

i n v e r s e i o n

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January 30 2004

I asked a coughing friend of mine why he doesn't stop smoking. "In this town it wouldn't do any good," he explained. "I happen to be a chain breather."

~ Robert Sylvester

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When the sun came out this weekend I was ecstatic. The sky was clear, the stars were out at night and the days were filled with light. Best of all, I felt, for the first time in a long while, that I could breathe without first devising some sort of filter from my shirt or scarf.

After all that initial joy, I realized one problem. In the midst of our sunless despair, the *Crusader* staff had planned a feature about the inversion.

Luckily, before we had time to even think about changing plans, the sun slipped behind the gray sky and we were relieved, well we were glad that this issue would still be relevant.

Actually as Tiana discusses in this weeks feature, we have reason to be concerned about our air, even when there is not an inversion. Apparently Canyon County scores very low on air quality. I suppose we should not be completely surprised, really can air that often smells of wet dog food be healthy for your lungs?

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An Evening with Dave

What can be said about good music? Every once in a while everyone finds themselves attached to a particular musician or band in a way that makes them crazy, so crazy that when that favorite song comes on the radio you almost wreck the car trying to turn up the volume. Well, maybe this doesn't happen to everyone, but it should.

For me this musician is Dave Matthews. On Monday January 12, Dave Matthews took the stage at the Key Arena in Seattle, Washington. Along with Dave were music legends Emmylou Harris, Tim Reynolds and Trey Anastasio from the band Phish...and I was there!

There was much debate over whether or not Dave's new solo album *Some Devil* would satisfy the cries of fans screaming for more of the acoustic funk styling's that have made Dave Matthews and his Band so popular. At first listen, I noticed a very mainstream radio type of rock like Matchbox 20 or John Mayer which was semi-disappointing, but like other Dave songs that I didn't really like at first listen, after getting over the newness of the sound I realized, oh...this does rock!

So needless to say the Key Arena had no room to spare on Monday night and as the seats found their owners and the lights dimmed, I could feel the vocalized hearts of the audience awaiting what was worth at least fifty-two dollars to them. Then he appeared. I was buying my commemorative T-shirt in the lobby. I only heard the screams. I called my friend to see what was going on only to find out that Dave had just introduced Emmylou Harris and her set was about to begin. Honestly (and surprisingly) I'm sure to some of you I'm not a big fan of country music so I didn't lose my place in line to

go watch her. Nonetheless, the sound of live music being played through speakers the size of my bedroom shook me and I knew that nothing could take away the excitement that I had knowing that I was about to see Dave, one hundred and fifty feet away, eye level, in my fifth row-lower level seat.

And nothing did. The show lasted four hours and twelve minutes. This included songs from the new album, the opening act, a two song acoustic set with Dave and Trey Anastasio, and a long set of covers including "Fire" by Jimi Hendrix. The most memorable part of the evening, however, was the six-song acoustic set with Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds. Songs like "seek up" and "Bartender" began the creation of what came to be the kind of atmosphere where you are lost and all you know is how you feel and how you feel is free and peaceful.

That night at the concert reminded me of why I love music. That night reminded me of the passion and feeling that music should give us. That is what music is for. That is why we should listen to bands we love and play the music that we love to play. It is our outlet to expressive freedom and we limit ourselves if we forget to take advantage of this gift we have been given. Pick up that instrument that has been sitting in its case since high school or play that CD that use to make you cry. Don't be a stupid driver, but find that band that makes you almost run your car off the road when you start singing along with the melody at the top of your lungs. Music is meant to move us and to make us feel, so find some music you can feel today, then go to the concert and write an article about it. Peace.

By Todd McArthur

nigger

a troublesome word

For the first time in years, the NNU community honored the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. by recognizing the holiday. Many spent the day sleeping. Others took advantage of the snowy weather. And still others worked on homework the faculty so generously bestowed upon them.

To bring meaning to this holiday, the faculty planned a week dedicated to "Beloved Community." The name was derived from a quote of Dr. King's: "the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community."

A main event of the week came Monday night, when The Len B. Jordan Public Affairs Symposium presented Harvard Law Professor, Randall Kennedy. Mr. Kennedy has authored several books: including *Nigger: The Strange Career of A Troublesome Word*. A majority of Kennedy's lecture centered around the taboo nature of that infamous word.

