

An alarm went off on the second floor of the Delta Gamma Sorority Monday afternoon. Firefighters found no sign of a fire.

The drive to

learn more

ATHLETES GET Green Light To Work

SHINGIRAI CHRIS KWARAMBA REPORTER

Starting this fall University of Idaho student athletes on full scholarship will be allowed to work during the school year. This is according to a bylaw passed by the National Collegiate Athletics Association last spring. Before this, athletes on full rides could only work during school breaks when classes were not in session.

UI Senior Associate Athletic Director, Kathy Clark, said the Athletic Department welcomes this change as it gives student athletes an opportunity to earn some extra income.

UI Men's Track team member, Tawanda Chiwira said, "I am relieved that I will now be able to earn some extra money. Now perhaps I can even plan on going home for Christmas or during the summer. Besides, I need to buy things like toiletries and clothes."

Previously, those on full scholarship were at a disadvantage because the scholarships offered by NCAA Division 1 institutions only cover the cost of education and not the cost of attendance.

The cost of education is a full grant equivalent, which means institutions pay for tuition, food, lodging and books. The cost of attendance however, includes incidental expenses such as travel costs, clothes, toiletries, entertainment and other things a normal student will need during the school year.

According to Clark the cost of attendance of the average student athlete at UI exceeds the full scholarships offered by the Athletic Department by about \$3,000.

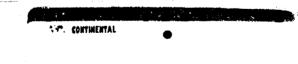
The new bylaw states student athletes on full scholarships will be able to work and earn money up to, and not in excess of the student's cost of attendance. At UI, they may earn about \$3,000 in addition to their full scholarships.

Clark pointed out that this was a good opportunity for students to earn some extra money, although the possibility the students and their employers would abuse this privilege made the bylaw difficult to implement.

"You will always find cheaters who will take this as an opportunity to offer free money to student athletes. This is in violation of the NCAA's spirit of amateurism. The University of Idaho Athletic Department will do its best to ensure nothing of this nature occurs."

In one example given by Clark it is possible that a student athlete may receive a full day's pay at \$7.50/hour for doing something as easy as flicking on a light switch in the morning and flicking it off at night.

See WORK page 2





MICHELLE KALBEITZER

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sixty-four is the average age of the University of Idaho student this summer.

That is, for the 712 students registered for the third annual Life on Wheels RV Conference being held on campus.

UI is "making provisions for almost 300 motor homes and trailers, and providing them with electricity, water, and sewer service," said Gaylord Maxwell, RV writer and Life on Wheels founder. Presently, the hundreds of RVs are parked around the Kibbie Dome.

With over 90 different courses, the conference is an educational experience that covers every aspect of RV life. Some of the classes are directed at RV maintenance, such as Suspension and Handling, Performance: Gas Engines, and Fire Safety. While other classes cover topics like Taking Better Photos, Writing for Fun, and How to Live in a Sardine Can Without Killing Each Other.

In addition, the classes are being taught by 44 different

Over 300 RVs are parked on campus this week for the annual Life on Wheels Conference.

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See TRUCKIN' page 2



Wednesday, July 16 • From 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., the UI will host a Brown Bag Noon Concert. James Ried, a prominent classical guitarist, will perform on the Administration lawn.

The Idaho Repertory Theatre will perform Midsummer Night's Dream. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Hartung Theatre.
WSU's Theatre Department will perform The Front Page. This play is in the Summer Palace series. Call 335-7447 for more information.

Thursday, July 17

• The ASUI Outdoor Program will conduct the mandatory class session for the rock-climbing trip that will take place July 19. The day trip costs \$20. To sign up or obtain additional information, call 885-6170. • The Fresh Aire concert series will continue at East City, Park.

will continue at East City Park. The free concert will run from 6:30 p.m. to 7/30 p.m. The Equinox, a jazz quintet, is sched-

Equinox, a jazz duintet, is scheouled to perform. For more information, call 883-7036. • The Idaho Repertory Theatre will perform *Forever Plaid*. The play will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Hartung Theatre. For more information, call 885-2979. • WSU's Theatre Department

• WSU's Theatre Department will perform *The Front Page*. The play is in the Summer Palace series. Call 335-7447 for more information.

