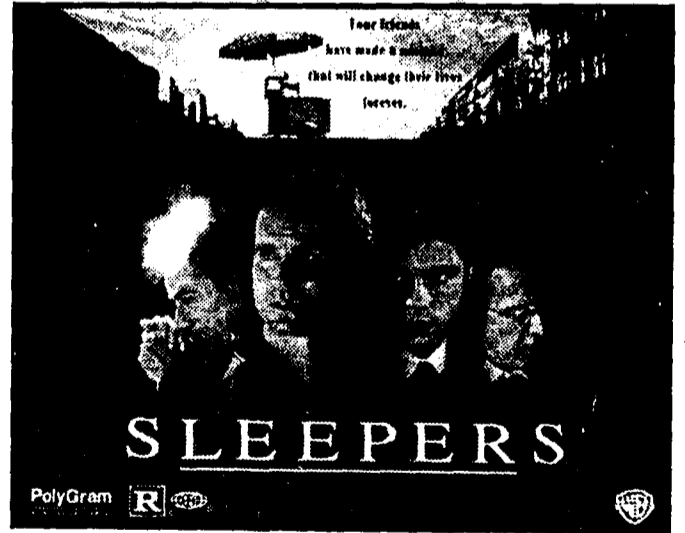
"The key to that is pulling together and letting loose and being aggressive," Johnson said. "We have a lot of weapons on this team and we have a lot of competitors. We need to get back to what we know, and that's playing basketball."

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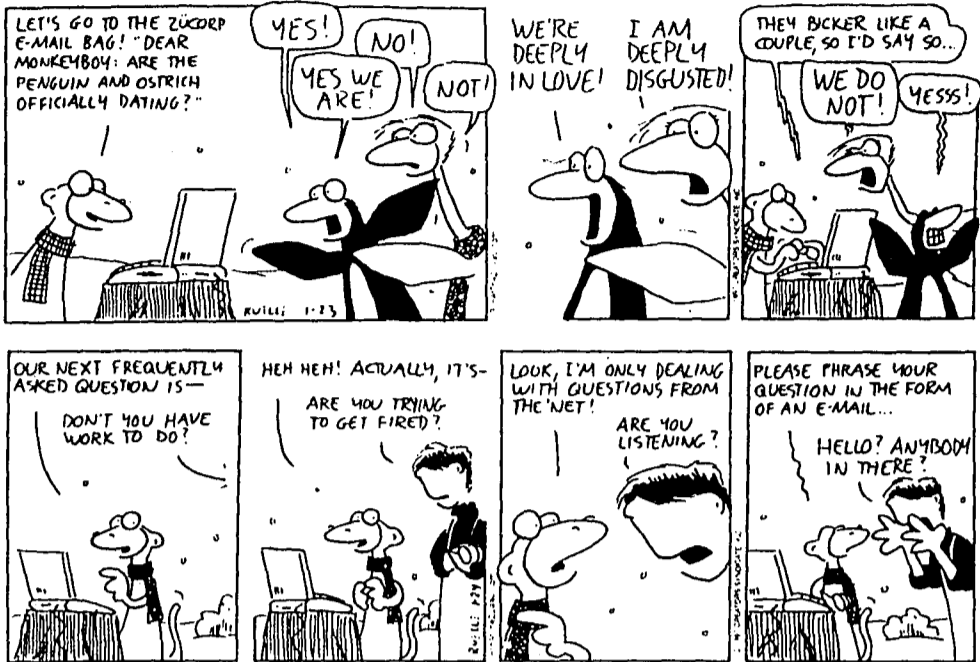


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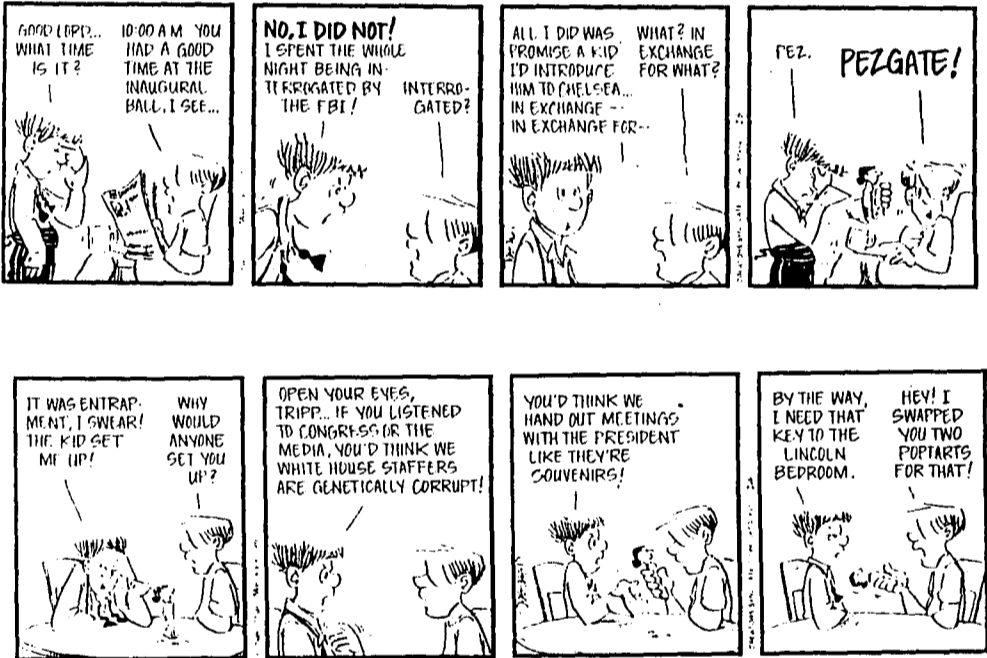
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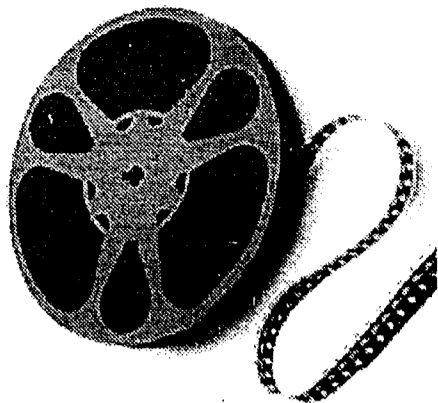


# DIVERSIONS

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# CINEMA

## Clooney, Pfeiffer hook up in *One Fine Day*

**Amy-Marie Smith**  
Ast. Entertainment Editor

Many have already called it a chick flick. I think that's a rough thing to label *One Fine Day*. This movie is very well done. I could see how perhaps some women and the majority of men could find this movie sappy and a bit unbelievable at times. The fact still remains, however, that this flick makes you feel good, it makes you happy, and in my book that's not a bad thing.

*One Fine Day* takes place in New York City. As you can decipher from the previews, we are following the lives of two single parents. The movie (as the title suggests) takes place over the course of one (not so fine, as it turns out) day. The day turns out very hectic for all involved, providing an entertaining two hours of chaotic fun.

Mel (Michelle Pfeiffer) and her son Sammy (Alex D. Linz) are running late as their day begins. Sammy is excited for his field trip that day. Mel is waiting for Sammy's schoolmate Maggie (Mae Whitman), to take the two to their field trip drop-off.

Maggie is with her father Jack (George Clooney). Jack normally doesn't have Maggie during the weekdays he has no idea what her schedule is, where her school is, but is supposed to get her to the same field trip she too is excited to attend. Maggie's mother had suddenly left her daughter with Jack when her other child care plan fell through and she is scheduled to go on her honeymoon.

The four arrive at the children's school, just as the bus pulls away. Mel and Jack grab a cab with the kids, planning to meet the bus at the pier the children are supposed take a ferry from on their field trip. As the four are in the cab, both Mel and Jack call contacts at their places of employment and it is revealed that they both have events going on this day that could make or break their

respective careers.

One really feels for both of the parents at this point. It is somewhat easy to predict that things aren't going to go as planned for anyone in that cab. As you can further guess, Sammy and Maggie just barely miss the ferry for their trip.

Now alternative child care must be found for both kids. Mel has a very important presentation of a model skyscraper to a very big developer. Jack has a press conference, he

ing down any help he tries to give in the way of solving her career/child care problems, she is very defensive toward him.

So the two go their separate ways. They each take their children to work with them. Instantly with Mel, this turns disastrous, she falls with her skyscraper model when she trips on the strap of Sammy's toy bag. This could potentially end her career. She and Sammy go to the shop Mel patronizes to construct her models, he proceeds to spill grape juice over the white blouse she has on with her suit. Mel puts on her sons dinosaur tee shirt under her vest and blazer, adding to the list of things to go wrong in Mel's day. Unfortunately the list gets much longer. This, of course, keeps getting funnier to the audience, yet at the same time, you can see Mel's "nothing can stop me" method of operation slip further and further away.