I have to admit, I was caught off guard by the word, which freely flowed throughout the evening. Kennedy emphasized, "Any word or symbol can mean most anything." It is the implications placed upon words that cause the associated feelings. And the associations I have of the word nigger harken thoughts of red necked-bigots, and Archie Bunker sentiments.

His talking points explored the history of the word, originating as a term of derision towards African Americans. But then much to my surprise he turned the discussion to other uses of the word, including its frequent appearance in rap and r&b music. He did not condemn its use as a term of endearment, for as he had already stated, the implications were different.

For instance, the name Yankee, a term once used by the British to taunt Americans, which in the Civil War was adapted by southerners to reference northern people. Originally a term of derision, the word Yankee is basking in positive connotations. It is practically a term a pride for many Americans and certainly one for many sport fans.

He also spoke of the race line in American life, giving a background to what has happened in the last 50 years. Fifty years ago, the Supreme Court case, *Brown vs. Board of Education* broke the barriers, allowing integration in American schools.

When asked about reverse discrimination, Kennedy responded as any law professor would, by reverting back to the legal term, affirmative action. "Reverse discrimination" is the idea that affirmative action discriminates against the white population. Affirmative action encourages diversity. "Reverse discrimination" became an issue when white students got upset at not being admitted to certain Ivy League schools. They claimed that their spots had been given up to the African-American kids whose scores were not as high. Kennedy said that he was not in favor of affirmative action to promote diversity. He favors it as a form of reparative justice. If we ever hope to compensate for our nations horrible past, affirmative

action gives us an outlet.

As an English major, I have become very aware of the logo centric. In that, words can hold infinite meaning in our society.

While writing this, it has occurred to me that this may be the first time I have written the word nigger and definitely referencing this event marks the first time the word has left my mouth. And while I will not include it in my day to day vocabulary, for I do not believe that was Professor Kennedy's intent, I am no longer shocked by it. And I think that was his aim. Words are malleable, when we change the implications, we lessen their power.

The word nigger has lost power in my mind and I think that speaks well for Professor Kennedy's lecture and the forum that occurred that night.

By Sharece Bunn

Knowing but not experiencing

By Andrew Kerr The new semester classes are well underway and the first month of the new year is already gone. I recall goals and events of last year and beyond and I try to separate the meaningful from the useless. I wonder how much of what I believe is actual experience and how much is only what I have heard from my pastor, my friends, or my parents. I look and listen to words being spoken from the pulpit and I wonder how much of what they say is actually something they have experienced and how much is just something they read out of a book.

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~~EXPERIENCE GOD~~

It seems that in this age everyone is trying to know about God or be educated about how Christianity works instead of trying to experience God.

We keep claiming that God and Jesus are alive but we deny them everyday if we do not act on that claim. If God really does exist and this world is just a blink and eternal life follows, then WHAT are we doing?

We go about our lives as if we do not know any more than a non-believer.

What sets a (real) Christian apart anyway?

It is NOT how much they know about God. The thing that makes a Christian different is the gift of ability; the ability to talk and to listen and to obey God is what sets a real Christian apart

A Christian can actually experience the same God that is in the Bible--the same God that showed Himself to the apostle Paul. That God is still concerned about the hearts of men. A Christian gets the ability to tap into the personality of God and receive little bits and pieces of it until there is none of their self left. A Christian can be at peace no matter what the circumstance, because of the hope that God gives to those who are becoming like Him. A Christian can laugh more and cry more than any other creature. A Christian can live without the torment of selfishness and the pursuit of personal gain. I could

go on and on because the life of a real Christian is as full and infinite as Jesus Christ Himself. We can have everything that Jesus has if we submit to His authority and live like He did on earth. The great part is that we can not do it by ourselves. We must allow God to change us and ask Him to do just that.

We must let go of the idols and the toys and all the other things of this world so that we can hold on to Jesus and learn from His example. We must gaze Godward instead of looking at ourselves and we will find ourselves changed and fulfilled.



