

## Birth mother moves students to tears



Ronda Slater demonstrates the difficulties of giving up something special to a stranger by giving away the wallet of Phil Gray to Paula Bowes.

#### Andrea Lucero Staft

ith a touch of humor and an open heart, Ronda Slater opened up the world of questions and pain surrounding adoption and other contemporary problems to University of Idaho students and faculty Tuesday.

Slater shared her personal insights and experience with adoption and shed light on reproductive rights and responsibilities in her speech: "Women's choices in the '90s: Are we headed back to the '60s?"

"Ronda's talk was very insightful because it showed everyone the complexities of life," said Susan Palmer, education programmer for the Women's Center. "Things we see as simple are not always so

**Shane O'Brien** 

Staff

black and white."

In 1966 Slater, a sophomore in college, became pregnant. Forced by circumstance to give the child up for adoption, she was not allowed to see, hold or touch her baby after its birth. Eighteen years later, she began to search for her baby.

"It took me a long time to decide to find my daughter," Slater said. "I felt I'd signed the papers to give her up and that it wasn't my business to find her."

Slater explored the similarities and differences between life choices in the '60s and those in the '90s. One subject that reigned as both a similarity and a difference between the eras was the way people make light of adoption.

To emphasize her point, Slater used the example of the

Senators balk at possible regulation

Adopt-A-Highway advertisements often found along highways.

"Adopt-A-Highway is a perfect example of how we make light of what I call the adoption triad," Slater said. "At one corner we have the birth parent who didn't take proper care of their charge (threw their litter onto the highway). In the other corner we have the adoptive parent who took care of the problem with a little bit of money (picked up the litter). Finally, and most sadly, we have the adoptee, who in this case is shown to be the litter."

Jamie Retacco, a UI senior attending the talk said, "I never thought about how hurtful something I don't think twice about could be to someone involved in an adoption."

Slater added that counselors

and social workers who are supposed to help women explore their choices concerning what actions to take concerning an unwanted pregnancy also make light of the situation.

"Most women are not informed about the life-long trauma giving up a child can have," Slater said. "Many birth mothers and women who go through abortions end up suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome. Everyone tells birth mothers to put the problem in the past; to move on with life. It isn't that easy."

Slater said many of the social workers and counselors from the '60s have had nervous breakdowns. Their problems were not brought on by thoughts of the families they brought together by pushing • SEE ADOPTION PAGE 2

# **South Australian** tennis sensation



A bill before the state legislature which would clarify the proper use of public funds, including how the ASUI Senate can spend the money that comes from the students, raised concern at Wednesday's Senate meeting. Sen. Curt Wozniak feared that the proposed bill would "infringe on students' rights and freedoms." He insisted that senators do all they can to "maintain (their) freedom to spend the student money the way (they) see fit.' At the root of his convictions was a belief that the Senate acts more like a union than an arm of government. According to the state of Idaho, the ASUI is considered a department, no different from an academic department. It's for this reason the bill is expected to pass, as the state tries to codify the spending of public funds.

President Jim Dalton raised a concern about the inability to regulate how the money he spends on his government will be used by the officials. He envisioned a scenario in which he **Erin Siemers** 

#### women's locker room **Eric Barker** Staff A University of Idaho student was cited for the second time in as many weeks for trespassing in

**Student arrested for** 

trespassing in

the women's locker room of the Swim Center.

Matthew Gibbon was seen in the women's locker room on the morning of March 3. Police issued him a warning at that time to stay out.

On the evening of the same day, Gibbon again entered the locker room. He was placed under citizen's arrest by graduate student Khristine Alf. Cpl. Carl Wommack took Gibbon into custody at the scene.

After the initial incident, Gibbon left Moscow to seek counseling. He returned for a preliminary court appearance on Tuesday.

Prosecutors reduced the charges against Gibbon to disturbing the peace in part because of his efforts to seek help.

On the same day Gibbon appeared in court for disturbing the peace, he returned to the scene of the original crime. Several witnesses, including Patricia Magers, who works at the Swim Center saw Gibbon enter the women's locker room.

Magers removed Gibbon from the locker room but was unable to restrain him. She called the police and reported the incident. Gibbon fled before police arrived.

"It's been kind of a disturbing thing for all of us here," Magers said. "I don't think he's a dan-ger to anyone," Magers said of Gibbon, who has some physical disabilities. "I kind of hated to call the police on him, but he's been in here, what, six times," she said.

That evening, Wommack issued Gibbon a citation for trespassing. Since Wommack did not catch Gibbon at the scene, he was unable to place him under arrest.

"There were some very upset people," said Wommack. "I want people to know the problem is taken care of."

Dean of Students Bruce Pitman said, "I do not anticipate him returning to Moscow, at least not this semester."

Gibbon has left the area, presumably in an effort to seek help. Pitman added that he is working closely with both Gibbon and the Moscow Police Department.



was attempting to instigate political action and was campaigned against by the senators that his taxes paid.

"The government shouldn't be allowed to spend my money fighting me," Dalton said.

Other issues addressed included the desire of the Graduate Students Association to have representation independent of the ASUI, and the allocation of funds to the Residence Hall Association to allow for greater participation in a conference to promote community living.

The GSA believes that because of inherent differences in the needs of undergraduate students versus graduate students, they cannot receive adequate representation. The GSA council voted 29:1 to separate and they noted that they have existed now for 10 years and are fully operational and have the capacity for independence.

The RHA requested \$1,000 from the Senate for a conference that they would like to send resident assistants to which promotes community awareness and develops interpersonal skills.

Jeff Smith told the Senate that those who had attended the conference in the past found it greatly rewarding and their trip was funded by such activities as "hauling fridges."

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turns heads at UI

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## **Council considers automatic withdrawl for absent students**

#### Michelle Kalbeitzer

Staff

Faculty Council considered a motion Tuesday which would enable instructors to drop students who do not attend classes the first week of the semester.

"The motion allows instructors to drop the student who's not attending, thus providing space for other students who want to take the class," said Fran Wagner, University Curriculum Committee chair.

Wagner said the motion is in response to a "number of students who mis-register and don't know it, or just don't want to show up." Faculty members said it can be a problem

when classes are at capacity.

"In a class of 30 students, I have four students who have never attended," said council

#### ADOPTION •FROM PAGE 2

women to give their children up for adoption, but by the families they tore apart.

"A mother doesn't just lose the child," Slater said. "An entire family does."

Slater found a way, through laughter and tears, to help her audience feel the pain of adoption through the eyes of the adoptee and birth mother.

"A lot of adopted people feel they haven't been born. They don't feel value because of birth. Some say they feel as if they were hatched from an egg or dropped from a planet," Slater said.

Slater said the life of an adoptee is often considered to begin at the moment of their adoption. No one knows or talks about the adoptee's birth or birth parents. This missing information causes serious problems for many people who are adopted.

"Feeling unreal all your life is a crucial issue for those who are adopted," Slater said. "Adoptees are the only people on earth walking around with false ID."

In 1984 Slater wrote the play, ... A Name You Never Got about the true story of her experience as a birth mother and about the reunion with the daughter she gave for adoption 18 years ago.

member Thomas Miller. "I could have had four students who wanted this class."

ASUI President Jim Dalton said, "I think it would be better for students who do need classes and can't get into them, as long as provisions were made to adequately inform students and instructors of this process."

The motion elicited disagreement from some council members concerned about special circumstances that may prevent a student from attending the first week of classes.

Council member Charles McKetta directed attention to students who fight fires in the summer, and consequently miss the first week of school. "It would be a major hardship for that kind of student," he said.

In light of this, Student Representative Julia Dickson suggested a two-week time period of repeated no-shows before an instructor could withdraw absentee students from their class. Council member Donald Crowley proposed

amending the original motion to allow a twoweek, instead of a one-week grace period. After discussion, the council tabled the

motion until their next meeting in order to obtain further information on the issue.

Currently, North Idaho College operates under a similar system.

"If a student misses the very first class, the instructor can drop them," said Ruth Jamison, NIC Records Clerk. Instructor-prompted withdrawals are then restricted to happen after the first week. Instructors at NIC are also encouraged to contact the student before they drop them from the class.

"This seems to have reduced the number of absences in classes," NIC Registrar Karen Streeter said.

Jamison said they have had some problems with the system. For instance, they receive complaints from students who discover they got a F in a course they never attended.

These situations often result from misunderstandings surrounding the responsibilities of the instructor.

NIC's policy parallels the motion Faculty Council is considering, in which it is completely voluntary on the instructor's part to drop students.

"To me, I think the advantage is to the students," UI Registrar Reta Pikowsky said. "If you are registered for a course, you need to show up the first day.

"Because that's really the only way the instructor can know who's a serious student and who's not."

In the excerpt of the play performed at her talk, Slater described the agony surrounding her daughter's birth and the 18 years that followed.

"During the labor I didn't want to push," Slater said. "I knew if I pushed it would all be over. When it was over I asked, 'how is she? Is she OK?' Everyone told me to shut my eyes and go to sleep. They went to clean my baby up and I never saw her again.'