One thing after another keeps going wrong with Mel's and Jack's plan to have their children with them all day. All four of them wind up at a drop-off child care place, open to anyone. It's not the best place for children it appears, but adequate. Mel and Jack have another verbal run-in, and they go their separate ways.

After the children have the opportunity to purchase LSD at the daycare, Mel calls Jack to tell him they are going to have to go and get their kids again. Mel and Jack devise a plan; Jack will watch the two until after Mel's presentation. Mel would then watch both children while Jack went to his press conference. Then the four of them would go to the last soccer game of the season the two children both had to play in to get their trophies.

After much more chaos and bad luck in this fateful day, Mel and Jack again each go their separate ways back home with their own child.

Jack decides to make one more shot to get Mel's attention, as throughout the movie it is underlyingly obvious to everyone but Mel and Jack that they are attracted to one another. Jack buys fish for the children's class (Sammy was in charge of the class fish, and they were eaten by the newsroom cat when Maggie was there with her father).

Mel is cooking, and still having a day of the not-smooth variety when Maggie and Jack show up with the fish. Sammy and Maggie beg to watch a movie, while giving Mel and Jack time to have a cup of coffee.

Mel and Jack do share a kiss and dialogue that releases all the built-up romantic tension between not only this couple, but the audience as well.

Mel excuses herself to change her stained shirt. She decides instead to put on a more presentable outfit, layer of makeup as well as shave her legs and brush her teeth. Jack has fallen asleep by the time she gets back

out, and Mel also falls asleep, in his arms while trying to wake him up. The children enter the room and are glad to see this scene of their parents together as the movie fades out.

Again, I can see how some might find the movie a bit much in the way of predictable and too

sugary. Fine, if you don't like those movies, then you won't like this one. For those of you who do though, or just are a fan of George Clooney, most likely you'll be glad to have seen *One Fine Day*.



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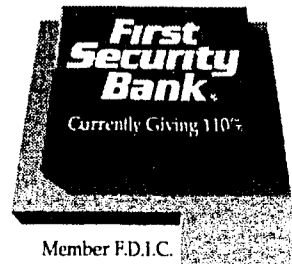
Mel and Jack figure they can handle their careers and their children on their own. The two adults don't hit it off right away, you could put it, as they are both bitter toward the opposite sex being they both are newly divorced. Each are dealing with issues regarding the opposite sex, specifically what they learned to be the downfalls of their ex-spouses. Mel has more of a hang-up with men. Jack is pressing her buttons and humorously (to the audience) aggravating her, adding to her stressful day. She is shoot-

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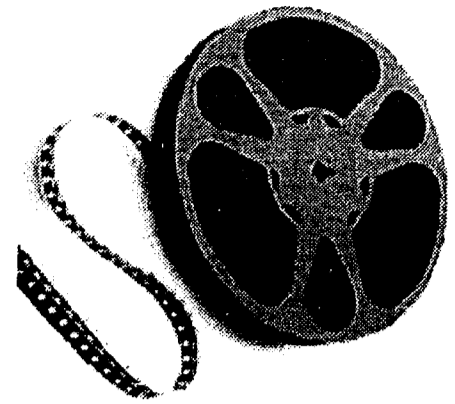
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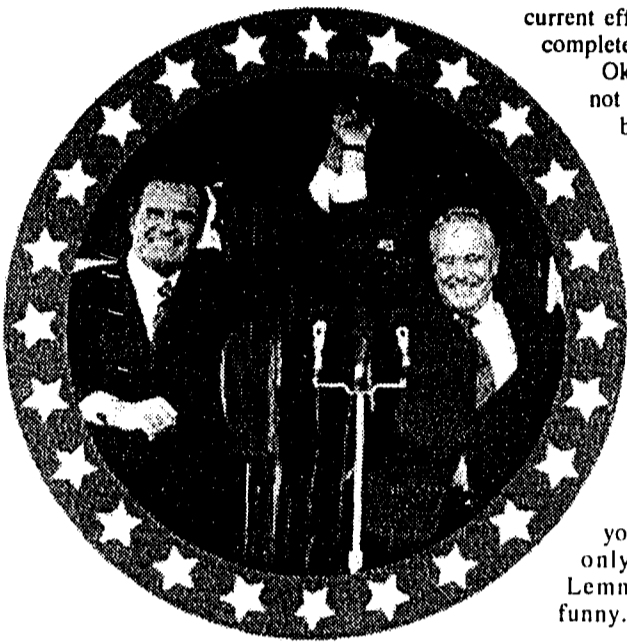


# CINEMA



## Americans Stretches the Definition of 'Comedy'

**Justin Cason**  
Staff



Fans of the *Grumpy Old Men* movies need look no further than director Peter Segal's current effort, *My Fellow Americans*, to complete the geriatric trilogy.

Okay, technically, *Americans* is not a sequel to the *Grumpy* films, but make a few changes in the cast and switch the plot from a romantic comedy to a political "road trip" comedy, and some striking similarities emerge.

Playing Walter Matthau's role is now James Garner. Filling in for Ann-Margret is Lauren Bacall, and that old codger Burgess (*Rocky*) Meredith has relinquished the throne to Quaker Oats spokesman Wilfred Brimley.

Once you see *Americans*, you'll wish that the cast was the only difference here. The Lemmon/Matthau movies were funny. This film is decidedly not.

Once you realize that 90 percent of the jokes are about age, shallow put-downs or are half-hearted jokes aimed at the government, it gets old real quick. Kind of like Garner and Lemmon.

The plot is extremely ill-contrived, and so easy to predict that most of us could have written the script ourselves. Ex-presidents Russell Kramer (Lemmon) and Matt Douglas (Garner) get framed by current chief executive William Haney (Dan Akroyd) in some sort of payoff scandal that happened years ago. In reality, then vice-president Haney masterminded the scam, but now that the press has found out about it, he needs someone on which to pin the blame.

After surviving a helicopter explosion, marching in a gay/lesbian demonstration and constant bickering with each other all across the eastern United States, Kramer and Douglas finally return to Washington, D.C., to clear their names and oust Haney and his conniving methods.

*Americans* does have its entertaining parts, but they are few and far between. Lemmon riding cross-country with a gang of

mean motorcycle mommas is pretty hilarious, and if there was an actual "scene-stealer" to this poor piece of cinema, it would have to be John Heard as Vice-President Ted Matthews. Most known for his straight-man roles in *Home Alone* and *The Pelican Brief*, Heard's character bears an uncanny resemblance to former V.P. Dan Quayle, right down to his bumbling press statements and his difficulty with the English language.

As for director Segal, his *Americans* seems to have capsized in a small pond of his other better-than-average works (*Tommy Boy*, *The Naked Gun 33 1/3*). The storyline is terrible, predictable and the main characters never seem to worry that they're one step away from getting shot in the head.

The only real salvageable things about this film are a few one-liners. I'm sure the phrase, "I'm not ashamed to say I slept with that guy" will be a hit someday. Beyond that, stay far away from *My Fellow Americans*.

If you really want two hours of humor by a senior citizen, though, talk to my uncle Morty. His flatulence will knock your socks

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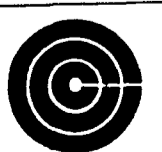


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Monday, January 27, 1997 - 8:00 pm

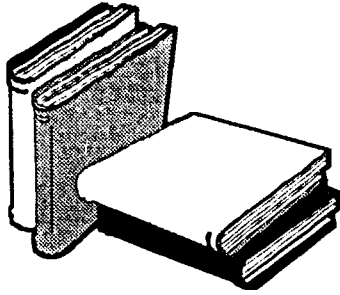
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# Literature

## A Decade Later and Still the Best

**Justin Cason**  
Staff

The post-modern scene in downtown New York City may no longer be as intense a hotbed of starving artists as it once was, but a literary trip back 10 years could serve to rekindle the flame.

*Slaves of New York*, by Tama Janowitz, is now over a decade old yet still serves as the most accurate case study of an art or culture scene since *The Haight-Asbury*.

*Slaves* is an almost legendary account of life in NYC's Soho and Greenwich Village districts, and the trials and tribulations that befall the artists who dare to reside there.

While the San Francisco-born Janowitz relies heavily on her supreme adherence to the most minute details, it's her choice of narrative which at first bewilders, then intrigues and finally fascinates the reader.

