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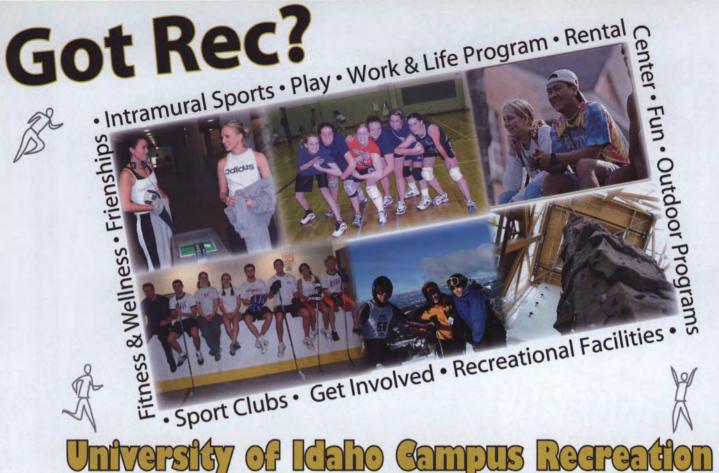
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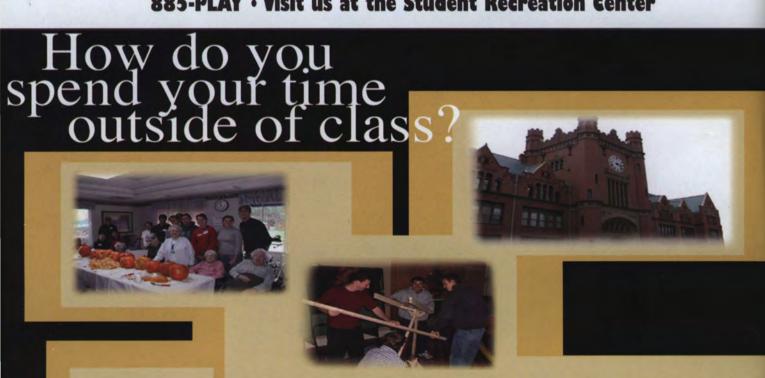
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Summer/Fall 2005: 2



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Letter from the editor:

When we were hyping Blot's December issue, a lot of people asked me how the magazine is different from the University of Idaho's other student-run publication, the Argonaut. There are a couple key differences between my favorite magazine and my favorite newspaper, where I spent the better part of four years of my life.

Blot doesn't have the responsibility of being UI's journal of record. We gave readers two issues in the past 12 months. The Arg put out more than 60. While Blot editors were putting together a package of stories about gambling, iPods and mail-order religion, Abbey Lostrom and her staff at the Arg were putting the late-night hurt on the SUB's vending machines, keeping the campus and community in the know about students' deaths, elections and Tim White's health.

Blot has the luxury of time, and put together pieces that echo student life, without the burden of covering the constant exodus of UI administrators.

In this issue, Frank McGovern takes a look at the trend of gambling on campus, which some call a sport, but something Chris Moneymaker, Doyle Brunson and Ul's own Darren Mohr call work.

In celebration of "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith," Jacob Denbrook highlights the worst moments in the history of the franchise. We're also showcasing 10 of the most interesting characters you'll see at or around UI. Who knew campus mail was harboring someone capable of swallowing swords, juggling fire and drilling into his own skull?

Blot's still figuring things out, and next year will be very different. Sean Olson, who for the last semester has worked as Blot's senior editor, is taking over as editor. He has some slick ideas to keep our audience entertained. On that note, we figured out how to get more students reading: free magazines. Next year, Blot will be free and hopefully, more frequent.

Thanks for reading.

All the best,

W.Z.

Chris Kornelis



Jen Cammann:
Raised by
Catholics from
birth. Jen has struggled to learn
the language and customs of the
outside world.

ean Olson: Blor's grumpiest, eccently quit low-carb for the

recently quit low-carb for the more appropriate Keith Richards lifestyle,



Dan Bickley: Dan draws his creative inspiration from an ancient Tibetan technique: "furious consump-

CONTENTS

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The birthday party was going fine until a renegade clown came out of nowhere.



FEATURES

Cover story:

15 Ul's 10 most interesting people By Sean Olson & Tara Karr Portraits by Dan Bickley

Sword swallowing, tree hugging and vast journeys are included in Blot's look at some of the more memorable folks gracing the UI campus. Now we are waiting for the book deals to come rolling in.



Psychics predict downtown Portland will become the center of the post-apocalyptic world. The same psychics are being sued.

10 Portland bound By Chris Kornelis

The Northwest's second-largest city may not stay that way for long. Blot takes a look at one of the fastest-growing cities in the nation and a mecca for the young and unemployed.





12 Student gambling By Frank McGovern

Just one more way to quit your day job ... many on campus have turned in their name tags for a deck of cards and a shot at the riches of poker.

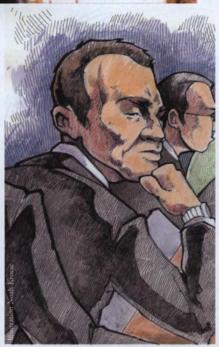
To be fair, the Nalgene bottle got a few good shots in too.

CAHOOTS

- 4 Tour de helmet
- 4 ASUI outdoors
- 5 Baby iPod
- 5 Where you go, Ogos
- 6 Pixel Blocks: The new Lego
- **6** The edge of technology
- 6 Nalgene testing

Student loan collectors take their jobs very, very seriously.







PERIMETER

- 7 Drinkers with a Running Problem
- 8 Hampton happenings
- 8 Marketing jazz to youth
- 9 Glenn Grishkoff: Starting over
- **9** The Huygens disaster

HANDBILL

- 33 Idaho actress' indie success
- **34** Top nine worst 'Star Wars' moments
- 35 Video game review: 'Second Sight'

DEPARTMENTS

- 28 NEWS: UI judicial board
- 30 RELIGION: Talking to God
- 31 ALUMNI: Patrick Star
- 32 SPORTS: Idaho's Pac-8 past

He awoke hours later with a general understanding of particle physics, although he never knew why.



Tour de helmet

I want to ride my bicycle I want to ride it where I like ...

- Freddie Mercury

Even Lance Armstrong can't ride his bike however or wherever he likes. So before you hop on your bike to go to class, learn a few basics. According to officer Keith Cox of the Moscow Police Department there are four rules every student and citizen alike should follow:

Wear your helmet. Sure it's elementary, but it's your first line of defense in an accident. The United States has actually created safety standards for helmets, so make sure that yours has a Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) sticker on it.

Avoid the main roads. There is more than one way to get where you have to go, even if it means having to leave a few minutes earlier to take a longer route. Try taking alternate routes, like Paradise Path, and utilizing the campus walkways.

Stay off sidewalks. Oddly enough, most collisions happen when a cyclist is riding on the sidewalk. And contrary to popular belief, it is illegal to ride on one. If you do find it necessary to take the sidewalk, ride slowly.

Use your hand signals. Remember, stick your left arm straight out to signal a left turn. Bend it up to signal a right-hand turn, and swing it down to signal a stop. Got it? - Katie Fritzley

Mike Beiser has managed the ASUI Outdoor program since 1983 and loves getting students involved in its numerous activities. While recognizing that academics are extremely important, Beiser also believes that anyone

not taking part in the physical activities the school offers is only causing damage to his or herself. "We recognize that [the program is] not for everyone, but neither are spectator sports," said Beiser.

Still, he insists that the Outdoor program has something for everyone because the activities introduced through it are lifetime sports, not traditional sports. "I never knew I was an athlete before," said retired mathematics professor and avid climber Bill Royalty. "[The Outdoor Program] is where the mind and body come together."

And that is exactly what Beiser wants students and the community to understand. "If you can dream it, you can achieve it," says Beiser. "We'll help you!" And he means it too. The staff at the SRC lives to help students plan and execute whatever projects they have in mind and spring is the best time to organize an outing. Here are the top resources they have to offer you for your summer excursion:

The Rental Center. Perhaps the largest operation of the Outdoor Program to date is the rental center. In the early days of the program, there was enough equipment to support a single, 12-person trip. Today, there is a whole warehouse full of raft equipment, skis and climbing gear in the back of the SRC. Not to mention that it all rents out for, according to Beiser, "ridiculously cheap rates."

The Ultimate Group Project. Trips are one of the smallest portions that the Outdoor Program facilitates, yet the most widely glorified. Really, a backpacking/climbing excursion is more like a reward for students who have participated in smaller activities and built up their hard and soft skills through the program first. The program schedules its own outings throughout the year, but is always on hand to help students plan their own trips. Beiser says that a large-scale excursion is "the ultimate group project with no grades. The learning experience you get though is invaluable."

Essentially the Outdoor Program is a resource for students no matter how big their dreams. "We've had people come within the reach of Everest who learned how to tie their first knot here," Beiser said. The important thing is what the program teaches people about the power of human endeavors.

-KF

Where you go, Ogos

Back when your parents were in college, they communicated with one another through the written word, as do students of the 21st century. However, the method is completely different nowadays. The closest thing to a letter that any college student has written since 1998 was an e-mail. And today, even that form of communication is going bust with the



invention of instant messenger. Now the newest wave of communication is on-the-go messaging. Cingular's newest toy, the Ogo, is the pinnacle of this new trend. Shaped like a clamshell, the infant computer can go anywhere and can hook you up to three different messenger systems (or e-mail) at a time. AOL, MSN and Yahoo users pay only \$17.99 to a maximum of \$23.99 a month for a plan and only \$79.99 for the Ogo itself. The Ogo is available at your local Cingular Store or online at http://attwireless.com/ogo. -KF

Welcome to the world, baby iPod

We have papa iPod, mama iPod, and now, we have baby iPod. Welcome to the table, iPod Shuffle. Apple's newest mp3 protégé is its first iPod under \$100, and it's so cute you could just eat it up (although the company advises against it). As small and as light as a pack of gum, the Shuffle does exactly as it's name indicates. With capacity for 120 (512MB, \$99) or 240 (1MB, \$149) songs, depending on the options, all tracks are played in random order from the tunes you download onto it, which is why there is no need for a space-hogging screen. Unlike its predecessors, the Shuffle is geared more towards short-term use like trips to the gym and walks to class, not for storing your entire music collection. It comes equipped with a neck lanyard and signature iPod headphones. Other accessories, such as armbands and sports case are available online at apple.com.



The Nalgene: Truly indestructible

Supposedly the Nalgene bottle is indestructible, and after performing my own tests on it, I am fairly convinced that is true. I did almost everything I could think of to destroy the thing: cutting it with scissors, dropping it off the top of the Student Union Building, throwing it against a brick



ThinkGeek.com

wall and hitting it repeatedly with a baseball bat. In the end, the only thing I was really able to do in order to cause any noticeable damage to it, was to run over it with a two ton truck. And even after that, I am pretty sure it still holds water. -KF

The cutting edge of technology

By 2004 every slightly technologically inclined person in the country had thrown away every floppy disk they owned, thanks to the greatest invention in technology since the mp3

> player. But, news flash: the USB mass storage device is for everybody, not just the tech-savvy. Not only are these devices more reliable than a

floppy, they hold over a hundred times more info. And everyone can

find a keydrive that fits his or her style (although

we don't recommend using them as fashion accessories).