"I do not want to leave the impression that the ordinary means of grace have no value. They most assuredly have. Private prayer should be practiced by every Christian. Long periods of Bible meditation will purify our gaze and direct it; church attendance will enlarge our outlook and increase our love for others. Service and work and activity--all are good and should be engaged in by every Christian. But at the bottom of all these things, giving meaning to them, will be the inward habit of beholding God. A new set of eyes (so to speak) will develop within us enabling us to be looking at God while our outward eyes are seeing the scenes of this passing world." (Tozer, *The Pursuit of God*)

winter in nampa

advisory

By Tiana Cutright Cold. Sometimes windy. Maybe snow, maybe some slush or ice. All too often: fog. This is winter at NNU. Arriving hand in hand with these bleak winter days is a marvelous condition called "temperature inversion." An inversion is simply a stable layer of air that caps off the underlying area. The Treasure Valley, being a valley, can easily experience this weather condition. Conditions that tend to be conducive to inversions particularly include calm days with freezing or below freezing temperatures and a humidity of over 70%. In this area, your best indicator of an inversion is a lingering fog. Even if you do not pay any attention to the weather forecasts or news alerts, you really can not miss noticing the blankets of gritty fog that descend, eliminate clear visibility, and pose a respiratory health hazard. Why would an inversion pose a health hazard? The answer is that it traps local air pollution and brings it down to where Nampa's hapless inhabitants can freely inhale all the nasty grit and toxins.

Canyon County is pretty much a mess with regards to air pollution. The peculiar aroma of the Nampa-Caldwell area, and the occasionally visible haze and smog, should give us a clue about the local air quality before we even get to the more formal reports and standardized pollution ratings. Websites like Scorecard.org and Creativemethods.com offer documented examples of how we fare in terms of pollutants in our air. On a grading scale of A-F, with A indicating "best or cleanest," and F indicating "worst or dirtiest," this area does not grade very well. According to the 1999 National Emission Trends (NET) report from the EPA online database, Canyon County's 603.5 square mile area rates as follows.

how canyon county rates

- Carbon Monoxide: D
- Lead and Lead Compounds: B
- Nitrogen Oxides: D
- Volatile Organic Compounds: D
- Particulate Matter—less than or equal to 10 micrometers in size (PM₁₀): F
- Particulate Matter—less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers in size (PM_{2.5}): F
- Ammonia: D
- Sulfur Dioxide: D
- Total Hazardous Air Pollutants: D
- Diesel Emissions: D
- Acrolein Emissions: D

Our worst pollutants are those that fall into the "Particulate Matter" categories. This stuff comes from smoke and motor vehicles. Hence, the local restrictions on burning, and the need for emissions testing and regular maintenance for our personal vehicles. Particulate Matter is particularly nasty because it can be inhaled with the air we breathe and lodge in the lungs. Children, the elderly, smokers, people with heart disease, and those with asthma or chronic respiratory illnesses are particularly susceptible to respiratory irritation. However, all groups of people should avoid as much as possible exposure to concentrated pollution. This is why we have the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and why many groups work to reduce and eliminate air pollution.

The serious problem for NNU and Nampa as a whole comes when we have one of our frequent local inversions. During this time, when valley air is trapped and the fog drifts through our streets, concentrations of pollutants build up and present dangerous breathing conditions. On days like this, it is best to stay indoors as much as possible and to limit any outdoor activity (such as jogging, sports, or biking) that would cause an increase in heart and respiration rates.

On January 15, 2004, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality published its *Wintertime Air Pollution Response Plan* on the Internet at www.deq.state.id.us. This plan identifies the time period between November 1 and March 31 as a time of decreased air quality. In order to inform Treasure Valley residents of air conditions, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) notifies local media services of the present air quality rating. This way, the community can have access to current air quality conditions and a forecast of possible near-future developments.

The rating scale used is called the Air Quality Index (AQI) and runs on a scale of 0-500. 0 represents "no air pollution detected,"

while 500 indicates "extreme of pollution measured." A indicates that levels of air reached the federally determined acceptable conditions. The the average pollutant concentration most recent 24-hour period.

Checking the air conditions can help people to make informed about how to protect their health to a daily air quality report www.deq.state.id.us/air/air contact information for various of DEQ that manage issues dust, air toxics, and other air. Other report sources are at www.epa.gov/airnow.

color

Air Quality Levels of
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pollution sources.
www.epa.gov/air
The EPA site can

generate specific reports based on user-specified conditions, and provide access to articles, forecasts and information.

Be advised: to refuse to take the matter of air pollution into account from day to day is to participate in damaging personal, community, and global health. Overall, the problem of coping with our own pollutions becomes one of whether or not to subscribe to the dictates of common sense. If we poison the air, we have bad air for breathing. So we work to clean up our act, enforce regulations to limit pollution as much as possible, and monitor the air quality. If the air is poisonous, we stay away from it—in the case of inversion-caused high concentrations of local pollutants, we stay indoors as much as we can. It simply makes sense to protect our health now and for the future.

today in nampa

what are we breathing?

or me worried...