Not only does she switch point-of-view from first to second to third — in no particular order — but her first person perspective and character change as well. From chapter

to chapter, the writer will be anyone from artist Marley Mantello to art dealer Victor to jewelry designer Eleanor.

This constant transformation can in part be attributed to the generally jumbled composition of the story. Actually, each chapter is really just an individual short story, and in fact were released to various literary magazines as such. These various mini-tales have appeared in the likes of *The New Yorker*, *Harper's* and *Spin*.

*Slaves of New York* is not merely an uneasy amalgamation of random stories, however. Not only do the same four or five main characters keep popping up all over the novel, but they each represent their own views of the harsh world of modern art.

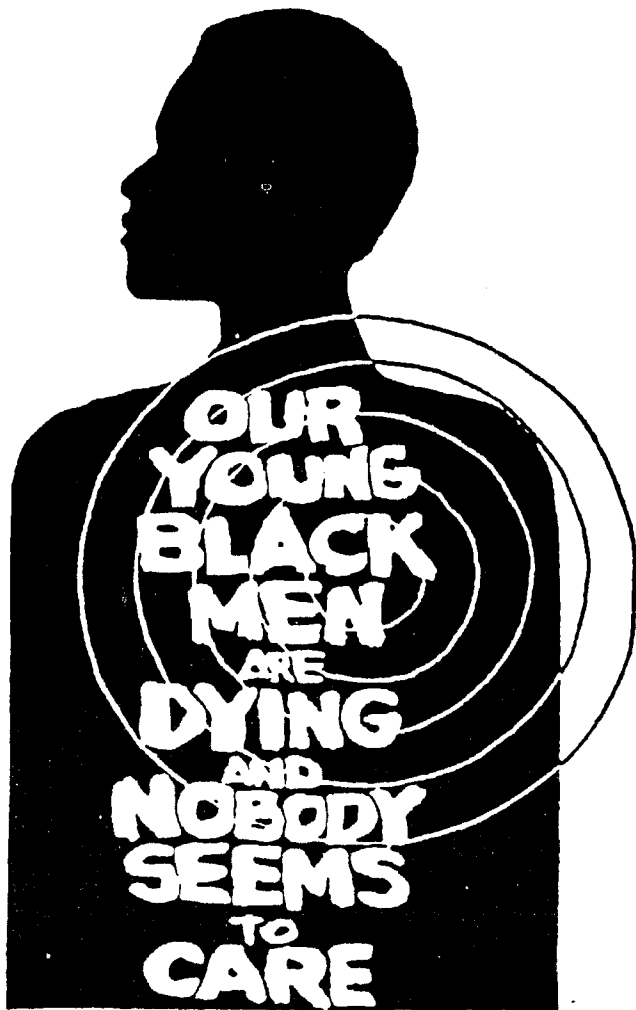
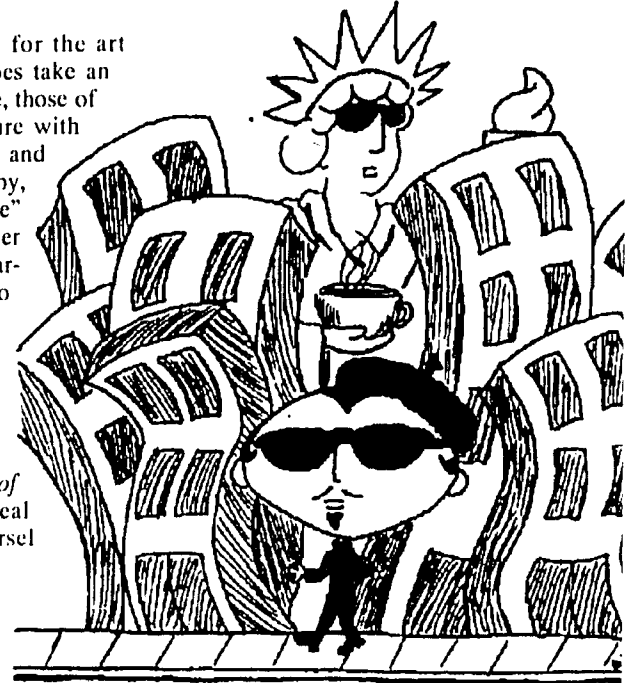
What truly makes the book — in reality defines the book — is Janowitz' stark detail, along with her narrative contrasting the struggle nearly every NYC artist must face: compromising creative freedom to allow for financial gain.

We can see this delicate balance through several of the major players here, especially

the insanely jealous Stash and the aforementioned Marley.

It doesn't take an adoration for the art world to enjoy *Slaves*, but it does take an open-minded reader. For instance, those of us expecting some sort of closure with the principal characters get none, and the ending is not altogether happy, either. Indeed, the novel's "finale" is identical to the opening chapter in that it introduces two new characters, Kurt and Natasha, who have yet to be mentioned in any of the other 21 installments.

*Slaves* is certainly not a new work, and Janowitz has certainly influenced her fair share of today's writers. Even a decade after its release, though, *Slaves of New York* is still a ruggedly real and aesthetically delectable morsel of writing.



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**James Chapman**

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**7:00 pm**

**SUB Ballroom**

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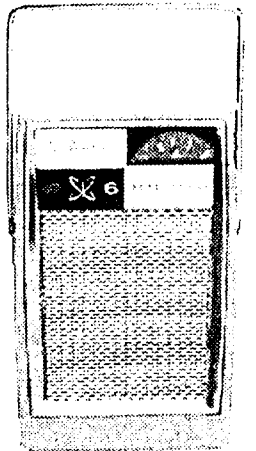
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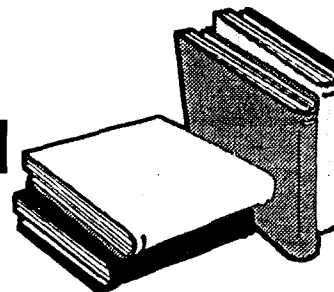
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# Literature



**Mathew Baldwin**  
Staff

Lance Olsen, Idaho Writer-in-Residence and professor of creative writing and contemporary fiction at the University of Idaho, has just written *Time Famine*, a dystopian cyberpunk novel spiced with black comedy, absurdity, obsessive characters and loads of technology.

With its rich language, *Time Famine*, follow-up to *Tonguing the Zeitgeist*, finalist for the 1995 Philip K. Dick Award for best science fiction novel, is a combination of experimentation and satire.

Currently on sabbatical leave, Olsen is author of four novels, two short story collections, and four books of criticism. *Time Famine* is his second science-fiction novel. I was able to catch him at his home in Deary, Idaho, via e-mail.

**Diversions:** To start things off, why don't you tell me about you as an author and as a person.

**Olsen:** I was born in northern New Jersey, in a town called River Edge, and spent most of my youth roaming the hermetically sealed climate-controlled malls that form that exit of the Turnpike, except for a few years in a jungle compound in Venezuela, where my dad helped set up an oil refinery and where I met magical realism firsthand in the guise of 20-foot-long boa constrictors that attacked VW Bugs and large, military-looking insects that sprayed acid at your face when you scared them.

I went to college in Madison, Wis., starting off as a journalism major, but discovering journalism approached the world as though it were a mile wide and an inch deep, I went into English, which took me to the Iowa Writer's Workshop, a den of competitive cynical social realists, for my MFA, then the University of Virginia for my MA and Ph.D. in postmodern fiction and theory; pomo was a term just being bandied about for the first time when I arrived, meaning the whole experience was terribly exciting intellectually.

**Diversions:** How has *Time Famine* been received critically so far?

**O:** Well, it's still early days, the novel only

having been inventing itself for a few weeks, but I'm delighted by the early responses. Asimov's, for instance, in its January issue, calls the thing

"relentless, savage, hysterically funny," and compares it favorably to David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest*, a recent book I adore. John Carpenter is reading it for a possible film option. The audiences around the country who've heard me from it have seemed to enjoy it a lot. So what's not to be happy about?



**Diversions:** Your satire is sharp and poignant and attacks a wide variety of things. What does it deal with in *Time Famine*?

**O:** Satire as a literary genre. I imagine, always supposes a fairly strong

moral impetus (think of Jonathan Swift or Kurt Vonnegut), and *Time Famine* is no exception. It may seem like it launches sorties on lots of attack-points, but really there are only three major ones: 1) the ignorant manhandling of the environment for short-term economic gain at the risk of long-term spiritual loss; 2) the visualization of reality in the late 20th century and its concomitant disruption of selfhood's stability; 3) the fact that the American west — and, by implication, the rest of the country — has really progressed a lot less far over the last 150 years or so than it believes it has.

