

Will skaters  
 get a park?  
 see page 10



# Marriott food service contract almost up Board faced with decision

DEVON HAMMES  
 ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The conclusion of the Marriott contract with the University of Idaho is approaching, and the board of directors has been trying to decide whether to renew the contract or look elsewhere for dining services.

Dan Schoenberg, acting director for auxiliary services, said the board has not yet reached a decision on what action to take.

"We actually have this year and one more extension of another year left on our contract, and we know that it's out there in the future, we're just starting to talk about what we're going to do," Schoenberg said.

The university's original contract was for five years with five one-year options, and each year they would evaluate current rates and renegotiate the rates as needed, he explained.

"We have students steering committees that give us continuous input on changes they'd like, and it's not a one-time thing; we do it all the time. Usually we do an annual survey of customers' wants and needs, trying to establish a criteria," Schoenberg said.

The rates of the meal plans is another matter discussed at the beginning of each year. Schoenberg said the rates are not totally controlled by Marriott. The university has a great deal of say in prices.

"Each year we have rate hearings at which point we discuss rates, plans and options. We start with a proposal and then from that we make modifications based upon input from students," he said.

Schoenberg said the construction of the University Commons has a great deal to do with negotiations between the university and food services. He explained that even though it is a couple years away, they have been discussing possible ideas with Marriott.

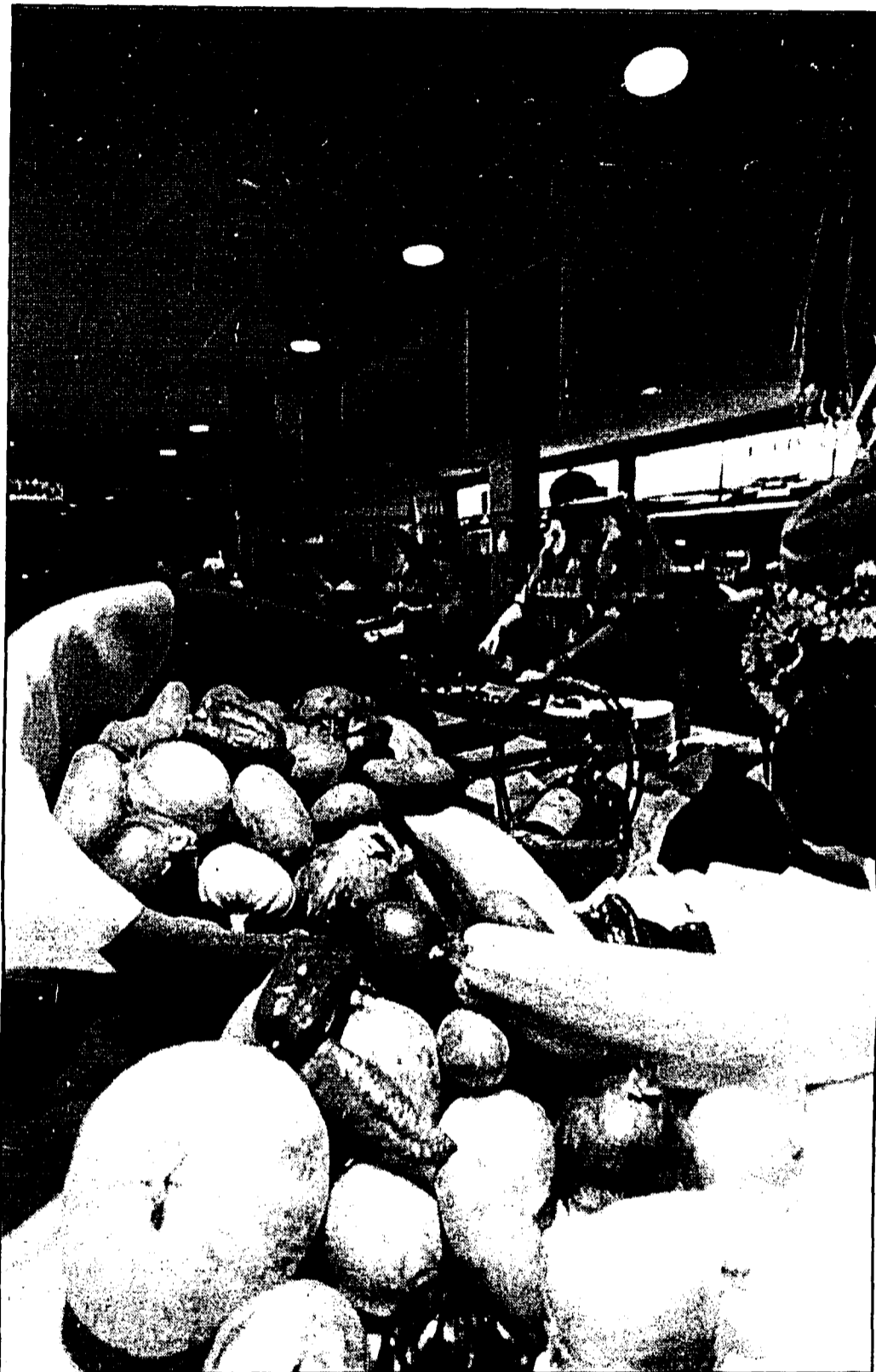
"From the facility standpoint and the many new students who will be arriving on campus, we need to be prepared," he said.

Schoenberg said the university receives commissions in the contract, which go to Student Union operations.

"Every time you eat at Burger King, part of the money spent on that burger goes back to the Student Union," he explained.

Kari Burg, freshman living in the residence halls, said she would like to see more choices offered from the food services, especially in the Wallace Complex cafeteria.

"Maybe it wouldn't hurt to try another food provider for a year to see if they really like the Marriott provider," Burg said. "It's not the food,



it's just it is the same old thing over and over again. It could be cooked a little healthier too. Some people want diet foods, and a lot of people don't have those options available to them. I think there needs to be some more choices." Schoenberg commends the services provided

by Marriott and deems them "excellent." He said there are a number of corporations to choose from, estimating four or five major national companies. Marriott also provides jobs for students, such as serving food in the SUB.

# Patrol puts student safety first

JENNIFER KARINEN  
 STAFF

University of Idaho night watch patrol is watching out for people, not buildings, now.

The ASUI Safety Board asked the patrol to rethink its emphasis. Night watch's focus was property security. They traversed the campus, rattling doors to ensure they were locked. They watched for burglary and vandalism.

They'll now spend less time checking buildings on the outskirts of campus and more time watching the areas students use at night.

"We've never ignored personal security," University of Idaho Safety Officer Fred Hutchison said. "Now it's our main emphasis."

"We wanted students to feel safer in the middle of campus at night," Angela Rauch, ASUI Safety Board chairman, said. "They'll know someone is out there in case of something."

"It's important to emphasize there have been no particular incidents," Rauch said about the change in emphasis.

There are tales that dart through mouths and ears over the semester. One flying story: a girl was raped on the Administration lawn.

"These are just rumors," Rauch stresses. "This is a very safe campus. In order to keep it safe we need to keep fine-tuning the process."

Hutchison said the same thing. He said if you look at the statistics you'd wonder "why all the concern?" "It only takes one," he points out.

Night watch consists of two full-time employees. Garbed in blue uniforms, they patrol the areas in the center of campus that see the most student traffic late into the night. The Safety Board feels that weekday nights have the most student traffic. Students are at night labs, stay late to use computer centers, or need to visit the library.

Hutchison warns that night watch can't guarantee anyone his or her safety. "We're not the police — our biggest weapon is a radio." He says night watch considers itself "the eyes of the Moscow Police Department."

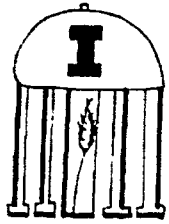
Night watch concentrates on the interior of campus. Security at the residence halls and Greek housing are done by those facilities. Chuck Labine, interim director of University Residences, said a night assistance person patrols the residence halls, inside and out, all night. The parking lots are monitored with cameras. He says vandalism and theft have almost disappeared from the lots since the cameras were installed. Almost all the dormitories are accessible only by Vandal Card at night. When a student runs their card through the slot the information is recorded. The university knows who came in and at what time.

Hutchison and Rauch ask students to speak up if they notice and like the change in night watch emphasis. The ASUI Safety Board is planning more safety additions. They want to purchase several blue light phones to place on campus. These expensive phones offer a direct free call to 911. They are investigating in which locations the phones would be most useful.

Rauch can be reached at 885-ASUI.



The Wallace Complex Cafeteria is often decorated with displays such as this fruit (above). Wallace residents (right) serve themselves at the all-you-can-eat salad bar.



## Local News

ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Attorney: Overturn murder conviction for slaying

MOSCOW — His attorney alleges forensic evidence was improperly used to convict David M. Hawkins of first-degree murder for the December 1993 bludgeoning death of a Lewiston mother of three.

Robert Van Idour of Lewiston told the Idaho Court of Appeals on Monday that numerous errors tainted Hawkins' 1995 conviction, and it should be overturned.

Hawkins, 53, is serving a life prison term without parole for murdering Leslie L. McKinney. Her partially clothed body was found in a patch of trees near the Hillary Motel in Lewiston. She had been bludgeoned in the head and a cord was wrapped around her neck.

Van Idour told the three-judge Court of Appeals some of the DNA tests, such as the one done on a sample of semen taken from McKinney's body, were not reliable because the database used in the analysis was too random.

The data used to statistically analyze the DNA evidence did not include information about Indian genetics, Van Idour said. Although Hawkins is not Indian, exclusion of that type of DNA was scientifically irresponsible in a murder case in a county with a relatively large Indian population.

Van Idour said prosecutors also did not comply with deadlines for handing evidence over to the defense, specifically results from laboratory tests on a bloody brick found near McKinney's body and a T-shirt found stuffed in a nearby trash bin.

The Court of Appeals took the arguments under advisement.

### Washington State settles discrimination lawsuits

PULLMAN, Wash. — Washington State University has reached settlement agreements with three women professors who filed a discrimination lawsuit.

The three professors in the education department contended they were denied promotions because they complained about budget-cutting plans and salary differences.

The school also made a rare admission of fault.

"WSU has recognized that there were serious concerns within the College of Education, and we've addressed some of those issues," said Geoffrey Gamble, vice provost for academic affairs, on Friday.

The settlements includes payments of \$70,000 to \$80,000 to each woman, said Barbara Petura, a university spokeswoman.

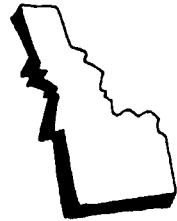
The lawsuit was filed in January in Whitman County Superior Court by Sue Durrant, Marilyn Mowatt and Joanne Washburn.

They contended former Education Dean Bernard Oliver and Assistant Dean Lawrence Bruya retaliated against them for their vocal opposition to the budget cutting and for complaining about salary discrimination against women.

The women contended they were teaching 50 percent more courses than men and had nearly twice as many students, the lawsuit said.

Durrant said it was unfortunate the women had to file a lawsuit to get results.

"It's been a long process," she said, but "with the university indicating a willingness to address this, we feel vindicated."



## State News

ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Figure skater convicted of evading \$187,578 in taxes

BOISE — Professional figure skater Gary B. Beacom, a Canadian citizen who lives in the Sun Valley area, has been convicted of federal income tax charges.

Federal officials said Wednesday Beacom owes \$187,578 in taxes for 1992-1994.

The U.S. attorney's office said evidence at Beacom's trial showed he earned \$656,655 in gross income in the United States for the three years but paid almost no federal income taxes.

U.S. Attorney Betty Richardson said a jury found that Beacom wilfully failed to file a 1992 federal income tax return, even though he had gross income of \$167,899 in the United States.

Richardson said Beacom was accused of tactics to avoid taxes such as having people who paid him income to pay that money to nominees and attempting to cause those who paid him income to stop filing reports with the Internal Revenue Service.

### Father sentenced to prison for throwing children out window

TACOMA — The father of two young children who were thrown out of a third-story window in January has been sentenced to almost 21 years in prison for the crime.

Walter White, 28, of Tacoma, pleaded guilty to two charges of child assault Tuesday in a plea bargain with prosecutors.

Pierce County Superior Court Judge Arthur Verharen sentenced him to 20 years and 10 months in prison.

Attempted-murder charges against White were reduced in return for his guilty pleas, because proving premeditation and intent to kill would have been difficult at trial, said Pierce County Prosecutor John Ladenburg.

The fact that 2-year-old Semaj and 1-year-old Sirrell suffered no permanent injuries from the fall — they landed atop a car and then tumbled to the pavement — was another factor in his decision to reduce the charges, Ladenburg said.

# Announcements

## Today

• St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Moscow will host its annual giant rummage sale at the Latah County Fairgrounds from 1 - 8 p.m. and tomorrow from 8 a.m. to noon.

• The Wollenberg Faculty Forum will be from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Campus Christian Center at 822 Elm Street.

• WSU and UI will co-sponsor the second annual Career Expo of the Palouse Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Beasley Coliseum.

• An inaugural lecture for Sherman J. Bellwood delivered by Charles F. Wilkinson, Moses Lasky Professor of Law at the University of Colorado, will be Thursday at 4 p.m. in the College of Law courtroom.

• Ballots to vote for Homecoming Royalty are due by 5 p.m. Oct. 3. They are available at Student Advisory Services and the Alumni Office. For more information, call the Alumni Office at 885-6154.

• The UI Homecoming Parade will begin at 11 a.m. on Oct. 11. This year's theme is "Vandal Magic." Parade applications may be picked up at Moscow Chamber of Commerce, UI SUB Info. desk, ASUI Office in SUB and at the Student Advisory Services in UCC. For more information, call Shana Plasters at 885-6951.

## Tomorrow

• There will be an Introduction to Meditation class from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the second floor of the Moscow Food Co-op. There is no fee for attending. For more information, call 334-4349.

## Monday

• A blood drive will be outside the western entrance to the College of Law from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is hosted by the UI Women's Law Caucus and Minority Law Students Association.

## Coming Events

• Wilderness Issues Colloquium will present Bruce Dell, lead wilderness guide and field manager, Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in Room 10 of the College of Forestry Wildlife and Range Sciences.

## Classes to Take

• Students needing a quick credit can join "A Living Conversation, a community discussion series," which would count as one credit for Religious Studies 499. The course is meeting three nights: Oct. 7, 9 and 14, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. A paper is required for credit. For more information, call 885-6486.

## UI On-Campus Employment Opportunities

Student and Temporary Employment Services in the Student Union has these part-time and/or temporary positions posted.