• From 6 to 9:30 p.m. Rendezvous in the Park will feature Charlie Musselwhite and his Band, For tickets, or more information, call 882-1178

The Idaho Repertory Theatre will perform Greater Luna. The playwill begin at 7:30 p.m. at

the Hartung Theatre. For more information call 885-2979.

Enday, July 18

• WSU's Theatre Department will perform *The Front Page*. The play is in the Summer Palace series, call 335-7447 for more information.

Saturday, July 19 • Moscow Farmers' Market 20th Anniversary celebration will take place at Friendship Square in downtown Moscow. The event will run from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information call 883-7036. • Palouse Habitat for Humanity will sponsor a golf tournament/fund-raiser. The 9

a.m. golf-tournament will take place at the Colfax Golf and Country Club. For more information call 332-5590, 397-3886, or 883-8502. * Rendezvous in the Park will showcase Dee Daniela. The concert runs from 6 to 9:30 p.m. For tickets or more information call 882-1178. • Idaho Repertory Theatre will present *The Outfit.* The Hartung Theatre performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. For tickets or moreinformation, call 885-2979. • WSU's Theatre Department

will perform *The Front Page*. This play is in the Summer Palace series. Call 335-7447 for more information.

Sunday, July 20 McConnell Mansion will host a Doll Garden Party. The event will last from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information call 882-1004.

Tuesday, July 22. Al-6 p.m. UI will host a salmon barbecue in the Arboretum. For tickets call 885-2163. The Idaho Repertory Theatre

 The Idabo Repertory Theatre will perform *Forever Plaid* (The Harting performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. For tickets or additional information, call 885-2979.

WORK from page 1

Clark said the Athletic Department can rely only on the honesty of its student athletes and their prospective employers. However, if a violation was discovered, the student athlete would most likely lose their eligibility.

The university would also sever all existing ties with the employer.

In addition, athletes may not be used in any kind of advertising campaigns by their employers. The amateur status of the athletes must remain intact.

"If the students and their employers follow the strict NCAA guidelines there should be no major problems," Clark said.

Those who wish to work during the school year will be required by the Athletic Department to sign an affidavit stipulating that they will abide by the laws of the NCAA. Prospective employers will also be required to sign a similar document.

Unlike the Big West, some conferences may delay the implementation of this new by law for a year. They need time to prepare methods of policing any would-be violators.

If there is a violation of a NCAA rule, the school is obliged to investigate and determine the exact nature of the incident or incidents, whatever the case may be. It is not uncommon for entire athletic programs to be put on probation for NCAA violations.

The UI Athletic Department intends to meet to discuss the by law before the beginning of the fall semester, but as it stands some UI athletes will be working next semester.

TRUCKIN' from page 1

instructors who are "leading industry experts," said Mary Lou Thompson, Life on Wheels coordinator and UI Enrichment Program advisor.

"We have a professional photographer from Chicago teaching people how to take pictures," Maxwell said.

Only in its third year, the Conference is already in high demand. Maxwell said, "We can take over 700, but there were over 300 on the waiting list that we couldn't accommodate."

He added, "This program has been expanded nationally" as the UI Life on Wheels extension program. In fact, this September a three day session of Life on Wheels will be held in Harrisburg, Pa.

Conference first-timers Russ and Jane Sawyer, with dog Polo, said, "We like it a lot." Their 40 foot motor home has satellite television, a computer, phone, dishwasher, and a machine that washes and dries clothes all in one shot.

The Sawyers are on the road 40-44 weeks a year in their mobile home, although they do spend winter in Tucson, Ariz. It isn't always all play and no work for the Sawyers. Jane Sawyer does needle point and sells them on the road.

There are people from 41 states here, including four Canadian provinces, a couple from England, and two people from the Japan Auto Camping Club. The five day event, which is sponsored in part by the UI Enrichment Program, will conclude Friday.