Science fiction allows an easy way into each of those areas, since it's a genre that represents our world to us through a narrative glass darkly so we can see it anew, and that's why I chose to work in it. It's the most forward-thinking literary genre we have, and

one that lends itself to thinking about Big Questions, as opposed, let's say, to domestic psychological realism, which lends itself to thinking about Small Questions.

**Diversions:** How do you think *Time Famine* is making readers "reevaluate who they are and why"?

**O:** I can't say, really, since each reader has a very private experience with each text he or she reads. I hope the experience of reading *Time Famine* will reconfigure readers in various ways...everything from informing them a little more about the government's secret radiation tests in the '50s, to making them think a little about what sort of world awaits us in the next millennium if we're not careful, which we're not, to maybe allowing them to delight in a well-turned phrase or metaphor or character.

**Diversions:** Could *Time Famine* be viewed as a response or a prophecy to American and world ideas?

**O:** "Prophecy" may be too strong a word. But a warning, sure. I'm amazed by America's determination to take the short view on the big issues...the environment, overpopulation, space exploration, you name it. We're always focused on the short-term gain at the expense of the long-term loss. And I'm amazed by how many countries in the world buy into that paradigm.

We're seeing the Americanization of the globe at the turn of the millennium, and it strikes me we'll all be the poorer for it.

**Diversions:** *Time Famine* is set within the same world that *Tonguing the Zeitgeist* is set in. Is *Time Famine* a sequel to *Tonguing the Zeitgeist*? I believe you once said that it is an anti-sequel.

**O:** I think of the two novels as companion pieces. They don't share characters, and they don't share plot components, but they do share the same world, and they do share many of the same themes. So if someone picked up *Time Famine* expecting to find a continuation of *Tonguing the Zeitgeist*, someone would be disappointed. But if someone picked up *Time Famine* expecting to find an elaboration and continuation of *Tonguing the Zeitgeist's* world and vision (*Time Famine's* set fewer than 10 years ahead of *Tonguing the Zeitgeist*), then

someone would be content. Hence the idea of the anti-sequel.

I'm in fact working on a novel right now called, tentatively, *Freak Nest*, which completes the arc of concerns ignited in *Tonguing the Zeitgeist*. This time the book shares one or two characters, and the same general world, as the two former works, but, whereas *Tonguing the Zeitgeist* was set primarily around Spokane and a small island off the northwestern coast of Scotland, and *Time Famine* in the American west and low-orbit and on the moon, *FN* is set completely in London, and just to the south of London, near Brighton.

There's nothing more boring than a writer who repeats him or herself, and so I always promise myself not to do the same thing twice. Ick. You might as well just thin the herd if you plan on doing that, narratologically and creatively speaking.

**Diversions:** In reference to your writer-in-residence, will you be touring with *Time Famine*?

**O:** I'm touring with it now, in fact...reading from it, from my novel *Burnt*, from some short stories. It's been a joy reading throughout the state, and I've just returned from some readings in Portland, Seattle, New York, Providence, Chicago, and environs that were a blast. The wonderful thing about readings, in Idaho or out, is getting to meet other writers and readers who care about fiction and ideas, and who are (at least mostly) trying to return to that golden instant they inhabited as children when stories were read to them.

**Diversions:** Will there be any other readings in Moscow? i.e. the Law building next semester. Perhaps a book signing?

**O:** I'm going to set up a reading and signing via Bob Greene's Book. People either late in January or early in February. We haven't worked out a firm date yet, but will read soon.

*Time Famine* is carried at most of the local bookstores in the Moscow-Pullman area. Bookpeople would be the best place to try first.

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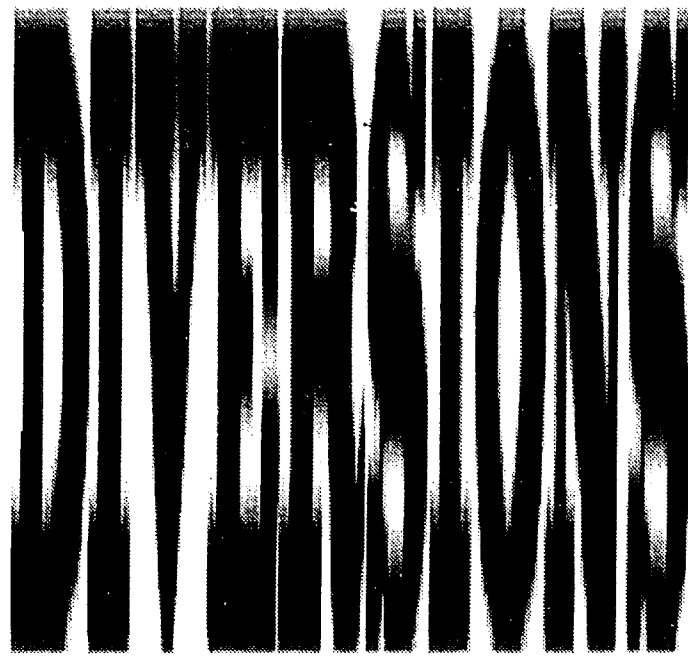
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CALENDAR

Jan  
Febru

Friday

Satu

- Last day of the exhibit on Texas Ridge at the Moscow-Latah County Public Library, free.
- UI Faculty Exhibition, at the Prichard Gallery, free.

- The Clumsy L...
- Washington-Id...
- Symphony Chan...
- Ensembles & the...
- Chorale Chambe...
- p.m., at the Adm...

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- Sigma Alpha Iota Bukvich Celebration Concert. UI Music Recital Hall, at 8 p.m., open to students and faculty.
- Teresa Geronazzo, organ, 8 p.m., Bryan Auditorium, free.

- Women's weight training clinic to be held at Memorial Gym. Call 885-6381 for more details.

- Kelly Griffith, saxophone, 8 p.m., Bryan Auditorium, free.

- Joel Pals, perc...
- Graduate recital...
- the Music Recita...

21

- Grapes of Wrath Musician Auditions. Jones Theater of Daggy Hall — WSU at 7 p.m. Contact Terry Converse at (509) 335-5161.

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- Sheila Converse, mezzo soprano Faculty Recital. In the Music Recital Hall at 8 p.m.
- Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, 7:30 p.m., Beasley Performing Arts Coliseum.
- WSU Student compositions, 11:10 a.m., Kimbrough Hall, free.
- WSU Music Faculty compositions, 8 p.m., Kimbrough Hall, free.

- Women's Center lunch program, 12:30 p.m. A personal view of Costa Rica by Debbie McLoughlin.

- Wind ensemble concert in the Administration Auditorium at 8 p.m.
- Bashir Kazimee, Tom Bartuska and Michael Owen: "Pullman: Designing a Sustainable Community," 12 p.m. CUB Cascade Room, free.

- A Jazz Combo concert, "Bridges," Music Recital H 7:30 p.m.

- The High Schoo...
- Festival, all day...
- Union Ballroom.

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- WSU Music Faculty performs compositions by Libby Larsen, 8 p.m., Kimbrough Hall, free.

- Women's Center lunch program, 12:30 p.m. Threads of the past: Changing the fabric of life by Sarah Swett.

- Women's Center lunch program, 12:30 p.m. Home Schooling by Sue Steele.
- Night of the Russian Music, 8 p.m., Kimbrough Hall, free.

- Deborah Haynes: "The Techno-Seduction of the Artist," 12 p.m., CUB Cascade Room, free.
- Julie Wick, voice recital, 8 p.m., Kimbrough Hall, WSU, free.
- Potter Lecture: J. Baird Callicott: "Current Concepts in the Philosophy of Conservation," 8 p.m., Bryan Auditorium, free.

- The Guild Trio, 8 p.m., Administration Auditorium.

- Washington-Ida...
- Symphony, featu...
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- Administration A...

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- Women's Center lunch program, 12:30 p.m. Life as a Muslim in the United States by Donna Abunayyan.
- WSU Jazz Band & Vocal Jazz, 8 p.m., Kimbrough Hall, free.

- Women's Center lunch program, 12:30 p.m. Home Schooling by Sue Steele.
- Night of the Russian Music, 8 p.m., Kimbrough Hall, free.

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# Announcements

# January

# January

Saturday	Sunday	Monday
<p>• Lovers reunion • Idaho Chamber • the Symphony • Chamber Choir, 8 • Administration • Auditorium. • Last day of the UI Faculty Exhibition, at the Prichard Gallery, free.</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>percussion recital, four p.m. in recital Hall.</p>	<p>• Mauchley Duo, Faculty Piano Recital, Music Recital Hall, 4 p.m.</p> <p>26</p>	<p>• Fay Jones lecture and recep- tion, 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium, free. • Spokane Symphony: Beethoven: Egmont Overture, Leonore Overture no. 3, Symphony no. 3, 8 p.m., Beasley Coliseum.</p> <p>27</p>
<p>School Band day, Student room.</p>	<p>• Crimson Company, 7 p.m., Bryan Theatre, free.</p> <p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>-Idaho featuring winners annual Young competition, 8 p.m., on Auditorium.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>

## Pullman Concert Band Meets

• The Pullman Concert Band will meet Tuesdays 7:30 - 9 p.m. at Pullman High School in the band room. The group is searching for new members. For information contact: Mary Ullrich, 332-7927; Wally Friel 332-8248; Becky Behre 882-8389; Heidi Jarvis 334-9252.