For 18 years, Slater wondered about her daughter. She questioned her baby's health, her locations, if her daughter thought of her and if she would try to find her birth mother again after knowing she'd been adopted.

"I don't think students understand how easily an entire life can be changed. I know I didn't have a lot of foresight when I was in college," Palmer said.

Slater's questions have been answered. With the support of her boyfriend, Slater was reunited with her daughter Jody 13 years ago.

'Over 90 percent of reunions turn out positive," Slater said. "But some do not. Being reunited isn't always an easy road. I wish I had done more research."

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#### Investigation of CPU theft ongoing

Police are continuing to investigate the theft of 12 central processing units from the Forestry Building computer lab. The CPUs were stolen last weekend.

Detectives have dusted for fingerprints, but the investigation has been hampered by the hundreds of fingerprints left by the many students who use the labs.

Detectives have attempted to isolate suspect fingerprints by concentrating on the wires that connected the CPUs to monitors and keyboards.

Police are also contacting other colleges and universities in the region to determine if similar crimes have been committed.

#### **MPD** issues theft prevention warning

Chief Mickelsen of the Moscow Police Department is strongly encouraging students to lock up their valuables before leaving town for spring break.

He also stressed the importance of storing valuables out of sight. Mickelsen said thieves must have a need or desire, a justification, and an opportunity to steal.

"If you remove the opportunity, all you have is someone who wants something but can't get at it," he said.



#### FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997

#### THE ARGONAUT

#### NEWS

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# **Students voice opinions** on proposed fee hike

#### **Erin Siemers** Staff

University of Idaho administrators met with the public Wednesday to discuss the proposed 9.8 percent student fee increase for fiscal year '98

At the public hearing in the Student Union Gold Room, President Bob Hoover, Vice President for Student Affairs and University Relations Hal Godwin, Associate **Budget Director Beverly** Rhoades, Vice President Finance of and Administration Jerry Wallace and Vice President for Research Jean'ne Shreeve listened to student concerns and comments for two hours.

Several students voiced anxiety over the matriculation fee of \$30.75. This fee is used to pay for expenses such as campus lighting and maintenance. Much of the intent for the increase is to fund scholarships for recruitment purposes.

"It is unfair to those of us who are already here and paying the fees that we are being shouldered with this burden of helping make it easier for others. It is much more difficult for us," said ASUI Sen. Brian Tenney, who represents three living groups and the off-campus students.

He said he has spoken to numerous students about the fee increases for scholarships over the past week, and "none of us realized that was happening.'

While students seemed in favor of the new University Center, concern was voiced over the cost. Students will pay \$75 per semester for the new Commons. One student quoted another as saying, "if this is still in the fantasy phase, we don't want to have to pay for it."

Law student Terry Jones encouraged administrators to reconsider the \$5 increase for Intercollegiate Athletics. He believes more students would benefit if the money went elsewhere. He encouraged a greater



#### focus on academics than athletics.

Student Media Board Chair Dennis Sasse reminded administrators that enrollment has dropped due to past fee increases, "and now it appears that you are increasing fees to make up for lost revenue due to these decreases in enrollment. I don't think it's fair that you are asking the students to bear the cost for past planning mistakes."

Research economist and staff member Steve Peterson echoed these statements with several charts and graphs he created from historical data showing correlations between student fee increases and the resulting drops in student enrollment.

Peterson also pointed out student fees have increased dramatically compared with inflation, in spite of an average increase in state legislature's per-student subsidy.

A high turnout of architecture students spoke of their program's increased fee of

\$200, with the majority in favor. It is not too late to voice concerns and opinions. Godwin will accept comments

until March 28. "We take what you have to say seriously and will be responding before the board meeting," he said.

Godwin's office is located at Room 154 of the Student Union.

# **Architecture professional** fee proposed

#### Andrea Lucero Asst. News Editor

Professionalism is a necessity for University of Idaho architecture students. But to reap the benefits, they may have to pay the price.

Over 40 landscape architecture students filled the Art and Architecture conference room March 5 to hear an update on the professional fee proposal which would include interior and landscape architecture students. The proposed fee would increase the extra \$190 architecture students already pay in special fees (technology and course) to \$440. "It is important to keep in mind this is just a proposal," said Paul G. Windley, dean of the College of Art and Architecture. "There is still a lot of student discussion to be held." The fee would be similar to the professional fee charged to students attending the UI Law School. The fee increase is an option provided by Idaho code to professional programs as a way of attaining additional funds to support the program.

"The amount of state money given to the university has declined," Windley said. "Five years ago they were paying 43 percent of student education, now they are paying 38 percent. That percentage is predicted to drop to 32 percent before leveling out." Windley added that with the costs for

delivering a professional education going up, the college has hit a crisis point.

"We actually hit the crisis point about three years ago," Windley said. "That is why the proposal came about."

The \$140,800 per year the professional fee would generate is proposed to go to seven different areas of the college: expansion and upgrade of the computer studio, expansion and maintenance of the technology shop, improvements of visual resource center, college development through college operation budgets, additions to departmental equip-ment and new and permanent additions to faculty.

Benefits that would be seen within the first year of fee implementation include: updating in current software, servers, in-put and output devices and shop equipment, permanent faculty positions, improvement of slide collection, studio enhancements and six to eight new pentium computers.

"I think this professional fee is absolutely essential if we want to continue to offer quality education," said Wendy McClure, associate professor of architecture. "It's very advantageous because the money goes directly toward benefits for students. The chance of other university funds filtering

down to us isn't great." In a survey of, 33 universities across the United States, Windley found the average of the professional fees for all the schools to be much higher that those of UI, even with

acceptance of the proposed professional fee. Despite the need for additional funds and the positive comparison of UI fees to those of other universities, students expressed some concern.

"Idaho has a different financial picture than other states," said Iris Mays, UI architecture student. "How can the survey be valid?"

Windley explained that although some states' financial pictures are not similar to Idaho's, most of the states surveyed are.

Students also voiced concern about the possible loss of state benefits as a result of the fee implementation.

"The professional fee would not substitute for state allocations," Windley said. "We would still receive our fair share. Actually, state assistance could replace the professional fee. With more state funding, the fee could go down.'

Other concerns included the possibility architecture students could end up paying for activities and equipment outside the college of architecture, and if any fee adaptations would be made for students who couldn't

afford to pay the fee. Windley said the professional fee would guarantee the money would be contained within the college and if it was found to be lawful to set up scholarships with the money, the college would definitely be interested.

"We are trying to move from a Chevy to a Buick here," Windley said. "Not from a Chevy to a BMW."

The proposal to deem the College of Art. and Architecture a professional school and to implement the fee was drawn up last year, but tabled before being sent to the Board of Regents for approval pending the arrival of the new university president.



## their newest initiates.



**Positions Open:** 7 Senate Seats **1** Faculty Representative Petitions to run are available in the ASUI Office at the SUB. Petitions must be returned by Friday, March 28, 5:00 p.m. in the ASUI Office. Mandatory candidates meeting, Friday, March 28, 5:15 p.m., at the ASUI Office.

**Election Workers Needed!** Applications available in the ASUI Office. Applicants must have a current UI Work Permit to apply.





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#### THE ARGONAUT

## Speaker tells history of women's sports

#### **Candice Long**

Staff

"A sport for every girl — every girl in a sport" was the motto at the University of Idaho Women's Center on Wednesday.

Bonnie Hulstrand, associate professor of health and physical education, spoke at the Women's Center Brown Bag lunch program, narrating a pictorial presentation of "The History of Women in Sports."

Hulstrand met to discuss and illustrate the style changes in women's sports from the Victorian Era to the present and has collected various pictures from many years demonstrating the changes, both socially and morally, that have shaped the appearance of women in sports.

"Women have been competing a great deal all their lives if given the opportunity," Hulstrand said. "It's not something that has just started now."

The ideal characteristics for a woman in the

Victorian Era included being feminine, delicate, passive, obedient and good wives and mothers, but "women have made a huge transformation since then," Hulstrand said.

Women were also supposed to keep their bodies as delicate as possible with a "wasp" waist, no facial color, no muscular bulges and never showing legs or arms.

Women's activites in the Victorian Era were considered social events rather than sports.

Activites included tennis, skating and archery and women wore dresses, remaining "lady-like." Even when women went swimming, their swim suits consisted of a long wool gown that weighed up to 26 pounds when wet. They were discouraged from exhibiting any emotion or temper that would express the act of being competitive.

The invention of bloomers and bicycles played a significant difference in women's liberation.

"The bloomers had the look of a dress but allowed for better movement," Hulstrand said. "The bicycle not only liberated women, but women in sports. It allowed mobility and women could travel and get out of their homes."

In 1868, the first women's bicycle race was held in France. Shortly after basketball was invented in 1891, women had their first basketball game in 1895.

"While the men took off with volleyball, the women took off with basketball," Hulstrand said. Women traveled from one area to another for basketball games by jumping into freight trains and doing "anything to compete." In the early 1900s came field hockey, ice

In the early 1900s came field hockey, ice hockey, softball and golf and women were now allowed to wear shorts. They went from play days to sports days.

"They went from a punch and cookie type of era and evolved into an era of competition," said Hulstrand.