Thinkgeek.com has a keydrive tucked secretly away into a Swiss army pocketknife from \$54 for 64MB to \$99

> for a 256MB drive. And for the kids, Urban Outfitters sells a 16MB device encased in a rubber ducky

for \$59. But the best buy is the Scandisk Cruzer Mini, a 512MB device that can be purchased at Costco for \$45. Really, what more could you ask for? -KF

The new generation of Legos

If you're a member of the "Lite-Brite" generation, or a kid who grew up building friends out of Legos, you might be wondering if you will ever have the chance to display your artistic genius to the world without being ostracized from society. The answer is yes. Look no further than what can only be described as the love child created by these childhood toys. Pixelblocks are the new Legos. One size and one shape, they stack from top to bottom and side to side. And all the pieces are translucent, so no matter what you build out of them, it ends up looking like a stained glass masterpiece. On their Web site, www.pixelblocks.com, the creators even have the technology to convert your photograph into a paint-by-numbers type graph. Pixelblocks can be purchased online at www.pixelblocks.com and start at \$5.50. -KF

Perimeter

"The point is getting together with a group of people ... and drinking, of course."

- Yesamess



A Hash Harrier member - nicknamed "Pulsating" - pauses to slam a beer during an event March 11.

Mike Colvin brought something mysterious with him to Moscow.

Actually, it was his alter ego, Spawns on the Beach, who brought ties to a mysterious group, the Hashers, whose members refer to themselves as Drinkers with a Running Problem.

The first thing to know about hashing is that anonymity is key. Everyone comes to his first hash - or "mother hash" - a nameless virgin. Each new participant is reborn a hasher and must earn his new name.

"It was six months before I knew Saint Amens' real name," Tamme Ulcer said. Saint Amens and Tamme Ulcer are members of the Palouse chapter of Hashers, organized by Colvin almost a year ago. Their hashing names have been garbled to get past the censors. Saint Amens has been hashing all over the world, once even participating in a toga run through Greek ruins in Turkey.

"Hashing is a great way to go to a new place. It's a social activity centered around beer," Saint Amens said.

Hashing is steeped in hot, sticky tradition, probably due to its origins in Malaysia. In 1937, a group of bored British officers invented a game combining the perks of running with all the benefits of drinking.

Based on a children's game called Fox and



Harrier "Smilf" carries his booty along the trail.

Hound, where one or two players are "foxes," or in the case of the Harriers, "hares," who leave trails for the hounds to follow. The trails are marked with bread, paper or flour, though more groups are switching to colored chalk in the interest of national security - groups have had encounters with police investigating the white powder on the ground around federal buildings. If the Hare is caught, he drinks.

Actually, everyone drinks anyway, for any imaginable reason.

"Any smidgeon of competitiveness gets you a 'down-down' " (think "chug-chug"), Yesamess said. Breaking the no training, no stretching, no pointing with any body part but the elbow, no

T-shirts, and no new shoes rules are serious infractions. Once an infraction is committed, the offender is subject to the aforementioned "downdown," accompanied by traditional songs

Not all songs are meant to shame. There are songs of celebration, welcome and goodbye. All are ribald sea-chanty-like marathons, easily remembered by the inebriated. At the end of their run, the Palouse Hash House Harriers gather in a circle to sing songs and toast a drink from the sacred vessel, an enameled bedpan.

"The point is getting together with a group of people ... and drinking, of course," Yesamess said.



Fresh blood

Jazz musicians look to attract new listeners

by Ion Ross

Instead of searching for the next great genre in jazz, today's jazz artists are looking to other styles of music for inspiration.

In the '70s, artists such as Miles Davis explored rock; today, in an effort to bring a younger audience to jazz, performers are experimenting with hip-hop.

"Jazz music is more of a mature music," said Wally "Gator" Watson, drummer for the Lionel Hampton New York Big Band. "As young people mature, they will go to that." By using hip-hop and funk, artists are hoping a younger audience will find the music more accessible.

"You do see serious jazz musicians using hip-hop rhythms," said Gary Giddins, a jazz journalist who worked for The Village Voice for 30 years.

Trumpeter Roy Hargrove - whose 2003 release, "The Rh Factor: Hard Groove," featured guest appearances by D'Angelo, Q-Tip and Erykah Badu pianist Jason Moran, and piano trio The Bad Plus are all incorporating some form of hip-hop into their music. This is all in an effort to reach new listeners.

"(Musicians) are always trying to please the audience," Giddins said.

Giddins thinks the general public's disinterest in jazz stems from a lack of familiarity. "It's a question of people having exposure to it. Most people never have exposure to it."

However, Giddins does think jazz still has a built-in audience. As an example, in January he went to a concert in New York featuring an all-star lineup headed by drummer Jack DeJohnette. Giddins said the club was 85 to 90 percent full.

"They were playing an art music that people responded to," he said.

Watson also thinks jazz is in no serious danger.

"The audience has gone away before, but they've always come back." To regain some of its popularity, jazz must name a central figure, Giddins said. In order to market to a mass audience, he said, the music has to find an artist who can cross over to the mainstream.

Watson sees contemporary jazz as a debate between purists - musicians with both feet planted firmly in the past - and innovators.

"It's an identity fight," he said. "The ideal thing would be for someone to bridge the gap between the two."

The drummer likens the future of jazz to a game of basketball.

"It's a ball sitting in center court, waiting for someone to pick it up."

Play on, play on

Hampton Center moves forward in spite of setbacks

by Ion Ross

When President Tim White decided in February to curtail spending on construction of the Lionel Hampton Center, James Murphy knew the project wasn't dead.

"In the grand scheme of things involved with the center, only one small piece of it is the construction of a new building," said Murphy, director of the Lionel Hampton School of Music. "That is the piece that's being put on hold."

In a speech Feb. 11 in the Student Union Building Ballroom, White told the university community his plans to stop the \$60 million project.

The project was proposed as an add-on to the Lionel Hampton School of Music. The site would include practice facilities, offices for the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, a space to showcase the university's collection of jazz artifacts, and a 750-seat performance area. A construction date had been set for 2012, but money stopped coming in.

"Over the last several years some \$8 million, primarily in federal grants, was raised for the programs and building plans through the Lionel Hampton Center Initiative," said Sandra Haarsager, associate dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences. White stopped the project because there were "concerns obligating institutional resources if we could only be partially successful," she said.

"All of it raised toward the building itself has been channeled toward architect fees," Murphy said. "You still have to pay an architect. He's not going to come out here for free."

Murphy does not think White's decision hurts the university.

"I think it's the only decision he could have made," Murphy said. "If I were in his place, I probably would have made the same decision."

In his speech, White said the project would cost \$80 million. The center was presented as a \$40 million facility and a \$20 million endowment.

"That number is a realistic assessment that includes all the site costs, the cost of some remodeling, the cost of inflation to time of construction, cost of phasing, etc.," Haarsager said.



The plan now is to regroup and concentrate on other aspects of the music school that are in need of repair.

"We will work toward a less expensive alternative that meets campus needs and includes remodeling of the outdated and inadequate" music building and practice hall, Haarsager said.

Murphy points out that even if money started rolling in, the center wouldn't be completed anytime soon.

"None of our current students, probably, would be here when the center would be built," he said.

Taking the current state of the economy into consideration, Murphy has a

"I'm wondering if the building will be built before I retire," he said. "That's my goal, to get it built before I retire."

Perimeter

A fresh start Popular, controversial art professor starts over after UI

by Nate Poppino

Former University of Idaho professor Glenn Grishkoff has come a long way since he got the boot from the administration in the spring of 2004.

The ceramic artist, whose termination sparked faculty and student protests, is now in Joseph, Ore., as an invited guest artist in the city's LH Project.

"The biggest change for me is focusing more time on art," Grishkoff said. "For me as an artist it's been absolutely fabulous. I've had a very productive time since October. The focus on my work has been the most productive part."

The project is a ceramic arts residency program, and Grishkoff is its first artist.

"I was invited to help build a special salt kiln," Grishkoff said. "Everything is provided for me, and I'll give a couple of pieces to their collection."

The salt kiln, he said, is a famous firing method among ceramicists because of the long time it takes to use one. The kiln puts a distinctive glaze on ceramic pieces.

"It is so revered, and I'm honored to be able to use it," Grishkoff said. "It's appreciated because of the arduous time it takes."

Grishkoff started his residency last October and plans to stay through the end of June.

"It was only going to be for three months, but things were working so well that I ended up staying," Grishkoff said. "I got invited based on my reputation in the area and the quality of my work."



In addition to his residency, Grishkoff had an art show in Los Angeles last January, had an L.A. Times article written about him, and will have a show in Coeur d'Alene in June. He is involved in other articles and shows, and is even writing a book about art brushes.

Though Grishkoff didn't want to leave UI last year, he never would have been able to tackle his new goals if he hadn't, he said.

He still keeps in contact with friends and colleagues in Moscow, and even finds time to make the two-and-a-halfhour trip to visit them.

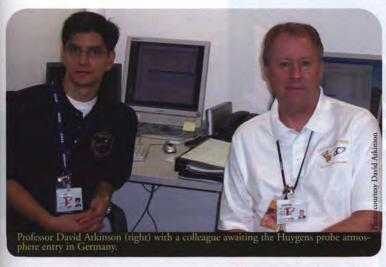
"I'm in close contact with my colleagues at the art department. I have such respect for them. They are lifetime friends, both colleagues and students."

He said he doesn't dwell on what

happened at UI, though he is going forward with a lawsuit against the school.

Grishkoff will go back to teaching someday, but not yet. Whatever happens in the future, he feels his art will sustain him.

"The base thing is staying in contact with who you are. A lot of wonderful things are happening now that would not have, and the paycheck's not coming in like it was, but everything is met," Grishkoff said. "I am going on in my life."



The Huygens disaster by Sean Olson

David Atkinson had to travel all the way to Germany to have his dreams crushed under the weight of the Huygens Space Probe.

When teams of scientists surrounding the UI professor erupted in cheers of celebration as the Huygens Probe entered the atmosphere of Titan, a moon of Saturn, Atkinson was motionless. He was fixated on the large red letters flashing across his personal screen, informing him that the instrument controlling his experiment, 18 years in the making, was powered off.

"It's the feeling of someone dying," said Atkinson, who teaches electrical

and computer engineering at UI. "It was an agonizing experience."

Atkinson walked up a flight of stairs to tell his team, who assumed their leader was making a joke in the midst of celebration. Realizing it was no joke, the team quickly fled to the bar for a pint to ease the pain. Atkinson stayed behind at mission control. He remembers little from the rest of the day.

This was no computer failure. Mission operations had simply neglected to turn the instrument on during launch. It was a small error in the overall mission which was largely successful - but it destroyed almost two decades worth of work for Atkinson. That would be like finishing college, medical school, four years of a residency, then only being able to find work as an orderly in a nursing home.

"I don't think in the history of space flight that this has ever happened," Atkinson said in an interview three weeks after the incident.

But all was not lost. The instrument in question couldn't measure atmospheric wind speeds as it was supposed to, but signals could be picked up on Earth that could retrieve data from the probe. The only catch: it could only get one-eightieth of the data Atkinson was planning on using.

Atkinson struggles to remain optimistic about the data he can use for the project, and admits he still gets the feeling it was all for nothing. Nonetheless, he isn't giving up on space.

Already, Atkinson has begun work on proposals to send a network of probes to Mars. That project, along with re-writing software to analyze the smaller amount of information from the probe, has been keeping Atkinson busier than he was planning, "which is fun, but it's fun for the wrong reasons," he said.

As Atkinson picks himself up and gracefully moves on, looking to the future, one would find it hard not to look back at the last 18 years and wonder what might have been, had it not been for a simple breach of protocol.



Portland Bound

by Chris Kornelis

Annie Gannon quit her job at the Moscow-Pullman Daily News and moved to Portland. No, she didn't have a job waiting for her in Oregon, but Portland is where she and tens of thousands of her peers want to be.

"Particularly in the area we live in, there's definitely a younger vibe," said Gannon, 23, a 2003 University of Idaho grad who, with her boyfriend, Matt McCoy, 23, also a UI grad, moved to Portland in 2003.

During the '90s, the Portland/Salem area managed to convince a generation of debt-ridden, post-collegiate co-eds that it is the perfect place to work off student loans. The area posted a 12.1 percent increase in 25-34-yearolds during the '90s, ranking eighth among the nation's top-50 metro areas, easily beating the national average of an 8.3 percent drop in the demographic.