## Bukvich Celebration Concert

• Sigma Alpha Iota fraternity, UI students and faculty will present a concert of Professor Daniel Bukvich works, in honor of his initiation into the International Fraternity for Women In Music as a National Arts Associate. The concert will be Jan. 21 at 8 p.m. in the Recital Hall. Staff and students are invited to attend. Call Susal Billin, SAI advisor at 885-6231 for more information.

## Milos Forman Interactive Interview

• Director Milos Forman will be interviewed and broadcast to the UI Student Union's Borah Theater from the UCLA campus Jan. 21, at 6:30 p.m. Following the interview will be an interactive question and answer discussion with the two-time Academy Award-winning director. Admission is free, call 885-6951 for further information.

## B.B. King Tickets on Sale Now

• B.B. King perform Sunday, Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. at the Spokane Opera House. Tickets are available now at all G&B Select-a-Seat locations. Ticket prices are \$22.50 and \$27.50, call (800) 325-SEAT.

## Glacier Park Hiring for Summer

• Glacier Park, Mont., will hire 900 college students for the summer. Jobs will be in the areas of hotel and hospitality. Employees are needed from mid-May to October. For more information call Glacier Park, Inc., at (602) 207-2620 or e-mail Brad Parker at <bparker@viad.com>.

## Grapes of Wrath Musician Auditions

• The WSU theater people are looking for traditional instruments and singing for a production of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Auditions will be Jan. 21 at 7 p.m. in Jones Theater of Daggy Hall at WSU. The play will run April 10-12, rehearsals will be the three preceding weeks. For more information call Terry Converse at (509) 335-5161 or (509) 332-5764.

## Union Gallery Exhibits

• Impressions titled "Skeptics and Other Creatures," by Terry Armstrong, as well as charcoal drawings by Art 111 students will be on display at the Union Gallery now until Jan. 31. For more information contact Kathy Barnard at 885-6416.

## Milking the Financial Aid Cow

• Jama Sebald of the Financial Aid Office will be hosting a "do's and don'ts" seminar about the FAFSA form. The seminar will be this Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. at the Women's Center, in the lounge. Free and open to the public. For additional information call the Women's Center at 885-6616.

## Norhtwest Folklife Festival Application Deadlines

• The 26th annual Norhtwest Folklife Festival held in Seattle, May 23-26

requires applications for its various participants. Application deadlines for performers and craft vendors have already past; however, applications for Uncommon Market (imports) are due Jan. 20. Music Emporium applications are due Feb. 3. Those wanting to volunteer for the event my apply at any time during the year, although for priority scheduling for volunteers, it is recommended that applications are turned in by March 1. For more information contact Northwest Folklife, 305 Harrison St. Seattle, WA 98109-4695; (206) 684-7300 or (206) 684-7190 (FAX).

## A Personal View of Costa Rica

• One of the Women's Center brown-bag lunch programs, it begins at 12:30 p.m.. Debbie McLaughlin, who spent 11 months living there, will present a slide show and lecture about the land and people there. McLaughlin will also contrast the country with the United States via a variety of unique statistics and examples. This program will be Wednesday, Jan. 29, is free, and open to the public.

## The Art of Spinning and Knitting

•Threads of the Past: Changing the Fabric of Life, will be held Tuesday, Feb. 4, at the Women's Center starting at 12:30 p.m. Sarah Swett will be delivering a demonstration on the art of spinning and knitting. Swett was recently featured as an artist in *Knitting in America* by Melanie Falick. The program will be in the Women's Center lounge, is free and open to the public.

## U.S. Life as a Muslim

•A Women's Center lunch program on Tuesday, Feb. 11, starting at 12:30 p.m. Donna Abunayyan, currently living in Moscow, married a Saudi Arabian man, and practices the Muslim religion. She will share her perceptions of living as a Muslim in the United States, as opposed to being an American in Saudi Arabia. This program will be in the Women's Center lounge, is free and open to the public.

## Home Schooling

•On Wednesday, Feb. 12, starting at 12:30 p.m., there will be a Women's Center lunch program. Sue Steele has been home schooling her two daughters for three years. Steele has a teaching certificate and experience teaching at a private school. Steele will explore the benefits and drawbacks of homeschooling. How to get started and choosing proper curriculum will also be discussed. This program will be in the lounge of the Women's Center, is free and open to the public.

## Northwest Public Radio Pledge Break

• Help raise money for Northwest Public Radio by answering telephones at the special three-hour Inland Folk on Saturday, Feb. 1. The Palouse Folklore Society has volunteered to answer phones from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Call Sue Emory at 882-1543 or Jim Hoar (in Lewiston) at 746-7197 to sign up.

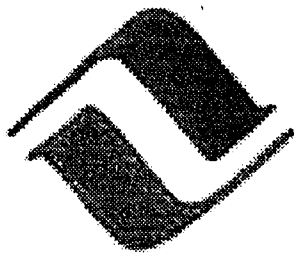
## Poetry, Poetry, Poetry

• Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum will sponsor a free poetry contest with a \$500 prize among many other cash prizes. Anyone can enter one poem. The entry must be 20 lines or less, on any subject, in any poetic style. The deadline for entry is March 31. Entries should be sent to: Sparrowgrass Poetry Forum, Dept. C, 609 Main St., PO Box 193, Sistersville, WV 26175-0193.

# OUTDOORS

## Ski season opens...

# Grab a snorkel



**Shawn Vidmar**

*Outdoors Editor*

**L**ike lemmings to the sea we stood atop China Bowl. With 18 inches of new powpow and more of the fluffy white falling at the rate of an inch an hour, I was in skier heaven.

We waited impatiently for the ski patrol to drop the lines closing off the back bowls of Vail, Colo. As if it were the Indy 500, we were revving to go as Joe — the trusty man in red — came along. He merely shook his head and offered these words, "Find the fall line with A LOT of pitch."

Surely he was over exaggerating. This was not the most powder I'd seen, but certainly the first chance at fresh tracks in a resort. I looked down at my clown shoes as my brother calls them — red, RD Coyote's which are short and fat, designed just for powder turns. They float to the top with the greatest of ease and resemble waterskis more than traditional downhill equipment.

We were turned loose and the 50 or so hun-

gry souls traversed the top of the pristine bowls to claim our own little piece of nirvana. The tension was thick, who was to start? Not one to hesitate, I took some initiative as did other type A's along the starting line.

Pointing the gear downhill I launched into deep powder: smile broad, expectations high, dreams of sinuous "S's" carved into the fluffy white, or even "figure eighting" my father's perfectly timed turns. Yes, I saw the "Extreme Team" tryouts on that day.

I didn't get 50 yards before the powder had accumulated in a pile to my abdomen and stopped any forward movement. Could this be? Could there be such a thing as too much powder?

Reeling in disbelief, I looked around the bowl. Dotted the mid-pitch surroundings were others in the same boat. In all my years skiing, back when Breckenridge only had one peak (you do the math), I was not prepared to deal with this little SNAFU.