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# Shakespeare was a transcendentalist

What is right is not always popular, what is popular is not always right. In this era of increasing political correctness it is getting more difficult to decide exactly how one ought to act and believe. And to make matters worse, the popular thing to do usually isn't very practical or logical. Fur is murder, yet what are your shoes and belt and wallet made of? Veal is a terrible way for a baby cow to die, but their mothers are often raised in the same cramped, lightless conditions, and you still eat that hamburger without thinking twice. Save the rain forest, but allow your state college to clear-cut acres of forest every year.

Recycle your cans and bottles, but drive your fossil fuel-burning vehicle to school or to work daily.

Claim that you are for freedom of religion and expression, but criticize others for having unpopular views. How can you expect the fundamentalist right wing Republican pro-life Christian to respect the long-haired hippie freak pro-choice bed-wetting liberal if the hippie doesn't respect the **Republican?** 

It's not that we shouldn't be supporting the causes which we do, but we need to look within ourselves to see what's truly important.

If you work in a hospice and councel dying AIDS patients just because your friend does, you are missing the point entirely. If you only support a cause because it is popular, you are worse than the offenders of the cause because you are not being true to yourself.

Over 100 years ago Henry David Thoreau wrote an appeal to support John Brown. Brown felt that slavery was wrong and that it should be eliminated regardless of loss of life incurred. Today we consider that noble. One hundred years ago it was considered foolhardy. It was not popular.

Today the people who chain themselves to trees and barricade roads with their bodies are considered part of the lunatic fringe. But how will society view those people in years to come when our children cannot see ancient cedar and redwood groves because of our lack of foresight? My grandfather was a soldier and a

police officer and a rancher. His father was one of the first white men to settle this part of the country. My father was a logger, my mother built roads for the county. All things that I oppose, but a way of life that they chose and believed in, so I believe in them, because it was not popular opinion that drove them on, but an intrinsic knowledge of self and a desire to do what they felt was right.

With few exceptions, it is not individuals that ought to be criticized, but attitudes. When a society becomes complacent and accepting it is no longer a nation of free beings, but a nation captivated by the rhetoric of politicians, and, yes, the media.

It may be very cutting edge and popular to follow the doctrine of Howard Stern, or perhaps in your circle Rush Limbaugh and Newt Gingrich are prophets of truth. Maybe you're a Dead Head follower or an angry young man whose scripture is Nine Inch Nails lyrics.

It doesn't matter. Just ask yourself "Is this me? Is this what I believe?" Or are you reacting to your environment, going along with or opposing society

just to go along with or oppose? None of us are free from blame, we all have tendencies to follow or to retreat.

But remember what college is all about, or at least what I believe it's all about. And that is education beyond the classroom, getting something more than a degree, and doing something more than earning a living.

It is becoming wise, and learning more, and living life on your terms.

Take some time to think about that while you're on break, and when you come back, make your educational process work for you. Get what you need out of it, learn what you want to know, not what they want you to know. Someday college will be nothing more than a distant memory, but your education will remain with you forever.

Or, better yet, reject everything I have said, because you have your own doctrine, and it is not mine. To thine own self be true.

> -Corinne Flowers Editor in chief

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It's like Mardi Gras, only colder

↑ t. Patty's Day is quite possibly one of the finest holidays there is. None of this hustling and D bustling around to buy gifts and going into debt. Stressing out about whose house to go to or who to visit isn't a problem. There are no trees or eggs. It's simply a great deal of green and an even greater deal of beer.

Hey, the kids have Christmas; adults have St. Patty's Day. Even that ugly green sweater that Aunt Helga sent you for Christmas gets pulled out of its box and worn. St. Patrick, bless his soul, has brought about a day (or



a week, if you choose) dedicated solely to living it up and having a ball with everybody you know. It's time for the Irish in everyone to come out. If you have none in you, that'll change by the end of the night. Toss an "O'" --- or a "Mac" - in front of your last name and you're set. There are only two different people out celebrating: the lads and the lasses.

On this rather special day, a bit of spring comes alive in my step. It Effie MacDonald all began when I was a wee lass and every morning for a week

before St. Patty's day, a trail of shamrocks would lead from the outside door to my room. My father used to tell me the leprechauns were bringing me the luck of the Irish while I slept. I don't know what ever happened to that luck, but I'm sure it's out there somewhere. The house would be filled with the Chieftains on their bagpipes and James Galloway on the flute. Dad would hop around doing jigs and singing at the top of his lungs. Convinced that the leprechauns had visited, I'd usually join him in those crazy jigs and songs, smiling all the while.

eyes are smilin! tis like the mornin! Sun"

"When Irish

All that fun and entertainment isn't as lively without my dad there to share it with anymore. Good thing there's Butte, Mont.

It could be called Little Dublin. This drab, cold, defunct copper mining town knows how to throw one hell of a party, for it only does it once a year. Some may drive into Butte and see nothing but a run-down, depressing city — and so it may be, until St. Patty's Day comes about. In a town full of hard-working, Catholic Irishmen, there's no better place to find a party to top them all.

In one week, the number of people in the town multiplies by five or six times its normal population. It's like Mardi Gras, only colder. People from all over come to join in this renowned celebration. Bagpipers, dancers, singers, young and old, Irish and not - they're all there for one reason: to have a damn good time.

And that's difficult not to do. The streets are alive with



crowds of blissful people, all getting to know each other if they don't already. Steins of beer are in the hands of every party-goer. Somehow, the old, boarded-up brick buildings that are everyday eye-sores come alive. Their nostalgia adds to the festivities. The smell of corned beef and cabbage mixes right in with the smoggy, musty smell that always lingers in Butte's skies. And the hidden taverns that only the locals knew about are now brimming with music and people.

It's a free-for-all. It's all in what you make of it. But how one couldn't love every loud, obnoxious, drunken minute of it is beyond me.

Though the temperature usually never peeks above 10 degrees, that doesn't stop the kilted bagpipers from dancing about with their bare legs. And what the heck, at least the beer stays cold. It doesn't stop the parades which put light in the eyes of children and adults. The words "When Irish eyes are smilin', 'tis like the mornin'

sun," echo about between the shabby buildings and those mingling in and out of them. Those smilin' Irish eyes are what keep Butte alive, for the sun never shines there.

Green felt hats bob in and out of the crowds of people. Handfuls of people surround old-timers and listen to their tales and woes. As the night grows into morning, more and more people pick up a mysterious Irish accent and rosy cheeks and noses to go along with it.

There are no rules and no limits, only the opportunity for thousands of people to gather in one Irish town for the purpose of celebrating and forgetting, drinking, dancing and laughing. I must say the University of Idaho planned this break

well, for there's no better way to forget about exams, studying and writing than heading to a St. Patty's Day weekend in Butte. For all of you who choose to live up this fine day to its fullest, I'll see you in Butte. Don't drink too much green beer.

## PINIOr

## Letters to the Editor

#### Hip-hop article full of holes

I am writing in response to Effie MacDonald's opinion article of March 7. While I understand this was a work of opinion, that in of itself does not, in my opinion, justify inconsistency and judgement without evidence.

I'll begin by assuming music is art and the perception of art by individuals will always be unique, but equally valid. In other words, I believe our opinions of music and the talent of musicians are of equal importance. I feel, however, MacDonald crossed over the line of opinion and into the realm of unsubstantiated name-calling.

How can you be "disconcerted to think so many untalented, screaming idiots are making millions" in your introductory paragraph, yet go on to praise the past music of prominent screamers such as Metallica, Ozzy and the many soundalike front men for AC/DC? Are the musical screams of yesteryear not equivalent to those of today's "idiots?" And, by the way, upon what exactly did MacDonald base her verdict of idiocy? This judgement, along with those made against Mariah Carey and the "crotch-atthe-ankles-pants" generation seem to be unfounded. Because MacDonald does not like Carey's music does not make Carey unintelligent. MacDonald also proposed that anyone with crotch-at-theankle-pants "can't actually have decent taste in music." This, simply put, is illogical.

Finally, I'd like to address her reference to "real" music and her definition of "real" instruments. Where did she get her definition of a real instrument? Some would say the woodwinds-brasspercussion-strings classification system is valid. Perhaps that's what she believed. I disagree, though. Music is aural art and nobody should cap the foundation of another's creativity by not acknowledging their form of expression. If MacDonald doesn't like it, that's fine. Don't listen to it. But don't say their instruments aren't real. Twentieth century technology has given birth to many new instruments. These instruments the mixer, the turntable and the synthesizer, to name a few — are equally as valid as any other more established musical device. In my opinion, MacDonald could stand to be a bit more respectful of music and other people's perceptions of it.

- Nathan Chaffin

#### Intent aside, ads were annoying

I am writing this letter response to your story of March 7, "Ads spark love, sex discussion." In it you interviewed Angie Wehens from the CCC who said, "Out intent isn't to annoy people or get in their face, but to say, 'hey, this is important.' It is too easy for people to say, 'hey, this is your belief, this is mine, and not really think about what they are doing."

