

East End

With construction planned, confusion and consternation will soon become history

by Mark Erickson

Conceived by the U of I Administration in the 1960's and carried full-term in a flux of confusion, mistrust and miscalculations, the ASUI-Kibbie Dome East End Facility was born last month, perhaps ending forever major confrontations between academic and athletic forces at the U of I.

The East End facility is the realization of a dream by U of I athletic department officials, sports oriented alumni and administration officials, who for 10 years have fought and finagled with students over financing and control of the dome and the east end facility.

For some students, the Board of Regents' unanimous June 12 decision authorizing the sale of \$3 million in bonds for financing construction of the facility, is little more than an anti-climax to a scenario they feel has been unfortunate on its face and some say fraudulent at its heart.

It is hoped construction on the facility will begin this fall. As some see it the game is over and the administration has scored a victory.

But all may not be well and done for the U of I Administration. Student opposition to the use of existing student fees for repayment of the bond was strident at the Regent meeting last month and may surface again when school resumes in the fall.

Opposition to the plan centers around the timing of the proposal. The administration made public plans for the rededication of the \$17.50 per semester fee only three weeks after students had left school and just one week before they were submitted to the Regents.

ASUI officials asked for a delay until students returned this fall and their input solicited, but to no avail.

What manner of tale can be told concerning the Dome and the East End Facility? Who are the principal characters and how did the scenario unfold over the years?

A look back over the past 15 years reveals a history clouded in conflict and mired in communicative mud.

When Dr. Ernest Hartung took over the reins of the U of I in 1965, he inherited a university seen by many in the northwest as a top-notch educational institution. He also inherited a university beset by problems of a growing student population, limited space, and athletic facilities that were old, outdated and in some instances crumbling down.

"The old Neal Stadium, when I arrived, was in a terrible state of disrepair," Hartung said in a recent interview. "Not only was it getting unsafe but there were problems with springs that flowed water in the south end of the stands. The footings were literally eroded away every spring."

"I was told that it couldn't be held together for more than four or five years," Hartung said.

"Also the swimming pool in the old Memorial Gym was bad. The water was almost a murky green. It was known to the students as the hippo tank and it had to be replaced," he said.

"It also became apparent that the golf course was overused and needed to be expanded. It was only nine holes then. And the baseball field needed to be moved. The home plate was right under where the pedestal sits for the KIVA," he said. "Really the entire athletic complex had to be redone."

Hartung asked for and received permission from the Board of Regents to impose a \$37.50 student fee to finance renovation of the school's athletic facilities.

The idea of building a sports coliseum arose one day during a discussion between Hartung and then Financial Vice-president Ken Dick.

"It was first suggested, not really too seriously in terms of costs, by Ken Dick," Hartung said. "Dick said that what we really should be thinking about is a 'coliseum', he used that word, in which we could have a versatile field. He was discussing it pie in the sky as far as costs were concerned, we had no idea about finances or anything."

