

The Crusader

February 27, 1996



**Freshman Honors:
What's the point?**

These will represent
the best of the best
Top Ten List

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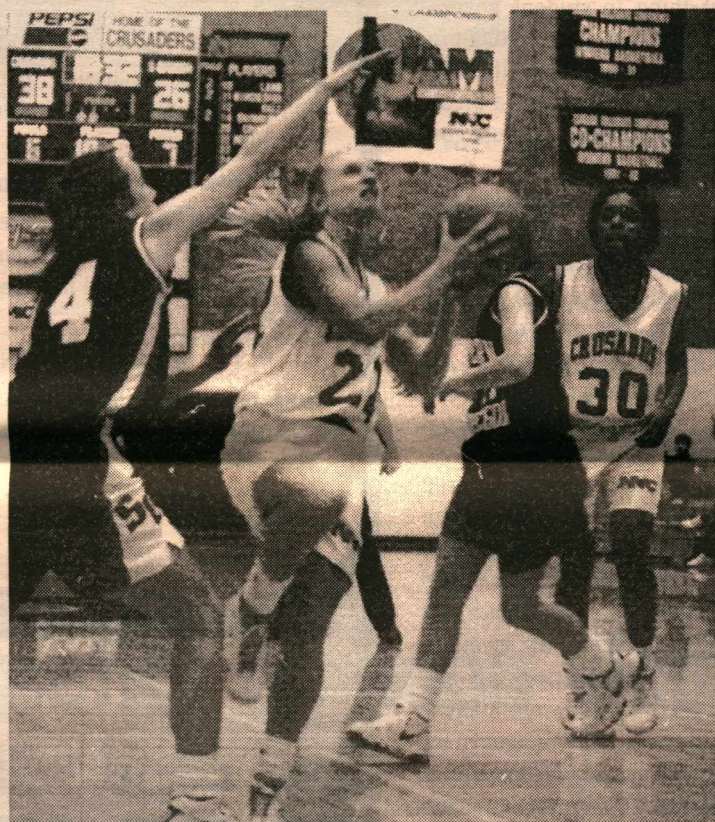
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What's the point?

Since first term the Freshman Honors Core has lost 37% of its students and many of NNC's brightest have given up on the program saying that it was just too hard. What is the point of the program? Is the class really as hard as they say, or are honor students just whining? This week, Staff Writer Jennifer Coles talks with faculty and students about the Honors Core and what it is trying to accomplish.

Cover Story ~ page 6

Double dose: Men & women stopped by Western Oregon in quest for conference championship.
(Yet, both teams are still looking towards nationals ~ page 10.)



Western Oregon edged the Lady 'Saders once again in a 69-60 win to clinch the Cascade Conference championship.



Western Oregon stopped the men's drive to the championship game with an 82-75 win Saturday.

Jud Board makes a comeback

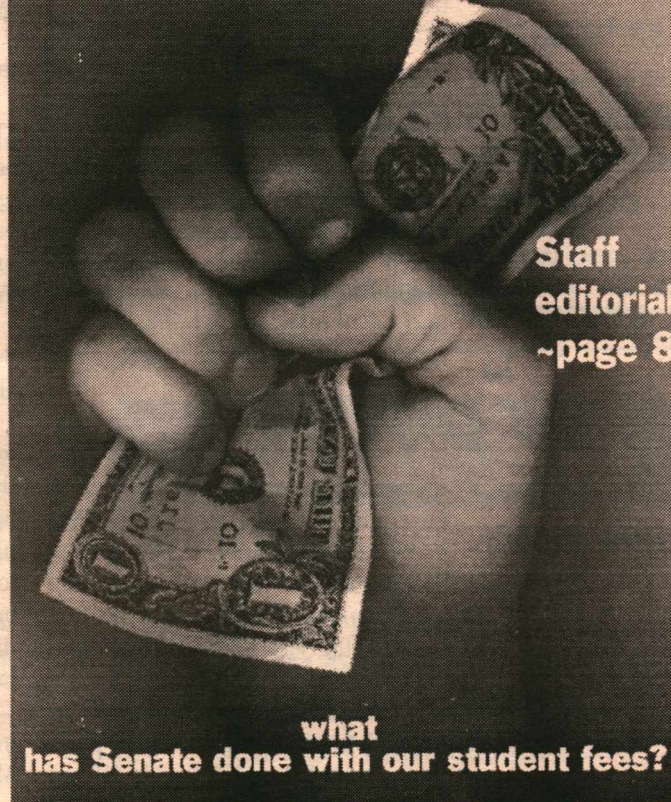
~page 2

Love goes to the highest bidder

~page 3

Letters to the Editor: Promise Keepers, ASNNC elections. Page 8

Grasping for dollars:



Staff editorial
~page 8

what has Senate done with our student fees?

Jud Board makes a comeback

Left powerless after restructuring three years ago, ASNNC Judicial Board bounces back

"What we make sure is that government is run by the book."