Unemployment is consistently high, the weather is equally hostile and Major League Baseball just put the kibosh on the city's big league hopes. Still, thousands of young professionals have traded job security and a warm climate for easy access to outdoor amenities, well-defined neighborhoods and legions of like-minded individuals.

"It's not like people are moving here for jobs," said Charlie Bowles, 33, who moved to Salem from Beloit, Wis., in 2003. "They're moving here for the culture. The whole idea was that there were a lot of young, progressive thinking people. You hear about cities' reputations ... I heard it was a pretty green place."

Portland boasts both the largest metro park in the nation, as well as the smallest. And the city, home to Columbia Sportswear, is considered by residents to be extremely bike friendly. The city's transportation system, which includes a light rail and a bus line, makes it easy to get to downtown from trendy areas, such as Hawthorn, without a car - an attraction for Portland's many eco-friendly residents.



Joe Cortright, an economist and co-author of "The Young and The Restless" study, analyzing the migration of young people to Portland, said natural attractions was a large factor in the recent influx of young people. With the coast within driving distance and Mount Hood close by, the mantra, "An hour to the beach and an hour to the mountains," has been a consistent selling point.

"People love the fact that they can go to Mount Hood in March or go to the coast for a bonfire," Bowles said. "They're really convenient. In New York, hiking was a weekend trip to Vermont. With Portland, in an hour you're deep in the mountains."

Now that Portland has become a national hotbed for young people, even the less-than-outdoorsy types are finding the area attractive.

"There's a critical mass effect. One of the biggest attractions to young people is other young people," Cortright said.

Unfortunate for many recent migrants, the social and environmental luxuries haven't always transferred into jobs.

John Schlueter, executive director of Westside Economic Alliance, which funded "The Young And The Restless" study, estimates half of the migrants were welcomed to Portland unemployed.

"I knew I would have some sort of support system if I failed miserably," said Gannon, who has family in the area. "It was a complete leap of faith."

Gannon and McCoy each managed to find work related to their field of study; Gannon in marketing and development, McCoy as a technical writer.

"Portland seems to have the potential for a lot of great gobs. There just aren't very many of them," said McCoy, who has seen several of his peers working part-time jobs not too different from what they were doing before they had a degree.

The Portland area has a lot to gain from the boost in the young, educated workforce.

"Businesses depend on talented workers," Cortright said. "It's also important to keep in mind that people in this age group are entrepreneurs." City officials are doing what they can to make themselves attractive to young, creative professionals.

For the second year in a row, Portland is issuing a number of Professional Development Grants. Topping out at \$750, the grants are earmarked for individuals and small companies, specifically targeting young entrepreneurs. The grants, which are part of former Mayor Vera Katz's Creative Economy Initiative, is one way the city has attempted to stay attractive to young adults, something Katz says is imperative for the growth of the city.

"We are already feeling the impact of being a hub of what we call 'the creative economy," Katz said in a press release last December. "The creative economy is diversifying our economy and will be absolutely critical to Portland's prosperity over the coming decades."

Rosie Williams, a policy manager at Work Systems in Mayor Tom Potter's office, said though the grants are small, they are a way to show the city's interest in young professionals, artists and entrepreneurs.

Misty McElroy didn't have to look very far to put her \$750 to work.

McElroy, 35, the executive director of Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls, bought textbooks and other rock 'n' roll gear for the nonprofit, which strives to "teach self-reliance and technical skills to girls through rock 'n' roll music."

Although the grant was small compared to contributions from other donors such as the Paul Allen Music Foundation and the BMI Foundation, McElroy says they stretch every dollar.

"Our program is really unconventional, so we have a hard time getting funding," she said. "So I think it was important that the city stepped up and validated us with a grant."

As far as anyone can tell, Portland's population of young adults isn't slowing down anytime soon.

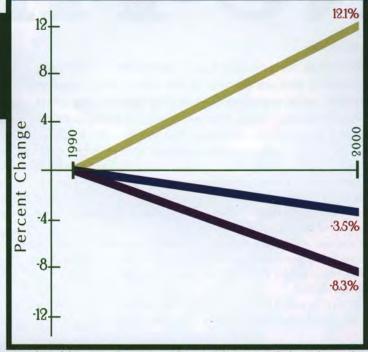
"All the data we have since (the study) is that migration is continuing," Cortright said. "Even though we've had one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation...We've continued to see net in migration. That's not what you'd expect."

Hour to the beach, hour to the mountains has brought young adults to Portland by the tens of thousands

National Average Seattle

Portland

Metro-area population change in 25-34 year olds



Data derived from Westside Economic Alliance's "The Young and The Restless" study



He still plays, and has wagered thousands, but after his initial spendy education, Mohr has gotten better and poker went from a dicey vice to a sure thing.

"Since then, I've won around \$40 (thousand); between \$40 and \$45. It isn't gambling now." \$45,000 isn't a bad living for a student under any circumstances, but it's particularly choice considering the money was made less than part-time from his apartment, and as often as not, in front of the TV. And television is a forum fat with poker games.

The most well known, popular and legitimate televised poker presentation is ESPN's World Series of Poker.

Ever Since Harrah's Horseshoe Casino President Benny Binion officially capitalized on the popularity of poker voyeurism in 1970, the attendance and interest of players and viewers has climbed every year. The first year there were 12 players, all the applicants. Last year there were more than 7,500 applications processed. Last year the WSOP had a 22-episode run, averaging a 1.7 Nielsen rating. The finale pulled a 2.8 rating, which represents roughly 2.5 million households tuned in, a 42 percent increase from 2003.

The WSOP popularity burst on ESPN has catalyzed an explosion of cable poker programming. Along with the real thing, ESPN is producing the "World Series of Poker Tournament of Champions," featuring 10 of the world's best poker players competing for a \$2 million winner-take-all pot.

Just to ensure they are never maligned as original, other cable outfits have followed suit, including the Travel Channel's "The World Poker Tour," Fox Sports Net's "Poker Superstars Invitational Tournament," and Bravo's "Celebrity Poker Showdown." If you ever want to see real A-Listers like Kathy Griffin, Scott Stapp and Macaulay Culkin gradually whither to careerless husks under the unforgiving poker-table lights, Bravo is the place to do it.

Does this televised mixture of poker excitement and soul-crushing exhibition of B-List washout desperation influence today's youth? According to CBS

> news, yes. Though hard national statistics on the percentage of students actively gambling are spotty, localized polls around the country suggested somewhere in the neighborhood of 35 percent. Furthermore, 8 percent of younger gamblers devel-

by Frank McGovern

Bolstered by the prevalence and convenience of Internet gambling sites and more so by the skyrocketing popularity of televised poker tournaments, gambling -particularly pokerhas a slick new mug and a fresh generation of enthusiasts.

A recent Sports Illustrated article found that 60 to 70 million Americans regularly play poker, and the fastest growing internal sub-demographic is college students. Any day in Moscow an interested party with his ear to the ground could find a seat at a score of casual tables or Web casinos, or could head to Pullman for a no-limit tournament at Zeppoz.

University of Idaho senior Darren Mohr never gambles anymore. He still plays poker, but his perspective has changed.

A year ago, when a friend introduced him to online poker tournament sites, his play was speculative, and for a while, unsuccessful. In his first couple of months he lost roughly \$2,500 dollars - more than cost of a semester at UI

"When I first started playing, it was gambling. I thought I knew what I was doing, but I didn't," Mohr said. "It wasn't the smartest thing to do."

op destructive gambling habits, while only 3 percent of adults do, according to the CBS report.

"This is the first generation of kids growing up when gambling is legal and available virtually nationwide," said George Meldrum of the Delaware Council on Gambling Problems. "Casinos, racetracks — they take it for granted."

The almost universal favorite among Moscow gamers is poker, specifically Texas Hold 'Em. The draws of gaming are as diverse as its participants. The most obvious impetus, of course, is the prospect of easy money. For Mohr, one of Moscow's more visible winners (look for the guy your age in a red Jaguar), poker is a living rather than a hobby. Last summer he turned down a summerjob offer from his father in favor of Hold 'Em.

"I thought about it, and it'd be pretty stupid doing anything else when I make more money playing poker than any other job I could get right now," he said. However, for those not in as tight with the king of diamonds, the draw is hardly practicality.

"I don't know why I play — something to do," UI senior Garrett Egland said. "It's a good excuse to get a bunch of people together to drink beer until four in the morning."

Egland and his poker buddies are representative of most local student games. The substantial majority of which are informal assemblies of friends, predominantly low buy-in games between pals that are more about hanging out and shooting the breeze than exchange of capital. "It's cool because we play five-buck buy-ins, so you can't lose; everybody's got five bucks, you know. You go to the bar and spend five bucks in an hour real easy, or you could hang out all night, play poker and have a chance to win something."

Junior Dave Carruthers inhabits a middle ground of the poker-playing spectrum. He's not a big-money player, but not a casual dabbler either. Dave plays an average of three or four times a week, though the frequency is dictated by cash and time.

"I play when I have a little money and I'm bored."

Dave frequents local games he's aware of, and sporadically drops by Zeppoz for their daily poker tournaments.

"The most I've ever won is \$500 in a day. I played at my buddy's house and won sixty bucks, went to Zeppoz and turned that into \$250, came back, played a couple of other games in the course of the night. Three of the games were just with buddies in basements. It wasn't real gambling."

the proper permit, even having a game with two friends in your living room is criminal. This is not to say you should worry about cops kicking the door down on your nickel-ante round of drinking Hold 'Em. Law enforcement the world over has bigger fish to fry.

"Technically, gambling is a crime, but so is jaywalking," said Sergeant Bruce Fager of the Moscow Police Department. "It's not out in the open. It's a low priority because it's not typically become a problem." Despite the out of sight, out of mind status quo, officer Fager said, "That can all change." Barring organized student-gambling syndicates, or something comparable, friendly games of poker remain the criminal equivalent of jaywalking in a ghost town.

Internet gambling is a little bit shadier, but benefits from that ambiguity.

"In terms of legislation that has gone through either state or federal houses that has told players specifically you can't do it, there really isn't anything on the books," said Sue Schneider, publisher of Interactive Gaming News magazine. "So this industry is a lawyer's dream, because there is no clarity on the law."

The Department of Justice has done some obligatory crackdown-flavored saber-rattling in response to the recent burst of popularity, but the laws put to

MOST IVE EVER

What appeals to players, both casual and committed, about poker is its dissimilarity to "games of chance." Barring dubious interference, slot machines, keno, roulette and even blackjack hinge largely on luck. While luck never hurts, the players who excel on any level have to be able to read and interpret the behaviors, mannerisms and playing patterns of everyone else at the table. Picking off the suckers and picking out sharks is substantially more important than luck for the great majority of play.

Poker is an intellectually multifaceted pursuit and exercise of versatile skill more than it is a game. Along with immediate calculation of probability, a gift for appraising the "tells" of an opponent is a necessity for anyone who wants to get good, and certainly anyone who wants to get great at poker.

"There is skill involved, like any game. A lot of it is knowing how to read the table," Carruthers said. "I mean, you can hold nothing and still take the table, right? That takes skill." Carruthers credits his faculty for spotting tells as one of the crucial components of his \$500 night.

"I was playing with this guy and I knocked him down three times. When he was bluffing his face started to shake, like uncontrollably." He laughs. "I told him after the third time; he was pissed."

For an astute player on the prowl for giveaway tells, spotting subtle weakness, nervousness, exhilaration at a good hand or attempts at deception can be easy when the mark is three feet away. One of the disadvantages of online play is that the adversary isn't in the same room, often not even the same continent. So how does one go about hedging one's bets when his rival is across the ocean, safely anonymous? Actually, tells; but tells of a different color. When considering placing a bet online, Mohr has a system for ferreting out tells based on the betting habits and patterns of competitors.