In 1969, about the time the pool, the golf course, and the

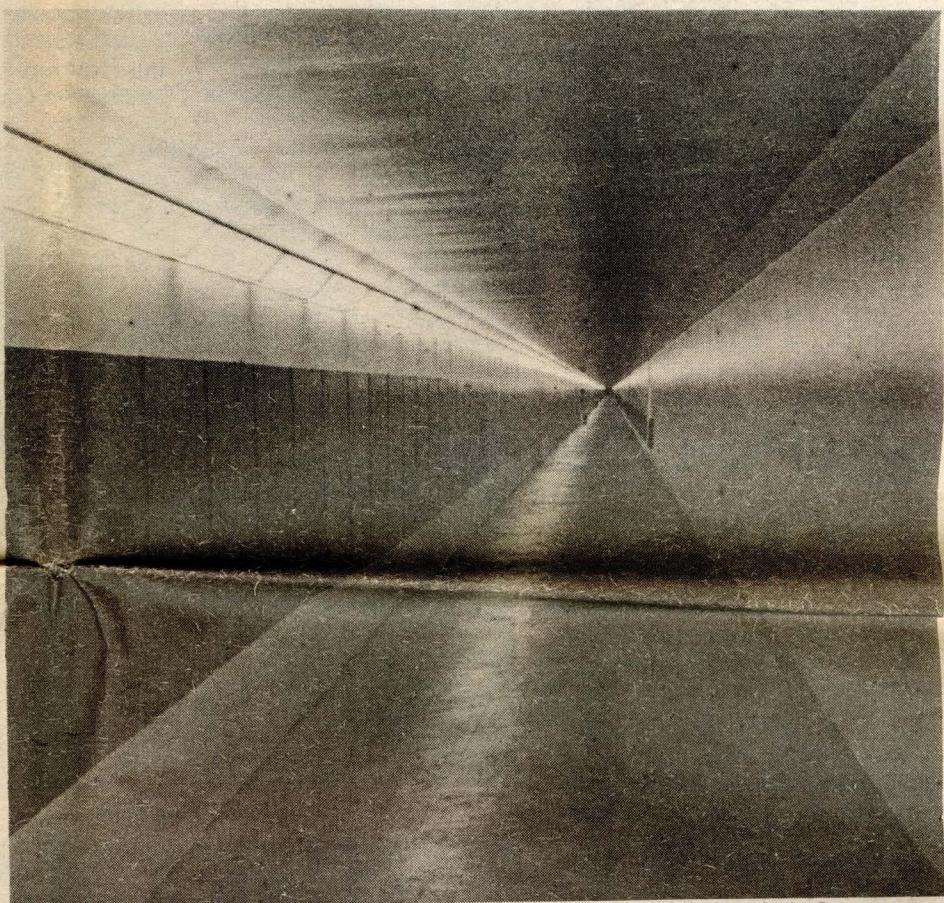
baseball field projects were completed, Hartung was told that they could no longer use Neal Stadium because it was unsafe.

The football team played at Cougar Stadium in Pullman in 1970 and 1971, during which time the administration completed designs for a new sports coliseum and began phase one — driving metal rods down through the springy turf in Neal Stadium to get firm footings to build on.

"We drove those rods with a roof in mind," Hartung said.

In 1972 and 1973, the football team played in the new stadium on grass. "We took some more money from the fee and laid an asphalt base and then the cushion and turf, but no tartan surface, and played on that in 1973-74," Hartung said. "By then it was decided to push for a roof to protect the new carpet. We began a fund raising drive and raised \$460,000. We also assessed an additional fee and the ASUI agreed to go along with it if we guaranteed the tartan turf."

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Andy Brewer photo

This visitor's corridor at Dworshak Dam isn't flooded with water as a lower level is — yet. Engineers say the leaking dam will hold, but if it breaks, parts of Lewiston will be under 40 feet of water.

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"The original concept of the dome did not have an east end facility," Hartung said. "When we started thinking about a roof, a facility with locker rooms was talked about. The original concept was a dome on the north end of the stands with a basketball court and locker rooms, but when we looked at costs we determined it was too expensive."

It wasn't until the 1975-76 school year that an east end facility was first seriously discussed and sketches made. But rising construction costs and inflated money made the administration abandon plans for the facility.

When Dr. Hartung left the presidency in 1977, plans for constructing an east end facility lay dormant but the idea didn't.

Richard Gibb became the 13th president of the U of I in the fall of 1977. In January of 1978, the *Argonaut* unknowingly heralded the beginning of the final round of the battle over the dome in an editorial column. "The new locker room and office facility at the Kibbie Dome, known as the Varsity Center, is definitely in the works, but construction on it won't begin for at least another four years, according to Financial Vice-President Sherman Carter."

Carter said that the main obstacle to construction was lack of money. "We don't and the state doesn't have the resources for that," he said. The first phase of the varsity center, construction of the first floor, was estimated at \$2.1 million.