Air Quality Index (AQI) -January 30, 2004	
Primary Pollutant: Particles (PM2.5)	GOOD
Health Message: No health impacts are expected in this range.	
www.epa.gov/airnow	

Air Quality Index	Numerical Value	Meaning
Good (green)	0-50	Air quality is considered satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Moderate (yellow)	51-100	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (orange)	101-150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.
Unhealthy (red)	151-200	Everyone may begin to experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Very Unhealthy (burgundy)	201-300	Health alert: everyone may experience more serious health effects.
Hazardous (brown)	300+	Health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is more likely to be affected.

Measured at	Pollutant	AQI #	Category
Nampa	PM2.5	10	Good
Nampa	PM10	6	Good
Nampa	CO	24	Good

Burn Condition:
Based on air pollution levels, open outdoor burning is allowable today. However there may be local regulations that apply. In most of the area, a permit is required for open burning. Check with your local fire department.
www.deq.state.id.us

the golden globe awards

Reasons To Never Ever Study Abroad

By Erik Eilers It is Awards season in Hollywood and this year started off with a bang last Sunday night with the Golden Globe Awards. While not as prestigious as the Academy Awards (taking place the end of February) the Globes are often a good indicator of how the rest of the awards season will go. There were several surprises and upsets, but for the most part three films ran away with the awards.

Unlike the Oscars, the Golden Globes reward television movies, miniseries, and shows as well as motion pictures. HBO dominated nearly all the television Awards. *Angels In America*, a miniseries that aired on HBO ran away with nearly every award in the television movie categories. Al Pacino and Meryl Streep won best actor and actress for their roles in the film. The Best Supporting Actor and Actress were taken by Geoffrey Wright and Mary-Louise Parker, both also in the film. Of course *Angels In America* also won for Best Picture in the television movie and miniseries category.

In the television series awards Anthony LaPagia won Best Actor

for his role on *Without A Trace* and Frances Conroy won Best Actress for HBO's *Six Feet Under*. The BBC America sitcom *The Office* won for Best Television Comedy and FOX's *24* won for Best Drama.

The motion picture race was hotly contested. *Cold Mountain*, an epic civil war love story was up for eight Globes, more than any other movie. However, it was only able to bring home the Best Supporting Actress award for Renee Zellweger. Best Supporting Actor went to Tim Robbins for *Mystic River*.

The movies were divided into two main categories: dramas and comedies/musicals. On the comedy and musical side *Lost In Translation*, written and directed by Sofia Coppola, starred Bill Murray as he adapted to life in a foreign country. Daughter of Frances Ford Coppola (director of *The Godfather*) and Nicholas Cage's cousin, Sofia Coppola won for Best Original Screenplay marking her arrival as a leading director in Hollywood. Bill Murray won Best Actor in a comedy

or musical and *Lost In Translation* won the Best Motion Picture comedy or musical category.

The heavyweights of the drama side of the Globes were *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*, *Mystic River*, and *Cold Mountain*. Sean Penn won best actor in a drama (*Mystic River*) and Charlize Theron won best actress (*Monster*). *Cold Mountain* failed to grab any of the more prestigious awards. However, *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* made a perfect showing. Every category it was up for it won. Howard Shore won for Best Original Musical Score and Best Original Song appearing in a movie (*Into the West*). Peter Jackson won Best Director and *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* won for Best Motion Picture drama.

The Golden Globes often are not given the recognition the Academy Awards receive, but almost always predict the way the Oscars will go. It looks as though it will be a tough season for many worthy movies. Hopefully, however, *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* will finally be given the honor it deserves by the Academy.

10. Nampa has all the culture you ever need - Nampa Bowl, the Trinity Statue, and the Taco Wagon.
9. Toastado de Cinnamon Cruncho just isn't the same.
8. It damages your self esteem when every time they use your last name, it sounds like they're swearing at you.
7. Academic pursuits are limited by underdeveloped infrastructure: beautiful beaches, erupting volcanos, and wild monkeys.
6. Wal-Mart is transformed from a cool college hangout to the cruellest capitalistic oppressor in Corporate America.
5. Ordering a "Brick" in Latin America can get you arrested for drug trafficking.
4. The Woman Is Never Required To Pay in Costa Rica.
3. Love in any language is a farce.
2. While you're gone engaging the culture, everyone else is engaging everyone else.
1. Local homestay families don't find "Naked Time" as funny as your roommates do.

by Matt Chitwood

over the break at the box-office

By Erik Eilers Well here we are again, back for another semester. The past month has been quite busy, at least at the box-office, if not on campus. So here to make an effort to catch you up on what you might have missed (while sitting at home letting your parents wait on you hand and foot) let us take a look at a few of the movies that made waves (or splashed) at the box-office over break.