~Chief Justice Sandidge

By all counts ASNNC Judicial Board was on the verge of death and suffering from terminal irrelevance. The board which serves as the judicial branch of ASNNC suffered its first blow three years ago when it was stripped of the authority to hear appeals on dorm and chapel fines. The final blow came last spring when Senate approved a Constitutional amendment that terminated the office of Chief Justice and left the Board with the ASNNC Executive Vice President as its leader.

"Jud Board used to meet twice a month," Associate Justice David Roemhildt said. "Then they became monthly, and in the fall of '94 there were no meetings all term. Suddenly, Jud Board didn't get together anymore."

It seemed to ASNNC officials, and even to Jud Board themselves, that there wasn't any reason to get together since the board had no apparent responsibilities. "Yet they needed to be their own

have a three-branch government you can't have one branch under the control of another branch."

Judicial Board proceeded to rule the amendment unconstitutional and consequently forced the reinstatement of Jason Sandidge to the position of Chief Justice. By reasserting its power, Judicial Board saved the position of Chief Justice and even more importantly, its relevancy in student government.

"I think in student government there is a tendency to just get the job done not necessarily paying attention to statutes and the regulations that are laid out in the ASNNC Code and Constitution," Chief Justice Jason Sandidge said. "And now, what we make sure is that government is run by the book. I think precedent is a very very important thing in student government, and when you start setting precedents like, 'Let's just get it done,' what you eventually have is a breakdown of real government because government is law."

"It is very easy for a well-intentioned individual in an official position to do something that is harmful," Roemhildt said. "However, if you have legislative and executive branches to represent the general welfare of the student body, then there needs to be a branch to make sure that contract is honored."

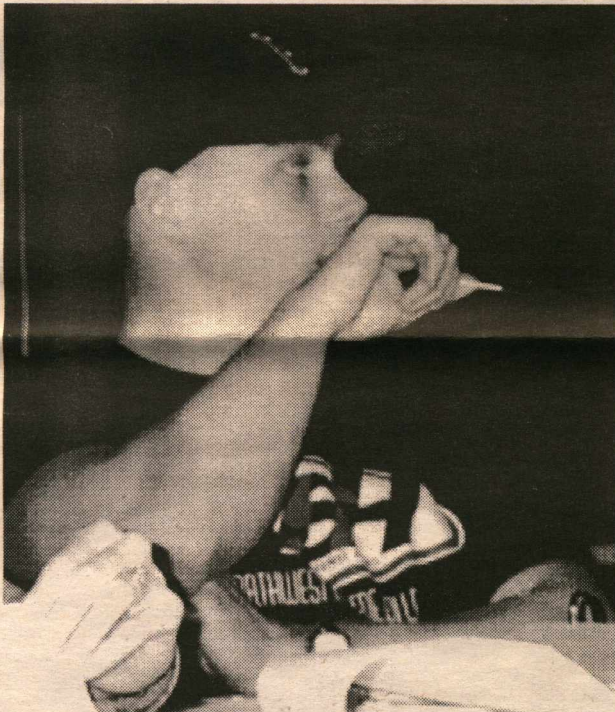
Jud Board has recommitted itself to making rulings on concerns in student government brought to them by students. While some have charged that Jud Board's actions are a hindrance to student government, the members of Jud Board think otherwise.

"I've tried real hard not to come off as a policeman or an antagonist for Senate, but rather as someone who is concerned about the Constitution and who is interested in it being the foundation by which they make their decisions," Sandidge said. "Even though this is student government and isn't about life or death issues, certainly there is a monetary reality of ASNNC. There is a lot of money that goes in and out of Senate's hands. Students pay their fees every term, I think that they have the right to know that their money is being spent responsibly."

Sandidge believes that much of the criticism of Jud Board comes out of a confusion about what Jud Board is. "The nature of the Judicial Board is a body that hears grievances that are brought before them. So then, by our very nature we are more reactive than proactive. We only hear cases, we don't make cases."

Some responsibilities of Judicial Board are: ruling on the constitutionality of acts in all areas of student government, approve all organizations for club status, hear appeals to waive the requirements of running for office, hear appeals on dorm fines if proper procedure for the fine was not followed. If you have a concern that you believe Judicial Board may have jurisdiction to handle, but are unsure, contact Chief Justice Sandidge.

By D. ANDREW ZIRSCHKY
Managing Editor



Chief Justice Jason Sandidge and Jud Board are renewing the role of the judicial branch in ASNNC (Frahm).

"...there needs to be a branch to make sure the contract with students is honored."

~Dave Roemhildt

eyes and ears in Senate and Executive Council and let people know that they are there for appeals," Roemhildt said. "Jud Board failed to see that what they were doing was necessary, and it took a couple of big things to make them realize how far things had drifted."