Those ads did annoy me. I also know that they annoyed lots of other people on campus. My reaction is on two levels:

First, I reject the source of your ideology as unreasonable and unsubstantiated. I have yet to come across a logical argument for the existence of any god. Descartes, Locke and Kant have failed. I believe it is best said by one of my favorite philosophers, Ayn Rand, in her book *Atlas Shrugged*, "Whenever you commit the evil of refusing to think and see, of exempting from the absolute of reality one small wish of yours, whenever you choose to say: Let me withdraw from the judgement of reason the cookies I stole, or the existence of God, let me have my one irrational whim and I will be a man of reason about all else that is the act of subverting your consciousness, the act of corrupting your mind." However, I digress. The Argonaut is not the proper forum for such discussions.

Second, I reject your ideological imperialism. You assume, based on the fact that there exist people who do not hold the same beliefs as yourself, that they must not have thought about the issue of premarital sex long enough. Well, I have spent a long time thinking about philosophy and the way in which to lead a truly moral life. I have read many books and heard all the arguments about morality and come to the logical conclusion that whenever I choose to have sex with whomever I choose with which to have sex is my business. Sex is the most profoundly religious act that any person can perform, it honors the self; you are naked in both mind and body, whomever you choose as your partner is the truest reflection of your morality. I honor myself as my highest good, so I will have sex whenever and with whomever I feel is worthy of my body and mind, male or female.

Wehens, here is my belief and why I believe it. Can you give me a logical rebuttal?

— Michael Wojcik

#### Building for the future, or just to build?

At the University of Idaho, I have noticed substantial increases in student fees. University officials justify these increases to help in funding the Campus Commons project and the Campus Recreation Center, which will break ground in the near future.

As a student, I realize the need for both facilities, and how necessary it is for institutions to generate change in order to grow and become more appealing to potential students. However, I feel that the university should consider alternative means for change. To increase revenue, focus should not be put on student fees but on finding ways to increase the student population in general, thereby increasing overall revenues collected from students.

The population which could be a benefit to the university would be the nontraditional population, mainly adults with children. This is a very large population where there is a person who is normally willing to attend college but is unable because of child care costs and availability, plus trying to meet the cost of attending the university itself.

Boise State University has acknowledged this trend and has successfully tapped this resource by funding their campus child care by taking \$7 from each student's fees for subsidized child care. UI currently subsidizes child care hardly enough to entice more people with children to attend our university.

BSU not only receives the benefits of steady revenue from traditional students but has the luxury of gaining increased revenue from non-traditional students because of its child-friendly campus. More students mean more dollars. At this point all they suffer from is lack of space for their growing student population - but they have also found the revenues to fund further construction.

For UI, the focus should not be on asking present students for more money and potentially losing them due to the increase of fees. The university should instead realize the value of promoting itself by becoming child-friendly and tapping the same resource which BSU has enjoyed for some years now.

A \$35 increase is estimated for the 1997-98 academic year. It is essential that we know where this money is going. Is it going to be used to build more buildings that won't be filled? Or is some of it going to be used to subsidize child care cost and availability to allow more people to attend the university, thus keeping fees low and at the same time increasing revenue to fund buildings when we do need them?

#### - Ryon Talbot

# POT SHOTS

By Brian Davidson

The first real pot shot we've printed That some unfortunate individual got caught with marijuana in Snow Hall last week is not amusing in the least. If it had been cocaine, on the other hand. .

#### Highway 95 bill: goin' fishin'?

The Highway 95 improvement bill presently under consideration in the Idaho Senate is in jeapordy. The threat? Vacation.

Rather than delay the end of session — set for either March 18 or 19 — in order to consider the bill along with the "legal questions" Senate President Pro tem Jerry Twiggs (R-Blackfoot) feels the bill raises, the Senate may delay review until its next session, putting a statewide vote on the \$385 million project that much further behind. We can hope we'll have some sort of bill to vote on come November 1998.

The bill has met with some unpopularity in the south, where state lawmakers apparently have forgotten many North Idaho taxpayers have helped pay for road improvements from Ashton to Weiser. It's time the Payette to Canada folks got their due.

No habla español, Rankin? - Ron Rankin wants English to be the official language of Kootenai County.

He views the possibilities of multiple-language ballots and highway signs using the United States and metric systems as a waste of money.

"This has to do with economics in government," said Rankin, a Kootenai County commissioner in a Spokesman-Review article "Any time you have to do something twice, it costs you twice as much."

And that's how many tries for the One Percent initia-tive, Mr. Rankin? Going on four?

Read this or you'll go to Hell Letter-writer Michael Wojcik said it well when he wrote in his letter, printed in this issue, "The Argonaut is not the proper forum for such (religious) discussions.

The Reverend Joan Brown Campbell probably summed up the entire debate on religion the best, though: while speaking at astronomer and author Carl Sagan's funeral, she said, "He would say to me, 'You are so smart; why do you believe in God?' I'd say, 'You are so smart; why don't you believe in God?"

#### **Argonaut Letters & Guest Columns Policy**

The Argonaut welcomes reader letters and guest columns. Letters must be typed, double spaced, signed and include the phone number and address of each writer. Letters may also be submitted by e-mail to argonaut@uidaho.edu or by fax to (208) 885-2222. The Argonaut reserves the right to refuse or edit letters. Guest columns must go through the same editing and approval process as our staff columns. Ideas expressed in the Opinion section are those of the writers. They do not necessarily reflect those of the Argonaut or the Associated Students of the University of Idaho.

K



# SPORTS

show to meet living groups

#### **Nate Peterson**

Staff

n his first year back as coach of the Idaho Vandal basketball team, Kermit Davis has also been performing on the radio in a live program broadcasted on Tuesday nights from Branegan's.

"It was Dave Farrar's (UI assistant coach) idea that we start what we call Kermit Davis Live," Davis said. "We're trying to find a way to do something extra for our program and get a little publicity and exposure, plus

tie in our student body into it." Their final decision was to broadcast 10 shows that featured a variety of players and a number of coaching personalities besides Davis.

The show features Davis and is appropriately labeled "Kermit Davis Live."

Volleyball coach Tom Hilbert also played a part as the show's guest emcce.

Other coaches who have filled the role as emcee include football coach Chris Tormey and women's basketball coach Julie

Holt. The purpose of the show is to create more support for the basketball program, as well as the rest of the athletic programs. ""It's not just a basketball show," Davis said, "We try to promote the overall athletic

department." The show's success is dependant upon the attendance and participation of the audience.

"They're the biggest part," Davis said, "How excited they get and the questions they ask. make the show."

"It's usually about Idaho basketball, but the audiences questions aren't always about basketball," Davis said. "One time I was asked if I wore boxers or briefs.'

The trivia questions Davis asks pertain to basketball and if the audience answers the question correctly, they are given a prize from Davis.

"We try to give away a lot of T-shirts and stuff for trivia questions," Davis said.

At the show's last broadcast of the season on Tuesday, Davis gave out a much bigger prize. Delta Delta Delta sorority was given a \$500 cash prize for their attendance at the talk show and support of Vandal athletics this season.

Living group attendance was calculated by the coaches. The living group with the best attendance received a higher ratio of ballots --- Davis then drew the winner.

"It's like the NBA lottery draft," Davis said, "Based on the number of things you do, you get a number of slips in a hat to be drawn from. That gives you more chances to win."

Delta Delta Delta has been a regular in Branegan's all-youcan-cat pizza and has shown great participation in the talk shows. Davis drew their name from a hat and then awarded • SEE RADIO PAGE 9

# Davis does radio Whittem brings toughness to UI tennis

#### **Kindra** Meyer

Asst. Sports Editor

Tarning: Georgina Whittem may be tougher than she appears. Freshman Georgina Whittem has exploded onto the University of Idaho tennis scene this semester, squashing opponents and turning more than a few heads.

Whittem has cooked up a scorching 7-3 record in her first batch of matches. The 5-foot-2 athlete is also ranked No. 3 in South Australia, although she wouldn't be the first to tell you. Her modest attitude and sweet demeanor display little of the boastful numbers she's posted in her first few months in America.

We're very lucky to have her.

"Georgina has surpassed all my expectations of her," Idaho tennis coach Greg South said. "Once she figures out how to win a match she just grabs on, sits down and doesn't let go until it's over. She's a coach's dream. She shows up early, stays late and does what you tell her. When she's out there she's 100 percent."

Originally from Adelaide, South Australia, Whittem first began lessons at 8 years old. Following high school graduation in 1995, Whittem spent four months playing Germany club tennis and staying with a host family. This time away from home made the transition

to Idaho easier, although she still misses home. "The weather is the biggest thing. It's never this cold at home," Whittem said.

The transition period didn't take long for Whittem, and although dorm life is "different," she is managing to cope with college.

"All the girls on the team have been really nice, friendly and have helped me get started," Whittem said. Whittem does enjoy participating in doubles, but individual competition is her favorite when it comes to the

tennis court. "I've always preferred singles because it's all up to me," Whittem said. "When you're playing a close match and you're both playing really well, that's when I get the most satisfaction.'

Many college athletes complain that after high school, their sport loses enjoyment and it becomes more of a job. Whittem strongly disagrees, and although the work is hard, she's having a great time.

"I think playing in college is more fun because of all the traveling. I guess that's partly because I'm from Australia, but it's still a lot of fun," Whittem said.