Clerical Roster\*  
Laborer Roster\*  
Childcare Provider\*  
Video Operator  
Copy Center Technician  
Assistant Mechanic  
Video Classroom Operator  
Tutors

Events Parkers  
Painter (40 hrs/wk)  
(Nude) Art Class Model  
Facility Attendant  
Custodian  
Note Taker  
GEM Staff Writers  
Computer Lab Monitor

\* continuous recruitment

For a full description of a position, more information or to view a listing of off-campus employment opportunities please visit STES, first floor of the Student Union, or call 885-4500. STES office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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# UI faculty salaries take a blow

ERIN SCHULTZ  
STAFF

In addition to the lag payroll system implemented last year to absorb budget cuts, University of Idaho faculty are facing a year without pay raises, and a change in their health benefits package.

What this means for the average faculty member is that normal cost of living increases were not compensated for by a salary raise, unless the faculty member received a promotion. In addition, some professors are facing increased costs in certain areas of health care which might have otherwise been covered in last year's plan.

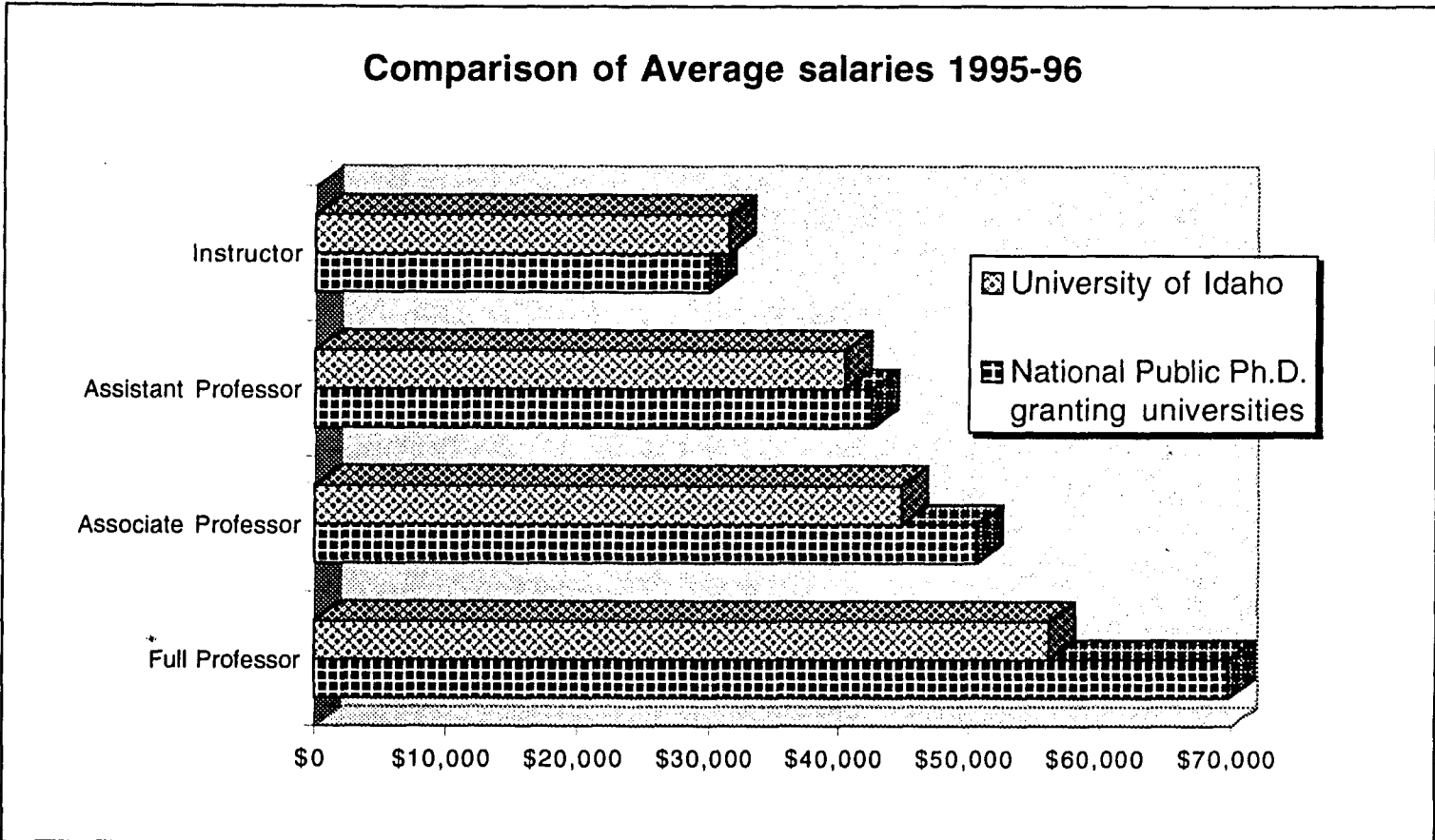
Reasons for these seeming injustices, says Larry Branen, executive director for Institutional Planning and Budgeting, is that the university is not funded by the state in many needed areas. As a result, administrators are left with tough decisions on how to absorb deficiencies.

"The state (of Idaho) did not fund salary increases for anyone in the whole state this year...this includes not just universities, but state workers all over," Branen said.

Branen says that the regularity of yearly salary raises vary. In the last 10 years, only two years have gone without pay increases.

With rising medical and health costs, UI decided to switch the health benefits package for faculty members, targeting the current plan for handling prescription drugs.

The changes were made in hopes of eventually stabilizing the rising cost of prescription drugs.



However, this also means that many faculty are paying more money out of their pocket this year when it comes to health costs.

"Overall, we are aware that most people will pay more out of their pocket for prescription drugs," said Carol Grupp, director of the Health Insurance Advisory Group.

"(Administrators) were between a rock and a hard place...I think (President) Hoover and (Provost) Pitcher realize it's a problem. I

think they, and we, need to keep on letting our legislators know the issue," said Jennie Nelson, UI associate professor of English. Nelson has taught in three other states and says that this is one of the poorest health benefits packages she's encountered.

Underlying all these issues is the fact that median UI faculty salaries remain about 10 percent below salary averages of comparable institutions.

UI administrators are currently working on submitting requests to state legislators to deal with salary issues from all these angles.

Branen says that within the next couple of weeks a request will go to the governor asking for funds to help bring UI faculty salaries closer to par with peer institutions. Additionally, Branen says the university plans on asking the state for an adjustment to help make up for this year's lack of pay raises.

Current facts from the 1996-97 faculty salary survey show that in '95-96, UI full professors lagged \$13,650 behind the national average for public universities granting the Ph.D. degree. However, our instructor salary is higher.

Bringing salaries of Idaho colleges and universities up to par with comparable universities is listed as the Board of Education's top priority for this year.

**Wednesday, October 1**

**8:00pm**

**ASUI Kibbie Dome**

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**MIGHTY**

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Tickets on sale  
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**\$10**

General public tickets on sale Monday,  
Sept. 22 at all G-and-B Select-a-Seat  
ticket outlets  
**\$15**



# Volunteers call freshmen, offer advice

CANDICE LONG

STAFF

New students had an opportunity to voice their concerns and get answers concerning their first semester at the University of Idaho as the first "Freshman Follow-up" project came to a close yesterday.

Staff, faculty and student volunteers spent the week in a phone-a-thon setting for Student Affairs calling nearly 1,300 freshmen. Their purpose was to touch base and provide any information new students might have concerning their classes, their advisor, their living arrangements and the UI campus in general.

"This is a high risk time for the freshmen," Hal Godwin, vice president for Student Affairs, said. "The transition from high school and the home environment to a college environment can be startling."

Although volunteers were not allowed to counsel the freshmen, they were able to provide information and phone numbers for students who were concerned about their classes. Volunteers spoke with freshmen on topics that included everything from e-mail accounts to the academic services offered on campus.

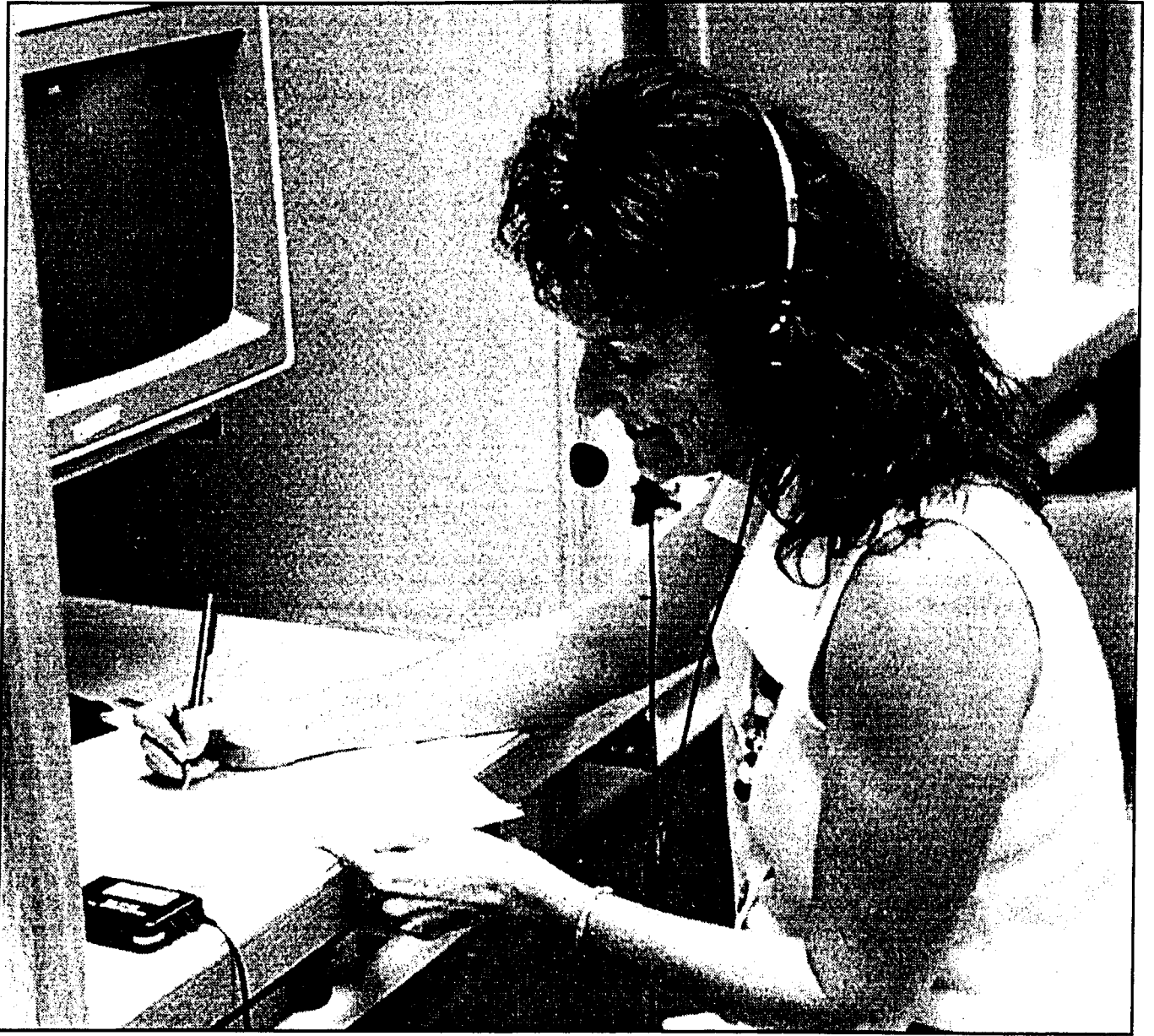
"It's important for us as a university to make the freshmen feel welcome and to inform them as to where the resources are," Godwin said. "The most common observation among freshmen was the surprise in the amount of school work relative to high school."

"A lot of the freshmen didn't know who their advisor was after five weeks into school," said Chuck Morrison, coordinator for the project and licensed psychologist and associate professor at UI.

"Most freshmen were surprised that the university was concerned how they were doing. They really appreciated the information we provided."

As much as the freshmen were glad to receive some help, volunteers were more than excited to provide support and information.

"I thought this was a really good way to actually talk to the freshmen and see what troubles they're having and try to help them before it gets worse," said Giannine Doyle, a senior peer mentor for anthropology and sociology. "I think if somebody had called me when I was a freshman it would have really helped."



The freshman calling program implemented this year surveys new students on their first few weeks at UI.



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**10am - 3pm**

**WSU Beasley Coliseum**



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**Special  
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**Sept. 30**

**Sponsored by WSU and UI Career Services**

# Fulbright grant deadline approaches

JUSTIN OLIVER RUEN

STAFF

Students interested in a year of study abroad had better get on the ball, as the deadline for submission in the Fulbright Program is Oct. 3.

Over 400 Fulbright grants will be awarded to American college students this year to help finance their study abroad. The Fulbright Program was created by Congress in 1946 to "foster mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchanges." Sen. J. William Fulbright, the sponsor of the original legislation, saw the program's emphasis on cross-cultural understanding as an important alternative to international conflict.

Today, Fulbright students can study in over 100 nations in any field they choose. Grants awarded range from full (covering all expenses relevant to foreign study) to grants covering only travel expenses. The grants fund one year of study abroad.

Students wishing to apply for Fulbright grants must be seniors (who would graduate this spring), graduate or doctoral students. This year at least seven students from the University of Idaho will apply, said Gleanne Wray, associate director of the International Programs Office.

The application for the Fulbright Program includes biographical information, a personal statement, a foreign language report (if necessary), three letters of reference and a research proposal. The proposal must include specific information on where and with whom the student plans to study with. "The key to having a solid proposal is finding someone abroad who will work with you," Wray said.

Applications are turned in to the International Programs Office at UI, where a three-member committee will interview the applicants and assist them in improving their applications. All applications are then sent to New York, where they are initially reviewed and screened before being forwarded to the particular country in which the student plans to study. Applicants generally hear by late January if they have passed the initial screening and will know by May if they have been accepted into the program.

# Gotcha!



Cpl. Carl Wommack of the Moscow Police Dept. demonstrates a service used to monitor traffic speed around campus. All the parts and labor used to create the unit were donated by members of the community. Cpl. Wommack said that the primary function was to educate the public and that the unit would continue to be in use on campus.

Applicants must be United States citizens, and preference is given to students who have received their higher education in the United States. If the applicant wishes to study in a non-English speaking country, proficiency in the language must be demonstrated in the proposal.