"I play with my own style. If someone is playing defensive, I play aggressive. If they're playing aggressive, I'll play defensive until I know I've got them."

Regrettably for all of you otherwise law-abiding cardsharks out there, all gambling is technically illegal. Without



MAKE MORE MONEY PLOAYING POKER



books would be next to impossible to enforce.

On the heels of the passing of his bill illegalizing any type of Web gambling, House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, said, "Illegal Internet gambling is no better than an offshore mail-order drug business." The bill carries no criminal or civil charges.

Further emasculating this toothless pit-bull is the legally frustrating detail that all of the online houses are located outside of the United States, where they are legitimate and legal. If Americans want to throw money at them, it's none of Congress' business. And throw money we will. According to the General Accounting Office, in the next year it is estimated that the roughly 1,800 offshore Internet gambling operations will net more than four billion American dollars.

Like any vice worth its sin-weight, a certain portion of the population is susceptible to addiction, so if it's your thing, play safe and play smart.

If gambling begins to interfere with your life — school, social or financial - seek out counseling. For most of the student (and general) populace, small-time games are no more than a pleasant diversion. Along with boredom, Carruthers plays because, "I like to play; I like games."



Interesting people

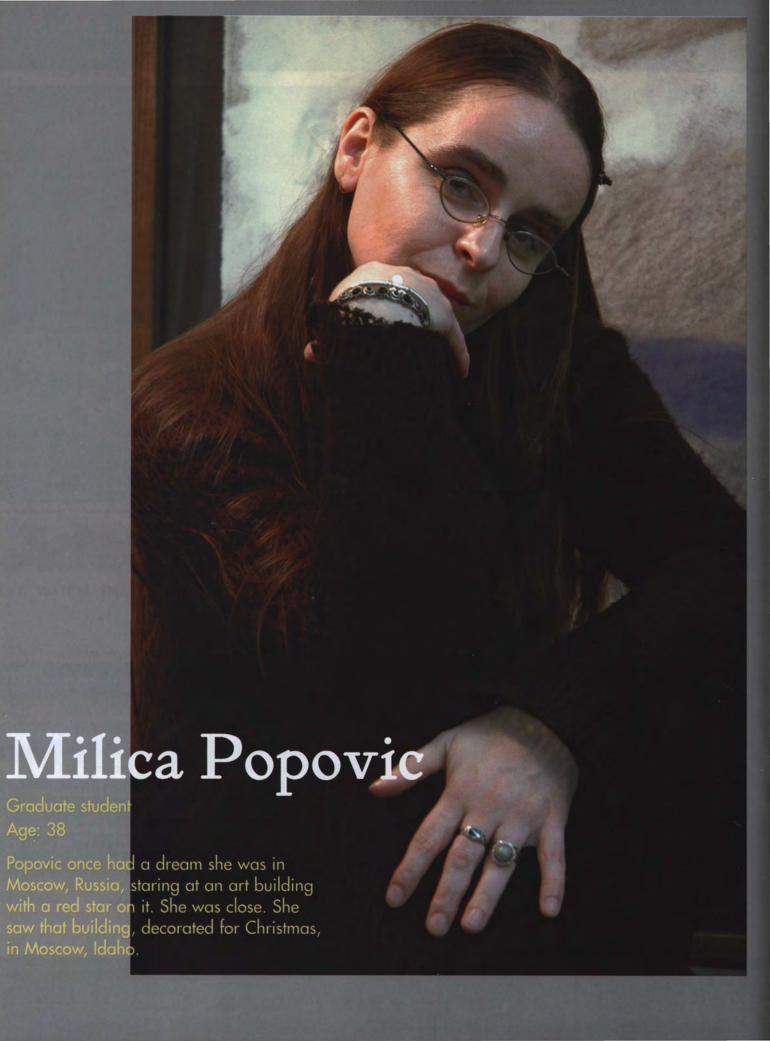
Everyone is special.

It's this notion that comfortably wraps people into one big ball of mediocrity. James Bond is no more special than CJ's owner Phil Roderick and his endless quest to create the classiest dance joint possible in the midst of so many toilets (don't let him take the fun away). But hey, at least it makes us equal.

Shying away from the safety of blessing everyone at UI, Blot has compiled a list of some fascinating characters that make the university more of a joy to attend.

Whether it's a story of courage from another country, a fixed presence on campus or a well kept secret among employees, the stories and lives in the following pages go beyond special. They are exceptional.

But don't worry, we think you are special too.





– Milica Popovic

by Tara Karr

In Serbian, Milica Popovic is an "umetnik." In English, she's an artist. As a graduate student at the University of Idaho, she's both.

Serbian roots, modestly marginalizing Serbia as a place 6,000 miles away. But there is more to her story than a birthplace in a faraway land.

Fourteen years ago, Popovic began the amazing journey that led her to Moscow. She was an art teacher in the Serbian city of Novi Sad when war broke out in 1991

'I wasn't in the middle of the war, but Serbia was economically completely devastated," Popovic says. "That was the worst time to survive

But she did survive. She won a green card lottery in 1994, but it wasn't an instant ticket out. After two years of paperwork, Popovic and a friend were allowed to leave in June 1996. They settled in Seattle, which Popovic says she chose for its open spaces and hip reputation, but also confesses another lure: "Nirvana!"

To some immigrants, America is a land of opportunity. To Popovic, it was a land unknown

"Nothing was waiting for us here," she says.

Popovic's art skills didn't translate into an American degree, and she felt her status was degraded. Most frustrating, she couldn't speak or understand English. Popovic had no one to teach her, so she taught herself. She picked the language up slowly, observing people who walked through the Seattle Art Museum, where she worked as a security guard. She speaks English effortlessly now, tossing in words like "cool" in her rich Serbian accent, but she admits it took a few years to learn.

While in Moscow, Popovic keeps close to home by speaking Serbian every day. "If I didn't speak it, I wouldn't feel right,"

In classes she speaks English, but it's awkward.

"Honestly, I am tired after teaching two sections a day," Popovic

says. "It's easier to speak a native language. I'm used to speaking foreign language, but it's not as natural.

Despite the cultural difficulties, Popovic has found a certain charm of Washington, but was wait-listed. A phone call from UI offering her a teaching position, financial aid and a private studio brought her to Moscow. She was reluctant at first - after all, what's Idaho after Seattle? - but visiting changed her mind.

"I knew it was the place," she says. She speaks fondly of her students, the people she's met in town and Serbian immigrants, but prefers to make friends "no matter where they'r

During her last three years at UI, she has gained an outstanding reputation with students and discovered ways to expand her own work Materials unavailable in Serbia are on store shelves in Idaho, and

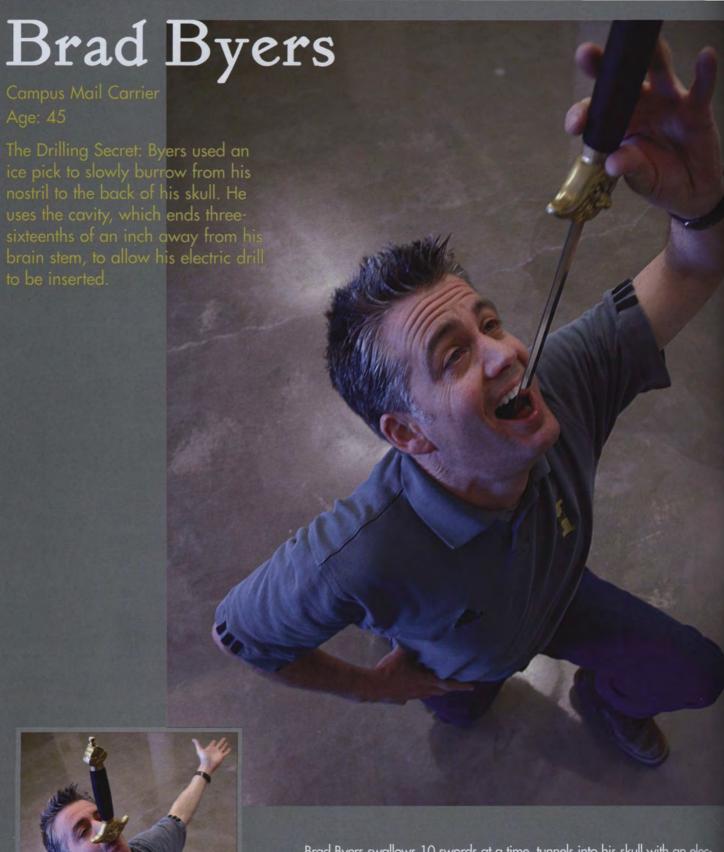
Popovic's abstract art incorporates a wide variety of media as a result.

Popovic will graduate in May, and although she dreams of returning home permanently, she won't. She has visited her family in Serbia three times and always leaves emotionally torn. Although the war is over, her country is forever changed.

"It was completely strange to see all the ruined, demolished buildings," she says. "Going back would be almost as devastating as going somewhere new."

story has made her stand out.

She describes her students and adopted hometown as "genuine" and the description fits her as well. In the end it's her humility, her ability to be easygoing and friendly even when telling her remarkable



Brad Byers swallows 10 swords at a time, tunnels into his skull with an elec-

tric drill, juggles fire and ... oh yeah, delivers the campus mail.

Byers landed a circus job juggling everything from machetes to bowling balls early in his career, but quickly realized he needed a more original act to move up in the world. Using only an anatomy book he picked up, Byers learned sworld swallowing, head drilling and numerous other acts.

His talents have landed him on TV shows in 20 countries and a guest spot

on Late Night with David Letterman. Byers also holds the Guinness record for swallowing the most swords at one time.

Remember that the next time you open your mail.

She has been backhanded, spit on, punched in the arm, kicked in the knees, pinned against the wall, and tramped under a pile of angry drunks.

Margaret Scherer, 26, was born in Denver, grew up in Orofino and recently graduated from the UI with a sociology degree. She is also the only female employee at the Corner Club, a bar that 30 years ago would have let a horse walk through the door before they would a women.

Margaret works over 60 hours a week at the Club keeping local tub drinkers in line and under constant motherly supervision. She can spot a fake ID before it leaves your wallet and everyone knows that if you drink at the Club, you don't mess with Margaret.



Margaret Scherer

Corner Club Manager Age: 26

"I think it's cool thatkids in town actually fear me before they even turn 21."

Ali Marshall



Student Age: 21

Nickname: Envirothon Marshall joined a club of the same name in high school and her friends never let ber live it down

Marshall garnered her spot for ingenuity. Facing the inevitable pickle of graduating and finding a lackluster entry-level job, Marshall decided to create one for herself

Following a conference on communal and environmental sustainability, Marshall and a group of other students and

faculty convinced UI President Tim White and the administration to not only support sustainability on campus, but

also to create a position to manage it.

Conveniently, the position will begin next year, just as Marshall ventures into the post-graduate working pool.

Marshall remains humble about her chances for the job, but is not shy about voicing her excitement about the opportunity it would afford her.