Looking into the future, Whittem is keeping her goals team-oriented and is eagerly anticipating the years ahead.

"When I first came, I came with a really open atti-• SEE TENNIS PAGE 9



**Stacey Kite** 

Kermit Davis answers questions from students on the radio show Tuesday.



**Bruce Twitchell** 

Freshman Georgina Whittem lunges for the ball during practice Thursday.



#### **Big West women's volleyball** hits the airwaves in 1997

The Big West Conference, in conjunction with PowerBar and Ruffolo Communications, announced today the first-ever national women's volleyball radio package for the 1997 season.

The deal includes 10 regular season matches and the Big West Conference Tournament Championship, which will be distributed across America via satellite to more than 10 million homes on the Cable Radio Network and globally on the

#### Internet at<www.cableradionetwork.com>.

"We are happy to join forces with PowerBar and Ruffolo Communications in continuing to increase the exposure of our successful volleyball programs in the Big West Conference," Commissioner Dennis Farrell said. "The package provides an opportunity for fans from all around the country and even internationally to follow their favorite players and teams."

Big West women's volleyball will enter its 14th season as a league-sponsored sport in 1997.

#### SPORTS

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# **Rugby club jumps into spring season**



**Bruce Twitchell** The rugby team practiced earlier this week for their tour over spring break against West Mont College of Santa Barbara, the South Orange County bators and UNLV. Upon their return, they will start a full schedule.

## Intramural basketball concludes, softball to begin

#### Damon Barkdull Sports Editor

FKESHN

With the hopes that the Palouse weather ceases with its Academy Award winning impression of Jekl and Hyde — the intramural softball season soon begins on the swamp-like Guy Wicks field.

Softball begins on April 24, with a captain's meeting earlier in the month on April 13.

Although softball is around the

corner, University of Idaho here, it has been mostly Greeks Intramural Director Greg Morrison is quick to point out the conclusion of a successful basketball season - especially the participation of many off-campus teams

Of the remaining eight basketball teams in the playoffs, four of them were off-campus squads. Likewise, only one Greek team made it to the semi-finals.

"In the past, since I've been

winning," Morrison said.

"There are a lot of competitive teams this year not affiliated with any living group. Some of it has to do with guys that play noon ball together finally decided to put some teams together. We do have some ex-Vandals playing, that have spread out," Morrison said.

Under intramural rules, no more than one former Vandal player • SEE INTRAMURAL PAGE 9

#### **Byron Jarnagin**

Ready, set --- scrum.

Although the Vandal football team is in the off-season, there is another sport in full swing where University of Idaho students can watch a bunch of guys pitch around the pigskin.

The UI Rugby Club team is already two games into the season and there is plenty of rugby left for fans to come out and see.

The club team has played two tough matches against the Tri Cities Men's Club Rugby Team and a group out of Spokane, the River City Razorbacks.

"We've really come a long way and we are showing a lot of good talent out on the field," said team president B.J. Luker, "We've got the most guys that I have ever seen out, which has given us the numbers to have two full sides for practices and to travel with for away games. Things are going very well so far."

As the season continues, the club is working on getting into an official collegiate league.

Being in a league will establish real seasons, and with USA Rugby wanting the UI club team to join their league, players are positive about the program. Joining up with USA Rugby will put the UI Rugers in a league with Washington State University, Western Washington and others. The rugby team is looking to join the collegiate league sometime next year,

"In the past we've been playing mostly men's club teams, and we were in a Canadian men's club league," Lucker said. "The men's club teams proved to be just too experienced for us."

This year the UI club plays in a transition type of league. They play teams they've had connections to in the past, and participate in many open tournaments.

Lucker, whose played for the rugby club for 2 1/2 years, said it's too bad the team is not part of a league because it is one of the best teams he's ever played on.

This week the UI Rugers had a practice match against Washington State to teach some moves and plays to the younger players. The rugby club is always looking for new recruits, and is open to anyone who wants to play.

The regular season continues after spring break, but the rugby team won't be taking any time off as they head to a tournament in Southern California for a week of rugby and fun.

"We have 21 guys from the team going who will be playing Westmont College, Santa Barbara, South Orange County Men's Club and Las Vegas Men's Club," Lucker said. "We probably won't have anything like this again this season."

The trip to Southern California is the only big tour this season, however, the UI rugers will be attending three tournaments on the road,. and hosting another later this spring. Two of the away tournaments are held in Missoula, Mont. One is a collegiate match-up and the other is a men's club match. The third tournament will be in Spokane.

"We are actually starting to get recognized by the school a bit more now that we have started that whole thing up with the sports club federation," Lucker said,

"We've gotten a lot of support from them as far as financial and everything else, plus we have someone official to go through at U of I just in case we need something. We still have a long way to go, but things are looking a lot better."

The rugby team has a roster of 35. The team practices two or three times a week at 4:30 p.m. and is open to anyone who wants to play."

"If people show up to practices during the week, they will play on the weekends," Lucker said, "Things are really starting to pick up for us. Being part of an actual league next year will give us goals to work towards with a chance to be No. I in something instead of deciding that we are just going to go out and beat everybody in a season."



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#### INTRAMURAL •FROM PAGE 8

can be on a single team, thus, the ex-Idaho players have spread out and created parity among non-affiliated teams.

Besides the resurgence of off-campus teams, Morrison also notes that the overall sportsmanship was above par.

"It really turned out to be a good year," Morrison said. "We haven't had any fights. For the most part, sportsmanship has been excellent. People I think are getting used to the ratings and it does mean more to participate rather than yell at other people. I think that's a definite bonus.

Part of the reason of this year's success is attributed to the addition of the three-point line. Before, players would cluster under the hoop because the three-point shot wasn't in effect. This season, Morrison said the addition of the line has spread out offenses and made it easier for officials to make good calls.

'It added a new dimension to the game in terms of officiating," Morrison said. "It really spread the floor out."

Morrison is hoping softball runs as smoothly as basketball.

The intramural basketball season concluded yesterday although game and living group point results weren't available at press time.

and living group point results weren't available at press time. Some other deadlines for intramural sports are approaching as well, including: entry deadlines for co-recreational soccer (March 31), co-recreational ultimate frisbee (April 1), cribbage (April 10) and power-lift-ing (April 18); captain's meetings for softball, 2-on-2 volleyball and co-recreational basketball (April 13); weightlifting begins on April 19, co-recreational volleyball on April 24 and co-recreational basketball and frisbee golf on April 26.

#### RADIO •FROM PAGE 7

them with a monstrous check. "The Tri-Delts have done a great job all year long," Davis

said. "They've participated well and they have supported us well." Ironically, the house with the

best attendance on Tuesday night was Alpha Kappa Lambda fraternity. The AKL's were loud and rowdy, but conducted themselves very well.

"They did a great job," Davis said. "There was great participa-tion on their parts."

The show, which airs on KQQQ 1150 AM, is over for the

#### season, but will return next season.

Davis is optimistic about future showings and anticipates greater success next year. "I think it's going to catch on

and be a really big thing next year," Davis said.

#### TENNIS •FROM PAGE 7

tude. I wasn't quite sure what to expect," Whittem said. "Now I know we've got a strong team and we have potential to improve a lot over the next few years. The team's got a lot of depth-I think we can compete against anyone."

Although Moscow is considerably different than her hometown, Whittem barely has time to notice. Free time is a concept she knows little about, but balancing her schedule proves an easy task for this work horse. When she does have a spare moment, her pastime of choice is relaxing — something she won't see much of with the team's upcoming schedule.

"If I didn't have tennis I would probably be at a loss, but I don't have any free time to think about it," Whittem said.

Not only does this fantastic freshman hit the court with all she's got, she hits the books just as hard. Above all, her true love is exploring foreign lands and she is looking forward to seeing more of the United States while she's here.

"I just love to travel, I'd like to see more of America and more of Europe," Whittem said. In the mean time, she'll be packing up and taking a

few opponents down on her path of destruction,



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FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997



# Opening Windows helps solve problems



A son (Nick Garcia) confronts his mother. (Dawn Flood) in Opening Windows. Amy-Marie Smith
Assistant Entertainment Editor

The Idaho Theatre for Youth is touring the state putting on the play Opening Windows, to rural teens and their families. The play will be performed March 24 in the Moscow High School Auditorium, at 7:30 p.m. The production is being pre-

sented to our community by the Moscow Arts Commission and Gritman Medical Center and is free to the public.

The play deals with such crucial teen issues as substance abuse, emotional and physical abuse, parent-child communication, self image and eating disorders, STD's and pregnancy, and youth depression and suicide. The issues dealt with in the play are from actual interviews with parents, children and health care providers in rural areas of Idaho.

Opening Windows was written by Moscow playwright Micki

Panttaja, who teaches a play writing class at UI this semester.

The project was begun in the hopes of reassuring rural teens and their parents that the problems they face are normal. Rural American teens face the same, and just as many, problems as do their urban counterparts, *Opening Windows* attempts to show the validity of these issues among small-town adolescents. The play is a series of fast-

moving vignettes, or short scenes, that depict conversations of high school students by their lockers, a teen party that turns tragic when drugs and driving are mixed, a girl from an abusive family whose low selfesteem is reflected through an eating disorder, and other emotional scenes.