According to Roemhildt, one of those things was the ousting of the Chief Justice last spring. Although the position has since been reinstated, the amendment approved by Senate awarded the duties of the Chief Justice to the Executive Vice President—a move, which in Jud Board's opinion, was a blatant disregard for the principles of the Constitution. When Jud Board realized that, they knew they had regained a sense of their purpose.

By making the Executive Vice President head of Jud Board, Senate awarded control of all three branches of government to whomever was in the Vice President position. As the chair of Senate, Head of Judicial Board, and a high ranking member of Executive Council, the Vice President was capable of controlling ASNNC.

"Pragmatically, there needs to be a branch to be sure that everyone plays by the rules," Roemhildt said. "If you

NNC Notepad

✓ 570 votes were cast in the elections for ASNNC Executive Council. A majority vote was needed for candidates to secure a position on the council. Run-off elections will be held Wednesday. Chris Field and Erik Quissell vie for the presidential position, Linc Loeber and Adam Watkins for the Vice, and Heather Tompkins and Brad Williamson for Social VP. Voting booths will be in the student center and Wiley. All students are encouraged to vote.

✓ ASNNC Senate met this past week to discuss how to spend a surplus of money which has accumulated since student fees were raised last fall. Senate is considering using some of the money to upgrade library services at NNC. Senate is also discussing using money to buy new equipment for the weight room.

✓ Over 620 items were collected during the ASNNC toiletries drive last week. The items were donated to a local homeless shelter.

✓ The proposed ASNNC budget for third term will be voted upon at Senate meeting Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. The grand total for third term's budget stands at \$42,804.75.



Senator Lande presents possible library expenditures. (Lindley)

✓ The first draft of the entire Accreditation Report has been printed and is available for review by students, staff, and faculty.

Two copies are on reserve in the library. Brent Peterson, a member of the Accreditation Steering Committee, also has a copy. The committee especially invites students to read it and send suggestions to Brent Peterson or to Dr. Lynn Neil (editor of the report).

COMPILED BY
TIM SCHLACK
CAMPUS EDITOR

Jazz Band will play the blues



Tim Thorpe and Karl Ganske prepare for Friday's jazz concert.

"It don't mean a thing, if it ain't got that swing" is exactly what jazz enthusiasts will be humming in anticipation of this term's jazz concert.

The Northwest Nazarene College Jazz Band will be presenting its annual Jazz concert on Friday March 1st and Saturday the 2nd at 8:00 p.m. in the Science Lecture Hall.

This year the band will be directed by Nampa High School band director Tom Stone.

Stone is known throughout the state as an outstanding music educator and premier jazz band instructor. Mr. Stone has more awards and first

place trophies in jazz band competition than any other music educator in the state of Idaho.

Featured trombonists will be Stone and NNC's George Turner. Selections from various composers and arrangers including Gershwin, Glenn Miller, Count Basie, and Dizzie Gillespie will be performed. Styles will vary from swing and Latin to ballad.

Tickets are only two dollars and will be available through the music department and at the door both evenings. The evenings promise to be exciting.

Forensics brings home honors

"Competing was exhausting, but it was worth it" ~ Missy Rasmussen

The NNC forensics team competed successfully at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington February 22-24. Competition was tough, as over 350 students participated in the tournament, representing twenty-eight schools throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and California.

Nine NNC students participated, coached by Professor Marilyn Thompson and Dr. Dennis Waller. The students earned ten awards. In addition, Thompson earned the Northwest Judge Educator Award.

This competition was the seventh and final regular tournament of the season. Students who have earned enough "legs" toward the regional tournament will compete in Coeur d'Alene, March 15-17.

"We did very well as a group," commented Waller. He was pleased with the performances this weekend and felt the season as a whole has been successful. "It's been statistically one of our best years yet in terms of winning awards," noted Waller.

Duo interpretation, one category of the tournament, is like a two-person play. The speakers interact with each other, but maintain an off-stage focus so they do not actually look at each other during the performance. Jason Alvis and Brooke Ferdinand placed first in this event. Shannon Donovan and

Jennifer Sipp earned fifth place.

Donivan also earned fifth place in extemporaneous speaking. Speakers in this event draw a topic and are given thirty minutes to prepare their speeches using magazines and other

materials they bring to the tournament. Jennifer Sipp earned fifth place in extemporaneous speaking. Speakers in this event draw a topic and are given thirty minutes to prepare their speeches using magazines and other

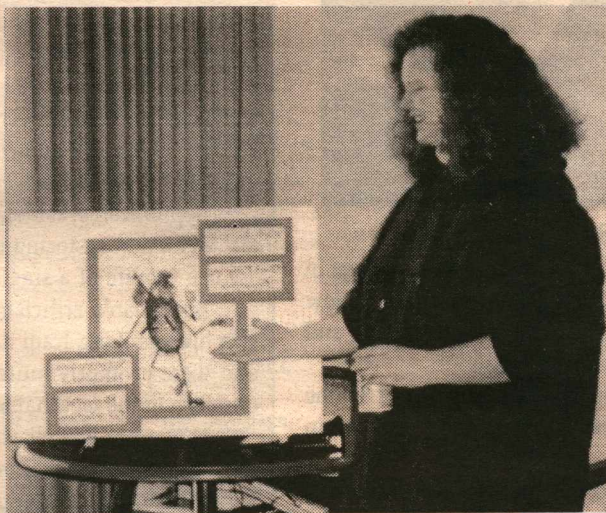
ability it allows the speakers to express an idea through a careful choice of selections rather than relying heavily on the author's intentions. Helen Warriner received fourth place in poetry interpretation. Like other interpretive events, this one addresses topics of social significance. Selections may be read, and the primary goal is to add meaning through interpretive style.