The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King

What is there to say? If you have not seen it, see it. If you have, see it again. The final chapter in the Lord of the Rings Trilogy, released by New Line Cinema is, in my opinion, the best movie that came out in 2003. It is already the tenth top grossing movie ever (though still trailing number seven *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*) after having been in theatres for little more than one month. It is definitely worth the three and one half hours to watch it. Rated PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and frightening images.

Big Fish

I must say this was one of the most delightful movies I have seen in quite some time. The heartwarming story of a son trying to understand his father before it is too late brought tears to the eyes of many viewers and proved that Tim Burton can do far more than just grim horror pieces or bad remakes of good films (a.k.a. *The Planet of the Apes*). In fact this story, featuring Ewan McGregor, combines the perfect mix of Burton's dark direction styles and the actor's abilities to play a mixture of roles into a finely tuned story of understanding. I would recommend this movie to anyone who likes a sappy, but entertaining, flick. Rated PG-13 for a fight scene, some images of nudity, and a suggestive reference.

Cold Mountain

Sporting a star studded cast (Nicole Kidman, Renee Zellweger, and Jude Law), this epic civil war drama will certainly be up for best picture thanks to the directing of the talented Anthony Minghella. While falling slightly short of expectations this movie is definitely worth watching. Rated R for violence and sexuality.

Cheaper By The Dozen

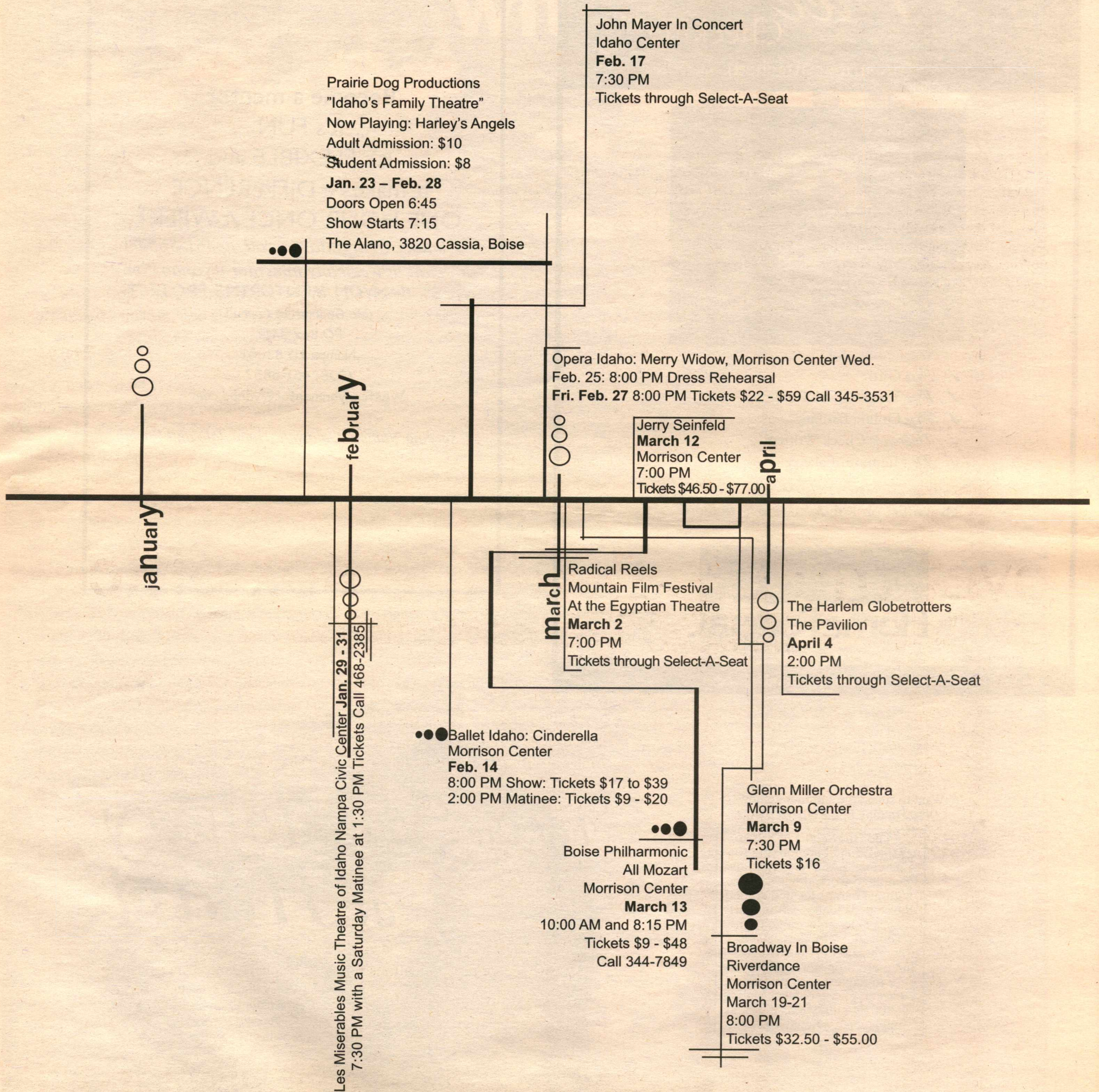
As far as a remake goes, this movie completely missed the tone and feeling of the original (starring Clifton Webb). However, laying aside any references to the original (except for twelve children) this is a light hearted, enjoyable, family film. Surprisingly clean, this movie examines the lives of a family in transition from one town to another and as the parents pursue their own career goals. Funny, and heart warming, this is