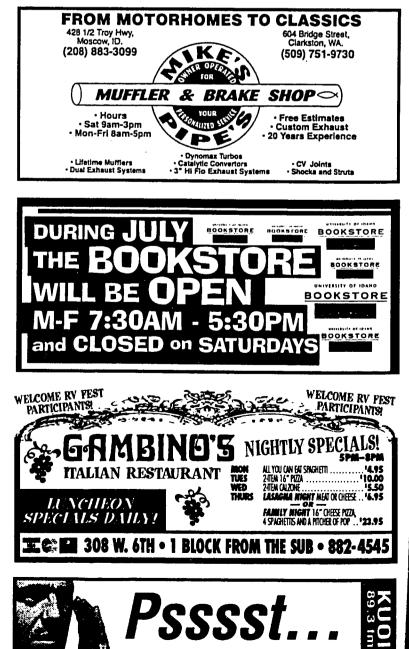
On Sunday Maxwell was inducted into the RV Industry Hall of Fame. He encourages other RVers to "be a gregarious person. It's not a lifestyle for hermits."

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WES RIMEL



IAURA LAPANCE

Sword swallower calls Moscow home

Many Moscow residents and University of Idaho students know some of the big stars the town has produced. These names include World Record Holder and Olympic Gold Medalist Dan O'Brien and Seattle Seahawks quarterback John Friesz. However, there is another big name all of us should know — Brad Byers.

Byers is a world famous sword swallower — meaning he performs around the world swallowing swords. Most of the time he is performing for a nationwide television show. Two weeks ago he appeared on "The Letterman Show". During his performance he swallowed seven swords at one time and even swallowed a curved sword.

Byers has worked as a UI custodian for 16 years. "Sword swallowing doesn't cover people for health and life insurance policies, and it doesn't have a pension plan either," he said. "Also, working as a custodian I get weekends and holidays off, paid vacation, and can get off early to work on my routine."

Byers stressed that being a custodian offers substantial flexibility. "How many jobs can you ask for the very next day off because you suddenly have a performance and get the day off?" he asked. "Not many. Some jobs require you put in for a day off a month in advance."

But doesn't living in the remote community of Moscow, Idaho, hurt his career? No way, said Byers. "The only thing that really matters when doing international shows is that I live close to an airport. The airport is very close to Moscow."

A Las Vegas agent handles the booking of performances for Byers. His next destination is Caracas, Venezuela. He has already performed in Japan, Taiwan, France, Italy, and Spain.

Byers started juggling when he was 15 years old. He also toured with circus entertainers for years.

"There's just too many jugglers out there to make a decent living. They just aren't in high demand. However, I am one of the few sword swallowers in the world," he said.

Byers remembers his grandfather wanting to see a sword swallower perform. So he decided to try it around age 25. "I learned by way of trial and error, so sometimes I did get hurt. I had never seen a sword swallower until I had an act, so I wasn't that sure of what to do."

His first national show was "That's Incredible," which he credits for starting his professional career. "After that my career really started to take off," he said.

So why does Byers do sword swallowing? "For me it's a creative outlet," he said. "It is always a challenge."

Sword swallowing is not the only thing Byers is well known for. He also is known for hammering an icepick into his nose. "It stops only 3/16 of an inch before my brainstem." He also hammers a board to his face and makes it spin in circles. Byers is even an expert unicycle rider and top-notch with the yo-yo. Byers said, "I perform my yo-yo act every year at the Nez Perce County Fair." In addition, he finger spins objects and chin balances very heavy weights.

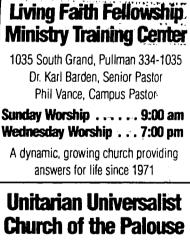
Byers is the only man in the world able to swallow seven swords and twist, the only man in the world that hammers a board to his face, and the only man to swallow curved swords, just to mention a few.

When asked what the best part about his business is he said, "The response from the crowd and meeting cool people. I've met the smallest man in the world — who is 28 inches tall and a woman with a full seven inch beard."

The scariest part about the job? "That would be customs," he laughed.

