

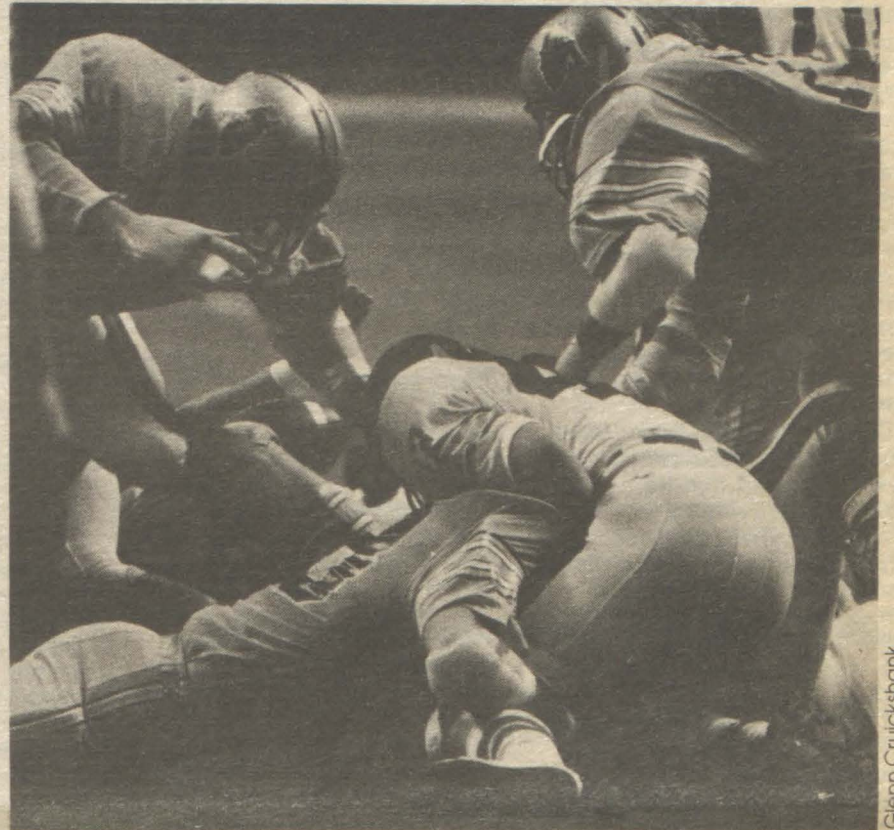
Idaho Argonaut

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Glenn Cruickshank



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*Argonaut
today*

Christened the Kibbie-ASUI Activity Center, the large structure which is said to dominate the whole damn western horizon, was dedicated Saturday afternoon.

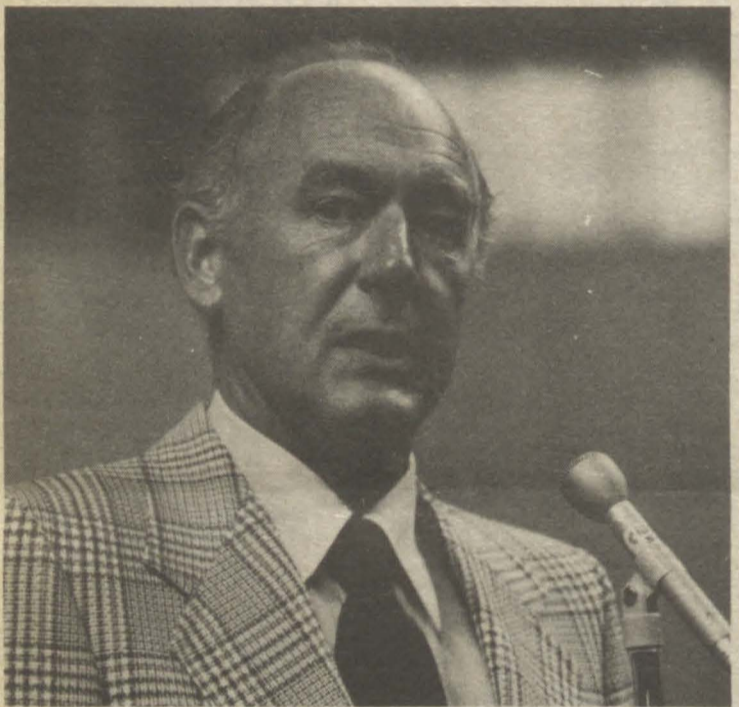
The dome's largest single benefactor, William H. Kibbie, was on hand along with Governor Andrus, President Hartung, and other officials. The near capacity crowd saw it all, and you can read about it on page 6.