a movie to take the little ones to. Rated PG for language and some thematic elements.

Chasing Liberty

This story about the daughter of the President (Mandy Moore), as she runs away from home, (to Europe no less) fell far short of expectations. Moore, who has been making a name for herself in the movie industry with movies such as *A Walk to Remember* and *The Princess Diaries*, was expected to pull in the masses for her latest romantic comedy. But the movie bombed at the box-office, losing out to movies such as *Big Fish* and *Along Came Polly*. However, it did not very bad reviews, for the most part. So if you missed this movie, and would like to sit through a couple hours of mind numbing predictable mush, do not worry: I am sure it will be at the Reel shortly. Rated PG-13 for sexual content and brief nudity.

what's going on in the valley?

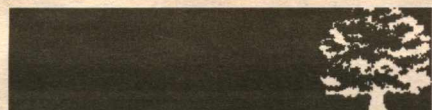


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paid to play in the *outdoors*?

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*For the Missionary
at Heart*

Now accepting applications for staff, teachers, and office staff

Sun Valley Indian School

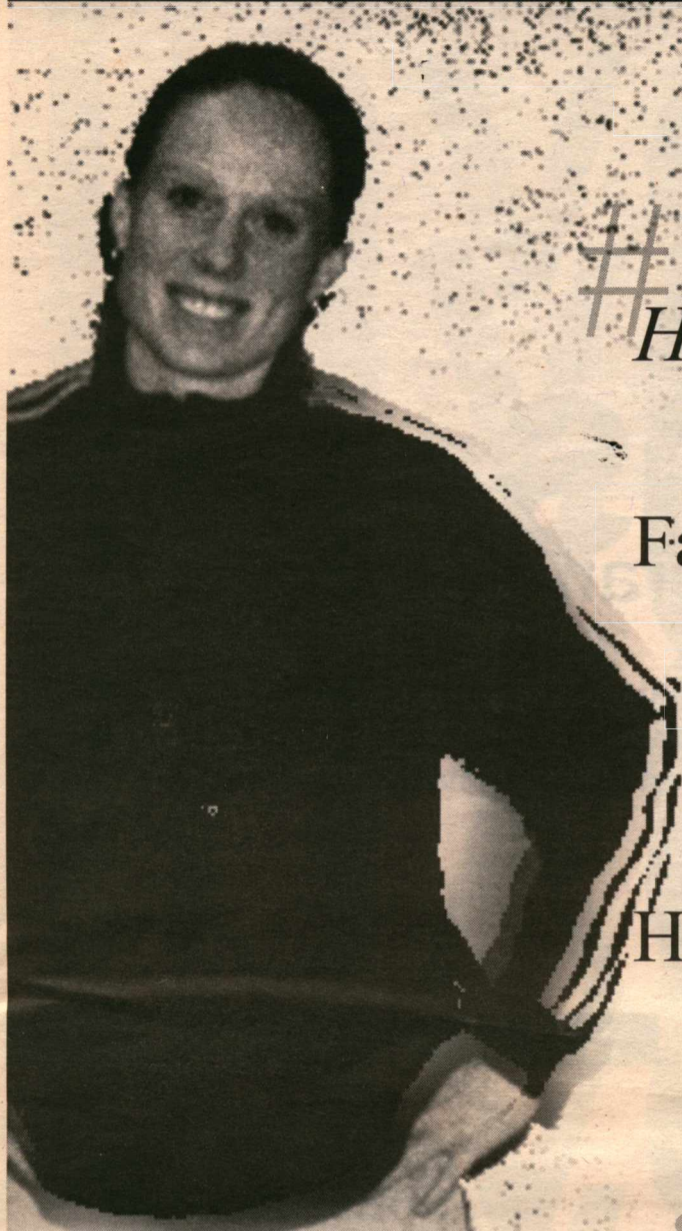
Contact Jim Franklin

Box 4013

Sun Valley, AZ 86029

player profile

by Shelli Bunn-Patterson



#10
Heidi Buehler

Favorite NBA player: *Mike Bibby*

Favorite food: Taco Bell

Birthday
5/26/82

Hometown: Tigard, *Oregon*

Favorite movie: *Goonies*

Height: *5'7"*

Position: Guard

Year: Senior

10

Junior College: Umpqua Community College
Season *Highlight*: 31pts. 11assists vs. Nanooks

Heidi is definitely a red-headed spit-fire. She brings an amazing intensity to the game and is the type of girl you love both on and off the court.

- Former teammate, Shelli Bunn-Petterson -
teammate

Faculty New Year's Resolutions

By Nnub Ecerahs

Do any of you make New Year's Resolutions? I remember going to my aunt's house one year, where we all wrote down resolutions and had to share them with everyone. This made me uncomfortable and I have since taken the time to write them in my journal.

This year, I decided I was going to take up the tradition and get my family to admit their New Year's Resolutions. The only person who spoke up was my older sister who announced, "I hope to finish this paper." (a paper which was due at midnight to her professor here at NNU) Luckily enough, she finished her paper. But honestly, how many people do you really think fulfill their New Year's Resolutions?