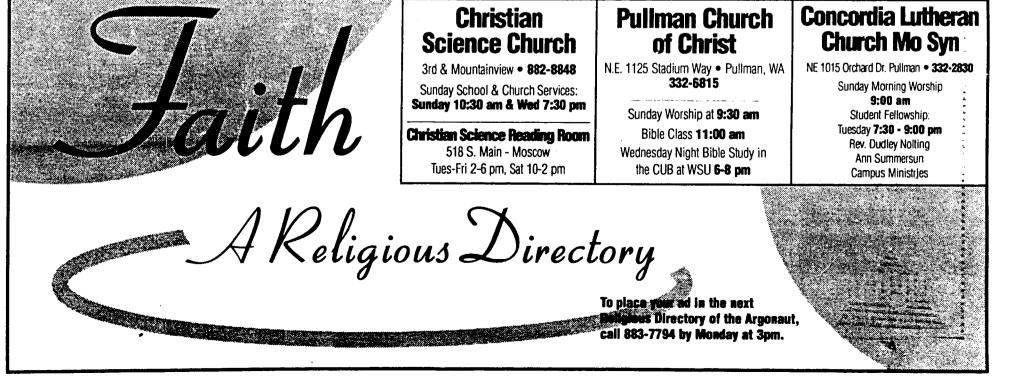


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DIVERSIONS

In-house...

Forever Plaid *takes* you back

LEX P. LEVY

REPORTER

The lights are low, except for a single spot which shines on the keyboard player who plays a soft, classical sounding piece. The stage has four stools and a large plaid box, while a deep blue, metallic curtain hangs behind. Mumbled voices are heard until the four actors burst on to the stage. From that point on, *Forever Plaid* moves fast, taking the audience on a trip into an American past that is colorful and vivid.

Roy Ramey, who graduated from Kendrick High School and the University of Idaho in the 40s, was delighted with this funny, fast-paced play.

"It brought back a lot of memories," he said. "It was really something."

Forever Plaid is an early 60s singing group in search of their first record contract.

Forever Plaid is a play chronicling these four young men's hopes and dreams. Forever Plaid is a well acted and excellently sung theatre experience that is pleas-

ing in its simplicity, touching in its candor, and uplifting in its slightly corny sense of humor.

Chuck Ney, artistic director for the Idaho Repertory Theatre, was pleased with last Thursday's opening performance of *Forever Plaid*.

"I thought it went really well tonight and I suspect we'll be sold out for the rest of the show," he said.

Though there were some empty seats in the Hartung Theatre, the audience laughed to the quick one-liners, and grooved along to the wonderfully arranged and superbly performed music and vocals. Actors Tony Falotico, Sal Sabella, Joel Corda and Jeff A. Pierce are hilarious as the four vocalists in search of stardom. Their interplay is part Happy Days, part Grease and part Three Stooges. The quick pace of the action keeps the play moving and keeps the audience on their toes.

Forever Plaid also possesses one very hot house band. Musical Director Cameron Littlefield plays the keyboards, Steven Lilly plays bass, and Ryan Digham plays percussion. Together they lay the musical backdrop for the soaring, diverse and often humorous vocals. They cover a variety of styles from jazz to bebop, and even play a familiar song or two. Plot aside, the music in *Forever Plaid* is worth the trip to the Hartung all by itself.

The atmosphere Thursday night was exciting, and the audience seemed to really enjoy the many facets the play had to offer. The older crowd could easily identify with the portrait of innocence the play projected, a portrait of an America with simpler tastes and values. The music rocked, the set was elegant and tasteful, and the costumes were awesome. *Forever Plaid* has a great story and it is obvious that the crew and cast of the IRT put all of themselves into this fine production.

Forever Plaid will play tomorrow night, July 22, 26, and 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hartung Theatre.

Shakespeare emerges

Roughing it ...

under the stars

WES RIMEL

After the opening and second nights of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was rained out on July 8 and 9, the play finally was acted out on Sunday evening. The play, written by William Shakespeare, was performed by actors from the Idaho Repertory Theatre. The entertainment began before the 7:30 p.m. start time, when folk singer Dan Mahr took the stage and sang some tunes. Even to the untrained ear, Mahr is a man of immense talent and is known across the country as one of the great folk musicians.

Sitting on blankets in the lawn between the Education Building and Swim Center, the crowd cheered heartily for Mahr's performance and then waited for the play to begin. Though I have read Shakespeare and had a teacher in high school for two years who loved Shakespeare, I hadn't seen or read A Midsummer Night's Dream before.

The play starts off similar to *Romeo and Juliet*. Hermia, one of the lead actresses, wants to marry Lysander. However, her father Egeus will have nothing of the sort and will only give his blessing for her to marry Demetrius. Unfortunately, Hermia does not like Demetrius at all.