In Parliamentary debate, Alvis and Watkins earned third place in the novice division. This style of debate, patterned after the British Parliamentary system, is more extemporaneous than other types. Rather than being assigned a topic at the beginning of the season, these teams receive a topic and position fifteen minutes before presentation. Watkins also received the eighth place speaker award.

Finally, the team of Brian Westcott, Marjorie Poff, Sipp, and Rasmussen were awarded first place in reader's theater with their selection, called *Geography*. This event is not available at all tournaments, and it was the first time this team has performed in competition.

"It went really well," said Sipp of the tournament. "Everybody did a really good job and it was a lot of fun."

By DEBI CARTER
STAFF WRITER



Jennifer Sipp polishes her presentation.

materials they bring to the tournament.

Dramatic interpretation may be either a serious or a humorous presentation of another's work. Missy Rasmussen placed fourth in junior division and Adam Watkins placed fourth in the senior division.

Watkins also placed seventh in program oral interpretation. This is a combination of two or more of the three main styles of interpretation: prose, poetry, and drama. Watkins enjoys this event because of the flexi-

Auction benefits typhoon victims



"Thrifty fashions" is the first theme the Luv auction has had. Tompkins and Fitzgerald are trying to make this year's auction a little different. All the interesting wardrobe selections the to-be-bid-upon-students will be wearing will be donated by Deseret industries. The money raised from this event will go toward the Kurt Finkbeiner fund. Some of the monies raised will also go specifically towards those hit by Hurricane Angela. Pictured above from left to right is Curt Griep, Kenny Wade, Kevin Haydon, Kim Tucker, Chad Duerre, Roberta Clark, Brooke Ferdinand, Ben Potter, Monica Smith, Stephanie Hughes, Norma Thompson, Becky Gallo-way, Rickey Plata, and Kyle Buck. (Photo by Lindley).

The annual Luv Auction is taking place this Thursday night in the Marriott dining room. Six people from each class, three ladies and three men, will be participating. The Auction will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Marriott and will continue until around 8:00 p.m. Whoever wishes to come, bid or watch the auction is invited. Kevin Miller will be this year's auctioneer, helping to "auction off" some of our fellow students.

Heather Tompkins and Patrick Fitzgerald are in charge of the event and are excited to see the involvement and response they hope the event will draw. Tompkins said, "I think people will get more into it this year. We have some new ideas and a theme."

"Thrifty fashions," is the first theme the Luv Auction has had. Tompkins and Fitzgerald are trying to make it a little different this year.

It's hard to say who will be the top sellers this year. All twenty-four students will draw a sizable bid, but there are some names to watch for.

From the freshman class, Kenny Wade will be up for the bidding, as well as Ben Potter.

Sophomores have put Nicole Corbin and Alicia Phay in the limelight.

The juniors are putting Brooke Ferdinand and Chad Duerre on the block.

Among the senior representatives, Roberta Clark and Kevin Haydon will be showcased.

Tompkins urged that people disregard shyness in bidding. "They won't catch on with the first couple of people but then people will start getting into it." Last year, things really started rolling after Jami Mittelstaedt went for over two hundred dollars.

The money raised from this event will go directly toward the Kurt Finkbeiner fund and the money will go specifically towards those hit by Hurricane Angela.

By SHANNON ADAMS
STAFF WRITER

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Buchanan takes New Hampshire

Buchanan's upset victory sends Dole campaign reeling

The results of the New Hampshire primary are in, and Republican conservative commentator Pat Buchanan has won with 27 percent of the vote. Buchanan got a one percent lead over Senate Majority Leader, Bob Dole, who picked up 26 percent. Former Tennessee Governor, Lamar Alexander came in third with 23 percent.

Buchanan's campaign picked up speed after winning the Republican caucus in Alaska. He won in Louisiana and took a close second to Dole in the Iowa caucus. Last Tuesday, he upset Dole by winning in New Hampshire and he'll try to do it again tonight in the Arizona Primary.

Buchanan's position on the issues has led some to call him an extremist.

"Not only does he turn Ronald Reagan's ideas upside down, but he is turning the ideas of, in my opinion, Abraham Lincoln upside down," said former housing secretary and Republican party moderate Jack Kemp.