Despite the fact that only one UI student has been

awarded a Fulbright grant, Wray remains hopeful that more students will apply this year. "The Fulbright is very prestigious, and everybody knows about it, so entry into graduate school or employment is made that much easier. I think it really helps students interested in international work, who have bachelor's degrees but don't know what they want to do. It helps them to clarify their career objectives."

Looking for talented writers. Please stop by and apply. 3rd floor, Student Union Building.



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DOWNTOWN

### Attention all Student Organizations!

Student Organization Forums will be:

Monday, Sept. 29 7:00 p.m. SUB

Thursday, Oct. 2 7:00 p.m. SUB

New information will be given about organization registration, funding, and space allocation in the Student Organization Center.

A representative from each organization must attend a forum before their organization can receive recognition, funding, or reserve rooms on campus.

For more information, please call Kris Day at 885-2237.

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# Educators now required to spill the beans on student drug use

DAYNA MOORE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A new law passed last week in the Idaho Legislature now makes it mandatory for teachers and counselors to report suspected or known drug use by students to parents.

The new law has raised controversy, especially since teachers were not questioned or appraised of the bill while it was in legislation.

Tesa Lenz, a sophomore in education, said teachers definitely should have had a say. "They (teachers) need protected from the government. If the teachers really didn't want this law, they would have made a difference in the outcome decision. Teachers need (to be) educated too."

Educated is exactly what teachers weren't until they read last week's newspapers. School districts were not informed of the law by legislators.

Bird Derrick, a teacher in Rigby, Idaho, hadn't seen an article in the local papers. She was surprised to hear about the law and only said it was going to change things and make them more interesting.

The new law states that teachers and counselors must inform parents immediately if their child is known or suspected of using drugs or alcohol. "Parents would, or should, know what the most effective solution to the problem is. Being honest with parents will help the child feel more comfortable when they need support," Lenz said.

However, some education students felt if the parents are informed right away, with or without the child knowing, it will breach trust between students and teachers and possibly between parents and children.

Yet Lenz maintains teachers and counselors are older and have more experience in facing different situations. "They (students) will understand when they're older," Lenz said.

# Sigma Chi contributes cash to charity

STEVEN HUETING  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The annual Sigma Chi Derby Days raised \$1,500 for charity last week.

The week-long competition among several sororities and French Hall was held over the course of the week with Kappa Delta, the University of Idaho's newest sorority, taking top honors.

"(Derby Days) is our philanthropy," said Brian Frey, Derby Days chairman at Sigma Chi. "The residents of the sororities and French Hall compete in athletics and other events during the week."

Frey said about 300 to 400 people participated the event.

Derby Days has long been a tradition at Sigma Chi. "We've been on campus since 1924," Frey said. "Derby Days probably started about that time, too." Derby Days

has always been a way for the fraternity to have a fun and benefit a charitable organization at the same time.

Sigma Chi will donate \$1,100 to the Children's Miracle Network. "The national fraternity decided five or six years ago to benefit the Children's Miracle Network," Frey said. The remaining \$400 will be divided up among the philanthropies of the top three sororities.

The funds are raised from selling Derby Days T-shirts and auctioning off Sigma Chi members and pledges in the Date-a-Sig event.

Over the course of the week, the competitors compete in events such as the bat spin and the egg toss. There are also grander events, such as Stupid Human Tricks and a songfest/skit night.

"It's a lot of fun," Frey said. "And it raises a lot of money for a good cause."

# Military veterans face unique challenges as students

LENORA BEGAY  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

More than half of the 400 students at the University of Idaho who have served in the military are married and have families to support.

"They're dealing with a whole set of issues most students don't deal with," John Sawyer, advisor with UI Veterans Affairs, said.

Most of these students are employed part time or full time to make ends meet, Sawyer said. Because of added roles as parents and employees, it places them in a unique situation.

These veterans either try to get their degrees quickly or they take it slowly, Sawyer said. "The majority, though, eventually accomplish their goals," he said.

Sawyer's office helps veterans, dependents,

reservists, and national guardpersons who are eligible for education benefits through the U.S. Office of Veteran Affairs. He also provides information on financial aid, scholarships, arranging for tutoring services and a number of other issues related to veterans. The office does not give direct services but acts as a connection for veterans to get information.

The Reserve Officer Training Corp and Prisoners of War/ Missing in Action campus branch makes arrangements for all veterans' ceremonial activities, Sawyer said. "We try to help them in some ways. Mostly to notify veterans of what is going on."

"The university is very accommodating to veterans," he said. For example, during the Persian Gulf War, he said 40 veterans attending

UI were called to active duty in the middle of the semester. The university had to come up with new policies to deal with their financial situation, Sawyer said. The question of whether they would get refunds or get credit for attending UI was handled by giving the veterans a choice.

"Almost all of them took the refund," Sawyer said. "Their families needed the money. Their families were also allowed to stay in the university housing units to the end of their service. Most of them came back to UI."

Sawyer, who has been with the UI for 20 years, said over the years clubs were formed to get veterans involved in some service related activities. Unfortunately, he said, they didn't last very long.

"Again, it's very difficult to keep them going because of their situation," he said.

# Speed bump plan hits snag

JODI TUCKER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Parking Services and University Residences are battling over who should pay for speed bumps in family housing near Taylor and Sweet Avenues.

Chuck Labine, interim director of University Residences, said they want Parking Services to pay for the speed bumps because "residents already pay rent and buy parking permits."

Apartment Community Assistant Terry Ballard spoke with Parking Services numerous times and said they are unwilling to pay for the speed bumps because they did not approve of the walkway design in the first place. Ballard said Parking Services told University Residences if they wanted to build the walkway without their approval then they would not pay for any further improvements.

Labine said the cost of the speed bumps is the primary delay.

Ballard and the apartment community said no price is too high to prevent accidents on the walkway. The community residents are willing to gather donations from residents to lower the cost of the speed bumps.

Labine said he did not feel that was necessary and that funding would be found.

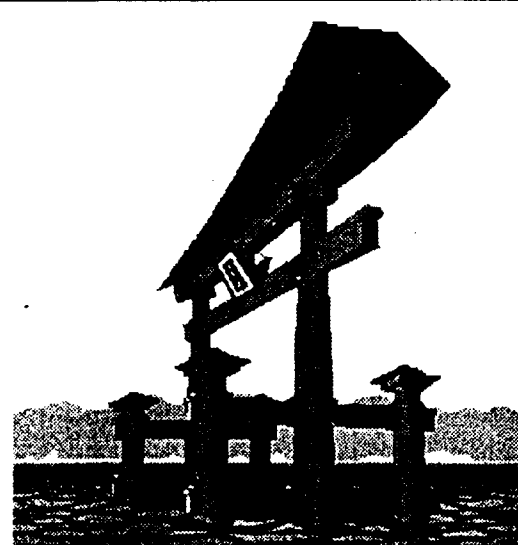
While waiting for funds, Ballard suggested that signs be erected warning drivers of the presence of children and to maintain very slow speeds. Labine does not want the walkway to "resemble a highway," for fear of encouraging more automobile traffic.

Labine has informed the apartment community residents that he would look into funding situations and work with Parking Services to be sure precautions were taken. These implementations are not expected until the spring.

The residents said they are worried about children in the apartment community near the walkway and will continue their efforts to get a speed bump put in place.

Feeling frustrated?  
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Homesick?  
Not feeling well?  
Just got the blues?

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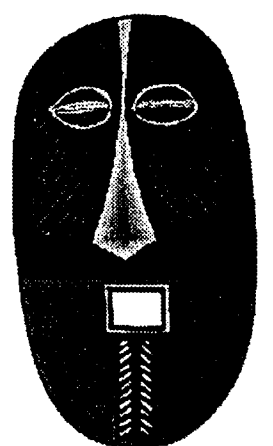


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# Loukaitis convicted in Moses Lake slayings

PEGGY ANDERSEN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — Barry Loukaitis was convicted of murder Wednesday in a 1996 classroom attack that killed three people and wounded a fourth at a Moses Lake junior high school.

Quiet weeping pervaded the courtroom as Superior Court Judge Michael Cooper read the verdicts, reached in the fifth day of jury deliberations.

Loukaitis, who was 14 at the time of the attack, was tried as an adult and pleaded innocent by reason of insanity. Now 16, he was the only one in the courtroom who did not react to the verdicts.

An appeal is likely, defense attorney Mike Frost said. He also urged the Legislature to come up with a middle-ground charge, perhaps "guilty but mentally ill," to allow for both treatment and a penalty in such cases.

"Either verdict would have been a tragedy. There's no happy ending here," said Alice Fritz, whose youngest child and only son, Arnold, died in the brief and bloody classroom siege.

"We do still hope that Barry will get some help," said Mrs. Fritz, who attended every day of the trial with her husband, Phillip. Their three daughters joined them Wednesday.

Killed in Loukaitis' attack were classmates Manuel Vela and Fritz, both 14, and teacher Leona Caires, 49. Natalie Hintz, then 13, was wounded and still has not fully recovered.

After the pale, slender Loukaitis was handcuffed and escorted out of the courtroom, the Fritzes and Natalie Hintz's grandparents tried to console his parents and grandfather.

The defendant's mother, Jody Phillips, sat with a woman friend in the emptied courtroom benches, tears streaming down her face, as the others offered hugs and murmurs of encouragement. His father and grandfather, Terry and Dale Loukaitis, stood awkwardly by the door as the victims' relatives clustered around them, patting and hugging. Terry Loukaitis wept.

"Justice prevailed, I think," said Manuel Vela's uncle, Emilio Vela of Olympia. He said he had called the boy's parents, Manuel and Licha Vela, at their Moses Lake home. They're "just glad it's over," he said.

"I think the jury felt compassion for the kid," he said. "And they saw the facts, and the facts speak for themselves."

On the day of the shootings, Loukaitis dressed in all-black western gear and armed himself with three guns and more than 70 rounds of ammunition. He threw open the door of his fifth-period algebra class, raised a .30-30 lever-action deer rifle to his shoulder and began shooting.

He was convicted of aggravated first-degree murder in the deaths of Vela and Fritz, and second-degree murder in Mrs. Caires' death.

"There is a tendency to say if a defendant committed a crazy, irrational act, he's clearly insane. That is not the case," Grant County Prosecutor John Knodell said.

He said the second-degree murder verdict in Caires' death showed the jury "considered each case individually." Second-degree murder requires proof of intent but not of premeditation.

Loukaitis also was convicted of first-degree assault in Hintz' shooting; 16 counts of first-degree kidnap for holding students and another teacher hostage; and second-degree assault for threatening the other teacher, Jon Lane, who ended the attack when he pinned

Loukaitis against a classroom wall.

Loukaitis faces life in prison without parole on the aggravated murder charges. The death penalty, the only other option, was not considered due to his age. Jurors added a weapons enhancement to each count, which would add five years in prison to each penalty.

Cooper, a Kittitas County judge who heard the case after a Grant County judge disqualified himself, scheduled sentencing for Oct. 10 in Ephrata, the Grant County seat. Loukaitis will be transferred to the juvenile facility there to await sentencing.

The trial was held here due to concerns that extensive media accounts would make it impossible to seat an impartial jury in the rural area where the crime occurred.

All 15 students held in the classroom by Loukaitis 19 months ago testified at his trial. Most now attend Moses Lake High School.

At lunch hour, Moses Lake School Superintendent Steve Chestnut said he saw students at the high school hugging each other. At least one teen was crying, he said.

The shootings shattered the rural quiet of Moses Lake, a town of 13,000 in the Columbia River scablands.

"You all will be gone tomorrow. We will live with this for the rest of our lives," Emilio Vela told reporters outside the courtroom.

Natalie Hintz, still struggling to regain use of her right and hand, "will make the best of things," said her grandfather, Helmut Hintz, who attended the trial daily with his wife, Myrtle. "I know she'll look forward, not backward."

The trial "wasn't about winning or losing," Hintz said. "It wasn't about that at all."

But he said he thought the verdict would help his granddaughter.

"I'm just glad this is coming to an end," Hintz said.

Asked if Loukaitis had gotten what he deserved, Mrs. Fritz cried, "No!" In comments that appeared to go beyond the verdicts, she said she felt Loukaitis deserved some kind of life.

"I just don't want anyone to think that there is a spirit of anger towards Barry Loukaitis," she told reporters, adding through her tears, "That would really dishonor our son."





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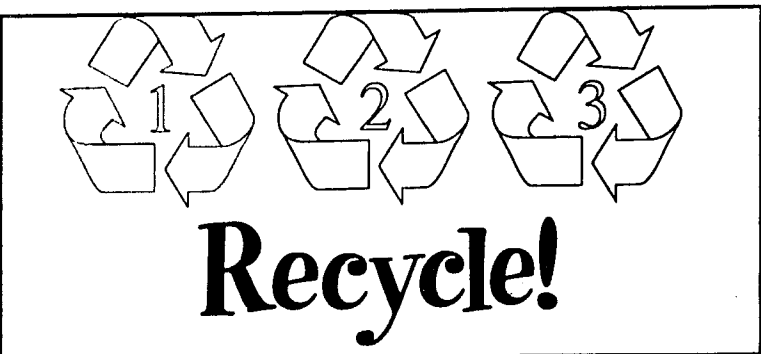
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# Chasing the American Dream

J.R. WRIGHT  
COLUMNIST

Mr. S. Dilbert had it all — he could get his hands on anything one way or another. He lived in a three-bedroom, two-bathroom, sky-blue house with white trim cozily tucked into a cul-de-sac of a prominently religious suburb. The church was right behind his house. All he had to do was open the latch on his white-picket fence and there he was, congregating with others in the presence of God.

Mr. S. Dilbert went through all the motions: graduated from high school, went to southern California on his mission for two years, married Wendy Smith from Salt Lake City, Utah, then went with her to Ricks College for two years and BYU for 6 years. He earned his Ph.D. in Business Productions/Operations Management while she stayed home with John S. Dilbert, the oldest of their children, Brigham Y. Dilbert, and little Nicole S. Dilbert. The couple found their house in a suburb of a small Idaho town and quickly took out the loan for the down payment. Mr. Dilbert was quickly gaining respect and rank at his new job and was well respected within the church. He had gathered the same kind of friends he had in high school and junior high, and surrounded himself with typically the same people he had known his entire life. His family never missed a church meeting or any church function. Mr. S. Dilbert was in decent shape — he was rapidly losing his hair and was getting a little thick in the middle but he still watched what he ate and went on

frequent walks around the local Community Park 3-mile walkway.