So, like *Romeo and Juliet* Hermia and Lysander run away to get married. But they get tired and rest in the forest for the evening. And like all of the other plays by Shakespeare, after that the story starts to take off. The story takes a big twist from the beginning to the middle and takes an absolutely bizarre twist from the middle to the end.

I found A Midsummer Night's Dream to have a good mix of plot, humor, and plain entertainment. The acting was solid in the most intense scenes and in the most hilarious.

Though the setting of being outside presented a feeling of closeness to nature one cannot feel in a building, it also posed some problems. A couple of people sitting in the back complained of not being able to hear very well, and mosquitos buzzed in everyone's ears. But the main problem of having the play outside was that there was little or no change in the set during all the acts. This made it confusing figuring out what act or scene the play was in. Adding to the confusion was the fact that three of the actors played multiple roles.

However, I enjoyed the experience thoroughly and would recommend A Midsummer Night's Dream to anyone and everyone. Pending weather conditions, the play will also be performed tonight, July 23 and July 31 at 7:30 p.m.

Curdled, one of Tarantino's rolling blunders

KEVIN MURPHY

REPORTER

uentin Tarantino started a small film production company a year or so ago called Rolling Thunder Pictures. His intent was to release little-known films to the public. Now, we're not talking little-known as in *Dazed and Confused* or *Floundering* or *Living in Oblivion*. We're talking about movies which should have remained in the background.

The newest release is *Curdled*, starring William Baldwin as an ever-so-sexy serial killer, and Angela Jones as a young woman working for a crime scene cleanup company.

The movie is really not very good. But, it somehow makes itself appealing in the strange way bad movies sometimes do. Jones' character, Gabriela, is an amusing childlike character who is interested in the new serial killer in town, "The Blueblood Headsman", who beheads rich women after chasing them around with a knife. After seeing a commercial on TV, Gaby gets a job working for a company which cleans up crime scenes. She assumes it will bring her closer to the thoughts of the Blueblood Headsman.

There's really no reason speaking about it any more, as the plot is



pretty thin, and the movie is so short (89 minutes) it seems more like a sitcom, with blood.

The only really interesting parts in the movie are the background elements. Tarantino (who, for some reason, is the executive producer of this film) makes a short appearance in a news segment as one of the Gecko brothers, the character he played in *From Dusk 'Til Dawn*. Secondly, Jones' character (that of a person who cleans up terribly bloody messes) intrigued Tarantino so much, he modeled the character of *Pulp Fiction*'s Mr. Wolf (Harvey Keitel) on her. Finally, and this is pure guessing, it seems Jones' characters in *Pulp Fiction* (she was Bruce Willis' taxi driver, Maria Villalobos) and in *Curdled* are one in the same: they are both women who are very uninterested in what goes through someone's mind as they kill them.

All in all, *Curdled* shouldn't be watched for the acting, or the cinematography, but merely for fun. There are some things in this movie which are downright stupid, and can't be passed up without laughing out loud. It's hard to decide, while watching *Curdled* whether or not it was meant to be a thriller (as the box says) or as a comedy, as I say.

No fire, but the park was smoking.

LEX P. LEVY

Let me put to rest right now any notions that Moscow has nothing to offer during the summer. Music, markets, plays, sporting events; all of these are a vital part of the entertainment available in our lovely little city.

Perhaps the most exciting event of each summer is the two weekends of music known as Rendezvous in the Park.

Each year for the last 15, top-notch acts have passed through Moscow and left in their wake satisfied musical fans eager to see what the next year has to offer.

This year's opening weekend featured two very different, yet equally incendiary bands that rocked the back-porch-like atmosphere of Moscow's East City Park.

On Friday, Geno Delafose and French Rockin' Boogie cruised through their homespun recipes for Cajun good times. On Saturday, Junior Brown and his band showed us that

country can rock, roll and be downright nasty, too. Two nights, two bands, one result: a very hot and smoking

good time. Zydeco is a bit like your favorite food; a little taste and your hooked, immersing yourself in savory delights with all guilt abandoned.

Delafose and his fine band had the park on it's feet, shufflestomping and grinning to his infectious brand of spicy Cajun jamming. (Note: Zydeco is often complimented nicely with a pinch or two of blues added to taste.) His fellow musicians did a fine job of making room for this accordion virtuoso's leads, while holding their own trading off with him. Picture two dudes in ball caps on guitar and bass, a young teenager on washboard, a drummer flailing away behind his kit, and a big accordion-wielding cowboy with a belt buckle the size of Rhode Island and you get the idea of what Friday night was like.