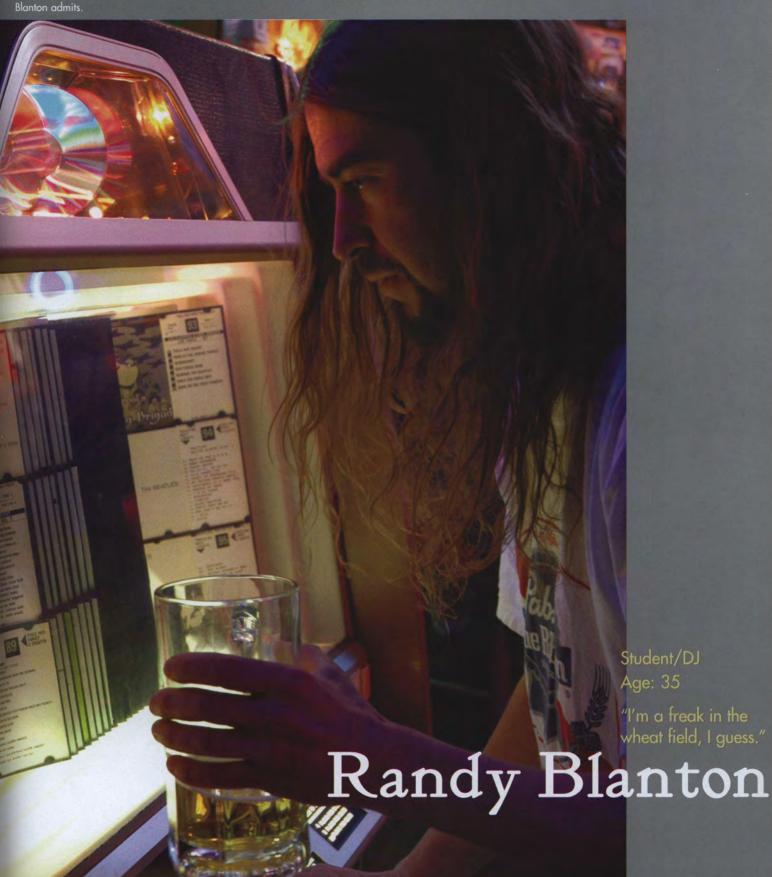
"It's making a difference in a place I care about," she said. "It's kind of like my dream job."

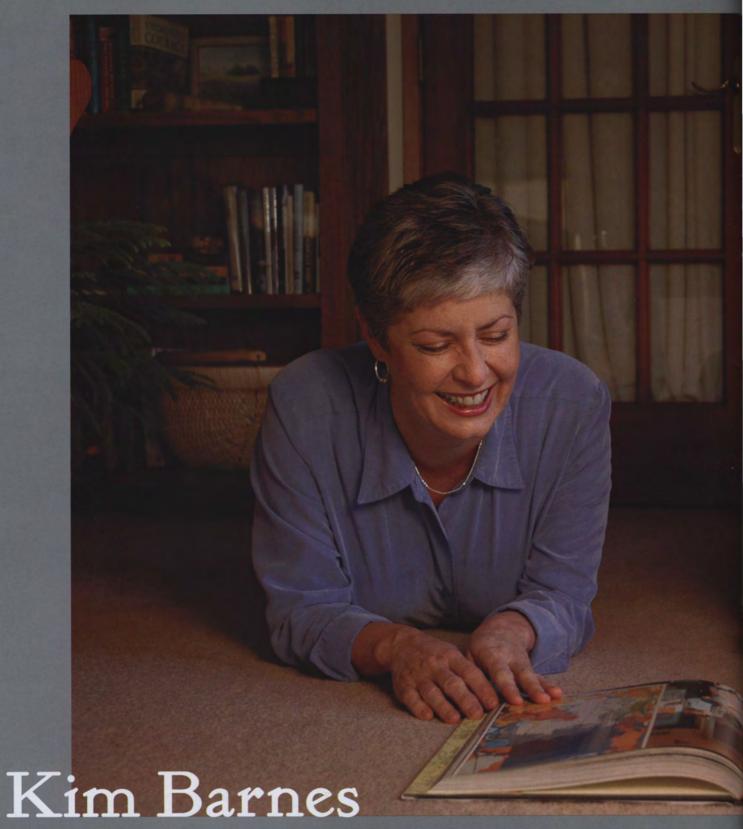
Anyone acquainted with a night scene involving John's Alley, The Garden, The Moose Lodge or the Coeur d'Alene Alehouse should also be acquainted with Randy Blanton.

The Moscow native is a constant companion to those out for a drink, a show or a good time. Whether or not words have been exchanged, it is a safe bet that Blanton's face holds a familiarity that is all too reminiscent of "Cheers."

"I don't know if I'm well liked, but I'm well recognized," Blanton admits. Known for his friendly demeanor and high spirits, Blanton is people who knows people. Those who haven't had the pleasure of conversation may not know that Blanton experienced the grunge epidemic in Seattle firsthand, chumming it up with Sean Kinney of Alice in Chains and performing in his own, less fortunate, band, Scattercreek.

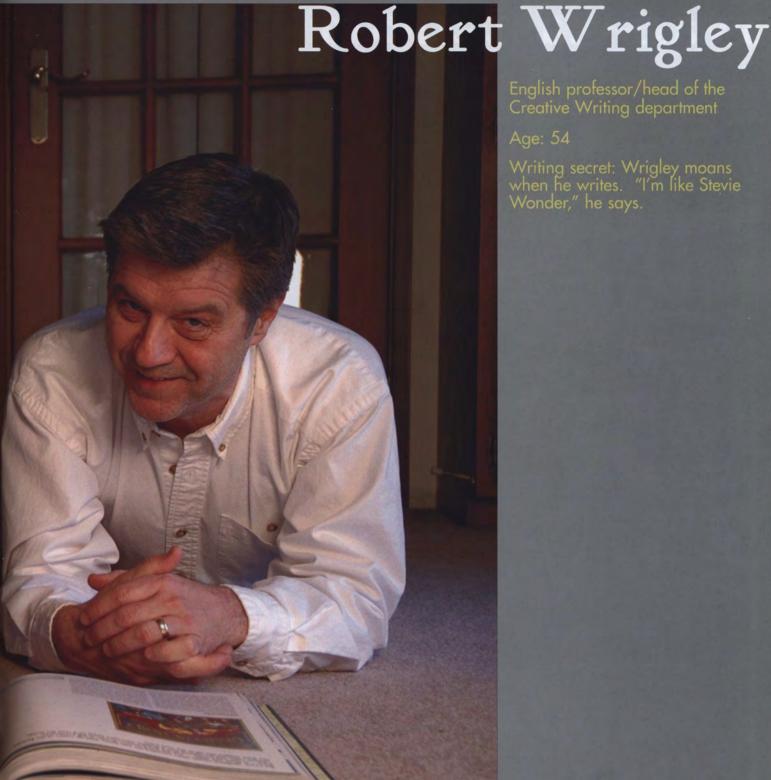
Now in his last semester at UI, Blanton says he would like to tone down his reputation a bit. But that doesn't mean he hasn't got a few keg stands left in him.





Idaho Writer-in-Residence Age: 46

Original ambition: Barnes was a pre-med student until hubby Wrigley (one of her instructors at the time) convinced her to drop the stethoscope and pick up the pen.



Besides representing the prose and poetry sides of the creative writing department respectively, Kim Barnes and Robert Wrigley share a unique title together, that of "writing couple."

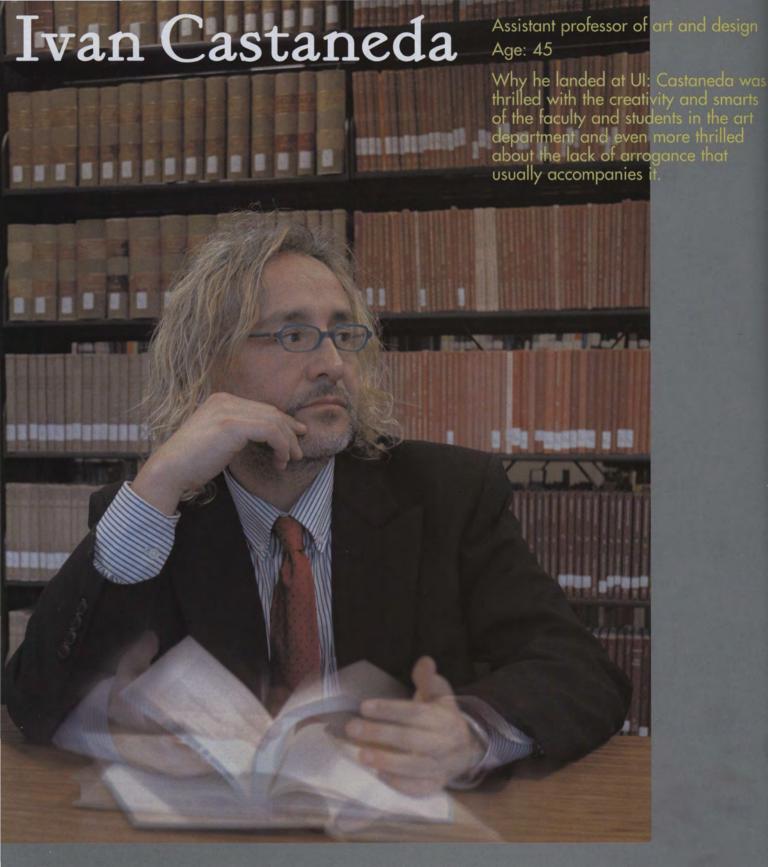
This phenomenon in the writing world carries its share of pros and cons. The two work side by side, write on the same days and teach on the same days. They are the first to read each other's work. They travel together to give readings. They have both won awards for their published works.

But they also have their dry spells. One will take the title of rising star while the other wallows in a literary struggle. They face this together. And for them, it works out.

And they pass along more than their knowledge of the written word; they pass along their knowledge of family. Because as far as Barnes and Wrigley are concerned, theirs is ever-growing. They take graduate students for three years at a time and watch them blossom into maturity from 22 to 25 years

"It feels like having kids," Barnes says.

They become involved with the families of their students. They eat together, drink together and even offer their daughter as designated driver, offering an experience that ought to be in the UI brochures: "Get an MFA and a D.D. for a few years!"



When attending conferences in New York or visiting with colleagues from his home town of Washington D.C., Ivan Castaneda often has to defend his choice to teach at UI.

The truth is, Castaneda teaches some of the most complex material in campus. From the broad scope of critical theory to cultural, artistic and intellectual history, Castaneda is happy to explain to wideeyed Easterners that the students not only get it, they like it. A fact that Castaneda shows obvious pride in sharing.

Castaneda says his secret is the material. He is passionate about the material he teaches and believes students are seduced by the intriguing subject matter. And when he isn't teaching it, he is studying it.

"I'm never bored," he says.

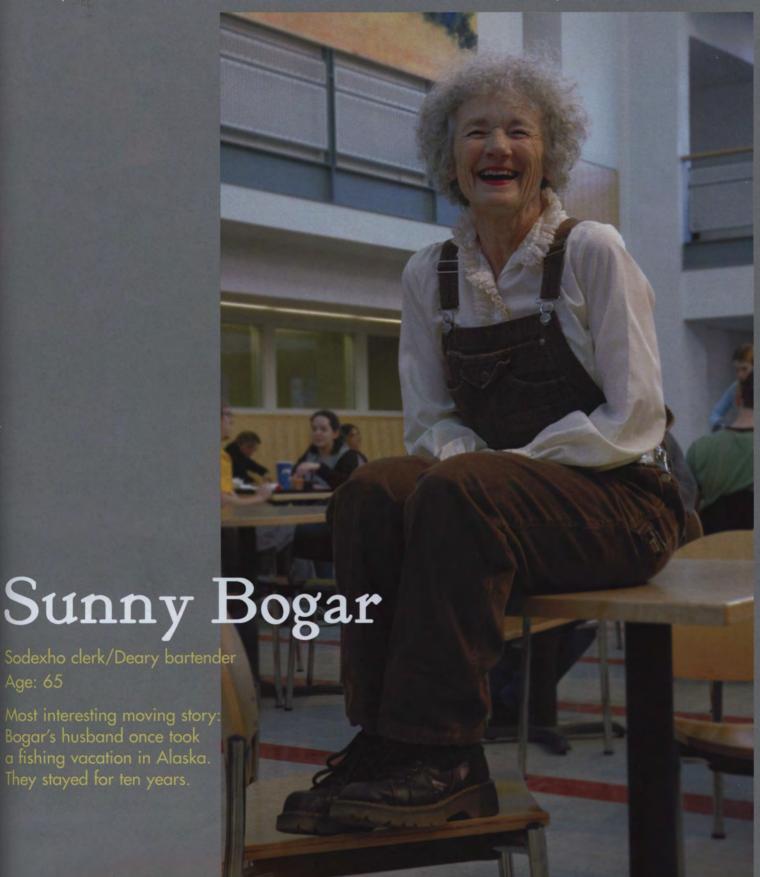
People know Sunny Bogar. The white-haired register jockey has been ringing up students since the Idaho Commons opened four years ago.