One early Friday evening when the sun had engulfed the area with the golden warmth of summer and the community was bursting with life in every direction, the last sign of chill gone from the air, springtime mellowing into summer, Mr. S. Dilbert put a shotgun into his mouth and ended it for once and for all.

A few months after the funeral, enough time for Mrs. Dilbert to actually gain some sanity, she went through her late husband's papers and found his journal. The journal was scattered with optimistic writings and a basic log of menial activities in his everyday life. The last journal, though, Mrs. Dilbert just couldn't understand.

It read as follows:

"The cheese is always there. Always. Never does it leave my sight, never does the stench fail to permeate every cell in my nose. The yellow cheddar, maybe it's American sharp cheddar, remains just outside my cage. The squeak of the constantly spinning wheel is the only sound I ever hear. That, and maybe the sound of my stomach growling. Hunger always gnaws at my stomach and it always gets worse. It doesn't become more painful in increasing increments but rather random thrusts of excruciating pain always bringing me to a higher plateau of agony."

"Sometimes I think the hunger begins to fade, just long enough to give me hope, but the pain isn't going away. The hunger is always there, just getting used to the amount of pain currently eating away at my stomach. But then just

when I think it is going away, it's back. Worse than ever. But I keep on running. The unbearable hunger is the only thing that keeps me running on the wheel. I say to myself, during my rare moments of contemplation, that someday I will get that darn cheese and the hunger will go away. It smells so good and looks so delicious the cheese consumes my every thought. A day doesn't go by without looking at the cheese and thinking about it. I think the speed at which I run dictates the speed at which the wheel turns, but I realize someone, and I can't see who, increases the speed of the wheel every so often."

"All this time the wheel dictated how fast I ran, not the other way around, as I once thought. Once I almost was used to all of the running, the persistent hunger, but now I realize how absolutely miserable I am. I realize that this entire structure is a crock, and that I've wasted my entire life running in this wheel, chasing the cheese, and I want out. But I'm stuck. Chasing the cheese is all I know. It was all right when I thought I would someday get the cheese, but now I know I am a fool, and have been deceived this entire time. So I constantly run in place, miserable and unhappy, with an overwhelming hunger that is only getting worse. I realize I am stuck. I realize I will never get the cheese. I wish death would enter my cage and stop this absurdity once and for all, but I'm still young, so the Grim Reaper won't be paying me a visit for a while."

"I realize I am a caged rat. All I have to do is stop running."  
"Then I am free."

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## Letters to the editor

### Democracy is others deciding your fate

The following are sentences taken from Wes Rimel's column "Abortion and Constitution Imprisoned in Yamhill County" (September 3, 1997):

"It is utterly preposterous in a nation we call a democracy two county commissioners can decide the future course of someone else's life."

"Money is not the issue here. The issue is two people trying to force their morals and values onto another person."

If I could again quote and add to Mr. Rimel's sentence:

"It is utterly preposterous that in a nation we call a democracy" nine Supreme Court justices can force their morals and values onto America.

Since the January 1973 Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion (Roe vs. Wade) millions of unborn children in America have lost their lives.

So much for democracy.

—Michael T. McGuire

### We need to log our national forests

I am writing this in partial response to Wade Gruhl's editorial on the issue of whether or not to stop logging on National Forest lands. I happen to be a forester and a woodworker and I believe that I am a good environmental steward. I appreciate good wildlife habitat and am

committed to helping to preserve and protect the qualities which healthy forests provide. I also have a number of years in the forest industry. Some of it has been reading. It has been imagining what environments looked like before change occurred. It has involved playing Henry David Thoreau and trying to live as a steward of my own self and a steward of the small tract of land I was attempting to improve. My dilemma is the same as any professional in this area. Trapped in jargon and arcane knowledge, how can anyone come up with a slogan or an ideal which could provide a rallying point for his or her fortunes? How can anyone argue a position that requires knowledge shared amongst those of his or her peers?

Presently a theme which is being trumpeted by the media — including the Argonaut, calls for the cessation of logging in National Forest lands. Most people, I guess, share in the opinion that creating a vast national preserve of these lands is an excellent idea. I would like to argue against this idea. I would like to do so by using slides and field trips as well as lectures which would probably amount to at least a two credit class. I do not believe my reputation or experience can in any way serve as a substitute for public involvement. At the end of this forum or course though, I honestly feel that most, if not all, who were party to this experience would have positive feelings about the forestry profession.

The problem faced by those who would argue forestry is a problem of perspective. Many in the Northwest feel that if we left the forest alone it would become just as it was before the white man. Of course, the Indians existed as careful stewards of these lands for thousands of years

before the European settlement. Others believe this is the last place not touched by man and must be saved, even though most land in the Inland Northwest has already been logged at least once.

There are many reasons for logging our National Forests. One very good reason is to prevent catastrophic fire. Since we now exclude fire from our National Forest lands in many cases, due to air quality concerns, when fire occurs it can destroy an environment. For the doubters, there are videos on fires which occurred in 1994 in Idaho that are available from Public Television. From this perspective, the clear cutting of National Forest lands was an evolving response in part due to a desire to prevent just these kinds of fires.

Another good reason for logging on National Forest lands is the product produced. I guess it is thoroughly modern to decide what we haven't the inclination to appreciate hardly concerns us. However, wood is a miracle product. I feel badly for anyone who will never realize this within their lifetime. Another reason for Forest Service logging is the money this activity provides school districts in Idaho and other Northwest states which allow such activity. In my opinion, the statistics quoted by Mr. Gruhl do not tell the whole story.

However, I must express the opinion that logging as it is presently carried out in our National Forests is poorly accomplished. The ways that the Forest Service works out its objectives desperately needs improvement, but it not something the agency can accomplish without encouragement. I am apologetic for this response as it can only express a small portion of the information that I would like to

share. I also hope to be a part of the generations that Mr. Gruhl describes, but the stories that the Argonaut does not seek to publish are those of which I wish my ancestors to know. I wonder if Mr. Gruhl has ever talked with anyone from the Forest Service or attempted to broaden his mind on the issue. Reporting, to me, has always meant attempting to see both sides of an issue. I guess it is pretty cool for the Argonaut to bray out others opinions while not earnestly seeking to form one of its own but this (especially here on this issue) is a cop-out. And this response of mine is all the worse since a whole College of Forestry, which probably has people who could at least try to improve public knowledge, do nothing.

—Eric Wurzburg

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# The poor are also to blame

LANCE R. CURTIS  
COLUMNIST

I know a lot of people out there believe that life is unfair because the rich get so much while the poor get so little. Many people say that if the rich would only share their wealth we would be better off. They like to blame the rich for much of the unfairness in life, but that, to me, is unfair.

You can't judge a book by its cover. It's unfair to call all CEOs and rich people greedy and selfish. I know some well-to-do who are anything but self-centered. They give plenty of time, effort, and money to worthy causes, helping those who are not as fortunate as themselves.

I also know some well-to-do in management who screw their employees in dead-end, low-paying jobs. Many speak hatefully of the CEOs and managements of huge corporations. They state, or at least insinuate, that CEOs and corporations are inherently evil. Why? Because they're rich, and all the peons who work for them are poor. It's not right, they say, that one guy makes so much while so many make so little.

One problem in discussions of this type has been defining the word "rich." I define it as having more than enough to meet one's needs; having a surplus. But what constitutes a surplus for one man might not pay the bills of another. So this definition is very individual in application. It also precludes labeling, stereotyping, and judging others

without knowing all the facts. A man with a cancerous tumor requires more than one without a tumor because the former must pay expensive medical bills. A married man with four children has more need than a single guy because he has responsibilities for six people whereas the latter only has responsibility for one.

But not everyone earns enough to pay the bills. And some earn much more than they need. So it makes sense that the rich (those with excess) should work to improve the status of those less fortunate than themselves. But what about the obligations of the poor? Few seem willing to talk about that. They always want to talk about how management screws the peons, or how unfair it is that the rich are the only ones who win in "the lottery of life," or how wrong it is that the rich don't share enough of what they have with the rest of us.

What bitterness! These impoverished people are just as prideful as those who refuse to share their excess. They fault others for the

very imperfections that they themselves possess.

Sure, there are too many rich people who refuse to share what they have. But there are also too many poor people in this country who refuse to work for what they want.

There are too many poor people who prefer to envy the wealth of others and hate its owners even when they do share. There's too little forgiveness.

Really, the blame should go to both rich and poor. There are too many people, rich and poor, who cannot be satisfied with enough to meet their basic needs. There's too much greediness practiced by both rich and poor. There's too much hatred and

bitterness running rampant, and so very many, rich and poor, are blinded by those attitudes that they fail to see things from anything but a self-centered perspective. Both rich and poor need to forgive.

Look at the recent UPS strike. Strikers in some areas physically assaulted managers doing the jobs the strikers refused to do.

Some died. How different the scene might have been had the drivers on strike not harrowed up the anger and bitterness demonstrated by their violence! No disparity between any two people gives one the right to take the life of the other.

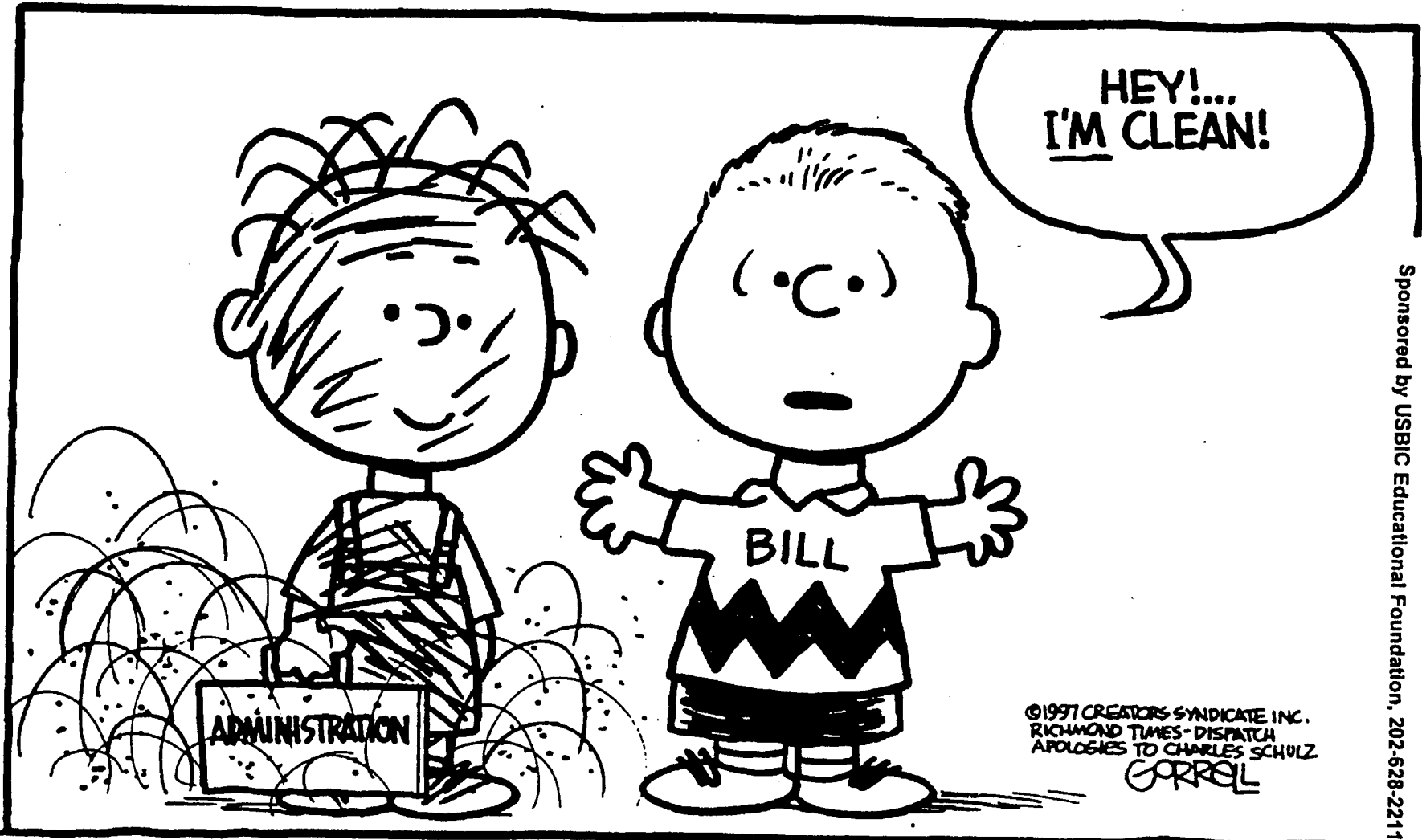
Many say that the economic gap between the rich and the poor will tear this nation apart. They say that redistribution of wealth will solve everything. But it's not differences in income but the bitterness espoused by class envy that will really break us into pieces.

Learning to forgive won't pay the bills, but who wants to live while his soul is eaten inside out? Harboring bitterness and hatred toward the rich is not the answer. If the rich refuse to help the less fortunate, then their love of riches will canker their heart and eat away at their soul. But if the poor choose to harbor ill will and hatred towards the rich who do not share, how very much worse are they, for the bitterness and the hatred that they espouse will likewise canker their heart and eat away at their soul.

As imperfect beings, we should understand and tolerate the imperfections of our imperfect world. We must forgive. No, it doesn't pay the bills. But we will all, rich and poor alike, be a better and a stronger people if we can learn to forgive and to satisfy ourselves with enough to meet our needs.

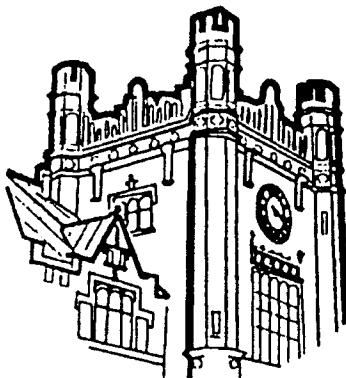
After all, if wealth really were redistributed so that everyone had the same net income, how could we ever live together if we refused to forgive one another?