Add a throng of people doing the barefoot boogie through two encores and the scene is complete.

Karen Kennedy, Rendezvous board member and volunteer, was more than just a little pleased with Friday's turnout.

"This was a really good opening night. The crowd was great and, obviously, they didn't want Geno to leave," she said.

Delafose and his band were very obliging. He even spent a little time after the show giving an impromptu accordion lesson to several fans.

Things quickly cooled off after the show, but not for long as

Junior Brown and his crew were on the way.

What Junior Brown does to country and honkey-tonk music at times seems a bit brutal.

This man flat-out rips, shreds, smokes, blazes and scorches on his hybrid guitar, a marriage between the standard electric guitar and the lap steel. He moves between both frequently and easily, playing leads on both, often during the same song. Backed by a standard country ensemble of bass snare drum and acoustic rhythm guitar, the effect is dazzling. Imagine Jimi Hendrix playing with Patsy Cline, and you get the idea.

"He's sort of a jack of all trades, isn't he," said Brad Crooks, a local blues-harp player and music lover who was at the park with his wife and daughter. The fact is, Brown covers so much ground that it starts to boggle the mind. Just when you've gotten used to a slow, country ballad, Brown is tearing through surf-rock licks and rock-a-billy riffs with such ease you start to wonder if this guy is human. At times, it seems the only thing that keeps the man from blasting off to Mars is the presence of his wife, and rhythm guitar player, Tanya Rae, who despite her demure and classy looks, really cooked on her acoustic guitar.

While there were more people Saturday night, the crowd was much mellower than Friday. Instead of dancing right in front of the stage, folks kept to the side, allowing the people down front to see "Da Man" at work. At one point, Brown removed his cowboy hat to tip it to the crowd, and thumped the last note of the song with it.

Another great thing about Brown is his deep baritone voice. His vocals are rich and expressive, and Tanya Rae's harmonies are right on the money. Many of the songs have the classic, ramblin-man, lost love themes to them, yet Brown adds his peculiar sense of humor and colorful facial expressions to them.

So you can 'dis Moscow all you want to, but, Baby, you got it all wrong. The opening weekend of Rendezvous '97 was hot, pure and simple. Geno Delafose and Junior Brown took us on a ride that was full of emotion, amazing musical ability and sheer fun. They've set the stage for this weekend's performers, Charlie Musselwhite and Dee Daniels, who will no doubt continue the fine tradition Rendezvous established 15 summers ago.



Geno Delafose and French Rockin' Boogie livened up the crowd Friday night during Rendezvous in the Park.

Check out Duffy Bishop and her Band open-Ing for Charlie Musselwhite this Friday at the Park.





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Opinion



SHINGIRAI CHRIS KWARAMBA

REPORTER

Boxing Needs Tyson

Boxing needs Mike Tyson. With all his excess baggage, Tyson has helped in maintaining public interest in a sport that is ailing. Does Holyfield increase TV ratings as much as Tyson? No. Comparisons of Tyson and Holyfield fights make that obvious. People want to see Tyson, or at least someone with the same electrifying presence step into the ring and make short work of disrespectful challengers.

Those calling for Tyson's head are forgetting the boxing doldrums, such as the period between 1980 and 1986. This was an uninteresting period in boxing. Why? Because Ali the Great had retired. His nemesis Larry Holmes was not the champion that many boxing fans including myself wanted to see in the ring. We all still missed Ali and his showmanship.

In 1986, all boxing prayers were answered with the entrance of Iron Mike Tyson. Few will deny that Tyson revived boxing. Less than a year after his first professional fight in 1985, Tyson was named Boxer of the Year by the WBC.

I still recall rushing home from school or wherever to watch a Tyson fight on TV. I recall all my friends back in my high school years doing the same.

Larry Holmes, Tim Witherspoon, Michael Spinks, and many other former heavyweight champs were never the subjects of heated arguments on school playgrounds, in bars or anywhere else for that matter. Tyson and his legendary exploits was always the topic of any boxing conversation.