"I believe the ideas that I've developed and others have echoes are good for our country. They weren't told to me by pollsters. I didn't get them from some focus group. They came from the heart and mine is a new conservatism of the heart," Buchanan said last Wednesday in South Dakota at the Mount Rushmore National Memorial at a rally.

Buchanan calls for a new foreign policy that would end foreign aid and "pulls up all the trip wires laid down abroad to involve American soldiers in wars that are none of America's business." He also supports a demand requiring rich allies to pay the full cost of their own defenses.

Along with his new foreign policy, Buchanan says that when he becomes president, there will be "no more NAFTA sell outs of American workers." He will also call for no more GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) deals done solely for the benefit of Wall Street Bankers.

"In a Buchanan White House, foreign lobbyists and corporate contributors will not sit at the head of the table. I will. We're going to bring the jobs home and we're going to keep America's jobs here, and when I get into the Oval Office, we start looking out for America first," Buchanan said.

He also supports a total build up of the military. Buchanan says that he will maintain a defense system that is "First on the land, first on the seas, first in the air, and first in space."

"And I will not ask any nation's permission before I build a missile defense for the United States of America," Buchanan said.

He supports across-the-board tax cuts and an end to the bias against saving and investment in the tax code. He also calls for the down-sizing of the IRS.

As president, Buchanan wants to enact a policy of judicial reform. He supports judicial term limits, voter recall of "renegade federal jurists," and a reconfirmation of Supreme Court Justices every eight years. An eight year term limit would be placed on Federal Judge positions, and the voter

recall would also extend to the Supreme Court.

Buchanan opposed Affirmative Action and would see to its end in his presidency.

"We need to outlaw the federal classification of American citizens by race or ethnicity and end all discrimination and all preferential treatment," Buchanan said.

According to Buchanan, Affirmative Action belongs in the "same graveyard as its cousin, the Late Jim Crow." Now is the time to get rid of hyphenated Americanisms and realize that we are all one American family.

On the abortion issue, Buchanan makes a call to the American public to reverse Roe vs. Wade and persevere in the fight for life.

"The presidency must become a bully pulpit for traditional values, not gays in the military. We will keep the Republican party solidly in the Pro-Life camp, and get the U.S. government completely out of the abortion racket," Buchanan said.

His policies would also put a stop to illegal immigration.

"I will do what is necessary to defend the borders of my country even if it means putting the National Guard all along our southern frontier," Buchanan said.

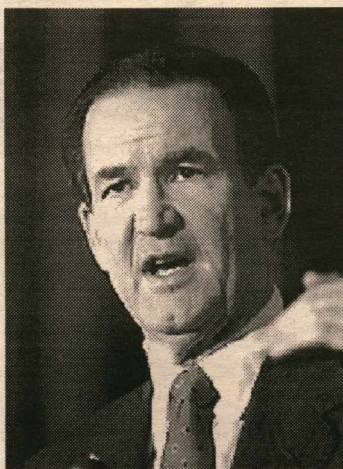
He also opposes using U.S. troops to fight battles for the United Nations.

He supports the nullification of the Brady Act, and the down-sizing of government, especially in the abolishment of cabinet departments. The duties that were assumed by those departments will return to the states, and the tax payer money that kept the departments running, to the tax payer.

More than anything right now, Buchanan is concentrating on the Arizona primary that will be held tonight. A poll taken by Arizona public television before the New Hampshire Primary indicated that Dole had 16% of the vote with Millionaire publisher Steve Forbes getting 15%. Buchanan was only able to get a mere 10% and a massive 55% of the population was undecided.

"With the large undecided vote anyone could win in Arizona, depending on the turnout," said poll director Bruce Merrill. North and South Dakota also hold primaries tonight.

By RACHEL ROEMHILDT
STAFF WRITER



Anniversary of Gulf War raises questions

Five years after the Gulf War, questions remain about the United States' role in the military operation which ejected Saddam Hussein's government from Kuwait. Hussein still has control in Iraq and many analysts believe him to be a continuing threat to surrounding Middle East countries, including Israel.

The fifth anniversary of the end of the Gulf War falls Wednesday, but retired General Colin Powell took time at a memorial service Sunday to criticize those who have said that the Gulf War claimed too many American lives.

Powell said that the Gulf War accomplished its mission to restore the government of Kuwait, and that "no amount of second-guessing or revisionism" can dim the glory of those who served in it.

Republican presidential candidate Pat Buchanan said last week that restoring the Kuwait government was not "worth the life of a single U.S. Marine."

Buchanan's criticism came near the same time that two high-ranking Iraqi defectors returned to the country and were promptly murdered—an event which renewed criticism of the fact that Saddam Hussein is still in power.

However, Powell has repeatedly emphasized that the mission of Operation Desert Storm was to liberate Kuwait and not to dethrone Hussein. He also argued Sunday that the Gulf War allowed the Middle East peace process to begin.