The cast of *Opening Windows* is comprised of a company of professional adult actors from the Idaho Theatre for Youth, based in Boise.

Following each presentation of *Opening Windows* is a struc-

tured audience discussion. A certified counselor who tours with the other actors in the play facilitates this discussion with audience members. The counselor answers their questions as well as supplying them with resources in their area that can help them address problems their family or community may be facing with their teens. These discussions have also generated community interest to start various resources that may not be available in the area but are generally available in larger cities.

The Idaho Theater for Youth, Idaho Rural Health Education Center, Idaho Division of Health, Idaho Commission on the Arts and representatives of health care organizations throughout the state collaborate to create the idea for such a production. Funding for the play was derived from corporate, governmental and private sponsors from various Idaho communities. Si w. hc bl.

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# A battle for diversity

#### Mathew Baldwin

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For years now major corporations have been buying up or driving smaller booksellers out of business. It comes down to a battle, one which is at a boiling point in America, between the independent booksellers and the corporate booksellers. With the expansion of chain stores into a majority of American cities the life of independent booksellers is in jeopardy.

Issues that arise between the two groups are fairness and market dominance. These issues, though, hide a deeper problem, one that can, in the end, affect the booksellers, authors, small publishers and readers.

Both independent booksellers and producers are asking the question: "Are books just another commodity that should be distributed like any other goods, or is there something unique about books that requires us to treat them differently?"

To accept corporate booksellers readers are accepting control by a few large corporations; they accept centralized marketing strategies, snazzy promotions, and the promise of the same selection from one store to the other.

Corporate booksellers dictate from one central location what all the other stores will do, most of the time from New York City. These sellers make such broad decisions as: Who will be displayed in the window? Who will be on the "end cap" or in the "power aisle" and which books will the staff be versed in? Most of these decisions are made through deals with publishers at the top level. This means a loss of quality and diversity for the reader. Also, corporate booksellers are more concerned with shareholder values as opposed to the readers' values. "Most of the big publishing houses are not American owned anymore; they're owned by European companies and they say that the primary concern of the corporate booksellers is the shareholder value. These are not American values. The shareholders live in Europe. What does that mean for our culture?" said Bob Greene, owner of Book People. Basically, chain stores will look for a book that will sell in every market, ignoring the literary merit of the book, appealing to the "lowest common denominator of national taste." For publishers and sellers it is a search for an author whose name can be turned into instant cash, i.e. a Stephen King or a Danielle Steele. It is sad when the all-time leading best-seller in the two largest national chains is a book by Rush Limbaugh. "National publishers learn to tailor their line of books to meet chain buying patterns. If a publisher has any doubt whether a chain will order a particular book, it can send the manuscript to a chain buyer for a reaction while it is negotiating with the

author," Book Passage, Inc. said.

Are there benefits with corporate book-selling? Buyers are able to go to any chain store and feel comfortable that there will be no change from one to the other. They will be able to find that bestseller that they've heard about from mass marketing or reviews in *The New York Times* Book Review, a journal who picks and chooses along with the corporates.

Borders Group, Inc., owner of Waldenbooks, Brentano's and Planet Music, promise "well-read employees." If you have ever walked into, say, a Waldenbooks this is grossly incorrect. I remember strolling into a Borders in Boise in search of Kafka. I went to the clerk and asked, "where's your Kafka?" The reply I received was along the lines of who is he and what did he write?

Corporate booksellers do not take into consideration region or people. Their job is to appease the shareholder.

"The chain stores are formula stores, managed from a central office with no real links to the local communities which they supposedly serve. Their employees have a high turn-over rate. For the most part, they are not experienced booksellers. Buying is centralized in offices thousands of

miles away without regard to the unique character of the local communities," said Andy Ross, president of Cody's Books, another independent bookseller.

"There have been studies done that show the rise

For the independent booksellers success is determined by the people who support the shops.

There is a difference between walking into a Waldenbooks or Book People here in Moscow. There is a comfortable air about Book People. "To many people this is home," Greene said. There are places to sit and read. Trust is also another trait of a Book People as opposed to a Waldenbooks or a Barnes & Noble.

"There are a lot of differences between the small rural town and a college town. There is a different ambiance, a different way of relating to people. We are a lot less formal. There is an emphasis on knowing people. You're doing things on a basis of trust," Greene said. People depend upon Book People being open. It is one of the only bookstores I personally have seen regulars in. There is a friendly greeting for everyone at Book People and other independent booksellers. By supporting independent booksellers readers are supporting an engine for distribution of ideas in our culture. If the loss of independent booksellers perpetuates until there are no more, then Americans will receive generic books written by generic authors. There will be nothing new to read, only rehashed King, Grisham or Critchonùa loss of quality and diversity that can be detrimental to American culture. Will American culture be dictated by large, centralized corporations or independent booksellers?

网络拉弗福拉 医麻醉出现 化过度辐射转移用的分词转移

of chain stores in America make child production easier because everything looks the same to the child. There is no difference. Everything is the same; there is no specific identification to one spot," Greene said. The reason for this is that American society has become a pit for the recycled, for the need of the same from one place to another. The loss of diversity means the loss of thought. When most people walk the malls they are drones, mindless and obedient to what the corporations are marketing. It is sterile.

"The job of the independent bookseller," Greene said, "is to provide good service, good books, make sure that people stay informed, stay entertained, have a good time, stay up on the current trend." Independent booksellers provide diversity, something that the corporate sellers can not boast. They can only boast mass and quantity.

In America there are around 6,000 independent booksellers. This outnumbers the chain stores, but the large corporations are catching up with the independents. They are doing this by slowly driving the independents out of business. Some booksellers have claimed that this a plan by the corporate sellers. Corporate chains have an advantage over the smaller book-sellers. They have capital and a structure that allows for loss of profit. What keeps the corporate booksellers afloat is their bulk.

# The Vandal Runestone.

# SURE PLACES

## **By Brian Davidson**

At May and Yellowstone --- right in front f their favorite greasy spoon — the car topped. Owner sat behind the wheel to steer s they pushed it up the little hill into the arking lot where the car would sit a paper reight as the two who had not purchased it he week before cheerfully spooned thick nilkshake into their mouths; as Owner stirred istlessly at his vanilla and Oreo crumbs and tared out the smeared windows at the immobile behemoth silhouetted against the stockards.

Paper weight turned evening diversion. Sister called home as Owner went outside with a bearded burly man to stare at the tubes hoses belts bolts boxes filters plugs and blades under the faded blue hood. "Wish I had my meter," Burly Beard said. He poked about the engine as if removing mushrooms from a salad. "Try her again. Hm. Not even a click. Wish I had my meter. You're not getting any juice. Might be a dead battery. Belts look good, and that alternator's new. Maybe there's a short."

"She just stopped, eh?" Another man, body wiry barbed wire and a red railroader's bandanna poking out of the shirt pocket. "Smack in the middle of the highway,

Burly Beard said. "Helped push 'em in. Wish I had my meter. I could tell if I had my meter.'

"What year?"

Behind the wheel, Owner spoke: "Ninetyone."

"Could be a fuse," Bandanna said. "New cars got nothin' but fuses."

They peered at the fuse box in the dwindling light. Bandanna squatted and leafed the owner's manual. "Things are useless." Bandanna tossed the manual into the back seat, poked the fuses, wiggled them, pulled a few out, inspected them, replaced them, slapped the cover shut. "Need a tow?"

Burly Beard was in the restaurant eating burgers with a big-haired woman. Brother and Sister were sitting at an outside table. Brown odors spoke of hay and cattle.

"No," Owner said, "Dad's coming. Thanks for your help."

Bandanna laughed as he walked away. "Was I any help at all?"

Owner pounded the steering wheel lightly with his fist. "At least," he whispered, "you had suggestions."

"Dad's bringing Mark's truck," Sister said as she sat in the front passenger seat. "Ought to be here in a few minutes." They sat silent and breathed cow straw sun-baked dirt as Owner fidgeted in the seat trying the key ounding pounding the steering wheel and taring blankly at the red Salvation Army hield painted on the building across the treet. Dad came. Comfort is a truck that vorks, chains, hooks and hands to guide hem to sure places. Brother Mark drove his

view side view mirror nothing coming jerk! The chain popped off. Mark stopped, backed up, re-attached the chain, Owner's heart pounding and Dad: sitting like a tossed rag in the seat. Rear view headlights; wait, side view bounced rays to Owner's eyes. All clear softer jerk and both vehicles in motion. In front of the bar the chain fell off.

"You gotta keep the slack out of the chain," Dad said. "Keep that chain tight even at the stops or we'll be at this all night, boy." Owner's shaky voice: "Maybe you'd better drive." Doors popped open. Mark paused in re-attaching the chain as change of drivers was made in front of the black and white bar still across from the stockyards.

Dad drove the faded blue car, with Owner sitting in the seat next to him.