The heaviness of the snow channeled the skis under, stopping forward progress. To release one ski was akin to step aerobics for half an hour on only the one leg. Once out, what then? If you put the ski atop the snow facing downhill, you were going before you could get the other loose. If the ski was placed horizontal to the slope, well then that was real awkward to get the other ski loose. A good bet was to fall over — POOF — and shake the two loose together. Considering it is much easier to coax a 1/2-inch edge

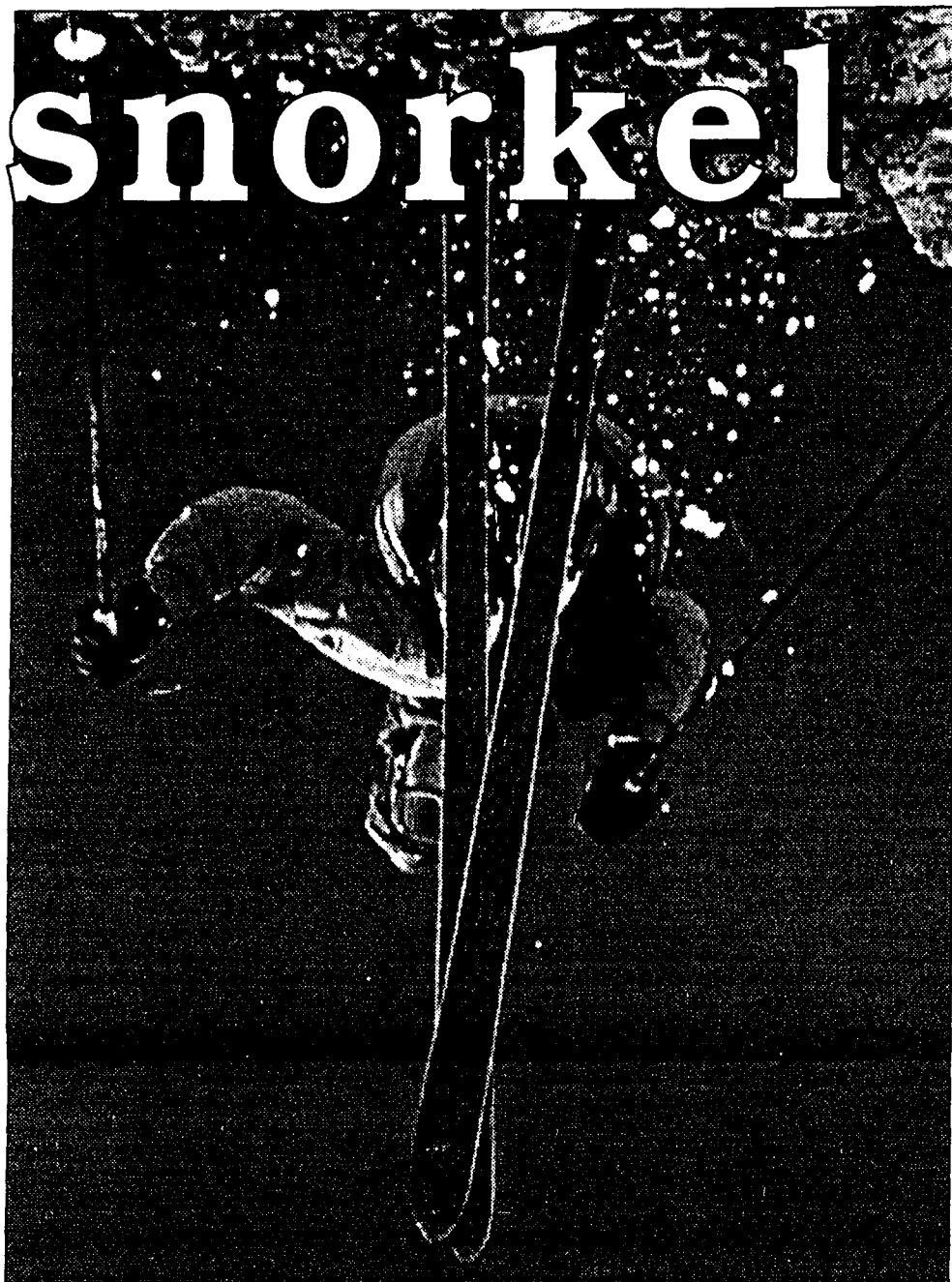
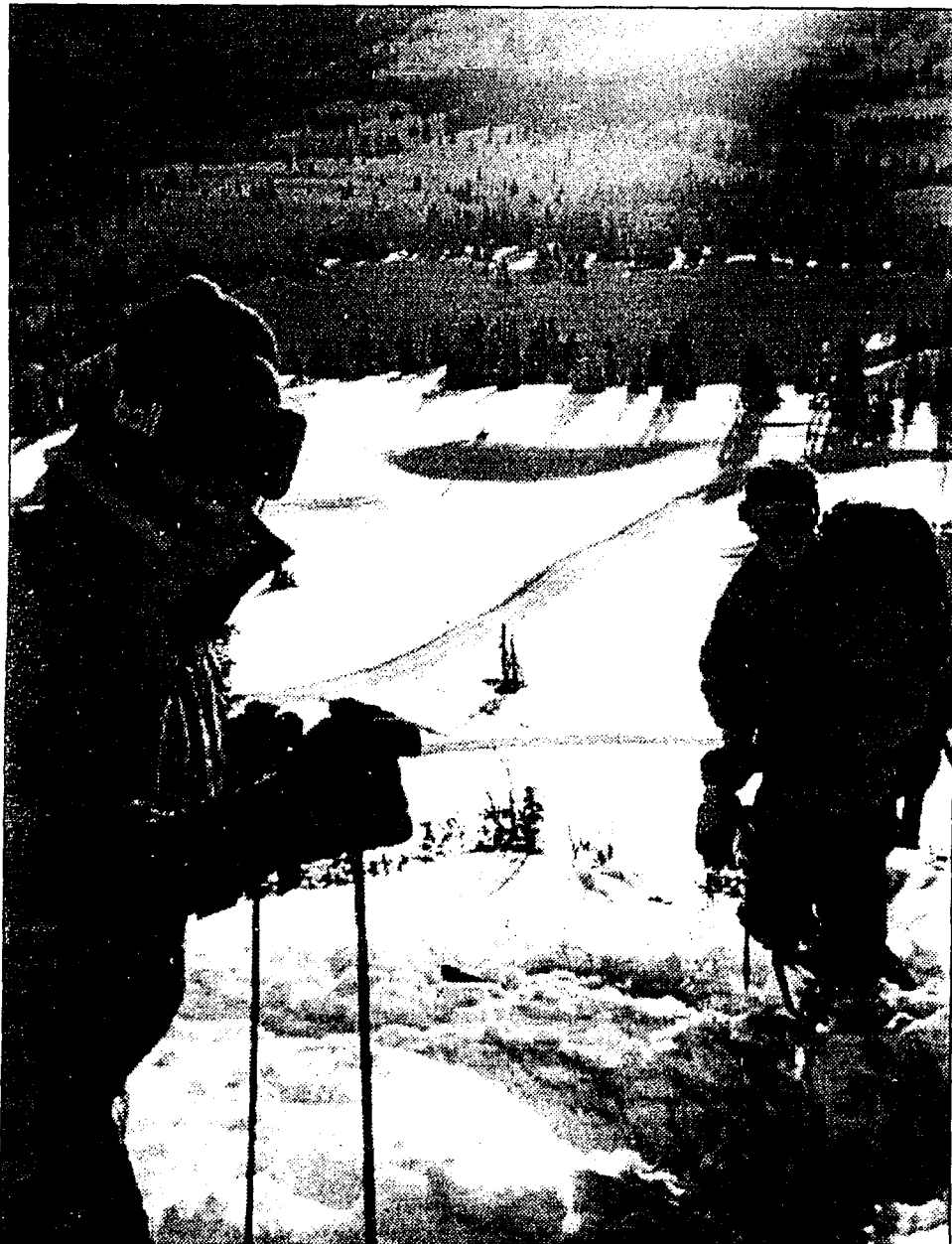


Photo by Scott Markewitz



Skiers anticipate cue to descend.

Shawn Vidmar

through 3 feet than a 4 inch plank.

Once the skis were out, situated horizontally, and I had used my poles in an "X" to support my rise to standing position, I couldn't help but launch into the same situation. Perhaps my mind just didn't process the problem: too much snow, too heavy, too little pitch.

By the third failure to gain any forward momentum, I knew I needed to reevaluate the situation. I looked through the foggy goggles, condensing from the head of steam I had worked up digging myself out for the previous half an hour, and tried to figure out a plan. I realized those who were patient at the top had then followed in line to gain momentum then jumped out of track to make a few turns and then back into a track again. I understood that this was what I needed to do. Unfortunately the tracked powder gave way to the breakable and sometimes icy base.

The visibility was low due to the heavy snowfall, the flat light and my cheap goggle's propensity to resemble the interior of a steam room. I tried to make out a line and jumped in for a while, only to bail (sans turns) when I felt I was gaining too much speed. Old advice I had abandoned long ago about leaning back in powder came to fruition. I finally got out of that bowl one hour later.

I joined my father and my brother at the lift line. We all had a dazed look on our faces, could it really be, could we really have too much powder? A smile crossed my lips, there can never be too much powder.

The day continued as such. We searched for the double black diamonds which were steep enough to get enough speed to connect a series of turns. The first face shot came about an hour after China Bowl, and well worth the effort. It truly was snorkel skiing that day, with snow flying over your head by the third turn — time to test the instincts.