This week marks the fifth anniversary of both the first and the last days of the war:

• On Feb. 22, President Bush and America's Gulf War allies gave Iraq 24 hours to begin withdrawing from Kuwait, or face a final all-out attack. Iraq denounced the "shameful" U.S. ultimatum, aligning itself with a Soviet peace plan the United States had rejected.

• On Feb. 23, President Bush announced that the allied ground offensive against Iraqi forces had begun.

• On Feb. 24, in the wake of the large-scale ground assault by the U.S. and its allies, large numbers of Iraqi troops surrendered.

• On Feb. 25, Twenty-eight Americans were killed when an Iraqi Scud missile hit a U.S. barracks in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

• On Feb 26, Kuwaiti resistance leaders declared themselves in control of their capital, following nearly seven months of Iraqi occupation. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein announced on Baghdad Radio that he had ordered his forces to withdraw from Kuwait.

• On Feb. 27, President Bush declared that "Kuwait is liberated, Iraq's army is defeated," and announced that the allies would suspend combat operations at midnight. In all, more than 400 Americans died in the conflict.

By D. ANDREW ZIRSCHKY
MANAGING EDITOR

Warren Moon acquitted

After deliberating for only twenty-seven minutes, a jury of four women and two men decided last Thursday that Warren Moon was not guilty of battery.

The 39-year-old Minnesota Vikings quarterback was accused of beating his wife, Felicia Moon, in a fight last July 18 that stemmed from Mrs. Moon's credit card use. The fight, which was reported to the police by Moon's son, ended with Mrs. Moon suffering several bruises and scratches and Warren Moon landing in court. However, Mrs. Moon later said that she started the fight and asked that charges not be filed against her husband. She also threatened not to testify in the trial, but under a controversial new Texas law, she was forced to take the witness stand.

Moon, who spent ten years of his pro football career playing for the Houston Oilers, admitted that he was probably responsible for the scratches and bruises that his wife had, but said that he was trying to calm her, not hurt her.

"I love my wife now just as much as when I first met her when I was 16," Moon said in a statement to the jury.

By RYAN SUTZMAN
STAFF WRITER

Week in Review

"One of the problems with the V-chip is you'll also need an L-chip for language, an S-chip for sex and, in my house, a B-chip for Buchanan."

--Hollywood writer/
director Lionel Chetwynd

Christian nudists meet

The first Christian Nude Conference took place last weekend. A group of forty Christian nudists gathered at the Whispering Pines resort to, as Carol Love, an owner of the resort said, "Glorify the name of Christ."

Nude song leaders led the "Christian karaoke" and both nude and partially clothed pastors distributed communion to the similarly undressed members of this religious naturistic group.

The groups belief in the need for nudity stems from the assumption that man's fall from grace was not due to his nudity. Since we are created in God's image, it brings us closer to God if we are nude.

"The Bible does say God created man in his image, and I think his image reflects the physical aspect of life. I think as Christians, the redeemed, the new creation, [we] should be able to recapture some of that original goodness," said John Kundert, editor of the Fig Leaf Forum, a newsletter for Christian nudists.

By RACHEL ROEMHILDT
STAFF WRITER

Cuban military shoots down private US planes

Cuban MIG fighter planes shot down two small planes off the coast of Havana on Saturday. The planes belonged to the group called Brothers of the Rescue. The Brothers of the Rescue are a group of Cuban exiles that flew airplanes over the Florida Straits, looking for rafters who were trying to get to America.

A small number of passengers aboard a cruise ship, Majesty of the Seas, a Royal Caribbean vessel, witnessed the attack.

"A missile hit the airplane and just blew it to pieces. There was hardly any wreckage, any debris, just boom -- and it was gone in a puff of smoke," passenger Rusty Matchett said.

U.S. Coast Guard and Navy searched international waters for the four people who were on board the planes. There was no sign of survivors or debris.

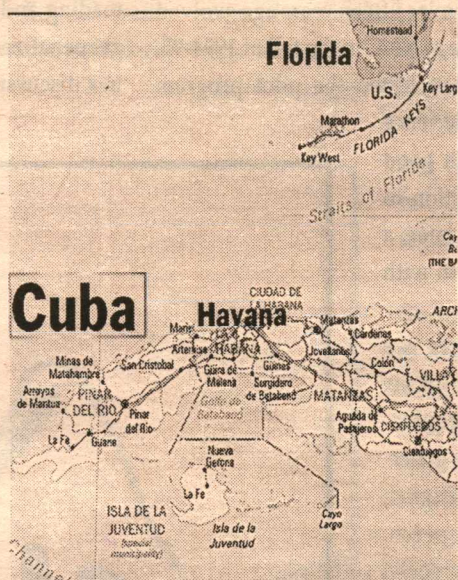
"I condemn this action in the strongest possible terms," Clinton said. He also demanded a quick explanation from Cuba. There was no mention of the incident in the Cuban press.

A third plane belonging to the Brothers of the Rescue group was not hit and returned unharmed to Miami.