Here's a small example of New Year's Resolutions that flopped (with a little bit of commentary).

I am going to lose weight. (A noble goal but by the end of the year, Christmas has come, the turkey is in the oven and you gain it all back.)

I will not make fun of people. (Is this hard for anyone else? Perhaps make more fun of yourself and less of other people.)

I will always be happy. (Okay, do you ever get mad at something or someone? What about the time your professor gives you loads of homework right after you told him you are going home for the weekend? Being mad does not make you a bad person, in fact, some would say resolving that anger is "character building.")

I will become a vegetarian. (Okay, so I tried this last year and it is extremely difficult. I really admire true vegetarians, but for some reason, living in Idaho makes it hard to not eat meat.)

I will not be sorry to be single. (Once again, a noble goal, but have you ever noticed that as soon as Christmas is over, Valentine's decorations are everywhere. February 14th is doomed. Wear black to show your true happiness.)

I will be more daring. (What do you honestly plan to do in order to accomplish this? Skip a few classes? Challenge a professor? Okay, if you really want to be daring, go sky-diving. It could be the last thrill of your life.)

I will have perfect chapel attendance. (Gene would be proud of this one. But, what about that test you just HAVE to study for?)

I will get more involved. (In what, might I ask? If you are talking about campus activities, I know of a few clubs in the making.)

I hope to read the entire Bible in one year. (Okay, I know this is a touchy subject, but there are a few people who say this and yet only get halfway through. If you are not one of these people, I applaud you. For those of you who suffer from this resolution, just know, God loves you no matter what.)

I will go to every one of my 7:30 classes. (Honestly people, do you ever just want to sleep in? Even if you choose not to skip it, are you ever late? Why not just stay in bed?)

If you are a goal oriented person, I encourage you to keep up the resolutions. However, if you just cannot keep up the resolution, make this last resolution and you will be golden: *I will not be mad when I fail to follow through with my New Year's Resolutions.*