**"Learning to forgive won't pay the bills, but who wants to live while his soul is eaten inside out?"**



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EDITOR IN CHIEF, 885-7825  
Michelle Kalbeitzer

MANAGING EDITOR, NEWS EDITOR  
Lisa Lannigan

SPORTS EDITOR  
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Laura LaFrance  
Cori Ann Keller  
Amy Kendall

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Travis Keller (left) does a rail slide outside the SUB. Tom Gloe (above) pulls a back-side grab while the unknown skateboarder (far right) performs a handstand.

photos by Bruce Twitchell

## Cracking the stereotype: Skaters are not just punks

AMY SANDERSON

STAFF

The bumper sticker on the back of the VW Bug parked by the Coeur d'Alene skate park reads, "skateboarding is not a crime." It may seem like just another cliché attempting to create an image, but to some skateboarders, this statement is not far from the truth.

Bryan Wood, a skater from Coeur d'Alene, gave one story that he feels describes the discrimination against skateboarders. Wood was skating with some friends one evening when two officers appeared with guns drawn. "They said there were reports of a robbery downtown but the only reason they were stopping us is because we were skateboarding," Wood said.

Stereotypes by the media and a few bad examples have caused skateboarders to undergo verbal and often physical attacks from people who feel skaters are trouble-making punks. Although the attitude towards skateboarders has changed since this sport has become so incredibly popular, many still remember the confrontations they had before skateboarding was "cool".

Chris Geelock, a student at the University of Idaho, has been skating for over 12 years, and has had his fair share of harassment in his home town, Idaho Falls. "You used to get chased around town and called 'waver faggot,'" Geelock said. "Now it's kind of the happening thing; it's becoming more of

a popular sport."

Geelock explained that people on campus and even professors have treated him differently because of his appearance. "They look at me like I'm some young punk who got mixed up and wandered into the wrong class," Geelock said, and added that teachers change their opinion when they see he is a serious and capable student.

Ben Scofield is another skater from Moscow and has watched friends get into fights with people who are angered by skateboarders. "Definitely people might think straight-out that you're just a loser or a druggie or something like that," Scofield said. "They think you're just a punk causing trouble, when really you're just trying to have some fun."

There are limited areas in Moscow for skating and most skateboarders can be found on the UI campus and sidewalks downtown. Possibly because there is no place to go, negative attitudes about skaters are created when business owners and others using the streets and sidewalks conflict with skaters.

"There is definitely a stereotypical type of outlook towards skateboarding just because it can be destructive and it does get in the way and that's why we need a skate park," Geelock said.

The skate park in Coeur d'Alene was recently built with the help of local skaters. Attitudes toward skaters made the process of getting the park built difficult, and it wasn't until parents got involved that the project finally got off the ground.

Wood is grateful for all the city has done for them after

several skaters asked for help at city council meetings but there are still some problems. "I'm still kind of bummed out because our skate park is one of the most used skate parks in the state of Idaho and they haven't even put lights in or a drinking fountain or proper bathroom facilities," Wood said. "It's a public park and they expect us to raise our own money." Skaters in Coeur d'Alene helped with the park's construction over the summer and a few supplied some of the materials.

Wood and other skateboarders are contradictions to the destructive, irresponsible stereotype skaters have.

"I think the media maybe is partially responsible because it tends to glorify that 'wow, he's a rebel — he's a skater guy' and all that kind of crap," Geelock said.

Wood wants other skaters to avoid rebelling against police just for the sake of rebelling, because it might keep them from getting help from the city for the park. "You've got to understand that they're just doing their job; checking for underage smokers and stuff," Wood said.

Wood and other skaters are making efforts to be in good favor with the city. "We've been trying to be more considerate of the laws and everything, not skating on the sidewalks on Sherman where you are not allowed to skate and just cleaning up our skate park," Wood said.

Most skaters serious about enjoying the sport will agree that it is more important to have somewhere to skate freely. Despite their intentions and the growing acceptance of this sport, the negative stereotypes still hang over them.

# GO TO

## Tales of skate love

### Seed planted for skate park

T. SCOTT CARPENTER  
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

An impressive turnout of skaters and parents filled City Hall last Thursday, Sept. 18, to discuss the possibilities of a skate park being constructed in Moscow. The meeting was the result of months of hard work on the part of local skaters such as Michael Wilson. Wilson and his friends played a large part in gathering the support needed to bring up the matter at City Hall.

"We made donation cans, put them around, and went to the fair and sold hamburgers. Then today we called everybody and told them to come to the meeting," Wilson said.

The need for a skate park is an issue that has been growing in popularity thanks to local skaters, concerned parents, and certain members of the Moscow police. Stricter regulations concerning skateboarding on sidewalks and in public places have left skaters with virtually no areas to work with. It wasn't until a young skateboarder named Aaron Ament brought the idea to the Parks and Recreation Task Force that the wheels of democracy began to roll.

Shawn Claytor, a member of the task force, was the speaker at the meeting.

"The attendance really shows that there is a substantial number of people who are serious about this," Claytor told the crowd. The first phase of the agenda was for everyone at their table to discuss possible locations for the skate park, which were later announced to everyone. It was decided that an important quality for the finished

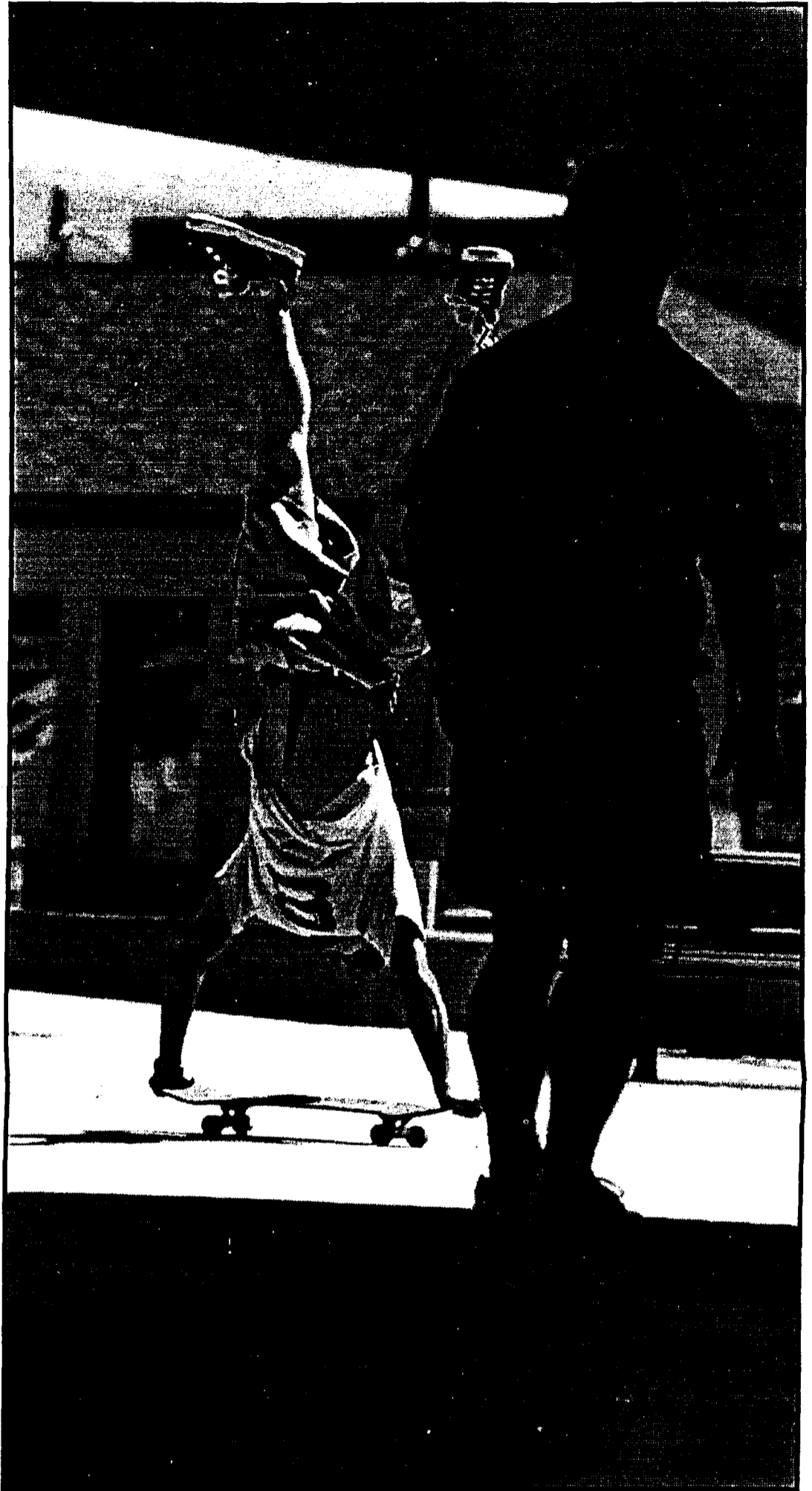
product to possess is sufficient room for future expansion.

Size was another issue. Suggestions were made for construction of a 150 square foot skate park and the possibility of turning the inside of the Ernst Hardware building into a skate park.

The most important aspect of a skate park is the obstacles within it. To make sure that local skaters would get what they wanted, a sheet of paper was handed around picturing all the available obstacles, such as half-pipes, rails, and fun boxes. It was then discussed whether it would be better to use wood materials, or more expensive concrete ones. Some argued that concrete would save more money in the long run due to its durability.

The groups were asked to separately come up with suggestions for park rules. The most common suggestions were "skate at your own risk" and "be courteous to other skaters." There was one group that suggested a solitary rule that basically went, "We love our children and don't want to see their brains dashed out." Rather than pay someone to watch over the park and make sure rules are followed, the rules will most likely be enforced by the skaters themselves.

No definite decisions about the skate park were made at the meeting Thursday night. It was a time for a representative body of the community to discuss and suggest exactly what they think the skate park should include, and how to achieve their goal. Although this was only a step in the long process of convincing the city to build a skate park, it was nonetheless a very important step.



## Rollerblading is for the skating impaired

JUSTIN CASON  
STAFF

If you ask most people, they'll tell you a lot of good came out of the 1960s, and they'd be right. There was civil rights legislation, Woodstock, and men walking on the moon.

For a small but growing percentage of the American population, one more great achievement would have to be tacked on: skateboards.

That's right. All the thrashers we grew up with in junior high and high school — as well as the skatepunks outside our Student Union Building — have their history too, and it began over 30 years ago.

The skateboard was actually conceived as early as the '50s in California, but it wasn't until the following decade that skating sunk its well-intentioned teeth into the nation's youth for the first time.

The purpose of the skateboard's invention is less obscure. Originally devised as a way for surfers to enjoy their favorite pastime when there were no waves, skateboards were first constructed by simply nailing a plank of wood — sometimes a 2 X 4 — to rollerskate wheels. The wheels were either metal or clay,

and the deck was flat with no grips. Pretty simple stuff.

Nowadays, killing time in-between surfing is one of the least prevalent reasons for skateboarding.

"I like the feeling of gliding above the ground, the satisfaction of a trick caught clean," said Mark Stosberg, editor-in-chief of Earlham College's student newspaper in Richmond, Ind., and a skateboarder for almost a decade. "Skateboarding leaves you room to be imaginative and creative — to make up your own tricks and runs," Stosberg said.

The same, no-holds-barred mentality appears to permeate all skaters, no matter what the age.

"It's you versus your fears and the laws of physics, and it is the greatest fun you can imagine, except maybe sex or snowboarding," said Dr. John Nixon, a 32-year-old postdoctoral student at the University of Adelaide in Australia.

Eventually, in the late '70s and early '80s, the metal rollers (always ready to lock up when they hit loose gravel or rocks) were replaced with polyurethane ones. The bearings were improved and a kicktail was added to its concave shape. The deck itself

progressed from plastic or cheap wood to today's most popular model: seven layers of Canadian Rock Maple, which are run different directions for added strength.

The general form of the board was not the only aspect of skateboarding that progressed. With these new innovations in the technology came a renewed, somewhat cyclical public interest in the sport itself. There was a major peak in the late '70s (caused by polyurethane wheels and the "wide-top" deck), followed by a short decline. In the '80s, however, skating reached a climax again, affecting the kids of the baby boomer generation like never before. Recently, the skating trend has been picking up steam again, bringing along the development of private skate structures, a rise in popularity of such skate magazines as *Thrasher* (the mother of all skate mags) and *Transworld Skateboarding*, and the popular maxim: "Rollerblading is for the skateboarding impaired."

So what has attracted this new-found attention to skateboarding?

"It's a form of self-expression and it's great for fitness," Nixon said. "It is in some aspects aggression without violence and thus a form of stress release."

Unfortunately, for skaters of all ages and abilities, the new-found appeal for skateboarding has also brought into light more anti-boarding laws as well.

The California State Assembly last year voted skateboarding a "hazardous activity," therefore making the city not liable for any skateboarding accidents that occur on public property. Plus, the cities that are still liable for skateboarding accidents make it a point to kick out any skaters so the city doesn't have to worry about lawsuits.

New York City passed a law banning "reckless operation" of skateboards. The judgment of what is "reckless" will apparently be left up to the ticketing police officers.

How long this current cycle of skateboarding will last is up for grabs. What is known, however, is that skateboarding as a whole will never die out.

It has had its highlights and its down periods, but there has always been at least a small faction of skaters who have carried the grip-tape torch ever since the early days of the makeshift boards with rollerskate wheels and wooden planks on top.

The famous slogan reads, "skateboarding is not a crime." It certainly isn't just a fad, either.



# The Game plays with troubled psyches

AMY SANDERSON  
STAFF

A warning label should be placed outside of theaters for moviegoers arriving to watch *The Game*: "Caution, film may cause fits of paranoia."

This film, directed by David Fincher, is the stuff of nightmares. *The Game* is one big, fun-house trip that recreates the fear of lost control and distrust.

Fincher, in his latest film since *Seven*, creates an intense mystery thriller with twists and turns that are impossible to anticipate. Even the ending is unexpected and it finishes with the same suspicion present throughout the entire film.

Michael Douglas is wonderful as Nicholas Van Orton, the wealthy, well-bred businessman who gets pushed to an emotional and psychological breakdown. In *The Game*, Van Orton finds himself reduced to humility and humanity.

Douglas' character is reminiscent of previous role: the corporate power, Gordon Gekko, in *Wall Street* and the unstable, unemployed engineer in *Falling Down*.

Van Orton's ordered life falls apart after he receives a gift from his brother, Conrad, the family's bad seed who is fresh out of drug rehab. Conrad, played by Sean Penn, coyly smiles and swears to his brother the game will "change your life."