The pilot of the surviving plane, Jose Basulto, said that the attack was "something very tragic, that we have dreaded for a long time. I feel we lost our first pilots." He also commented that the destruction of the aircraft was "a political hit by the Castro government against the Brothers to the Rescue."

There is increasing evidence to support this claim. A member of the group who was a suspected Cuban spy returned to Cuba the day before the planes were shot down. Juan Pable Roque, a former Cuban fighter pilot, was a prominent member of the Cuban exile community in Miami. He wrote a book entitled *Defector* about his experiences, which included pictures of him with Castro's brother and several members of Congress.

Even if Roque isn't a spy, his disappearance is still shrouded in mystery. His tearful wife said that Roque left without telling where he was going. Roque reportedly told some of his friends that he was going on a fishing trip. His disappearance could very easily be connected with the destruction of the planes. "He wasn't a friend of mine, although I knew him, but one day after he disappeared, two of my closest friends, Carlos Casta and Miguel de la Pena, were blown out of the sky" said Steve Walton, a member



of the Brothers.

If Roque turns out to be a spy, it would cause the entire Cuban exile community, including his family, to despise him. One family member said that he didn't know what happened to Roque, but "if he betrayed us, he is our enemy."

There is also a question of whether the three planes had violated Cuban air space. "We were all in international waters," Basulto said. "I strongly believe that Cuban MIGs downed two Brothers to the Rescue aircraft in international waters."

Tapes of the pilot's conversations with aviation authorities from Cuba show that the planes were never closer than 15 miles from the Cuban coast.

An anonymous Pentagon official noted however that the planes were on their way to Cuba to land in order to pick up people.

White House officials have issued a timeline of events which show the plane piloted by Basulto had intruded three miles into Cuban air space two minutes before the attack.

Royal Caribbean Cruises circulated a statement that their vessel was located about 25 nautical miles off the coast of Cuba.

"The officer of the watch on the vessel's bridge observed a small explosion followed by burning material falling from an estimated altitude of 500 to 1,000 feet," a spokesman said. "Shortly thereafter, a second small plane, on a northerly course, was downed by a Cuban fighter jet."

By CHRIS BARRET
STAFF WRITER

Nampa warehouse burns to ground

For those of you who were curious, the thick column of black smoke that you saw last Monday was created by a fire at the Western Idaho Potato Processing Co. Icehouse on First Street in downtown Nampa.

The fire started at about 1:30 Monday afternoon and burned through the night. The fire appeared to be under control Tuesday morning, but the wall facing the railroad track ignited at about 8:30 a.m. and threatened some flammable rail cars.

Firefighters tried for about an hour to put out the blaze, but they were forced to let the building burn after flames threatened firefighters on the roof. "We couldn't stop it. The roof was shaking from all the heat and pressure," said Nampa firefighter Todd Banta in an interview with the Idaho Statesman. "We said 'We're outta here.'"

Using several fire trucks from five area fire departments, the firefighters then focused on keeping the fire from spreading.

The cause of the blaze unknown. Workers were using a cutting torch to remove pipe from the building Monday morning, but firefighters are investigating a report of juveniles running from the scene shortly after the fire started. Electrical problems caused by bare wires may have also started the blaze.

The 58,000 square foot building, has been declared a total loss. Stone Lumber managed to salvage \$30,000 worth of lumber and asphalt from the building with the help of several other nearby businesses

By DAVID STILLMAN
OFF-CAMPUS EDITOR

CRUSADER COMMENTARY

By Dave Roemhildt

After Alaska's Republican straw poll, I considered writing a commentary to the affect of, "Now these are some folks who are really out of touch." Alaskans chose Pat Buchanan as their presidential nominee with 33 percent of the state's Republican vote. Then came Louisiana... and Iowa... and New Hampshire. I guess I took the right wing conservatives too lightly. I guess I thought that Americans (especially Republicans) would be smarter than to vote for a fringe candidate like Buchanan. I was wrong.

For some of the basic points to Buchanan's platform, read the article on the New Hampshire Primary in this issue of the *Crusader*. With this information in mind we can see why he is having so much success in his campaign.

First, Buchanan is an outsider. In a national mood against government and business as usual, who appears more attractive than the candidate who hasn't been in government doing the usual business? Buchanan is seen by many Americans as more credible because his resume is not sullied by having held public office.

Secondly, he has a strong message. It is hard to deny that Buchanan has the most concise and clear-cut platform of any of the leading contenders. His platform is three-pronged.

- 1) He speaks to the religious right with his outspoken stance against abortion and homosexuality.
- 2) He speaks to the working families who feel that they are being stripped and robbed by big government, multi-national corporations and international trade agreements with his doctrine of "America first."
- 3) He speaks to the old-fashioned isolationists who want to stop foreign aid, bring home American troops abroad (especially those under UN and NATO control) and secure the borders against illegal immigration. In each of these areas, Buchanan stands for something and most people know what it is. How many of the other candidates can make a boast like that?