As his fame grew, so did the number of news reports on his personal life. He has had his share of problems, including a six year jail sentence for a rape he may not have even committed. For the three years he was in jail, boxing suffered. Even the high commissioners of boxing will attest to that. The half-hearted efforts of a reputedly lazy Riddick Bowe were painful to watch on the silver screen. Lenox Lewis, the Briton, displayed his cowardice by avoiding anyone with any respect in the ring and agreeing to fight the minnows of the heavyweight division. Evander 'the Meal Deal' Holyfield was somewhere in the background not really doing anything either.

1996 came. Enter Tyson again. The usual early round TKO's began. People began to have Fight Parties again. Who would dream of having a fight party to watch Bowe or some other undeserving character?

Tyson easily disposed of lesser known challengers on his comeback trail. Finally came the long-awaited Tyson-Holyfield confrontations.

The first Tyson-Holyfield fight will go down in history as one of boxing's most spectacular bouts. The more recent alteration is one of which the boxing fraternity is less proud. It will without doubt rank among the worst fights ever. Tyson showed his more primitive instincts and nipped Holyfield twice on the ear. It was embarassing to see the way Tyson stooped so low. There is no way anyone can condone such actions.

Tyson was a disgraced act, to say the least. The revoking of his license for one year by the Nevada Sports Commission is just punishment. However, the quickest way to kill the sport is to prevent Tyson from stepping into the ring for an extended period. He will survive. He said so himself in a recent television interview in his not so eloquent way. "The only reason why I won't survive, is if I am dead or sumfin."

Boxing will not survive. Tyson has left a void that even Holyfield cannot fill.

Until someone is brave enough again to proclaim that he is the baddest man on the planet, and strike terror in the hearts of opponents, boxing will continue on its downward spiral.

Even now I cannot help but wish for Tyson's speedy return to the ring. Tyson-Holyfield Part Three is one fight I will definitely not miss.

Isn't it, like, funny, y'know, how people used to talk in the old days?

THE INDIANA GAZETTE

I sn't it, like, funny, y'know, how people used to talk in the old days, I mean? The other day I was watching a program on the History Channel and two ordinary people were holding a conversation. The film was made back in the 1940s, something about World War II.

One of the things I noticed was the way

Eliminate these three phrases from the language and a lot of people's conversation capacity might shrink by 50 percent.

According to Edwin Newman, a well-known defender of proper English, the use of "like" is clearly wrong. People are using it where the proper words should be utilize including "perhaps," "maybe," "roughly" or "approximately."

"Y'know" is used by people to lengthen conversations and to relieve the speaker of getting to the point, being specific or thinking things through.

"I mean" is a phrase also used to lengthen sentences and is often combined with the other two terms as in "like I mean" or "I mean, y'know."

I read someplace that John Madden, the old coach and current television analyst, is a real proponent of "y'know." Someone kept track of one of his commentaries when he used the term 56 times. Madden is also well-known for his use of other annoying phrases such as "I tell ya" and "I tell ya one thing." Often he will combine annoying terms, sayings things such as "I tell ya one thing, y'know. I mean that Chad Brown can, like, really hit ya." other people who seem to have become afflicted with these particular language gaffes. Recently I heard someone ask what veal piccata was. To which the waitress replied it was "like a piece of veal sauteed and served with a sauce of like lemon, wine and butter, y'know." I've also heard the terms of "strawberries with like cream" and "whiskey with like soda."

"Y'know," "like" and "I mean" aren't as bothersome to me, personally, as is a relatively new pattern of speech being used by some people. I'm talking about the form of conversation in which people use the word "OK" to end every sentence with a question mark. "Like I'm walking down the street, OK? And I see this guy like I used to know, OK? .' nd he starts acting like he's never seen me in his life, OK?" Here the speaker is substituting one annoying, incorrect term for another. He

could just as well have said "Like I'm walking down the street, y'know?"

One more term that I've noticed coming into play in the everyday conversations of many people is "'n all them." Someone will say "How's yer Aunt Myrtle 'n all them?" I do it myself all the time, presuming that the person I'm talking with will know to whom I'm referring to as "'n all them."