What students may not know is that Bogar spends her nights with a different crowd, tending bar in Deary.

It's all part of Bogar's tradition, working three jobs and mingling with people, which she has done her entire life. Bogar has cut down to two jobs here in the Palouse, counting social security benefits as her third. Bogar no longer works for the money. She shows up at the Commons every morning for the students and the conversation, social pleasantries she relishes even after more than 30 years in the service business.

"It's fun talking to all of them," she says.

Her love of people isn't lost on many Bogar speaks to. Even during a short interview in the Commons, Bogar is interrupted by a professor who can't help but put in his two cents: "She's the best," he says.



Chris Kammeyer

Student Age: 22

Biggest fear: Balloons.



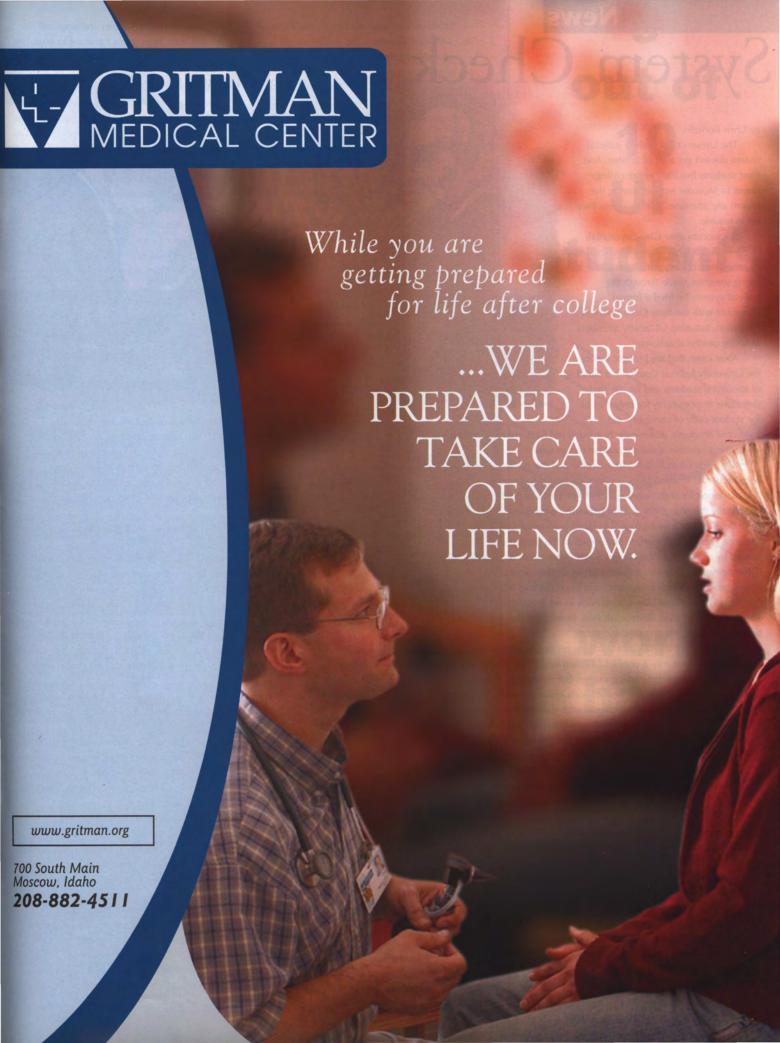
In 20 years, when you reflect back on college courses, you may remember two or three people who were not close friends. Chris Kammeyer will be one of them.

You may have been relaxing just before a lecture class when Kammeyer addressed the auditorium with half a Monty Python quote — he was just trying to find someone to finish it for him, thus having a kindred soul to sit next to. Or mayhap he called you an asshole during a

class discussion. No matter what may have happened, Kammeyer has a way of leaving his mark.

But Kammeyer wants you to know that he doesn't spew out a smartass remark or break into song during class because of an over inflated ego or a disdain for other opinions.

"It's because I'm an idiot," he says. "I have no inner monoloque."



System Check The university judicial system is powerful, quiet and doesn't follow legalistic standards

by Chris Kornelis

The University of Idaho's judicial system doesn't get a lot of airtime. And most students live their entire college career in Moscow without paying the system any attention. That is, unless they get in trouble.

Six months after Glen Szymoniak watched his son, Nick, who was accused of sexual misconduct during the 2003 spring semester, wade through the judicial system, he filed a formal complaint with the State Department of Education, accusing UI faculty members of taking unethical actions.

Most cases that are brought before the University Judicial Council - a panel of appointed students and faculty that determine responsibility for breaches of the student code of conduct - are

matters of academic dishonesty. Not many red flags are raised when questioning whether a student plagiarized an essay.

But when cases become high profile and the results of UJC actions become harder to come by, suspicion has turned to finger pointing.

Szymoniak's objection began with the Dean of Students' investigation, specifically the objectivity of Don Lazzarini, who questioned Nick and contributed to the investigation. Lazzarini is an employee of the office's Violence Prevention Program. Employees of the program, which is partially funded by a grant from the United States Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women, regularly act as victims' advocates.

Szymoniak, in his complaint, said Lazzarini had a conflict of interest and "displayed exceptional bias against Nick in his investigation of the case ... " The conflict of interest, Szymoniak said, stems from the requirement to show progress in order to maintain the grant.

Bruce Pitman, the Dean of Students, refuted Szymoniak's allegations.

"It's not necessarily a conflict," Pitman said. "The goals of the grant are much broader than simply taking matters before the UJC. I think that the folks who have offered the funding would much rather see an increase in cases."

"I think it's appropriate for people with training and expertise to be helping with investigating situations," said Elizabeth Higgins, the Dean of Students' Coordinator of Orientation and Judicial Affairs.

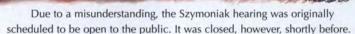
Still, Nick doesn't feel like Lazzarini ever gave him a fair shake.

"It wasn't the search for the truth ... It was the search to find me guilty of these things," Nick said. "During the interview (with Lazzarini), I knew I didn't do anything wrong. He told me over and over again, 'I'm on your side.' "

Lazzarini refused to comment.

At the UIC hearing, Nick said it became clear what side Lazzarini was on. During a break in the proceedings, while Nick and his attorney were discussing whether he should testify, Lazzarini was mingling with the accuser, Valerie Russo (Violence Prevention Program director, also Lazzarini's sister) and dozens of supporters, who held signs showing their support for rape victims. "It was everyone against me," Nick said. "It was an extremely hostile atmosphere."

It's not very often that cases are brought before the UJC and it's not unheard of for the council to go a semester without a single case. What is extremely uncommon is for a case to become public knowledge. Because of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), it's not easy to obtain the results of such hearings.



Alicia Lewis, a program manager in the Violence Prevention Program, notified many of the supporters of the hearing. In an e-mail, Lewis said, "Tomorrow will be a day of wretchedness and a day of triumph. A survivor of rape will be testifying ... Please show your support of the survivor during her time of justice ..."

Were it not for Lewis' e-mail, the Szymoniak case may have fallen under the university community's radar.

Behavior inside the hearing wasn't exactly objective either, Szymoniak claims. Among the council members hearing the case was Martha Kitzrow, a psychologist in the UI Counseling and Testing Center. "I was sitting behind Nick ... she was trying to intimidate him," Szymoniak said. "She just tried to stare him down the whole time."

Nick's defense opposed Kitzrow sitting on the panel, claiming that as her office in involved in rape prevention on campus, she may already have formed an opinion on the subject. Jim Fazio, the council chair, saw no reason for her to be removed.

"Part of the work of all counselors is that they need to be objective," Kitzrow said, though she refused to state whether she had any prior knowledge of the situation.

After the UJC determined Nick had violated the student code of conduct, resulting in a four-year suspension, Nick's defense requested he stay in school pending an appeal, which, Higgins said is the common course of action.

"Sanctions are not passed down pending appeal, in most cases," Higgins said. "There is interim suspension pending due process."

Szymoniak was an exception, and he was forced to leave school immediately, withdrawal from his classes and lose his scholarship.

The UJC appellate panel - which included members of the faculty council - overturned the UJC decision and pointed out that "there is evidence that serious irregularities took place during the course of the hearing," according to a copy of the appellate decision, obtained by Blot. Though Nick was reinstated, he had already returned home to Alaska and chose not to return to UI.

Kitzrow's inclusion on the council was a point of contention for the panel.

"While we do not question Prof. Kitzrow's integrity, the hearing should have been conducted so as to avoid any appearance of impropriety," the decision stated. "If there was any question about Prof. Kitzrow's objectivity, counsel should have been permitted to explore the matter on the record."

The appellate council also questioned the inclusion of Jeanine Lamay, who, after the defense asked if Nick could remain in school pending an appeal, exclaimed "Get him out of here." The appellate decision states that "This statement is so inappropriate as to raise serious doubt about Ms. Lamay's objectivity as a panel member."

Violence Prevention addressed the case to the Department of Justice in its July 1 – Dec. 31 2003 semi-annual progress report. It states, "This grant presented unforeseen obstacles within our university judicial system in the appellate level process, i.e. Faculty Council and the new UI President (based on an adverse UI appellate decision in 2003). Additional training and education needs to be implemented for the UI

Faculty Council and the new UI President."

Russo, whose office already trains the UJC on how to handle cases relating to sexual assault, said she was previously unaware of the appellate process.

"We did not (previously) include faculty council," Russo said. "I didn't put that on my radar screen."

UI Communications said,"(UI President Tim White) was not involved in the matter."

Higgins chalks up the appearance of impropriety to the nature of the judicial process, which is very different from a criminal trial.

"The process is fair," Higgins said. "People expect it to act like a court and use legalistic standards and it doesn't. It uses a preponderance of the evidence."

Violence Prevention files false reports with U.S. Department of Justice

by Chris Kornelis

The Dean of Students Office's Violence Prevention Program filed false reports to the United States Department of Justice in 2004.

Violence Prevention, which receives a grant from the Department of Justice for preventing violence against women on campus, inflated the number of students disciplined by university disciplinary or judicial boards for sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking offenses in both of its semi-annual progress reports last year.

According to the semi-annual reports, obtained by Blot from Violence Prevention through an open-records request, Violence Prevention reported nine disciplinary/judicial board actions to the Justice Department, two of which were reprimands for sexual assault. At the University of Idaho, said actions would be from the University Judicial Council. When Blot requested access to the UJC decisions, the Dean's office could not provide them and said they had made a mistake in the way they filed the reports.

According to the grant's applicant material, filing a false report is grounds for suspension or termination of funding.

The reason for the false numbers, according to Elizabeth Higgins, Dean of Students' coodinator of orientation and judicial affairs, is the way actions were counted. She said that if there was one alleged perpetrator and several alleged victims, the number provided to the Department of Justice was the number of alleged victims, not the number of UJC actions, as it should have been.

"We were on a different page interpreting the data," said Valerie Russo, Violence Prevention's program director. "We should be very consistent (in the future)."

Higgins said some instances reported to the Department of Justice never reached the UJC,

but were handled internally within the Dean's office.

"That's why when (Valerie Russo) and I sat down and looked at (the forms) again, we needed to re-evaluate," Higgins said. "The other piece was when Val and I met to discuss the report...there are other ways that things are addressed."