When asked about Carter's comments, President Gibb claimed dissassociation with them but not disapproval. "With respect to Sherm's comments, those would have been Sherm's comments and I can't recall ever talking to him about it," Gibb said. "That doesn't mean that I disagreed with his plans."

In March of 1978, the Board of Regents authorized the U of I administration to retain an architect. "I'm sure that was the first contact I had with it (the East End), Gibb said. "The Board authorized us to proceed with a fund-raising campaign. We were still looking at proceeding with the first phase of the project."

In September of 1978, the administration submitted a financial package for the first phase of the project to the Board of Regents.

Almost one half of the \$2.2 million project was to be paid for by a reallocation of student fees currently being charged. The remainder, \$1.2 million, was to come from outside sources.

Dr. Hartung, then director of the U of I Foundation, the fund-raising arm of the U of I, said there was tentative commitment from several alumni for contributions, but that efforts to get the money in hand would probably not go forward until the university administration gathered support from the

students on the student fee reallocation.

In November, students voted on the concept of a Varsity Center—the first phase only. The vote was close, 704 to 697, in favor of a Varsity Center and the ASUI Senate adopted a resolution supporting the first phase by a narrow 7-6 vote.

That same semester, the ASUI Senate appointed a committee to look at the Varsity Center project. Linda DeMeyer, Randy Welsh and Mike St. Marie, all ASUI Senators, talked to a number of people, including Athletic Director Bill Belknap, Business Manager Don Amos and Dr. Hartung.

"Our primary concern was trying to measure student feeling for it (the East End) and also to pinpoint where the funding was going to come from," said DeMeyer.

"It was understood that student fees would not be used and the funding would be de-

editorial appeared in the *Argonaut* using the same quote, that Gibb publicly denied the attribution.

When asked why he waited a year to deny the quote, Gibb said that he hadn't seen it until the editorial so he didn't know a mistake had been made. "I never at any time saw that quote attributed to me," Gibb said. "Had I seen it in one of our news releases I would have denied it."

The quote was also printed in the *Lewiston Morning Tribune*, the *Idahonian* and *Campus News*. "I didn't see it in any-thing," Gibb said.

In December of 1979, President Gibb said he favored building the entire project package—the first two phases—at an estimated cost of \$3.2 million.

The question of funding the project entered a new round of miscommunication and administrative double talk.



Dr. Richard Gibb

rived solely from contributions. We stressed that point and Hartung and Belknap both agreed with us," she said.

The committee didn't feel students would benefit enough from building the first floor of the facility and they went to Dr. Gibb with the objection.

"Welsh came in to talk to me and said students wouldn't get much out of it because coaches would still be in the Memorial Gym," Gibb said. "He said we ought to look at building both floors and free up space for students in the Gym. We decided at that time to look at both floors for the project," he said.

Another article appeared in the *Argonaut* that semester which added another layer of fog to the plans and would prove to be a sore spot for President Gibb a year later.

In an article written from a U of I News Bureau release, President Gibb was quoted as saying that funding for the project would be derived solely from outside sources and no student fees would be used. "We will ask the board to approve the building of a \$1.7 million varsity center which will be funded entirely by contributions through the U of I Foundation," Gibb was quoted as saying.

That story was printed in November of 1978. It wasn't until 11 months later, after an

editorial and varsity athletic needs on campus and submitting a report to him based on those needs. The report was to concern the remodeling of Memorial Gym and construction of the East End facility.

The committee was originally supposed to have its report completed in December of 1979. In fact, they didn't complete their report until this past May. The delay in completing the report lies at the heart of why the administration submitted the plan last month. Administration officials couldn't very well submit a proposal to the Regents when the report on the proposal hadn't been completed.

Linda DeMeyer was appointed to the board as an ASUI representative. Dorothy Zakrajsek, director of health, physical education, recreation and dance, chaired the committee. Committee members included Athletic Director Bill Belknap, Business Manager Don Amos, Physical Plant Director Ed Stohs, and ten other university department heads.