I had to call it a day by 3 with legs aching,

clothes wet and a perma-grin etched into my slightly frostbitten face. It was a day to remember. The type of day dreams are made of, and a few movie scenes to boot. As my brother says prior to decent, "Smile kids and let's make a movie." Then he proceeds to fly down the mountainside in true Glen Plake fashion, sans the mohawk.

For more information, call 1-800-525-2257, source 221, or check out Vail's website at <<http://vail.net>>.



Scott Markewitz

# MAYHEM IN McCALL

by  
Andrew  
Longeteig

I rolled my eyes nearly 360 degrees as my mother reminded me — for the third time — to take an extra pair of shoes.

Geez, I'd only be there for *one* night, I thought.

Nonetheless, I escaped my suburban Boise home before she could utter another momism.

Hell, I was about to embark on a road trip with three sorority babes in a 1988 Mercedes destined for a night of New Year's Eve inebriation and a king size bed at McCall's Best Western.

I sat in the back seat next to Holly, a stranger who would soon become a pal. "We're bonding!" she excitedly said as we passed through Council, James Brown funk-ing out on the car stereo.

Realistically, we all would bond, but little did we know we would be *forced* to.

**New Year's Eve**  
Rain and snow poured on Highway 95. Water completely submerged 1,000-foot stretches of the highway. As the maroon Mercedes hydroplaned on the water-covered road, I felt as if I were at some Disneyland ride. Yeeeeehawwwwwww! A little water couldn't hurt anybody. Plus, it's New Year's Eve, by golly. Nothing can go wrong.

The Yacht Club in McCall welcomed our spirits ... and wallets. Something was brewing besides the beer, though. Not just a storm. Something more sinister. As I searched for a midnight smooch — searched for at least a little eye contact — Mother Nature prepared to spit on the Northwest with an evil combination of moisture and unseasonably warm air.

The three babes got the king size bed; I got carpet marks on my face and a sore back next to the card table. Our buddies Steve and Jill slept in a room across the hall.

While we slumbered, the Northwest melted into one big mess like a cherry popsicle in a Missouri summer. Hungover at 10 in the morning, munchy wrappers and crusty socks strewn across the floor, we discovered Ms. Nature had washed out Highway 95 and defecated on Highway 55, creating massive mudslides.

Like weddings, Monday Night Football and Cinco de Mayo, this gave us another excuse to party. I felt like Bob Denver in "Gilligan's Island." Reruns, however, eventually become dull.

**Salvation**  
We had neither the funds nor the patience to remain isolated in this stuffy hotel room, but Shannon's family saved us. Her father, Gary, owned a vacation home in McCall near Lardo's. We were hungover and starving. I was broke from buying drinks for chums the previous night.

We were downright lucky. Gary pacified our palates with pancakes and milk. We then called our parents, lovers, friends, etc., informing them of our extended

vacation as Northwest Cable News continued to show devastation and flooding in areas of Idaho, Washington, Oregon, Nevada and California.

We needed some goods — you know, some staples such as beer, bread and Doritos. Many others — The Stranded — had similar ideas as well.

Thanks to Steve, the second-to-last loaf of bread was ours. Got milk? No, the milk was wiped off the shelves as if calcium-deprived thieves pillaged the store. It was like the end of the world, but I wasn't scared. I was in McCall, Idaho, with swell friends, for crying out loud, not a bomb shelter in Kuna. Beer appeared to be plentiful, but we were determined to change that in due time.

A gas station featured a queue of 15 cars extending down a street, hoping to swallow enough fuel to get home. But they weren't going anywhere soon, at least according to Ms. Nature.

The McCall Mayhem resembled the World War II tactic of surrounding Berlin, which halted all exports and imports of supplies and food. Imminent starvation.

We weren't about to starve, but we were stranded and wanted to enjoy each second of our h e l p -

seemed like a third-world country to me.

After testing the big-screen TV — rooting for local Jake Plummer of Arizona State in the Rose Bowl — we celebrated at Lardo's, comprising about half of it's slow New Year's Day business.

I had it really bad...

The next day, Thursday, I had some laundry to take care of. Some moron had spilled red booze on my Christmas corduroys. My flannel shirt reeked of bar smoke from the Yacht Club. My socks seeped of sogginess from the 8-inch-deep puddle I stepped in New Year's Eve. My



**The Stranded:** top, Shannon and myself; bottom, Holly and Melica. This picture was taken mere hours before our rescue the Friday after New Year's Eve.

less-ness. It's not as if we were stranded like we were forced to build a snow cave and devour frozen pebbles for breakfast.

We were downright lucky.

Shannon's father must have built this house thinking he'd expect six college hoodlums needing a place to crash. His downstairs became our new-found home: big-screen TV, custom bar stocked with beer and hard liqs, three bunk beds — with blankets and without drool-stained pillows! Boise suddenly

crotch-ripped Levi's were adorned with mud stains. My silk boxers crawled up my behind like they were enamored by the smell.

As fate had it, I was forced to wear shorts, casual brown shoes (my only pair, you know) and brown socks during a downtown excursion because my only two pairs of long pants were tumble drying. I also forgot my electric razor, but my facial hair grows like that of a 9th-grader. These were the worst of my relatively minute worries.

This was all I had to bitch about as homes and humans were being buried by mud and water; lives and property devastated; at least \$1 billion worth of damage. I thought I had it bad.

Boise's Channel Two weather guru Scott Dorval missed his TV report on the Northwest floods and forecasts, too. Instead, he was kicking my pooper in pool at the McCall Brewery. (I *should've* challenged the sub-6-foot Dorval to some hoops.)

The whole fiasco of being stuck began to become a bit monotonous after the third Jim Carrey flick and my boredom with Bud Light. To add salt to the wound, I couldn't find a temporary tonsil hockey partner Thursday night after a festive bar-hopping adventure. The big-screen monster and my imagination kept me company for a time, thankfully.

**Could it get worse?**  
Area newspapers reported Friday morning that Idaho's only two north-south arteries, highways 55 and 95, could be closed for perhaps another week.

Shannon's family saved us. Her mother in Boise couldn't stand the thought of her stranded daughter. My eyes opened to the realization Friday morning that we would be saved. Rescued. Her mother used her connections to order a pilot to fly in and swoop us away to Boise — for a price considerably cheaper than the \$200 others were forking over.

Rescued. Or was this going to be another "Gilligan's Island" episode? I think I watched too much TV in the early '80s.

The plane was scheduled to arrive at about 2 p.m. Friday. The TV news at about 1 p.m. informed us of a small plane that lost radar and radio contact ... missing. Being a journalism major, I recognized this as bad news. Being a human being, I could only try to hide my newly acquired anxiety.

**Fly, fly away ...**  
The single-engine prop. low wing airplane sat only three passengers and had little room for luggage. My school backpack didn't cause many problems, though.

Melica, Holly and I were the guinea pigs, as Shannon and her teenage brother would wait for the second go-round.

The air traffic was heavy. We waited on the taxiway for 10 minutes as plane after plane landed to liberate The Stranded. Now, it was our turn.

Frigid winds gusted and ominous gray clouds rolled as we took off. Blue sky beckoned us to the west, however. We graciously accepted its invitation.

Flying in the small aircraft provoked memories when my father piloted a similar flying machine. I recall my

• SEE McCALL PAGE B11

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# Snocat tours provide skier's canvas



**Shawn Vidmar**  
*Outdoors Editor*

Snocat powder skiing offers an off-piste experience of a lifetime. Skeptical of the new operation, well new to me, my father and I waited at the rest area off Interstate 70 at Vail pass for the Snocat to meet us. I had heard about Vail Snotours from my friend and guide, Brad Baetz. My father and I were following him from the now defunct Snocat operation called Irwin Lodge near Crested Butte. I had finally leaned the terrain at Irwin Lodge, coined "The Best Kept Secret in The Rockies." Unfortunately the minimal marketing strategy didn't keep the rooms full, nor the revenue forthcoming. It was a longstanding argument in our

family and with the guides as to how to fill the 4 room lodge. There was some agreement that an amateur film clip could tour with the fall Warren Miller flick for exposure. But obviously that is a moot point now.

My worries of the foreign terrain and "new to me" operation were stilled when Bruce, the head guide, gave us *the* speech. I swear it is out of some "How to be a Ski Guide" book for it is often recited verbatim. "Your guide will set a left (or right) hand boundary, please stay to the right (or left) of the boundary. Stack your tracks so if it is nice we can ski it again. Stop above your guide for he often has information for the next pitch, glade, fall line or pocket of pines. Do not run into the guide. Check your speed before landing on the cat trail and please, keep an eye out for the Snocat, sometimes the driver can't always see you. . . In fact, assume he does not."