Argonaut Letters & Guest Columns Policy

The Argonaut welcomes reader letters and guest columns. Submissions must be typed, signed and include the phone number and address of each writer. Submissions are also accepted via e-mail (argonaut@uidaho.edu) or by fax (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 Letters or columns with the printcoal aim of promoting attendance at, participation in or simple awareness of student, university or community events or organizations will be referred to the Argonaut news or Diversions section editors and will not be printed as opinion. Ideas expressed in the op tion are those of the writers. They do not necessarily reflect those of the Argonaut or the Associated Students of the University of Idaho

the two people conversed without peppering their sentences with "like," "y'know" and "I mean." They just talked in simple English without leaning on these three annoying afflictions that have seemingly taken over our language in recent years. Not everyone does it, but a lot of people who should know better do. I, like, do it myself quite a bit, y'know what I mean?

Despite all this I really enjoy John Madden, which tells ya' something about my tastes in football commentators and the value I place on proper English on Sunday afternoons in the fall.

Waitresses in restaurants and bars are

In fact, I'm like one to talk, if y'know what I mean, OK?

Edwin Newman and William Shakespeare 'n all them would roll over in

their graves if they knew how people are talking today. I'm tellin' ya, OK?

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Bathroom humor

KEVIN MURPHY

I made a visit to one of the bathrooms at the SUB t'other day, minding my business and doing what people do in bathrooms, when I noticed a bit of writing on the stall wall.

These things always interest me.

There were the usual carvings of phone numbers preceded by the "For a good time" slogan, and statements of rivalries toward other schools, yadda yadda.

What caught my eye, and attention, were how many gay-bashing phrases had been posted on the walls. There were tons of 'em! There were the usual: F*** FAGS!

And the very witty: God made Adam and Eve, not Adam and Steve. The latter of the two seems more like a rhyme a parent might teach his/her child, to prevent the child from becoming a homosexual.

And I wondered why it is people choose this time to make their (re)marks. You'd think someone so opposed to homosexuals would be MAN enough to come out and say exactly what he's feeling, rather than hide himself behind child-like scratches on the wall of a john.

My completely-non-professional opinion is that said authors of said phrases are actually afraid of homosexuals. The writings on the stalls are mere pawings; little attempts to get in a fight without the fear of losing.

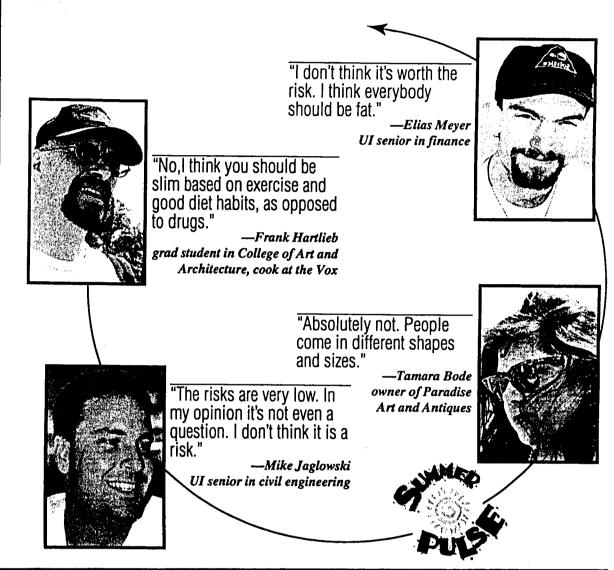
However, I may be wrong. And I may get beaten up.

I have nothing against homosexuals, so I can tell you right out it wasn't I who wrote all over the walls (that would be taking the long way around to begin an opinion column, wouldn't it?) I wish there were more homosexuals, 'cause then I'd get to see all sorts of straight-people-jokes on the wall next to a urinal. I'd love to see the anonymous poet of "F*** FAGS!" get into a discussion on "fags" with one. Wouldn't that be fun. We could sell tickets to it. I'd like to know a homosexual caught a straight person writing something like that—I just want to know what happened.

As a matter of fact, I encourage all the gay and lesbian members of our community to come out (ha ha) and make their mark on the walls and stalls of the public bathrooms! I want to see some straight-people-jokes, and I also want to see some straight people get frightened.

I'd like to extend a hand to all the people who wrote such things on the bathroom walls. Then, I'd like to coolly *retract* my hand, run it through my hair, and laugh at them—leaving them hanging.

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