"When I was on the committee last fall the question came up of who was going to pay for it," DeMeyer said. "Don Amos said that student fees would not be used. I remember being assured that student fees would not be used for it, on that committee and the one before," she said.

DeMeyer feels that the job of the committee was just too large for the December completion date.

"Considering the number of people involved, they were all department heads, and the amount of work that had to be done, it was obvious we couldn't do it by December," DeMeyer said. "We had a hard time meeting. All of the people were pretty heavily involved in their departments."

McKinney shares DeMeyer's assessment. "I think the basic problem was the task we gave them," McKinney said. "It was just too big. Originally myself and the committee thought they could complete it by December. It just simply took them more time than I or them had anticipated," he said.

ASUI President Scott Fehrenbacher isn't as understanding about the committee's late report. "I put all of the blame on the committee," Fehrenbacher said. "I was at a University Foundation meeting where Dr. Hartung needed the report so he could raise money. I don't know if there was any conspiracy but I think they dragged their feet," he said. "They should have foreseen the problems with it coming out late."

The problems Fehrenbacher refers to are the lack of student input on the project. "It put the ASUI in a completely sterile position," he said. "We had no constituency here to get input from. I think it hurts their (the Administration) credibility to push something through when the students are gone."

President Gibb has a different view concerning student input on the project. In a June 13 article published in the *Lewiston Morning Tribune*, Gibb said "I

don't know of any project on any of the campuses that I have been at that has had as much student input as this one. If we wait until September, we'll get the same questions we're getting now. Athletic facilities are inherently divisive. I haven't seen one that isn't controversial."

When asked about President Gibb's comments, Fehrenbacher wasn't so sure. "In a general sense yes," he said. "but with respect to use of the SUB bonds I would dare say less than three percent of the student population knew about it. To me that is one of the most important issues," he said.

The SUB bond was sold in 1961 for the construction of the present student union building. Students were assessed \$17.50 per semester for repayment of the loan.

Enough income has been realized from the fees for a substantial surplus to have accumulated in the account. The bond was originally sold at three percent interest. Administration officials have not paid off the bond's investors, opting instead to take advantage of the low interest and invest accumulated reserves in more lucrative investments at more than three percent.

McKinney feels justified in using the SUB bond. "In my judgement there is a sufficient amount of reserve left in the SUB bond account to protect the SUB with future plans," he said. "\$1.2 million will be left in the SUB bond account for financing the remodeling of the SUB at a future date."

"We can use that money (\$1.2 million) for anything but I feel the whole intent is to use that as a reserve to protect the SUB, to protect our investment," McKinney said.

Linda DeMeyer disagrees with McKinney on the use of the SUB bond. "I think it's really stretching the point of the SUB bond to build the East End Facility," DeMeyer said. "That wasn't the original intent of the bond."

President Gibb has offered two important reasons for expediting funding and construction of the East End Facility; expected rising construction costs and an anticipated favorable bond market.

His concern about rising construction costs has fired no disagreement or opposition from the Board of Regents or student officials.

"If we can get started in September or October at the earliest, we can save six months on the project," Gibb told the *Commoner*.

The sale of the bond this summer for the East End Facility is crucial to the Administration's plans. McKinney and others feel that the upcoming presidential election and other forces in the economy will allow for a favorable bond market this summer. If any delay is incurred, McKinney feels the bond market may go sour, resulting in a higher interest for the bond.

A change in a half of a percentage point can mean the difference of \$500,000 in the re-

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Concern for man himself and for his fate must always form the chief interest of all technical endeavors in order that the creations of our minds shall be a blessing not a curse to mankind. Never forget that in the midst of your diagrams and equations. Albert Einstein

U of I prof is leader in biopolitics—the political implications of genetics

by Jim Wright

Does your right to have yourself cloned in order to ensure you'll have all the "replacement parts" you may need for a transplant supersede the right of your clone to resist your taking parts of his body?