Too nervous, twitchy, couldn't keep the slack out of the chain and moved eyes from chain to truck brake lights to stop lights to brake pedal so swiftly he got dizzy. Once had to drive a towed car eighty miles home from Island Park and when the chain fell off at Ucon his friend in the towing car thought Owner had hit him. Wall of confidence crumbled when hoses popped warning lights flashed tires flattened engines rattled and fenders crumpled.

He watched his father: tall skinny blackand-white photo of spindly white-haired man posing stiffly wearing wooden shoes left hand patting the white head of a precious bearded goat. His cheeks bony and skin filled with filaments to twisted red blood capillaries, and spot that resembled week-old pine pitch, darkened, dirty, below the left eye.

Dad adjusted the steering wheel so it fell in his lap. Hope I didn't have you buy a lemon, boy

The black eyes spoke.

"It's just some little glitch, I'm sure," Owner said, his own eyes dark with the coming night.

This is your summer.

The summer you become a man. 'Take it to Lindermann tomorrow. Ol' Bop is good with cars. Ouf," Dad said, "I have got an sour stomach, tonight." His knuckles white on the wheel and lips pursed. Brake lights red on Mark's truck. Dad braked. Owner pressed hard on the floor with his foot. The chain held no slack. Almost home.

"These things," Owner looked out the window: lights, signs, weeds, fields, foothills,

"are frustrating." "Yaaah, boy," Dad sighed, "but you got to expect that with cars. They break. Especial' used cars, like this one. All you can do is get 'em fixed.'

The neighborhood abuzz: old Taylor hosed soap off the Cadillac; kids squealed, shrieked, shouted on the trampoline. Sprinklers kicked and spat as the neighborhood seized upon the endless flat desert twilight that lasted nearly as long as day. Mr. Gowan:

"Howdy, neighbors," he said with odd laugh sigh smile under grooved forehead and shiny silver hair. Kids — his kids, neighbor kids, old kids, new kids — called him George Jetson: a little portly same style outfit different colors most days and the hair hands nose of a cartoon. Wife Jane had a beehive hairdo.

Dad and Owner sat on the front porch, open. Last year closed with morning glory vines to the roof. Hummingbirds flocked and worrywart mother feared neighbors will think we're spying on them through the leaves.

year or maybe just a few but not so high and not so many and not all over. Can't have the neighbors suspicious.

Well, Brian, saw you towing your car in," he said with the same laugh sigh, smile never accusing just saying that's how it goes with life sometimes and you just have to deal with it and maybe I can help.

"Yeah," Brian said, "bugger quit on me in front of Scotty's. Flat out dead."

"Didn't make any noise," Gowan asked, sitting on the small wood slat bench, stroking the cat, "didn't jerk or cough, just quit?" "That's it." "Well," Gowan said, "I don't know much

about cars, but why don't we bring it over to the shop and have a look? Pontiac, isn't it?" "Oldsmobile," Brian said, standing up.

"Hm. Same body as the Pontiac 6000 my son's got," he said. "Let's bring it on over. Can't hurt to look. Maybe we'll learn something. I'll go turn the lights on.'

"Thanks, Ralph," Dad said. "Sure is nice to know folks who know stuff like this." Smile sigh laugh. "Well, like I said, I don't know much, but maybe we can figure something out." His feet crunched through the gravel and the cat followed, silent.

"Mark!" The shout knocked all the air out of Dad's lungs. "Oh, oh, forgot my seven o'clock." He went into the house and through the open window Brian heard the pouring of water, the shaking of pills out of a bottle.

The air was cooling dust road tar wet concrete chlorophyll from the neighbor's freshcut lawn mixed with late lilac; sound slow tires on loose gravel and people talking as they pushed the car. Open shop door a pool of light theatre screen in the descending dark. Somewhere inside George Jetson prepared tools books rags wrenches clip lights battery testers acid gages and others to be handled with

simplicity and intelligence to border on arrogance but all shrugged aside and humble: smile sigh laugh, tools in hand.

"Thar she blows!" Gowan: smile shrug; they push the car in over the tongues of the pneumatic lift. Mark and Sister give goodbyes and melt into the dark beyond the hanging halo of Gowan's holy lights. Across the street lights burn in the living room; Dad sits draped in a chair watching television.

Brian rubbed his nose, hands in pockets rubbed nose adjusted glasses mussed hair and stood on the fringe of light draped on concrete by the false sun. "Pop the hood and we'll see what we got," Gowan said. Brian entered full light, opened door, popped hood. Gowan pounced on the battery. Chuckle sigh: "One of the cables feels a little loose. I'll tighten 'er up then you give her a crank. There." Hand to key then hand to chin. "Not even a click. Nothing."

Out beyond the curtain of light: street, trees, gravel, wandering dog.

Level of distilled water in battery, check. Charge low. Smile sigh. "We'll tack on the charger here, let her go for a half hour. Come back and we'll see if this battery will even hold a charge. Might have a bad battery on our hands." Pronounced battry. Half an hour good charge try her again. "Maybe it's your starter," Gowan

said."That clicking we need to hear is the solenoids making contact. See, when you turn the key you crank those solenoids up to complete the current and then the car starts. Maybe your solenoids are worn out and can't erv time they need

#### Shrug

Brian smiled, commenced breathing, removed hands from pockets, spoke: "I sure hope it's something," he said, "something we can fix." School coming maybe girlfriend one year left for the degree and maybe a job sure had pinch-hitters but needed to be on the play list first and it might rain tomorrow work to replace windshields get black goop on fingers and razors slip to scratch paint; "Need this thing to work. Too much invested to make it a paper weight."

Gowan hummed: like a child in wild anticipation, longed to hear that all aboard. "Well. it's only a small glitch, you know," chuckle chuckle shrug. "If the car was working, it'll work again. Something's just broke. Men built this thing, remember," Gowan said, "and men can fix these things. We've just got to try things, experiment, see what's busted and maybe we can fix it. If we can't, we sure know people who can. Let's have at her.' Gowan on the creeper peering under the faded blue car. "One here, I think. Boy, they make it tough sometimes to find a spot where you can lift without bending something. One over there." Creeper rolled, Gowan in white striped shirt, dress slacks, brown shoes. "Ah hah. Ah hah," sigh. "One. . . there and the other. Got her." On his feet, gave creeper and expert flick to the wall. "Now we have some fun, Brian." Red button pushed and faded blue car rose, four tires loosely dangling legs of spindly kitten held in one strong hand; bumper held to nose as if for furry snuggling, dead headlights fishy, staring. The underside of the car was uncommonly tidy. Looked for Made in Taiwan and Oldsmobile Calais S metal-stamped on the bottom as on the tiny metal cars played with and lost on tiny dirt roads in flower beds. "There's the bugger right there," Gowan said. Pointing a clip light. Short, round cylinder, three bolts on one end a little road dirt greasy and tuft of straw. "Now, our book here" — shiny silver hair unmussed glasses on a green braided cord; perched on the Jetson nose eyes scanned small print fingers jabbed illustrations -- "has three tests for the solenoids." Stretched a red battery cable from donor Thunderbird: red white convertible vintage 1958 restoring right now look at that engine don't make 'em like that any more oddest smile sigh with that hint of justifiable pride - to the faded Oldsmobile, ailing, out of place dangling bathed in white artificial light. "Dad's got the Ford running again."

"Ol' 48?" Sigh. "That's a fine vehicle, always like to see your father driving it. Always has a wave for me."

"Yeah," Brian said. "Dad's always got a wave. Some days he waves, says hi, Bill' and when you ask Bill who he says I dunno. Never seen him before. Hi Al!"

Smile chuckle under the hair forehead glasses. "He's a fine man, your father. Don't ever forget that." Clamped red to ground black to solenoid. Solenoids clicked furiously and the car roared overhead. Smile. "We know what isn't broke. Let her run to charge the battery. You know," chuckle grin, "you might just have a loose belt. Easy to fix."

Dangling cat-car purred. Out of the shop door light shining out of the neighbor's windows, bright stars, light breeze.

"Loose belt," Brian said as the car lowered. Gowan eyed the belt as it turned. Chuckle smile. Triumph. "Dad mentioned that possibility."

Smile. "Be sure and tell him he was right."







#### DIVERSIONS

# CINEMA Donnie Brasco: A bad movie? Fuhget about it!

THE ARGONAUT

Justin Cason staff

I've seen a lot of movies about the mafia, and there's one thing I just don't understand. It's not how they go about bribing the police, it's not why there's so much bloodshed and it's not how a guy gets "made."

It's how they ever get anything done. You see, in just about any gangster film, approximately one-third of all mafioso guys get "whacked," and the ones that don't get killed sit around talking about all the hits they've pulled. This doesn't leave a lot of people to take care of personal finances, pay the bills (the ones that they actually pay) and plan the big heists.

Plus, one out of every two mafia guys is named "Pauly," "Nicky" or "Tony" which has to make for some confusion in itself. I mean, how many times in Scorsese's

Goodfellas do you think Nicky Eyes came running when Micky Franzese was called? And I'll bet many a theft was botched when Johnny Roastbeef got mixed up and did Johnny Dio's job by mistake.