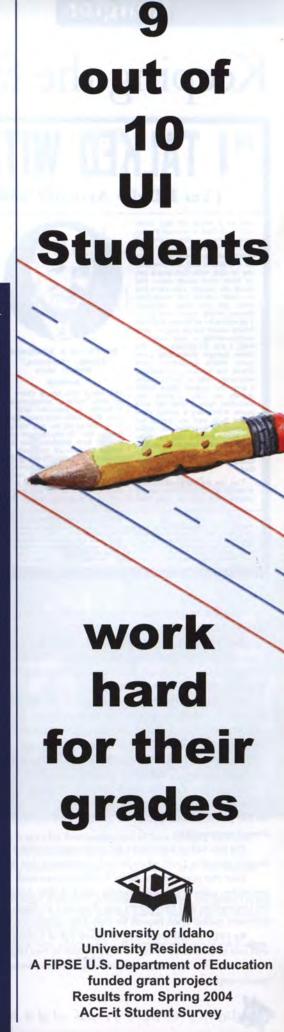
The office has since provided new numbers to Blot and the Department of Justice, with a revised number of actions dropping from nine to one, which resulted in a dismissal.

The Department of Justice declined comment on whether other grant recipients had struggled with interpreting the progress reports or if any actions would result from UI filing false reports. A spokesperson for the Department of Justice said, "We currently have accurate information from the University of Idaho."

Still in question are the 2003 reports. Through a Freedom of Information Act request, the Department of Justice provided Blot a copy of the semi-annual report they received from Violence Prevention for the July 1 through Dec. 31, 2003 reporting period. The number of campus disciplinary/judicial board actions differ from the report Blot received from Violence Prevention for the same reporting period.

According to the report provided to the Department of Justice, Violence Prevention claimed that two actions were taken by the UJC: one for stalking and another for sexual assault. The report received from Violence Prevention, however, indicated that there were no UJC actions during the reporting period.

It is not clear why the report that the Department of Justice received from Violence Prevention last year changed before February, when Blot received the report. The Department of Justice, Russo and Higgins refused to comment on the discrepancy of the 2003 report.



Keeping the faith: Psychiana, a mail-order brought more business, bigger post office to Moscow during the Depression

(Yes I Did . Actually and Literally)

and as a result of that little talk with God, a strange Power came into my life. After 42 years of horrible, dismal, sickening failure, everything took on a brighter hue, It's fascinat-ing to talk with God, and it can ing to talk with God, and it can lie done very easily once you learn the secret. And when you do—well—there will come into your life the same -dynamic Power which came into mine. Power which came into mine. The shackles of defeat and fear which bound me for years, went assimmering — and now? — well, I am President of the News Review Publishing Company, which corporation publishes the largest circulating afternoon daily in North Idaho. afternoon dally in North Idabo.
I own the largest office building in my City. I drive two
beautiful cars. I own my own
home which has a lovely pipeorgan in it, and my family are
aboundantly provided for after
I'm gone. And all this has been
made possible because, one day,
about twelve years ago, I actually and literally talked with
God.

You too may experience that strange mystical Power which comes from talking with God,



DR. FRANK B. ROBINSON Founder "Psychiana," Moscow, Idaho

and when you do, if there is poverty, unrest, unhappiness, ill-health, or material lack in your life, well—this same Powyour life, well—this same Pow-er is able to do for you what it did for me. No matter how use-less or how helpless your life seems to be—all this can be changed. For this is not a hu-man power I'm talking about— it's a God-Power. And there are no limitations to the God-Power, are there? Of course Power, are there? Of course not. You probably would like

to know how you too, hay talk with God, so that this same Power which brought these good things to me, might come into your life too. I have written the strange, almost unbellevable story in two booklets, and I have strange almost them. llevable story in two booklets, and I have given away literally millions of copies of them. As a matter of fact, the story has been told in 67 foreign countries, and in every city, town, village and hamlet in America. It has been written up by such outstanding periodicals as Time. Newsweek, Magazine Digest, and scores of other internationally-known publications.

I want to give you these two bookiets. I want to give you also illustrated circulars. and copies of letters which tell what is being accomplished all over the world through this new strange Teaching. If you will send me your name and will send me your name and address on a post-card or in a letter, these two booklets will come to you free of charge. This experience may sound un-believable. but it's true or I wouldn't tell you it wax. The address is Dr. Frank B. Robinson. Dept. 479 Moscow, Idaho.

At the height of its success, in the '30s and early '40s, ads for Psychiana were running in 180 magazines, 140 newspapers and more than 60 radio stations. It had become the largest mail-order religion in the world. Ever wonder why Moscow has such a big post office? It had to be upgraded to accommodate the 60,000 pieces of mail pouring in every day. In 1934, Robinson received more telegraphs than anyone in the country, including the president.

Psychiana was an unoriginal combination of secular "positive thinking" and religious "rationalism," two facets of the "New Thought" philosophy brought into vogue by Christian Science in the 1920s. If one followed the 20 lessons for \$20, the power of God could be found within, negating the necessity for the prevailing "dogmatic" forms of Christianity. Once harnessed, the internal "Living God" power cured illness, made money and generally promoted happiness,

Whether Robinson believed in Psychiana is debatable, with compelling arguments on either side. During his life there was no shortage of Robinson and Psychiana detractors locally or abroad. One local newspaper editor accused Robinson of being "a devil."

"He honestly thought he was helping people," said Latah County Historical Society Collections Manager Ann Catt. "He certainly wasn't snake oil, but I'm not sure about a philanthropist either."

Ultimately, Robinson's belief level is inconsequential, and will remain unascertained, as the only man who knew died (and Psychiana with him) in 1948. What is known is that his philanthropic commitment (Robinson Park) and steady employment during the

The Strange Autobiography of

FRANK B.

Depression did more good than harm for the community.

THERE'S REAL POWER HERE

on. The Movement was been in Morating entirely by mail. Our concessing what has been accomplished the

by Frank McGovern

For a small college town, Moscow has an uncanny proclivity for procuring national attention.

Decades before topless car-washes, slavery debates and accused student terrorists, Moscow was known internationally as the home of Dr. Frank Bruce Robinson, the "mail-order messiah" of "Psychiana, The Psychological Religion."

According to Robinson, he was born on July 5, 1886, in New York City - or Buckinghamshire or Henley-in-Arden or Warwickshire (all in England). Or maybe it was Stratford-on-Avon, birthplace of Shakespeare. And it might not have been on July 5.

The particulars of Robinson's birth were appropriately shady for a man whose life was largely defined by enigma. Depending on whom one talked to, Robinson was a guru in direct contact with a living God, a guack, a deviant charlatan, a dedicated philanthropist or a savvy businessman. Of the five potential descriptions, the last is incontrovertible; Robinson was a shrewd moneymaker.

The first half of Robinson's life was unspectacular. His prosaic life as a druggist ended in 1929, when he had a revelation that birthed a religion.

Later that year, the first ad for Psychiana appeared. The response was impressive, garnering 3,000 inquiries and \$13,000. America was crippled by the Depression, and the country was desperate for hope, a commodity Frank Robinson mailed upon request for only \$20, satisfaction guaranteed.

By 1933, a mail-order religion based out of a small second-story office with one employee had swelled to 22 people in two large buildings. By 1940, there were more than 100, making Robinson Moscow's largest private employer.

"He honestly thought he was helping people."



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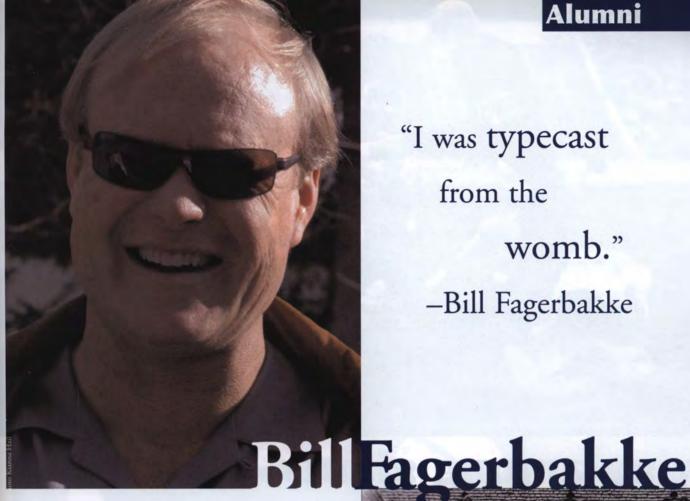
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"I was typecast from the womb." -Bill Fagerbakke

by Chris Kornelis

Wandering around campus, Bill Fagerbakke is in no way the Dauber character he played for the better part of a decade on "Coach," or Patrick Star from "SpongeBob SquarePants." His faded brown leather jacket and jeans don't exactly ooze "Hollywood big shot," either. And he's far more interested in talking about the University of Idaho's football program, choirs and, of course, theater department, than he is in talking about his current projects.

In fact, the only time Fagerbakke is inclined to recite his extensive resume is when he is asked - he shot an episode of Jason Alexander's CBS comedy, "Listen Up," the same week in January he was visiting campus. His career highlights - playing the dim-witted Dauber Dybinski and voicing Patrick Star - aren't exactly the most intelligent characters. Type cast?

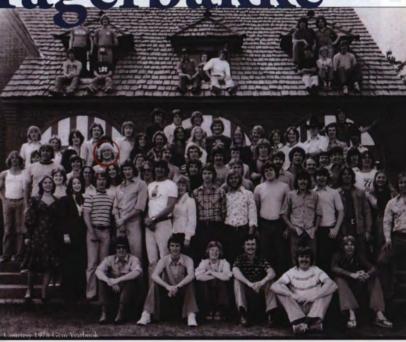
Maybe, but it's something the 6-foot, 6inch blonde is used to. "I was typecast from the womb," he admits.

When Bill Fagerbakke came to the University of Idaho in 1975, he played football for the Vandals. But after he graduated in 1981, he went to New York City, shooting for Broadway. Why the change in career path? He got sick of rehab.

He liked to sing in the shower and he had some chorus line experience in

high school. But until he gave up football, after the 1976 season, the idea of turning out for a theater production at UI hadn't crossed his mind.

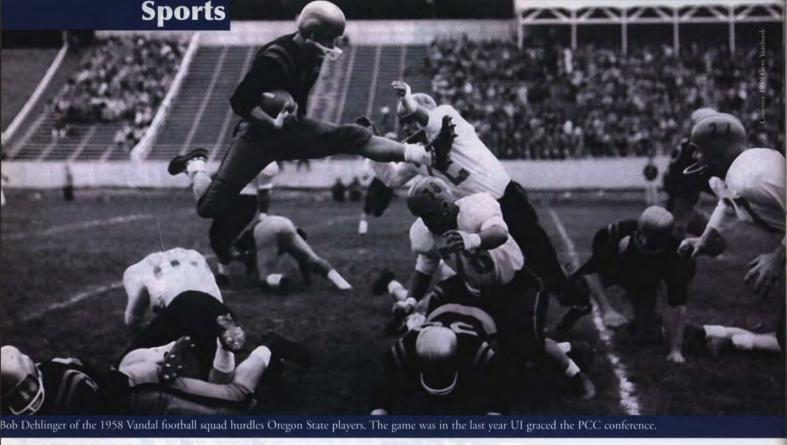
"I didn't even know they had a theater department (when I came to school)," he said while visiting campus in January, when he was the master of ceremonies at a banquet to honor athletes who played fall sports.



But once he was in his first production he was hooked, switched majors and he can still remember the productions he was in: "Alice In Wonderland," "The Robber Bridegroom," "Godspell" and "The Seagull," among others.

In 1981 he walked away with a theatre arts degree. He doesn't regret giving up football; he misses playing games, but he can do without the rest, especially spring ball.