That question and a myriad of other legal, moral, and ethical questions will be before the courts, legislatures and consciences of America in less than 20 years, and possibly even by the end of this decade. Will we be ready to make those decisions?

While countless scientists are working on cloning and genetic engineering around the world, only a handful of people are looking at the social problems genetic research and cloning will bring into being along with human life. In the forefront of that group is Dr. Robert Blank, a professor of political science at the University of Idaho.

"Genetics is sort of my field by adoption," Blank said. "For the last four years I've been looking at the human genetic reproduction. I guess I'm concerned that the political system won't be able to react to the technological advances that are on us."

Blank said politicians, the people who will eventually determine the rights and responsibilities of clones and engineered humans, are avoiding the issue as one that could be politically sensitive to a large part of the electorate.

Those politicians will eventually have to decide if clones have the same rights as their donors, if a person has the right to patent his or her own genotype, who will be allowed to clone and for what reasons, and how to keep people from abusing cloning and genetic engineering.

"There are no answers,"

Blank said, "just questions. The government tends not to ask those questions since the issue is very sensitive. Look at abortion, and this is in many ways an extension of abortion. Something as common as predetermining birth defects has stirred a lot of political controversy."

Part of the controversy, according to Blank, revolves around the question of what traits are desirable and should be engineered into the manufactured child.

"These are the issues of the future, the ones that will be the most actively debated," Blank said. "This won't replace discussions of where we'll put a highway and things like that, those things will always be with us, but this will be more important."

Another aspect of the new technological breakthroughs in medical sciences of all kinds that

usually isn't brought up when cloning is discussed is the ethics of using scarce resources to "perfect" and copy nature when those resources could be used to make life better for the people that are already here.

Blank has written several articles on these and other questions, and has written a book reviewing technological breakthroughs and relating them to what social impact they may have.

Blank has also lectured genetic scientists about what may come about as a result of their work, which he says now concerns them as much as the technological aspects of their jobs.

"My colleagues all think this is rather strange," Blank said ruefully. "This kind of thing is considered on the fringe of political science or even outside of it."

According to Blank, many of the social scientists involved in "bio-political" research are not highly thought of by their colleagues. "I've published books in other fields, though, so I'm established. There's no problem there," Blank explained.

Blank's original—and more formal—field of learning is in political parties, quite some distance from biopolitics. Blank said he became interested in genetic engineering as an extension of "an alluring interest in science fiction."

Blank said he became involved in genetic engineering long before *In His Image*, a book purported to be a novelization of a successful cloning, piqued national interest in the process. That book, according to Blank, has been discounted by scientists, since the cloning process described is not yet feasible.

Idaho law takes dim view of sexual antics

by Kerrin McMahan

What do "adultery," "fornication," "lewd cohabitation," and "infamous crimes against nature" all have in common? If you guessed words from the Bible or titles of current novels, you're wrong. All of the above are criminal acts in Idaho, and indulging in any of them can make you guilty of a misdemeanor or felony.

Any two people of the opposite sex, both unmarried, who engage in sex with each other are guilty of fornication. Under Idaho law, (Idaho Code, S. 18-6603) fornication carries a penalty of a fine of up to \$300, imprisonment for up to six months, or both. However, the sentence may be suspended at the court's discretion.

Fornication in itself may not sound like too serious a crime.

No doubt many couples are willing to go ahead and take the risk. However, if one or both of the individuals involved is married to someone else, the crime becomes adultery and the stakes get higher. Adultery in Idaho can result in "a fine of not less than \$100, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than three months, or by imprisonment in the state penitentiary for a period not exceeding three years, or in the county jail for a period not exceeding one year, or by fine not exceeding \$1000." (Idaho Code, S. 18-6601).

Adultery, it would appear, is nothing to fool around with.

In American society today, many couples think nothing of living together before or instead of marriage. Whether this is good or bad will no doubt depend on one's point of view—

regardless, people cohabiting in Idaho are officially criminals. Section 18-6604 of the Idaho Code states, "If any man and woman, not being married to each other, shall live and cohabit together as man and wife, or shall lewdly and notoriously associate together, such man or woman is guilty of a misdemeanor."