Why anyone tries to ski after a lecture like that is beyond me. My father and I were present, knowing full well that the terrain at the resorts was very hard packed powder due to the unseasonably warm weather between Christmas and New Year's Day. Plus we were curious to see how this particular operation was run, in direct correlation to Irwin which we patronized for almost 10 years before its closure.

I was using the provided Rossignol fat side-cut skis. They would work in many conditions I would encounter and I had to fight the urge to over-ski them. The fat hour-glass type skis are a hybrid of the true "fat boys" powder skis and the new super side-cut downhill skis. The result, a ski which makes the beginner an intermediate, the intermediate an expert, and the expert—unbelievably good.

The frigid night before had accomplished two things: slowed the Snocat's transmission fluid to a viscous crawl and sucked all the moisture out of the snow. The latter was the best news we had heard in a week, the former a mere nuisance.

The metal cat, with places for about 16 people in the warm and comfort-

able compartment, rumbled to the top of our first decent. My churning stomach filled my head with all the usual doubts. "What if I hit a tree? What if I end up head first in a tree well and suffocate? What if I blow my knee again?" But drinking in the elixir of the fresh mountain air cleared my head of such frigid worries as I leaped off the cat trail and onto the gentle slope behind the guide. I crossed his lines making perfect figure eights and came to a stop seconds behind him. I looked up, winded, to admire my artistry while snapping off my skis and awaiting for the comfortable tank to take us to the next challenge.

I smiled broadly when Baetz asked how it was. In fact, by the end of the day my face hurt from smiling, (not a bad pain to have).

We got in six runs by 2 p.m., and then four more before having to call it a day. We hypothesized how many we could have done had the cat began running at the scheduled 9 a.m., instead of 11.

"Cupcake" dumped us out at the lunch Yurt where hot soup and a Smörgåsarbröd style meal awaited. After our bellies were full and we all climbed back into the warm cat we began our ascent once again. We passed "Spike" named for the stag trees lining the trail and viewed the steeper terrain they hadn't had time to blast yet.

According to Baetz, it was a Catch 22 situation. At Irwin he was often up in the wee hours, like 4:30 a.m., participating in avalanche patrol, which made the guiding day and tolerance of whiners tough, yet most terrain was available to guests; whereas this operation blasted on days that no tours were scheduled so during the busy season, some terrain was left to nature and he didn't have to be on stage until a pleasant 9 a.m.

Baetz confided that there were a lot more snowboarders taking advantage of these tours than at Irwin. I assume it is because the sheer volume of traffic into the Vail area is so much greater than Crested Butte, and —

• SEE SNOCAT PAGE B11

Photos by Larry Prosor

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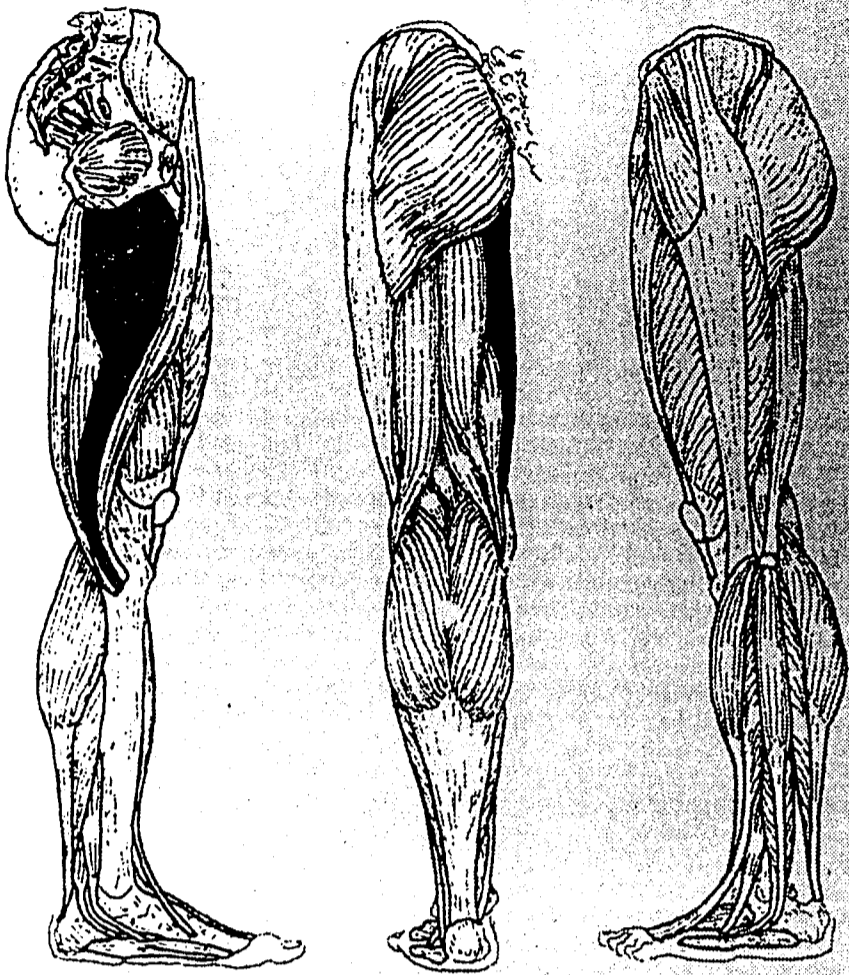
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# HIP TIPS



### Training Tip:

For all of you downhill skiers out there aching to get out and make a few turns, here is an area of focus for the gym which will enhance your day on the slopes: **HIPS**. The extensors, abductors and flexors are all important in making powerful turns and can make a difference between finishing the day on an extreme mogul run or the green cruiser. According to Topper Hagerman, physical trainer for the Steadman-Hawkins Sports Medicine Foundation in Vail, Colo., as quoted in the Nov. 1996 issue of Ski magazine, "Skiers should pay particular attention to training regimes that have some sort of lateral focus. Lateral or side-to-side activities use the muscles and the surrounding tissues in your ankles, knees and hips. A strong trunk and hip area gives both ends of the body the discipline, power and range of motion to make the lateral movements that are so essential in modern skiing."

Translation, anything, like the multi-hip machine or the pulleys in the weight room, a Sports Rehabilitation Cord (kind of like a bungee cord with velcro) or an aerobics classes like the slide or roller-blading will be beneficial. Whereas a step class, Stairmaster™ and/or stationary bike will work the hip flexor and the gluteus muscles, it doesn't train the body for the more lateral movements of downhill skiing.

Remember, as with any time in the weight room, start out gradually and build to avoid injury.

### SNOCAT •FROM PAGE B10

let's face it — snowboarding is one of the most rapidly growing sports on snow today. There is truly nothing like a good snowboarder riding the powder wave on a clear day. I often envy their ability and speed when I am laboriously making small "S's" compared to their sweeping arcs. Baetz found that at times he could not keep up with the boarders. With 3,500 acres to play in, losing any guest is bad for business.

As the sun began to set beyond the continental divide, and we took our last run through some rolling glades of trees and fresh white stuff, I remembered to relax, listen to the rhythm my body was born to follow, and proceeded to have the best run of my life. For more information and reservations call (970)476-3239 or write to Vail SnoTours, P.O. Box 7, Vail, CO 81658.

### McCALL •FROM PAGE B9

father piloted a similar flying machine. I recall my dad allowing me to take the controls in the air — when I was a chubby, carrot-topped 4-year-old. I remember barfing up an Idaho Spud Bar at age 6 ... haven't eaten one since. Now, I was much bigger — almost afraid my beanpole legs would hit the Big Red Flashing Emergency Button. I kept them still as a statue. From overhead, towns such as Council and Emmett were obviously water-logged. We

were much safer 4,000 feet above despite the brisk wind gusts. We landed at Boise Municipal Airport 45 minutes from takeoff. I felt relieved. It's the same relief I get when my car keys are missing, and after an hour of frantic rummaging, I discover them under a couch cushion. Dusk screamed at us in Boise as Dave, a pilot for eight years, resumed his McCall rescue mission. Shannon, her mother and brother arrived safely a few hours later.

**The aftermath**  
The mercedes rested on Gary's slush-ridden driveway in McCall for one week, yearning for its owner, before finally being rescued last Saturday. Highway 55 is open, but two-hour waits are intolerable. Most who traveled from the Boise area to North Idaho opted for the eight-hour trek via Ontario, Baker City and Walla Walla, Wash. The New Year's Eve trip materialized into the best ever: I managed to bond with Holly,

live in both luxury and laziness, avoid becoming Jack Nicholson in "The Shining," and stay alive. My home didn't flood. My plane didn't crash. My life wasn't devastated. I was downright lucky. My mother, too, definitely redeemed herself. Her words of wisdom were invaluable. Too bad I didn't listen.

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