In the film Van Orton must deal with

skeletons in his closet; he has just turned 48, the same age as his father who committed suicide by jumping off of the family's lavish mansion. The detached bachelor in search of something else signs up with Consumer Recreation Services, a company that designs elaborately staged "life games".

Like *Seven*, where the allegorical climax reflects the insecurities and psyche of Brad Pitt's character, *The Game* addresses the idea of potentially dangerous evils floating around in our own subconscious. The players in the game, like the detectives in *Seven*, are toyed with by something larger and evil orchestrating the whole, confusing puzzle.

The polished look of *The Game* is created with technical skill and sharp imagery. Like *Seven*, evil seems to lurk in dark corners and the viewers feel closer than is comfortable to these disturbing and frightening situations.

The only problem with this film is the suspension of disbelief required in order to buy the elaborate scheme. Still, this minor point hardly detracts from the film's intelligent use of suspense, attention to detail, and characterization.

After seeing the movie, check out its web-site at <<http://www.the-game.com>> and play it for yourself. This professional looking site appears to be just an online version of Consumer Recreation Services. Fill out a short profile that is fortunately not as involved as in the film. CRS later sends an email with the devised game included.

# Increase in custom houses builds niche for local artists

Associated Press

SUN VALLEY, Idaho — The dramatic increase in construction of large, elaborate houses around the Wood River Valley has created an opportunity for many artists to bring their craft into someone's personal space.

Among them are metalworkers who fabricate chandeliers, fireplace inserts, furniture, gates and other functional metal items.

And two artists with years of experience in the valley, Mark Sheehan and David Harris, say the proliferation of big homes in the past eight to 10 years has improved their ability to make beautiful art.

"It's a challenge to work in these environments, because the people aren't going to take schlock," Harris said.

His Triumph Metal Works has been around for more than 20 years. The company recently received a contract to design interior lighting fixtures and cabinet hardware for Albertson's corporate headquarters in Boise.

"I build everything, all the time," Harris said. "It comes to me because I've been here so long. I get paid for doing nice work."

Sheehan, owner of Cherry Glow Forge and Fabrication, also has more than 20 years in creating metalwork designs for homeowners in the Wood River Valley and elsewhere.

Their reputations have increased the demand for custom metal work, say local architects and builders.

"People are in general asking for more of that," said Dale Bates of Living Architecture

in Ketchum, "because they have the money, it's available and it's different from what they are used to seeing."

Bates said the quality of craftsmen such as Sheehan and Harris makes homeowners seek them out for special touches.

"The craftsmen are here, and willing and able to create it," Bates said. "We have craftsmen here like Mark and David who are educated and sophisticated yet are working in this old Western, regional material."

Bates said mountain houses, with their typical exposed beams and many fireplaces, are natural showcases for metal artists. "There's an opportunity to be expressive," he said.

The artists agree, within limits. "Very rarely do I get to do exactly what I want to do," Sheehan said. "I build for a specific space to fit a specific design."

Clients ask that he follow their basic style, whether French, Italian, Southwest or rustic. Still, he said, "You're striving for beauty."

Harris agreed. "I have to be sensitive to where the piece is going, if it's ranch rustic, Italianate or Adirondack," Harris said. "I try to accommodate the client with something that is most suitable for their space."

Harris said in recent years, he has worked in houses with total square footages between 15,000 and 20,000. "We're talking huge," he said.

His typical project, whether a series of fireplace screens or patterned iron wall sconces, costs the client \$60,000 to \$120,000. Although his projects usually take three to four months to complete, they sometimes extend to more than a year.

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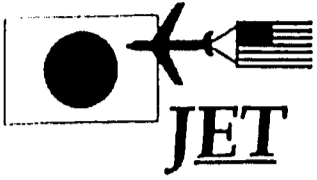
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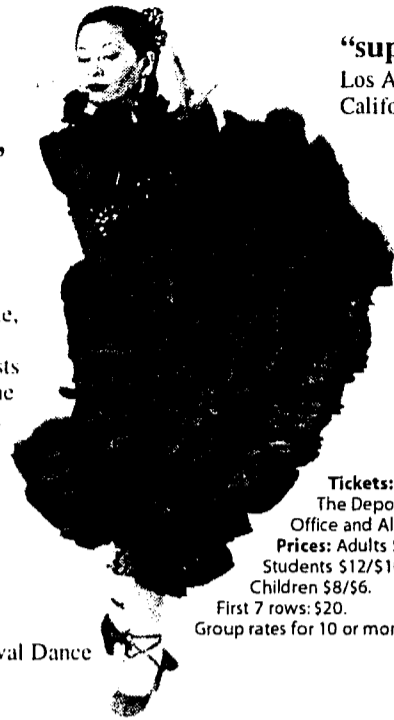
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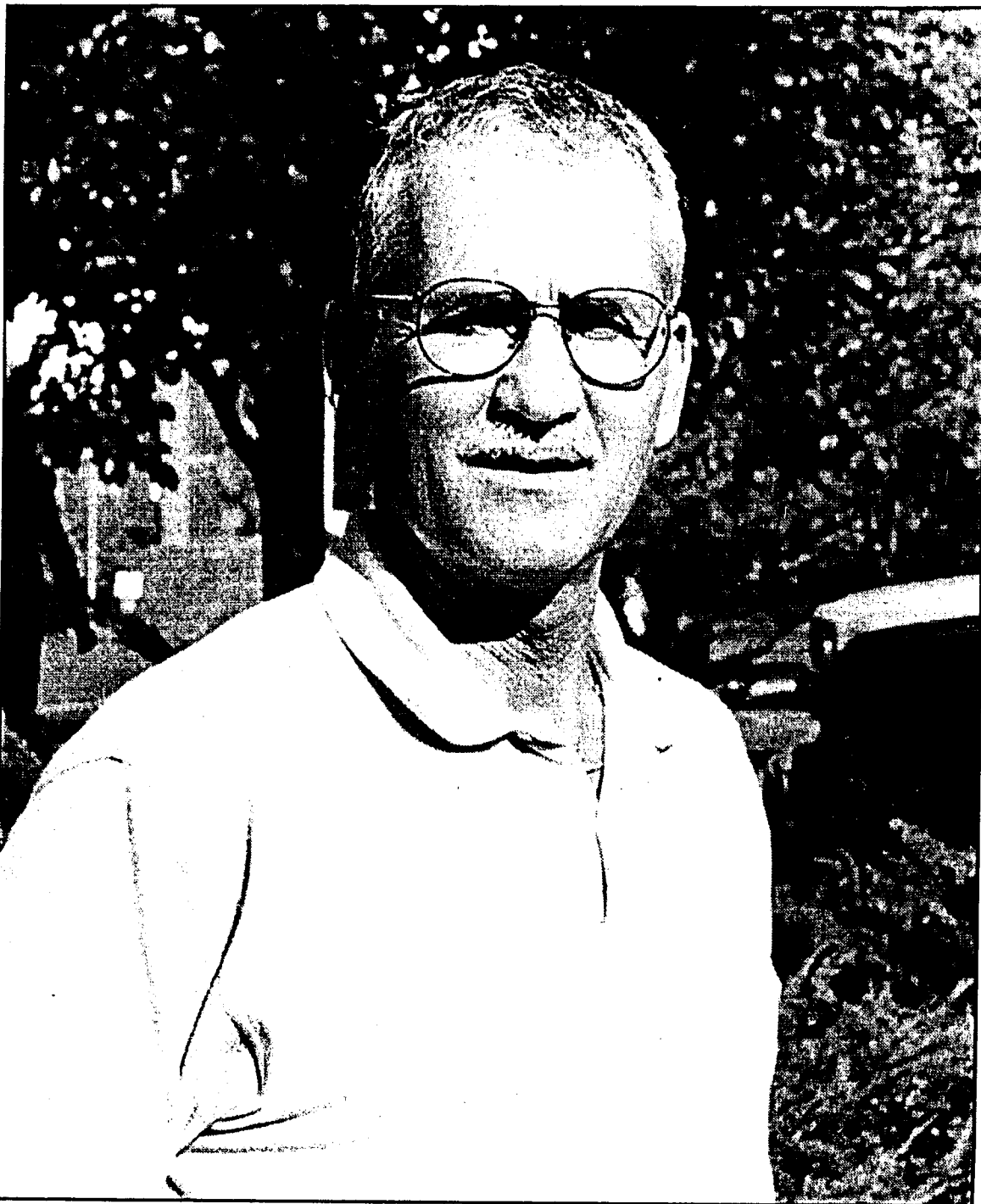
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# Small team dreams big, wins it all once again



Mike Keller

TONYA SNYDER  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When the Idaho football team wins a huge game over Boise State, the Vandals hear about it. When the men's basketball team is in the midst of a five-game winning streak, the Vandals hear about it. We at the University of Idaho seem to take our sports seriously.

Seriously guys, who are we fooling?

Believe it or not, Idaho sports does indeed have its unsung heroes.

After only one year in the Big West conference, UI already has a conference title to its name and a reputation for being one of the best programs in the conference.

All you Vandal fans out there say hello to Mike Keller and the reigning Big West Outdoor Track and Field Champions.

In this spring's Big West meet, Idaho topped the field with 193 points with Utah State finishing second behind the Vandals with 158.5. Among the UI first-placers were Nigls Kruiler in long jump (24-07), Oscar Duncan in javelin (212-02), and Frank Bruder in the 3000 meter steeplechase (8:44.49). Kyle Daley finished second in the hammer throw with a distance of 197-02 feet while Steve Bluhm placed third in discus.

Coach Keller picked up the honor of Big West Coach of the Year while Vandal Tawanda Chiwira earned the title of athlete of the year.

This championship is the first Big West Championship in any sport since Idaho entered the conference last year, an impressive feat, but one that has gone without much recognition.

"By the time we finish with the conference championships, everyone's gone home for the summer," said men's track and field coach Mike Keller. "These athletes compete not just for themselves, but for their school and recognition,

and they're not getting the credit they deserve."

After two Big Sky outdoor championships in 1995 and '96, a Mountain Pacific indoor championship in 1997, and the recent Big West title last spring, recognition has been a long time in coming.

"I'm always answering questions for athletes like, 'why don't we get coverage?'" Keller said. "Just because we don't get coverage doesn't mean we're not working as hard."

Despite the lack of press and recognition, the Idaho program is flourishing. With a men's team of only 39, Keller focuses more on quality than quantity, with most athletes competing in more than one event.

With only 10 scholarships available to the team at a time and a non-existent recruitment budget, most of the athletes that are competing for Idaho are walk-ons with no monetary compensation. Keller has his own idea of success.

"I tell my kids, 'When you leave here, you won't remember how high you jumped, how fast you ran, or how far you threw. What you will take with you is the ability to be a proud, responsible individual and citizen.'"

Keller's recipe for success is paying off not only on the track, but in life and schooling as well. Of the 53 foreign athletes who have competed on his team, 51 have graduated, many have gone on to pursue their masters, and six have completed doctorates.

"In my job, I don't consider myself a coach," Keller said. "I came here as a teacher and that's what I do."

This season, Keller expects to have another small but successful team. He would love to see the team finish in the top three of the Big West.

Keller, in his 25th year of coaching, certainly has cooked up a winning program.

## UI Tennis hosts Fall Classic

TODD MORDHORST  
STAFF

The tennis courts south of Memorial Gym will be invaded by a number of the top players in the region starting today at noon. The University of Idaho men's tennis team opens the year playing host to their Fall Classic while the women's team will play in the WSU Invitational in Pullman.

The men's tournament is an open field without team competition. The tournament runs all weekend and features players from Boise State, Montana, Eastern Washington, Utah State, Gonzaga, Whitman, and LCSC.

Coach Greg South said the open field should provide some good competition.

"There are several good players from the Pacific Northwest that are playing unattached," he said.

The women will begin play at 8 a.m. on Friday at the WSU tennis courts, competing as a team in the regular tournament format.

South, who is starting his fourth year at Idaho, enters the weekend without any expectations.

"We view each tournament as an opportunity to go try out the stuff we've been working on and try to reach our goals," South said.

Both men's and women's teams are very young but experienced, having lost just one player each off of last year's teams.