If any defense may be made for the above blatantly criminal acts, it is that the guilty parties are simply "doing what comes naturally." Idaho's legislatures and courts have recognized this natural human tendency, and thus have distinguished between "natural" and "unnatural" sex.

Section 18-6605 of the Idaho Code provides that "Every person who is guilty of the infamous crime against nature, committed with mankind or with

any animal, is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison not less than five years." The authors of this law failed to define "the infamous crime against nature," perhaps either out of embarrassment or a fear of giving people ideas.

However, the courts have defined "infamous crimes against nature" as including not only the traditional offenses of homosexual and heterosexual sodomy, but oral sex and "all unnatural carnal copulations" of any sexual combination as well.

Being married to the person with whom one performs such "unnatural carnal copulations" is apparently no excuse.

Those of you who are thinking of stealing a getaway car and leaving the country, relax. Latah County Prosecutor Bill

Hamlett told *The Commoner* he knows of no prosecutions for sex acts between consenting adults within recent memory. "We talk about that all the time in the prosecutors' meetings," he added, but he hasn't heard of anyone being prosecuted for such crimes, "unless maybe it was in southeastern Idaho."

But wait, men, you're not out of the woods yet. Section 18-4105, entitled "Public display of offensive sexual material," provides among other things that it is a misdemeanor for a man, fully clothed or otherwise, to have an erection in a public place, or anywhere visible from a public place, or anywhere visible from a private residence, if the person knows the residents would be offended. Truly, the law can be hard on a man who gets excited easily.

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payment of the bond.

Charles McQuillen, professor of economics and dean of the College of Business and Economics at the U of I, agrees with McKinney's assessment of the bond market.

"What the fear is," McQuillen said, "is that as the election draws near the Fed will make money more available and try to lower interest rates, raising bond interest rates."

McQuillen feels that talk about a balanced federal budget will disappear July 15 when the Congress conducts its mid-year review and realizes

they will have to borrow money in order to meet costs of operation.

According to McQuillen, the way the government finances a debt is by offering treasury bonds on the open bond market. The presence of these bonds will push interest rates up on private bonds because people will invest in treasury bonds first. Treasury bonds are preferred by investors over private bonds because the interest rates are usually higher and they are guaranteed. Private bonds will take second priority to treasury bonds.

"You want to jump into the bond market now because of a lack of confidence in the government," McQuillen said.

"The federal budget has been balanced twice in the last 30 years."

"The idea that the bond market will be at a particularly good point for floating a bond is strictly conjecture," McQuillen said. "But if the fiscal policy of the government changes and we incur a deficit in the budget, they will have to borrow money."

The U of I administration anticipates entering the bond market and being able to sell their bonds at around eight percent interest. The bonds are in the process of being drawn up now.

If matters stand as they are and construction on the East End Facility gets underway this

fall, the facility is expected to be completed within three years.

Students at the U of I won't walk away from this final round with nothing to show for their efforts. According to Fehrenbacher, the administration made a number of promises to him concerning SUB remodeling and use of the East End Facility.

"Dr. Gibb told us in public that when the bond for the roof of the dome is paid off there is a 'good chance' we can use those monies for the bookstore, work on the satellite SUB or something connected to the SUB," Fehrenbacher said. "One of the other advantages now is that we can use the reserve left (\$1.2 million) for additions to the

bookstore."

"If they use all of the \$4.5 million for construction of the East End and they aren't done, they are going to stop construction right there and not use a red cent more," Fehrenbacher. "Gibb and McKinney both said this in front of the U of I Foundation in early June."

The use of student fees for the project has also insured student use of the facility. "If the East End had been built entirely by donations, no students would have been allowed to use it," Fehrenbacher said. "Now the ACB (Activities Center Board) will be involved in policy decisions concerning use of the East End Facility—that's what I was guaranteed."