OK, these problems didn't really occur in Goodfellas, but I'm sure you can imagine such predicaments occurring. What all this is leading to is that part-time

movie fans and hardcore cinema gurus alike have been screaming for a picture that for once doesn't wholly glamorize and stereo-type the mafia, but shows a different, proba-bly truer, portrait of the crime syndicates (or is that just me?).

Donnie Brasco is that movie, and it's a fantastic one. Instead of relying primarily on the "whacking" scenes or the flashy, do-any-thing, go-anywhere lifestyle of the mafia, Donnie Brasco details the relationship between an aging, cancer-ridden mentor

character and his protege, set against the mob's own deterioration.

The film takes place in 1978 Brooklyn, a tough time of financial decline in mafia affairs. Instead of living the high life, veteran Lefty Ruggiero (played by Al Pacino) and mafia newcomer Donnie Brasco (Johnny Depp) spend their time robbing parking meters, jukeboxes and trucks full of razor

blades to make ends meet.

Lefty and Donnie develop an intimate friendship, with the former putting his life on the line by vouching for Donnie's worth and character. What Lefty doesn't know, though, is that his young friend is really Joseph Pistone, an undercover FBI agent investigating the mob.

We see Donnie go back and forth from his wife and three daughters to his undercover job to his check-up meetings with FBI officials, all the while drawing closer to his new companions and alienating himself further from his family. At one point, he declares to his wife, "I'm not becoming like them, I am them."

At one point, he even lectures a fellow FBI agent on the numerous meanings of the mafia phrase, "Forget about it" (pronounced "Fuhgetaboutit"). Funny as it may sound, knowing the greater virtues of this saying is just one step to becoming one of the "family.

This is a great character for Depp, especially after a career of lighter roles in such movies as Edward Scissorhands, Benny & Joon and Don Juan DeMarco. He rivals Pacino in authenticity in nearly every scene, and it's through his relations with the mafia that the audience gets pulled into the "gangster" lifestyle.



his past roles in The Godfather or Scarface. Lefty is sort of a Carlito's Way meets Scent of a Woman. For director Mike Newell, making this type of film was unique. To this point, Newell's

claim to fame was Four Weddings and a Funeral. Also, Michael Madsen as "Sonny Black" - not to be confused with "Sonny Red," another character in the movie - is almost as terrifying here as his "Mr. Blond" character was in Quentin Tarentino's Reservoir Dogs. However, nobody's ear gets hacked off in

Donnie Brasco. There is a small amount of violence in the picture, although it's hardly gratuitous. As with other such films, it's a necessary part of showing how the mafia takes care of business (at least in the movies). Still, the gunning down and subsequent "fileting" of rival group members gets fairly graphic. The ending to *Donnie Brasco* is brilliant, although the final "where are they now"

information is extraneous and should be ignored.

Beyond that, this is a wicked picture. Anyone who says otherwise, well, let's just

THEHORSEMAN ON THE ROOF

Movie Trivia of the Week

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#### FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997

#### THE ARGONAUT

#### DIVERSIONS 13



## ames Oliver

The incoherent adventures of Captain Culinary and Sergeant Dietary continue. Last week, we infiltrated Pete's Bar and Grill in Pullman, conveniently located in the 100-year flood plains of both Paradise Creek and the Palouse River.

We walked into Pete's Bar and Grill last Friday brandishing terrible attitudes spawned by seemingly endless hours spent gazing at a computer screen. We were fully prepared to have the worst dining experience of our lives.

Unfortunately, we chose the wrong restaurant to fulfill our prophecy. Initially, we thought we'd pulled into the nearby motel's office by mistake as, in the early dusk hours, there was little to distinguish one from the other. We expected to wait for a table; after all, it was

Friday night in a small, rural college town. The Sergeant was disappointed to be promptly greeted by a smiling hostess and, despite our sincerest frowns, she seated us immediately. The Captain, eternally fond of documenting service times, glanced at his watch, only to be interrupted by salutations from the waiter.

Cuisine

In fact, the outstanding service was the only extraordinary feature of this highly ordinary establishment. The framed posters are pedestrian, the oak veneer tables are tacky, and the asymmetrical kitchen doors ached for lubrication. The generic white dinner plates and tarnished flatware reeked institutional atmosphere. Even the paper napkins lacked color and imagination.

Not surprisingly, the dinner menu also lacked imagination. The Captain recognized this shortcoming quickly, noting that there was nothing he cared to sample on this menu. Most of the pastas came

with cream sauces, earning a note of caution from the Sergeant. Overall, the menu poses a substantial risk to one's heart health.

We finally consented to order the Steak Diane, mostly because the "Diane" was a misnomer. Sauce Diane is a classic French preparation usually served with venison. It is a simple variation of Sauce Poivrade (peppercorn demi-glaze), finished with heavy cream and sliced black truffles. This Steak Diane promised bay shrimp and bearnaise sauce, much closer to the ubiquitous and very 1970s Steak Oscar. Being children of the '60s. this combination of beef, seafood and undercooked egg yolks is as familiar as a favorite old shirt; it may not be fashionable, but at least it's comfortable.

Our revenge, we thought, would be derived from the service. We intentionally scarfed down the first course, a Caesar salad that was so incredibly ordinary that we had difficulty remembering if we had actu-

ally eaten it. We did this to extend the wait for our entree. As the server cleared our plates, he reminded us that we had just finished an uninspiring glass of Chardonnay and inquired if we'd like another. Knowing that a plate full of heart attack risk was forthcoming, we hedged our health care dollars by ordering glasses of Cab-Merlot.

Ordinary food for ordinary people

The Sergeant promised to feign discontent as our wait approached three minutes. Our server then appeared bearing both food and drink. We immediately began searching for something that deserved a complaint. "The vegetables (two round carrot slices and six bits of zucchini) must certainly be cold," the Captain offered. Much to our dismay, everything on the plate was piping hot. We decided to mix the sour cream into our baked potato; surely that would cool it down. No luck: that russet had enough latent heat to maintain its temperature.

Next, we moved on to the steak; we thought we'd very likely find a problem there. The top sirloin was tender, juicy and grilled to our sat-isfaction. We found an adequate amount of sauce and tiny bay shrimp, although the Captain expressed reservations about the unusual pale-beige color sported by the bearnaise. "It's probably a package mix," replied the Sergeant. The Health Department is really cracking down on the use of raw egg yolks." Nonetheless, everything tasted fine even if not gastronomically exciting or visually appealing.

Sergeant Dietary was forced to issue a citation to Pete's Bar and Grill for excessive use of lipids in a fresh vegetable product. If you don't walk in expecting to find a creative or low-fat cuisine, then you certainly won't be disappointed by Pete's. It's forte is ordinary food combined with excellent service in a dull environment. Bring your own crayons.



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#### FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997

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THE ARGONAUT

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1997

# CALENDAR

#### FRIDAY MARCH 14

· Palouse Performers, Administration Auditorium, 3

 p.m.
 Palouse Folklore Society square dance, Moscow Community Center, 7:30 p.m.

# S-

#### SATURDAY MARCH 15

SPRING BREAK BEGINSI!
Young Peoples' Arts Festival, Moscow Junior High, 9:30 a.m.
Scaports Striders Running Club's 19th annual St. Patrick's Day Run, Clarkston High School, 10 a.m., registration, 9 a.m., call 758-9850 for costs and information.

# MONDAY MARCH 17

Potato Appreciation Day, reading of James Joyce's Ulysses., Book People.
Deadline to register for a food booth at the 1997 Moscow Renaissance Fair.









# Announcements

#### Help Make a Difference

• Help save a life and raise awareness about organ donation tonight. Dance for Life, a non-profit, benefit dance will be held from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. at the Moscow Social Club's Grand Ballroom. The dance will feature a wide variety of music from the '50s to the '90s. The benefit is being held to raise money for John Redden, a Moscow resident who needs a liver operation. Organizers are asking for a minimum donation of \$5 for admission. All other donations can be sent to The National Transplant Assistance Fund at 6 Bryn Mawr Ave., P.O. Box 258, Bryn Mawr, Pa. 19010. Checks should be made out to: NTAF — Friends of John Redden.

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#### Annual Festival Gears up for Spring

• Moscow Renaissance Fair applications for booths are now available to non-profit community groups wanting to sell food at this year's fair. The fair will be held May 3 and 4 at East City Park. Application requests may be sent with a self-addressed return envelope to food booth coordinator, Andy Boyd at P.O. Box 9990, Moscow, ID, 83843. The deadline for requests is March 17.

**UI** Theatre

• Dancers, Drummers & Dreamers, a collaboration between the UI Dance Theatre and the Lionel Hampton School of Music, presents completely original music and movement performances March 28 and 29 in the Hartung Theatre. Tickets are available in the Hartung Theatre Box Office; costs are \$4 for UI students, \$5 for non-UI students, \$7 general admission and \$6 for seniors. • The play: Lee Blessing's Independence opens March 28 and runs through April.4 at the UI's Collette Theatre.

#### WSU Art

• A River Ran Through I: The Great Pullman Flood of '96, photographs by Larry Meinert will appear at the WSU CUB Gallery from March 24 through April 4. It is free to the public. SPRING BREAKS

The deadline for submitting your announcement is Monday at noon for