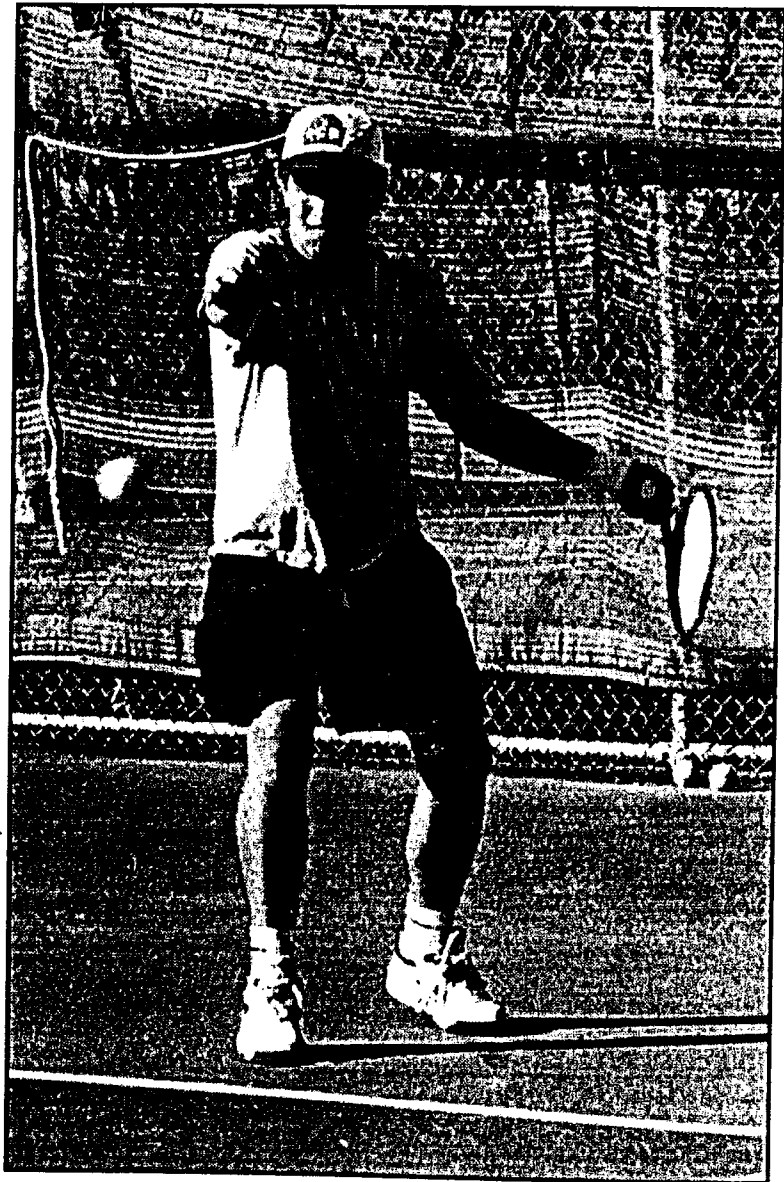
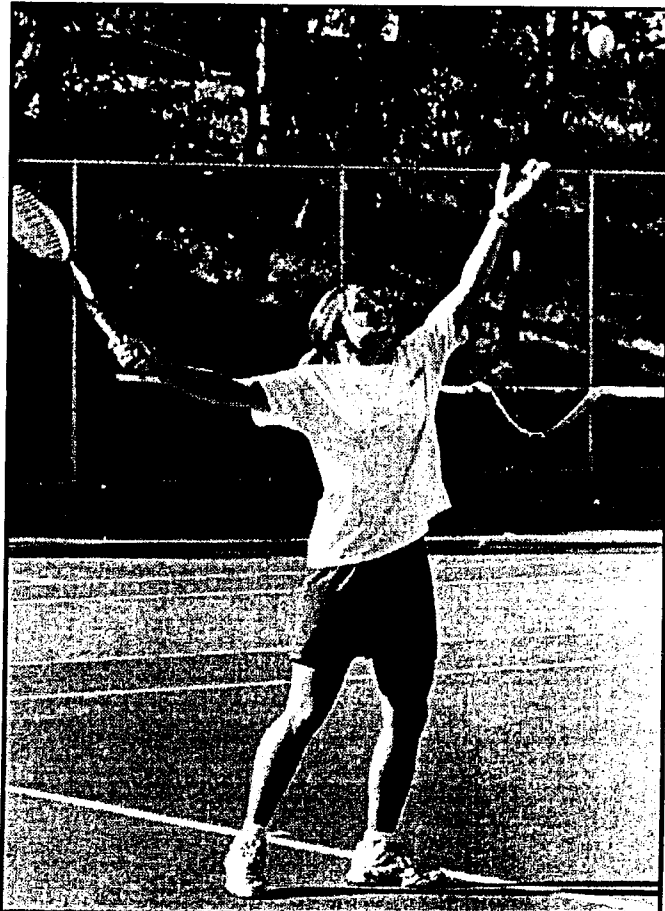
The men's team should be strong with senior Danny Willman leading the way. Juniors Jorge Aldrete and Dustin Hinson return, as well as sophomore Darin Currall. Freshmen Mark Windes and Andrei Novikov will also be important to the team's success. South said Willman, Aldrete, and Currall are playing at a very high level.

Willman earned all-Big West honors last year in both singles and doubles playing with Aldrete.

"Danny will graduate this year and he could make a living at playing tennis," South said.

Aldrete was very impressive this summer playing on the ITA Summer Circuit. In one tournament he beat top-seeded Chris Sunds of UCLA and players from

See FALL CLASSIC page 18



The Idaho men host Boise State, Montana, Eastern Washington, Utah State, Gonzaga, Whitman and LCSC today at the Fall Classic. Meanwhile, the Vandal women cross the border to compete at Washington State University.

Photos by Amy Kendall





# Road to Boise Bowl starts in Reno — may end in Moscow

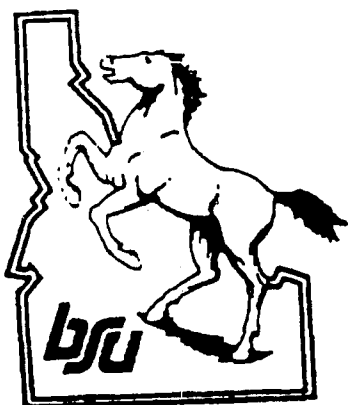


BRAD NEUENDORF  
STAFF

Many aspects are developing as Big West football heads into its fifth week of competition.

Oct. 4 marks the opening of conference play between Big West opponents. Up to this point, all six Big West Conference teams have been defeated, with Idaho in a three-way tie for the lead with Utah State and North Texas, and with a 2-2 record among non-league opponents.

Here is a look at the Big West Conference teams — their accomplishments, defeats, and possible outcomes of the conference.



## Boise State

The Broncos move the ball very efficiently this season, averaging 24 points per game. They are led by junior quarterback Nate Sparks, who is second in the Big West behind UI's Brian Brennan in pass efficiency (131.64), and total offense averaging 246 yards per game. A major weakness for Boise State is when they go to the ground, which they love to do, averaging 43 rushing attempts per game. Against the Big Sky's Weber State, the Broncos had no success running the ball — 269 yards in three games and 119 carries.

Boise State is second to last in both pass and rush defense, allowing 465.5 yards and 35.5 points per game. The only sunshine on a very dismal defense is junior linebacker Jeff Davis who was named Big West Defensive Player of the Week after a strong defensive showing against Wisconsin with a interception, fumble recovery and six tackles.

Boise State lacks the speed and experience to make a good showing in the Big West Conference. If they are still kicking Nov. 22 when they visit the Kibbie Dome, it should be a replay of last year: Idaho 64 — Boise



## Nevada

State 19.

The defending Big West Champions are off to a slow start, but with their losses to tough opponents, they have little to worry about. The Wolf Pack's three losses come from high caliber teams — Colorado State, Oregon, and Southern Mississippi. Their only win was against UNLV.

Quarterback John Dutton returns. Last year he led Nevada as the national leader in total offense with 527 yards per game. This year (against very tough opponents), the Wolf Pack has decreased that number but are still looking strong with 375 yards, including 290 through the air which ranks their passing offense at 13 nationally.

The gateway to defeating the Wolf Pack is through their defense. They are second to last in front of New Mexico State in total defense, allowing 451 yards per game.

Once Nevada starts playing inside the Big West Conference, they will be very tough. With games against Utah State and Idaho at home, the road to the Boise Bowl may be right through Reno.



## New Mexico State

Weak, weak, weak! The only thing different between Boise State and New Mexico State is that NMSU actually defeated Division I-AA Big Sky Conference Cal State Northridge. They were, however, defeated by PAC-10 champion Arizona State and intrastate rival New Mexico by a margin of 34-102.

Here is what they are currently ranked in the Big West: Last in passing offense, last in scoring offense, and second to last in total offense. The only offensive threat comes from junior Denvis Manns who leads the Big West in rushing with 139 yards per game. Other than this, the only thing the Aggies lead in the Big West is penalty yards per game giving up 40 in each of three games.



## North Texas

After disappointing losses in the first two outings for the Eagles against Vanderbilt (12-29), and Oregon State (7-33), North Texas is currently enjoying a two game winning streak against Indiana State and Texas Tech.

Currently ranked last in the Big West Conference in total offense, the Eagles look to improve this after a rocky first two games. Quarterback Jason Mills was named Offensive Player of the Week for his effort Saturday defeating Texas Tech 30-27. He completed 14 of 26 passes for 147 yards, two touchdowns, and no interceptions, including the game-winning 80 yard drive with 1:19 to

play. His experience and poise as a senior may cause problems for inter-league opponents.

Benny Cherry took the Defensive Player of the Week honor this week, recording a season high 17 tackles, 10 solo and broke up two passes. North Texas is allowing almost 400 yards per game, though Idaho's offense should control the game if the line can keep Cherry out of the backfield.



## Utah State

Although Utah State may be overlooked due to Nevada, they are a definite contender for the Big West Championship.

After an exciting win over Utah 21-14 in their season opener, the Aggies enjoyed a win over Idaho State and then suffered losses to Colorado State and New Mexico State.

They are leading the Big West in total offense with 381.3 yards per game next to Idaho's 380.3 yards per game. They are second in scoring offense behind Idaho with 27 points per game.

Senior quarterback Matt Sauk is having an average season completing 73 of 142 passes and is averaging 219 yards per game.

When Utah State appears in the Dome, defense will be the deciding factor of the game. Both offenses are evenly matched so it depends on which defense can stop which offense. Utah State is first in the Big West in defense allowing 260 yards per game to Idaho's 271 yards.

This will be the best game of the year in the Kibbie Dome.

If Idaho can defeat John Dutton and the Nevada Wolf Pack in Mackay Stadium, the Big West Championship could be decided in the Kibbie Dome, Oct. 25 against Utah State.



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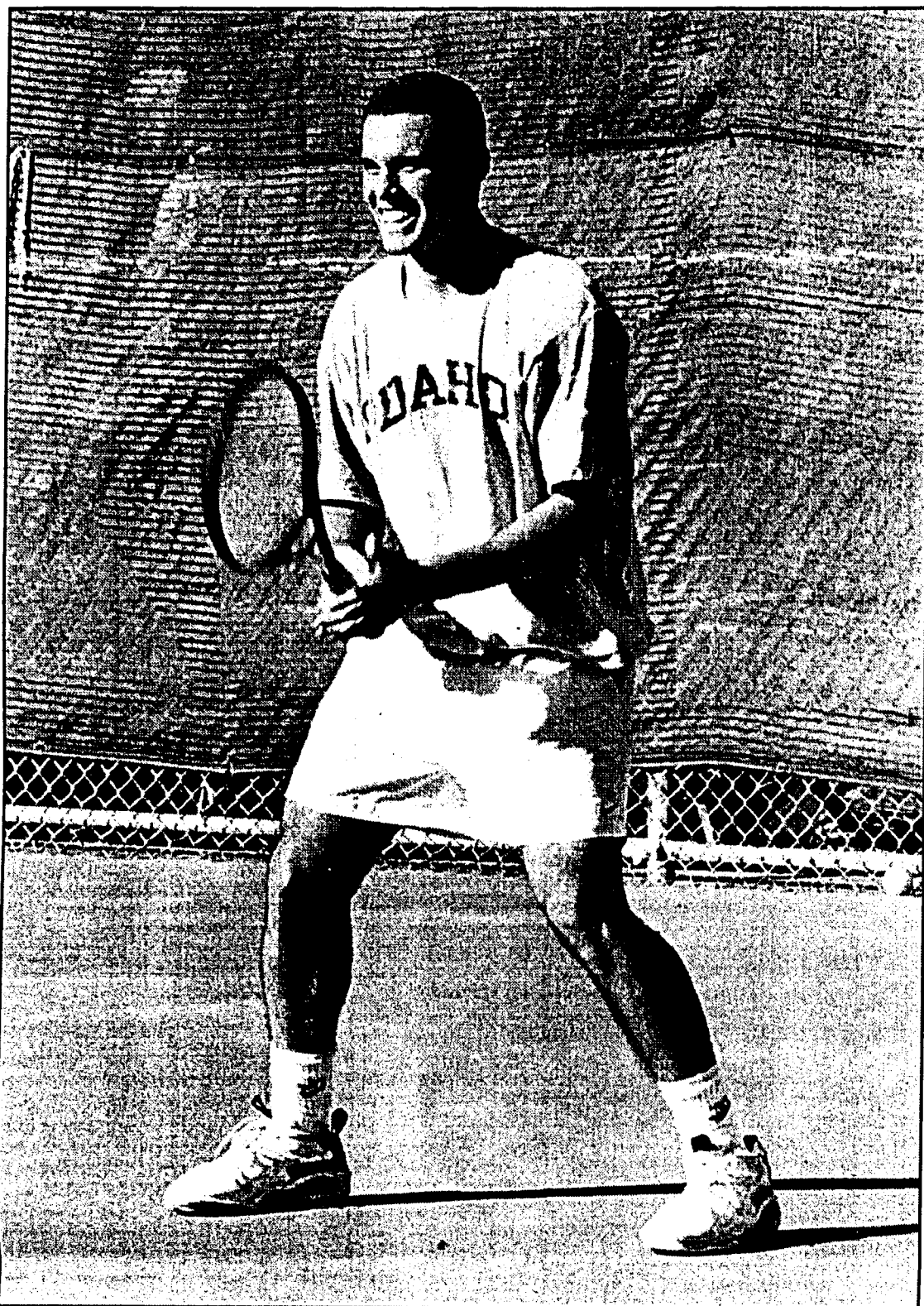


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AMY KERRILL

# Big West

## FALL CLASSIC from page 14

UNLV and Ohio State to win.

Juniors Katrina Burke and Liza Mulholland will lead the women's team. Both players are from Australia and will be trying to help the team improve on its impressive second place finish in the Big West last year.

Burke garnered all-Big West honors last year for both singles and doubles.

Tennis, unlike most sports, continues throughout the year, concluding with the Big West Championships in April. When the weather gets bad the teams will play in the Kibbie Dome until spring.

The Big West should provide plenty of competition for both men and women. South said the conference is one of the top five tennis conferences in the nation. Boise State is very strong and their men's team was ranked as high as seventh in the nation last year. BSU will have six players competing this weekend.

South encourages everyone to come out and see Idaho's only home match of the fall season.

"It would be a great event for people to come out and watch," South said. "Admission is free, the competition will be really good, and it's a great tournament."



## Vandal News and Notes

### VOLLEYBALL

The Vandal volleyball team looks to continue their momentum on the road as they travel to Reno, Nev. and Logan, Utah to face Big West rivals Nevada and Utah State.

Idaho will take on Nevada first tonight, kicking off their conference play at 7:30 p.m. The Wolf Pack is 6-8 overall coming into the Friday night match-up.

Nevada, coached by first year coach Devin Scruggs, is coming off a devastating 3-0 loss to San Diego last Saturday. Senior outside hitter Tiffany Neumeler made her fourth straight all-tournament team last weekend at the Mikasa Tournament, averaging 4.4 kills, 2.7 digs and .42 blocks, hitting for an impressive .291 attack average. She is second in the Big West in kills.

To access the match on the Web, contact [www.cableradionetwork.com](http://www.cableradionetwork.com).

Currently, the Utah State Aggies are on the winning side of things boasting a 9-4 non-conference record before their match-up with Boise State today before their meeting with the Vandals Sunday in Logan. Returning eight letter-winners under the direction of coach Ginny Alexander, the Aggies look to seal off the Idaho teams this weekend.

Strong at the setting position, Utah State's Lori Sargent, sophomore, passed for a career-high 69 assists against Portland at the Utah State Invitational Tournament last weekend, the sixth-highest single-match total in school history. For her efforts, she was selected to the all-tournament team.