"Back then all you did was beat the shit out of each other



Playing among giants When UI played against the Pacific powers

Amidst a call from some who would like to see the University of Idaho return to the second tier of the college football world, it may come as a surprise to many that the Vandals once competed at the top of the college game.

The true irony, as Idaho looks to "move up" to the Western Athletic Conference this summer, is that long ago the Vandals played with USC, California and Washington State in the favorably touted Pacific Coast Conference. Though UI garnered only one conference title between 1922 and 1958, UI competed year after year with some of the nation's best teams in what has become the Pac-10.

Early in the Vandals' tenure in the PCC, UI found plenty of success with a 6-6-1 record through the first three years, and looked to be building a western power. In 1927, the Vandals won their only conference championship with a 2-0-2 conference record, tying with Southern California and Stanford, which represented the PCC in the Rose Bowl.

But that seemed to be the only hurrah for the Vandals, who finished with above a .500 record only twice more before the 1959 exit.

And in 1959, the PCC had also had enough, and the conference dissolved that summer, making way for the Athletic Association of Western Universities (changed to the Pacific-8 Conference in 1968) with all previous PCC schools, except Idaho, being invited to join the league.

The Vandals were excluded not only because of the great distance teams had to travel to Moscow, but also because UI had finished no higher than fifth following its lone conference championship and had refused, for the most part, to travel to California to compete against the PCC powers following World

The Vandals left their big-time football career behind with an overall PCC record of 34-132-5, going winless in conference play during the final four years of the PCC.

Idaho did see some other successes in the PCC besides the early days of

football. The Vandals also had much success in basketball, with a conference title in 1923, and had several all-conference standouts.

However, the greatest sensation for Idaho may have been the boxing team that produced several national champion fighters and was the first varsity team to win a national title in 1940, thanks to three Vandal championship fighters.

Following the 1959 breakup of the PCC, Idaho went independent for three years before becoming a charter member of the Big Sky Conference in 1963. Idaho joined the Big West in 1996 and the Sun Belt Conference in 2001. This fall the Vandals will change conferences for the third time in 10 years to play in the WAC, taking on mid-sized powerhouses Boise State, Fresno State and Hawaii. But it is certain that the Vandals will not forget the days when they played among the best in the nation.



HANDBILL

A shot at the big time

Idaho actress, young Freeman, star in indie hopeful

by Chris Martin

Idaho-born actress and model Rayne Guest, 25, has never been able to hold herself down to just one goal.

After moving away from her home of 11 years in Cascade, she spent a number of years traveling, and studying nutrition at the University of Idaho, business at Boise State University, and marine biology at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

But it seems like this self-proclaimed nomad has finally found something to stick with: acting. While modeling in California, she became attached to a promising film project called "Ten 'Til Noon" with up-and-coming actor Alfonso Freeman - son of Morgan Freeman -

who until recently had only played bit parts in many of his father's films.

It was a natural step into acting, said Guest, who eventually started working with acting coach Mary Margaret Robertson.

"(I) thought it would be fun to be able to get paid well to travel around the world," she said. "I figured acting would enable me to do that, along with being able to get trained in different athletic ventures."

When Guest got her hands on the script, there was no turning back.

"There is suspense, drama, sex, murder — everything that makes a movie great. The first time I read the script I knew I wanted to be a part of it."

"Ten 'Til Noon" is an independent, feature-length movie that takes place between 11:50 a.m. and noon. In those 10 minutes a crime is committed. The film follows the lives of the 10 people connected to the crime.

"Time is the trigger," reads the tagline on the teaser poster, as a gloved hand holds a silenced pistol across the face of a clock.

It's not just the new actors—Guest and Freeman—who have a lot riding on this film. Director Scott Storm and writer Paul Osborn are hoping this project will evolve into something greater.

"The hope, of course, is that this film does take on a life of its own," Osborn said.

Before "Ten 'Til Noon," Storm had directed only one feature-length film, "Burn," which starred Alfonso Freeman. A noteworthy effort, "Burn" won the Special Jury Honor Award at the 1998 Slamdance Film Festival, an annual event honoring short and feature-length films.

The process of casting "Ten 'Til Noon" was long and arduous, Osborn

said. But when they finally finished casting the movie, there were no disagreements.

"There hasn't been anyone we disagreed on," Osborn said. "They were just really, really right for the roles. We spent a lot of time casting it. There were some bigger names involved, but they weren't 100 percent right for the cast.

"You don't need (big) names for your movie," Osborn said. "Take 'Open Water' or 'Napoleon Dynamite,' for example. No big names. Making a good film is enough."

Having worked with Freeman before, Storm felt he was just right for the part of the enig-

TEN STIL NOON

Rayne Guest

TEN STIL NOON
Rayne Guest

matic Mr. Jay, Osborn said.

Guest envisions the film as a steppingstone into the acting profession. Her character, Becky Taylor, is a sort of "femme fatale," but she refused to say any more about her.

A big fan of crime-drama, Osborn said that while there's a gimmick at the center of "Ten 'Til Noon," that gimmick is merely the hook.

"The time element is just the way to get people into their seats. The film will keep them there," said Osborn, who disliked looking at the time element as a gimmick altogether, though he admits it appears that way.

"Overall, the quality of film is what got (Ten 'Til Noon) made," Osborn said.

"The main character of the film is the structure," he said. "The film is told sideways, and I can't tell any other film that has done that before. Every 10 minutes, we're making it a new story."

With the film set to be edited this summer, it's too early to say if "Ten 'Til Noon" will find its way into theaters or fall by the wayside.

Visit www.tentilnoon.com for more information, trailers, and a production diary.

WORST MOMENTS IN STAR WARS

(And the One Moment that made us forget)

green creature.

by Jacob Denbrook

Unless you've been living in tunnels in Afghanistan, eating roots and licking the moisture off rock walls with Osama Bin Laden, you know that "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" will scourge the multiplexes this May.

The question lingering on the minds of moviegoers, however, is whether or not George Lucas can regain the confidence of his fans. After many fans feel they have ostensibly been burned twice with the first two episodes, will they remain loyal to Lucas' vision?

"Star Wars" is no stranger to critical derailment. All the episodes thrive on cheesy melodrama and have been likened to space soap-opera. However, the original trilogy has a few distinctions. The films were lauded for their depth of mythology and their pioneering special effects. And most important, they launched a rabid fan base. But there's no question that the fan base has gotten fickle. Episode II, released in 2002 grossed nearly \$120 million less than Episode I.

Lucas' reliance on special effects has been a problem. The computer animation, which the director now uses so prolifically, functions much like a shiny object to a baby; eventually it gets bored of the phenomenon and craves its mother's nipple, which has the actual sustenance.

But has Lucas' milk supply run dry?

Only time will tell, but as a precursor to the closing chapter in the "Star Wars" mythos, I'm going to point out the nine worst moments, and the most triumphant moment, in the series' 28-year history. While some of the following last more than a "moment," they all have to do with occurrences, both inside and outside the world of the film, which made us cringe.

Luke Skywalker kisses his sister, and likes it

There's a little incestuous twist-of-plot in "The Empire Strikes Back." Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher) plasters her brother, Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) with a kiss which, as a man, should make him happy and secure, right? Wrong. Better check those birth certificates, Luke. We find out that Leia's your sister, and being famous Jedi twins, that kind of a mistake is a career crippler. You'd better get your PR guy working quickly.

Yoda fights

In a love-it-or-hate-it scene, Yoda fights the evil Count Dooku in Episode II. Unfortunately, not even Lucas takes the scene seriously. He has Yoda overtly limp out of the cave after the Jedi master has done spin-moves that would make Brian Boitano blush.

George Lucas hires Jake Lloyd for Episode I

Having recently seen a picture of Jake Lloyd in a film magazine, I see that puberty has gotten the best of him. He looks like a starting offensive

tackle for the Nebraska Cornhuskers. However, there's no denying his innately annoying boyhood qualities on screen. I wonder if Lucas' screen-test selection process simply involved having each child scream, "woo hoo." I feel awful for the other 5,000 applicants who weren't as talented at being annoying.

The Post-Star Wars Acting Caroors of Lucas' Loads

Okay, aside from Harrison Ford, most of Lucas' leads haven't been able to do much with their "Star Wars" celebrity. Carrie Fisher is the queen of bit parts. Mark Hamill's post-"Star Wars" career consists mostly of video game voice-overs. Jake Lloyd is currently struggling with hormones and nocturnal emissions. Natalie Portman is doing fine, but she doesn't count, because she had a steady career before "Star Wars." Then there's that Hayden Christiansen fellow who's most famous for prematurely ejaculating in "Life as a House."

The creation of Jar-Jar Binks

There is no joke that has not been told. Out of courtesy, I refrain.

Computer animation abounds

Perhaps it's nostalgia, but I prefer the little koala-like Ewoks prancing around in bear suits. At least Lucas was still an Equal Opportunity employer, having hundreds of roles available for midget actors. Now, in 2005, they've all been outsourced by a mouse-clicker on a computer somewhere in California.

Anakin Skywalker's remance

George Lucas might have a stellar career as a Harlequin romance



The plot of 'Return of the Jedi'

If you imagine George Lucas trying to pitch the idea to a studio, it puts things in perspective.

George Lucas: "All right, here's the clincher. You listening? There's ANOTHER Death Star."

Studio Guy: "But, you already had a Death Star..."

George Lucas: "But this one's BIGGER, with a bigger LASER."

Studio Guy: "Oh."

Coorge Lucas as writer and director ... and dictator

Virtually all critics have agreed that "The Empire Strikes Back" is the most satisfying film of the five released to this date. Not surprisingly, George Lucas neither wrote nor directed that film. There is one famous moment in the movie. Princess Leia confesses her love to Han Solo, to which he responds, "I know." According to some reports, Lucas was incensed when Harrison Ford went impromptu for that line. Lucas wanted the character to say, "I love you," which is about as interesting as watching back-to-back episodes of "The View." But, test audiences liked the line, and Lucas grudgingly kept it.

No. 1 TRIUMPH: The casting of Samuel L. Jackson

Only Samuel L. Jackson can make George Lucas' corn chip dialogue interesting.

Jackson says things like, "Get out cho' lightsaber, motherf----r. I'm a show you what the dark side all about." Okay, he doesn't say that at all but he's Samuel L. Jackson. You know he's thinking it.

'Sight' worth a look by ChrisMartin

Game: "Second Sight"

Publisher:Codemasters Developer:Free Radical MSRB:Teen

Platform:Xbox, PlayStation2, GameCube



"Second Sight" is a third-person action/stealth game, placing weaponry and psychic powers at your disposal. Though it seems far too easy to just pick up a gun and shoot people, the psychic powers are damn cool and allow you to do things like toss objects around or turn temporarily invisible. All the powers – I won't spoil them – upgrade as you progress through the story and come in handy for taking care of any number of bad guys. As far as gameplay goes, the biggest thrills I had were in using the psychic powers and in discovering the cleverly designed levels.

Noteworthy is the musical score, which is dramatic and immersive and gets your heart running when battles get heated. And they'll get heated. The action can be intense and difficult, with players ducking behind crates to avoid bullets while shooting. You'll occasionally have to protect an ally, and the spot-on voice acting will kick in to let you know when.

Also of note are the stylistic characters, which look like combinations of those from the game "TimeSplitters 2" and the old MTV television show "Aeon Flux." The graphics are acceptable, but nothing exemplary, showing off some nice special effects usually having to do with the psychic powers.

Occasionally marred by sloppy controls or a humdrum camera, "Second Sight" keeps your interest all the way to the end of the game and surprises you from time to time. There are no multiplayer modes, just a number of mini-games here and there. After you've beaten the game, the only replay value is the ability to play it again on the "challenging" mode.

Bottom line: Rent if you're an action fan. Buy if you love a good story.









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