The Vandals may not have won this Saturday, but they certainly didn't lose by any stretch of the imagination. Facing Boise State in what many believed to be a certain loss for Idaho, the Vandals never trailed the Broncos in a game that ended in a 31-31 draw. The crowd stayed to the very end, and so did our team. John Hawley has the story on page 9.

It was foot-stompin music at the dome Sunday night when the New Riders of The Purple Sage, Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airman, and Pure Prairie League put it all together. A crowd of about 4,000 were on hand for the triple extravaganza, but you had to be there to believe it. Randy Stapilus was there, and he has the story on page 10.



Tom Kuivila



Tom Kuivila

Dedicating the dome

Randy Stapilus

The University's new Multi-purpose facility was dedicated the Kibbie-ASUI Activity Center Saturday afternoon.

The ceremony, which featured seven speakers, including Idaho Governor Cecil Andrus, U of I President Ernest Hartung, ASUI President David Warnick, and dome namesake William Kibbie.

Kibbie was honored at the banquet he was unable to attend earlier in the day. The brunch, attended by over 300 boosters and friends of the university, was to have featured Andrus and Kibbie.

But both were late. Kibbie was in town on time, but Andrus was unable to fly to Moscow that morning. Kibbie flew his jet back to Boise and picked up the governor, arriving in Moscow minutes too late.

Andrus commended Kibbie, indicating this was typical of his good nature. But at the dedication, he also praised the U of I students.

'Mr. Kibbie's effort is a singular effort and a very great one, but there is a collective effort on the part of the students that are here now and for many years to come that have made this facility possible,' he said.

The dome cost 7.8 million dollars, the balance financed by bonds which will be paid off with student fees over the next 30 years.

Kibbie made brief mention of news coverage of his gift, saying, 'some of the news people have apparently thought it of importance to say something about that in recent days.'

He said he had gained a deep affection for the university during his brief stay in 1936, called the U of I 'one of the great education institutions of higher learning in the United States.'

The alumni, some 34,000 strong, reach not only to the continental United States, but

have distinguished themselves worldwide.'

Kibbie is the President of Jelco, Inc., an electronics firm based in Salt Lake City.

Kibbie also called university President Hartung 'one of the finest university presidents in the United States...The faith, energies and goals of Ernie Hartung were instrumental as well in my decision to render some help.'

Mark Beatty, ASUI vice President and chairman of the Stadium Board, said he thinks the dome will have a major impact on the U of I and elsewhere throughout the state.

He also appealed to friends of the university and alumni to help raise money for a varsity center and locker rooms, which were originally planned for construction on the east side of the stadium. The plans were dropped when the money was needed for other areas of dome construction.

Regent A.L. 'Butch' Alford called the dome an 'amazing edifice' and also called for continued support.

Kibbie was presented with a large yellow letter 'I' and a plaque from the Vandal boosters.

The dedication took place at half-time of the Vandal-Bronco football game. Much of the audience was attentive, but some hurled epithets at some of the speakers, particularly Master of Ceremonies Warnick.

But Warnick gave an optimistic speech, concentrating on the increased student usage of the stadium-dome.

The dome was begun in 1969 and for five years was used as a stadium rather than a dome. However, the possibility of roofing was provided for in the original construction.

Construction of the dome began last May when the roofing was constructed and raised. The dome opened late in September.



Glenn Crickshank