Idaho, Nevada and Utah State all have one opponent in common. Each team has beaten Portland in five games.

### CROSS COUNTRY

The men's and women's cross country teams head to the Sundodger Invitational Meet this weekend in Seattle.

### STRIDE FOR GOLD

"Stride for Gold," a fundraising event which benefits UI women's athletic teams, is collecting pledges and looking for striders. Pledges help with recruitment, equipment and travel costs for women's teams.

Striders will receive free tickets to the UI volleyball match-up against Cal Poly along with a celebration brunch. "Stride for Gold" will be held in the Kibbie Dome Saturday, Oct. 25 from 9-10 a.m. where striders will exercise with student-athletes, coaches, cheerleaders and the UI marching band.

Anyone who would like to participate as a strider in this important fund-raising activity can contact UI Athletics at 885-0200, or Pam Farmer at 883-0151 for more information.

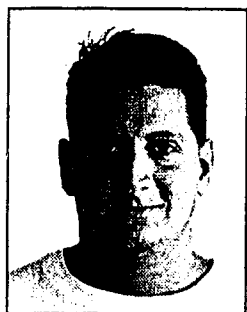


# Get paid.

[ to write ]

The Argonaut needs an entertainment writer. Applications and information are available on the 3rd floor of the SUB.

# NHL gears up for another smashing season



**BARRY GRAHAM**  
STAFF

It seems that just yesterday members of the Detroit Red Wings were carrying Lord Stanley's Cup across Joe Louis Arena in celebration of a four-game sweep of the Philadelphia Flyers in the 1997 Stanley Cup Finals.

Now, a few months later, the NHL pre-season has begun with the regular season just around the corner. Oh yes, the NHL. Players who compete in one of the greatest sports in the world and do it for a fraction of the salaries of athletes in professional football, baseball and basketball.

Athletes like Eric Lindros, Sergei Fedorov, and Peter Forsberg, all superstars, each from different countries, each with the goal of helping their respective team win professional sports' most celebrated championship.

In hockey, you have dazzlingly skilled players like Brett Hull who oppose fierce enforcers like Esa Tikkanen. You have ferocious floor checking, brilliant two-on-one breaks and superb goal tending with keepers like Patrick Roy shutting down the league's top slapshot artists.

Most of all, you have the blood, sweat and tears of grown men who have more courage and competitive fire than teeth. This is what professional sports should be about.

And this season should have more fire than ever as rivalries are at an all-time high

and off-season trades will help to add more balance to the league.

The Detroit Red Wings will still be the kings of the Western Conference. Even with the terrible automobile accident on the eve of Detroit's championship run that caused three of the Russian Five to suffer injuries, the Wings still are loaded with talent especially after signing Slava Kozlov to a new contract.

Colorado will have to find a replacement for Center Joe Sakic. However, with Roy tending the net, the Avs will need very little scoring punch.

Other surprises in the West include Anaheim, which had a breakthrough season in 1996-97. Edmonton and Dallas could pose a threat as well.

In the East, the Flyers and Rangers will be the top dogs. Philadelphia is hungry and it is unlikely that Lindros and company will be denied again. The Rangers signed Sakic and have the best defense in the east. The Devils have the goal tending in Martin Brodeur and Buffalo should be strong once again.

## The rooting dilemma

In professional sports today, winning is the main objective for every team. That is why you compete for a championship. But sometimes, as a viewer, problems can arise. One of the biggest for me relates to rooting for your favorite team or individual when they come from outside of the United States.

For example, during a major tennis tournament like the U.S. Open, I will always root for the underdog or a personal

favorite player, which usually is not American. I only do that because of the different style that most European players tend to use. It isn't because I am a communist or anti-American. It only relates to the fact that my favorite players on the professional ATP men's tennis tour use a style that is not an American trademark.

However, during Davis Cup play, which involves the best singles players from a particular country playing as a squad for the world championship, I will always root for the American team.

The basic assumption that can be made about that is that the line is not as fine when team goals are put above individual achievements. The Olympic games support that fact. When the United States competes as a team in the Games, it is safe to assume that people in this country, I for one, will watch wholeheartedly and cheer for our athletes.

However, when an individual, for instance boxes, e.g. Lennox Lewis (who is from England) and he opposes Evander Holyfield, many people in this country, including myself, may cheer Lewis and

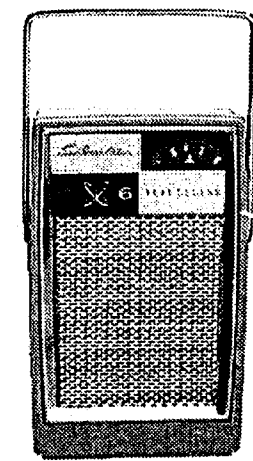
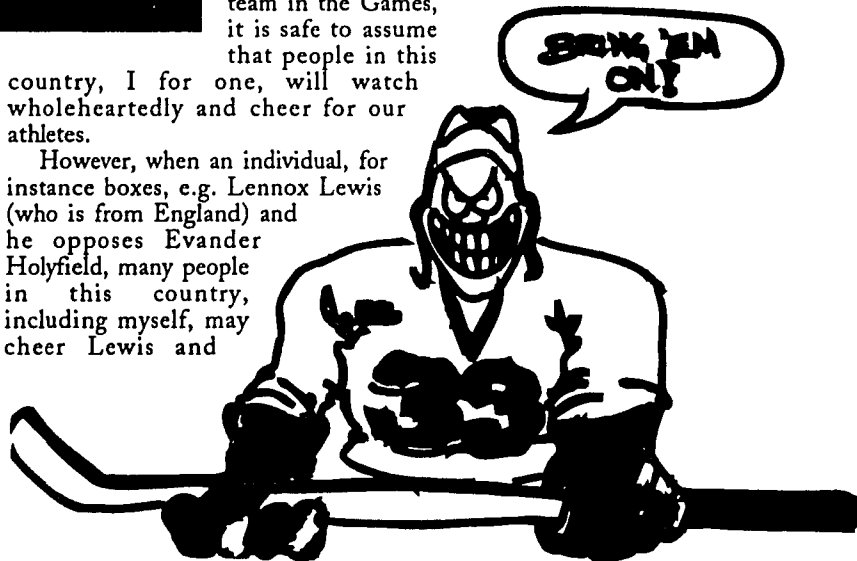
even go as far as to boo Holyfield. And that may not come down to a particular dislike for Holyfield but a genuine like for Lewis' style or ability as a prize-fighter.

The same can be said for professional hockey, where a huge influx of European players has made an impact in the NHL.

Your favorite team could be comprised of 40 percent (I am exaggerating about the percentage) Russian competitors. Does that mean that you should not root for that team because they may not be a "real" American squad? Or does it matter? I tend to believe that fans usually do not worry about the number of foreign competitors on a team. Basically, people feel that as long as a player, no matter where he is from, can help their team win, let him play here.

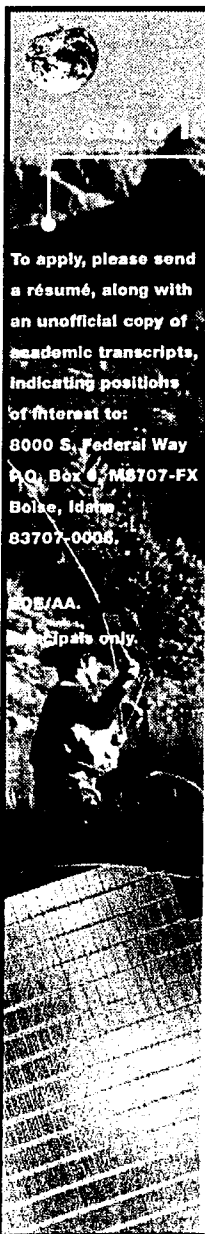
However, when the U.S. faces the rest of the world in a team competition, the "us against the world" mentality begins to show and people take sides. It is interesting to see that some people such as myself, when it involves individual athletes from around the globe, choose to take sides not by citizenship but by ability and style.

"Most of all, you have the blood, sweat and tears of grown men who have more courage and competitive fire than teeth."



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We will be visiting your campus October 1, and WSU campus October 2. Join us for a presentation and refreshments on Wednesday from 5:00-6:30 p.m., in the North Campus Center. Then, stop by our booth at the Career Expo of the Palouse on Thursday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Beasley Coliseum.

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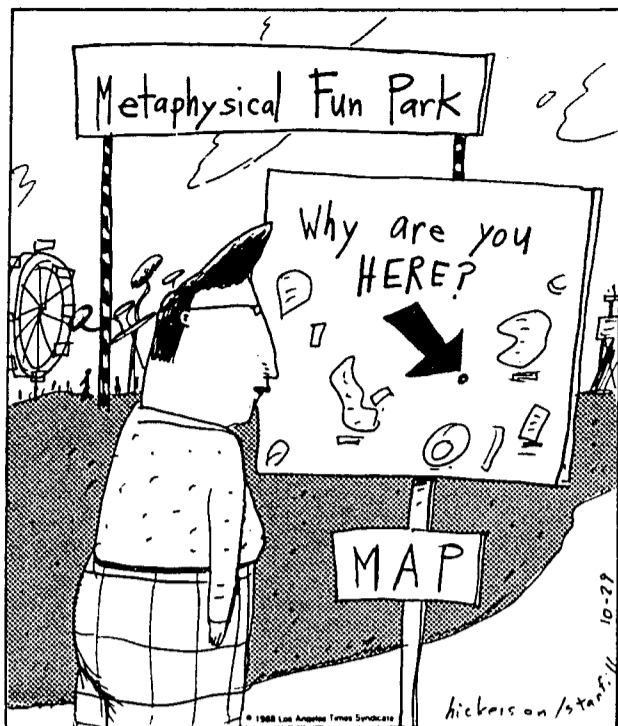


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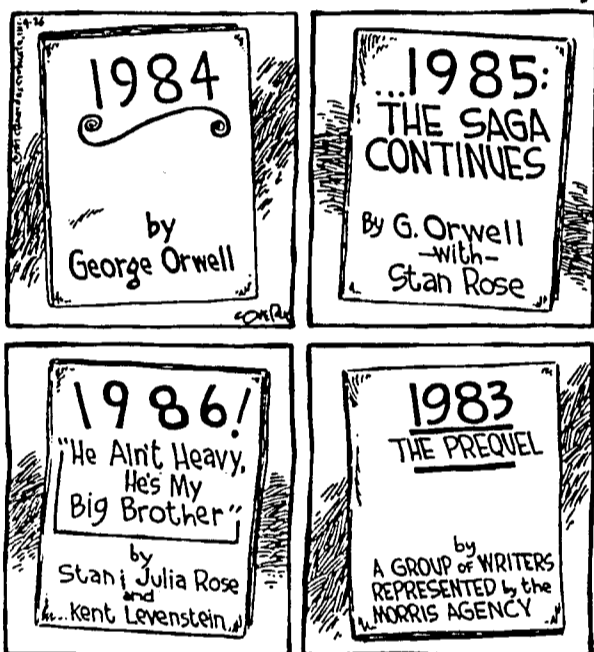
Buddy Hickerson



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### Speed Bump

Dave Coverly



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### Rubes

Leigh Rubin



Methusela, frequent target of Old Testament tongue-wagging



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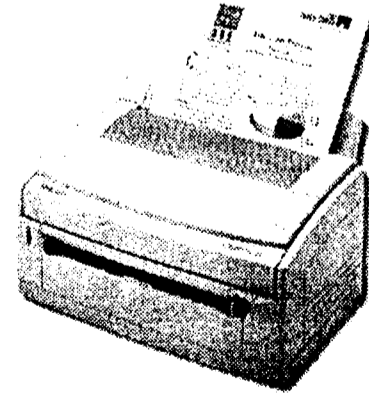
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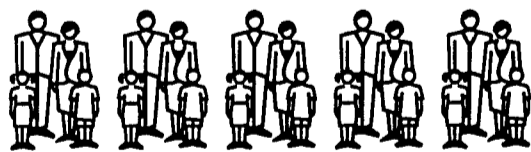
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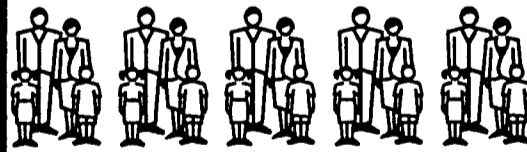
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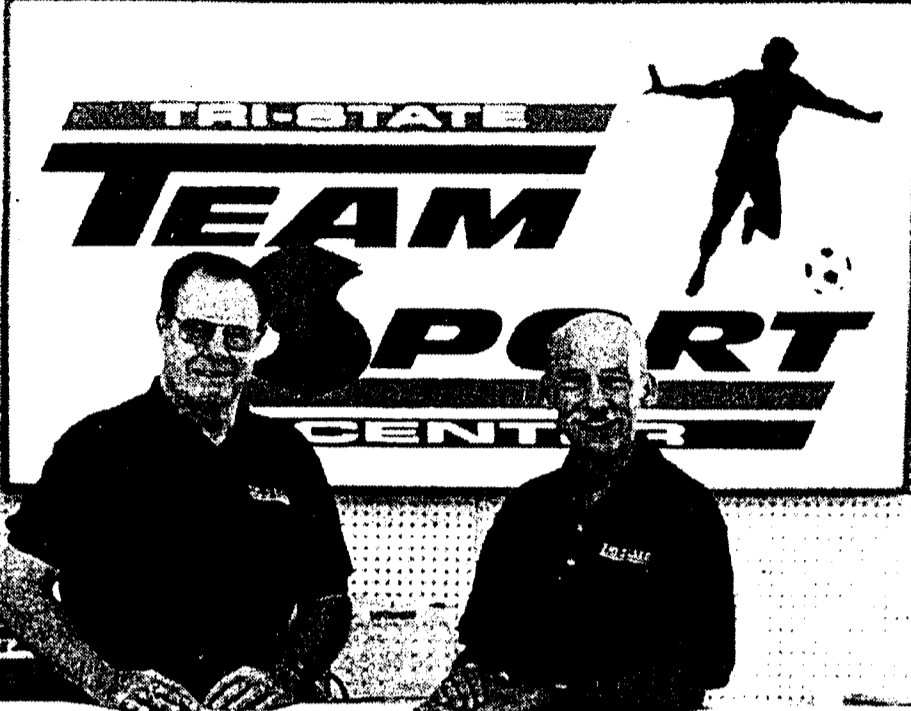
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