Third, Buchanan is a good messenger for his message. He has worked as a speech writer for several Republican presidents and made his mark on CNN's *Crossfire* program. He knows how to turn a phrase and convincingly argue a point. He can also hold his own in front of a podium, unlike many of the other Republican contenders. In short, he has a certain magnetism that attracts people.

It boils down to this; Pat Buchanan has a consistency in his platform and it addresses the concerns that many Americans find paramount. Abortion and homosexuality. Big government and multi-national corporations. American boys abroad and illegal immigration. Buchanan is like a doctor who can make a perfect diagnosis on the first visit. Voters hear his message and say, "This guy knows what is wrong with the system." Buchanan is masterful in analyzing what is wrong. The question remains, how is the doctor at filling prescriptions?

The anti-abortion issue has garnered Buchanan, a Roman Catholic, the support of many Catholics and evangelical Christians. It has also, however, thrown him out

of the mainstream of the Republican party, which decided in 1992 to back-burner major social issues. It also puts him at odds with numerous court decisions in favor of legalized abortions and considerable popular acceptance of abortion in extenuating circumstances, such as rape and incest, which Buchanan opposes.

In economic issues, Buchanan is considered unorthodox and runs against the mainstream Republican notion of free trade and free market business expansion. Rudiger Dornbusch, economics professor at M.I.T. says, "The protectionism that Buchanan espouses is just totally out of favor with virtually every part of the profession except the lunatic fringe." Stanford University professor Paul Krugman adds, "In the case of what Buchanan favors, we're outside the realm of things that even make sense." Economists insist that the jobs generally leaving the U.S. for foreign labor are not the kind of jobs that are very valuable to the American economy, such as stitching shirts or assembling televisions. They see skill-intensive jobs, such as in technology fields, as being the greatest contributor to a vital and healthy economy. Economists also counter the idea that raising tariffs will help Americans. They speculate that tariffs would only drive up the price of domestically produced products as well.

In international issues, Buchanan is often labeled isolationist and occasionally racist. His insistence on US troops not serving under foreign commanders has wide public support, but his idea of cutting foreign aid has the State Department and many countries worried. The State Department has said that such a move would seriously endanger international peace and security and could potentially doom peace negotiations in the middle-east and the former Yugoslavia. Buchanan's militant position against illegal immigration also has numerous minority groups worried, as increased attacks against illegal immigrants may also precipitate increased attacks on legal immigration. There is considerable evidence to support this view.

An NBC exit poll listed the three major similarities among the New Hampshire voters who voted for Buchanan as

- 1) they were worried about the economy,
- 2) they thought Buchanan would back up what he said
- 3) they usually had no education after high school.

This points to the real magic of Pat Buchanan's campaign. He is a populist, through and through. Buchanan has broken ranks with the republican party in the issues of trade and the economy, as well as abortion and homosexuality. He draws support from grass roots religious groups, reactionary conservatives, and normal Americans who feel like they are being short changed by a wealthy and corrupt establishment, whether governmental or corporate. He has utilized the national uneasiness over the economy, trade and social issues to gather a following of Americans that appear to be poorly educated on the complexities of America's problems and the frailties of Buchanan's solutions.

FRESHMAN

The Freshman Honors Core: Success or Failure?

Western Intellectual Traditions. The name sounds prestigious. What began as an idea over fifteen years ago evolved into the Freshman Honors Core at NNC in the fall of 1994-95. Twenty-two incoming freshman tested the pilot program and came away from their experience with an array of feelings, both good and bad, about this new addition to the curriculum. Now, a year later, a new series of reactions are born with a new group of participants.

The Freshman Honors Core is a three-term sequence made up of six credit courses. It fulfills the equivalent of 24 credits of alternative general education requirements in English composition, fundamentals of speech, and four credits each in history, social science, philosophy, and literature. Emphasis is placed heavily on reading primary sources, writing papers (approximately 4 per term), and discussing ideas.

The program is completely different each term, primarily because of its changing leadership. Two professors from different disciplines team teach each term. The first term, centering on Greek, Roman and Early Christian Eras, is taught by Professor Ed Crawford (philosophy) and Dr. Steve Shaw (political science). The Renaissance and Reformation is the focus of term two and is led by Dr. Gaymon Bennett (literature) and Dr. Raymond Cooke (history); the third term addresses the Age of Revolution and will be taught by Dr. Mike Lodahl (theology) and Dr. Karl Martin (literature).

In the spring of '95, honors applications were sent to 396 freshman who applied to NNC and met the criteria of GPA, class standing, and ACT scores. Only forty returned the detailed application which included handwritten essays and two teacher recommendations. Twenty-seven students were then accepted into the '95-'96 program. Halfway through the term, that number fell to twenty-six and by the beginning of second term, only seventeen remained. Why did the numbers fall so dramatically (a loss of 37 percent of the participants) in such a short time?

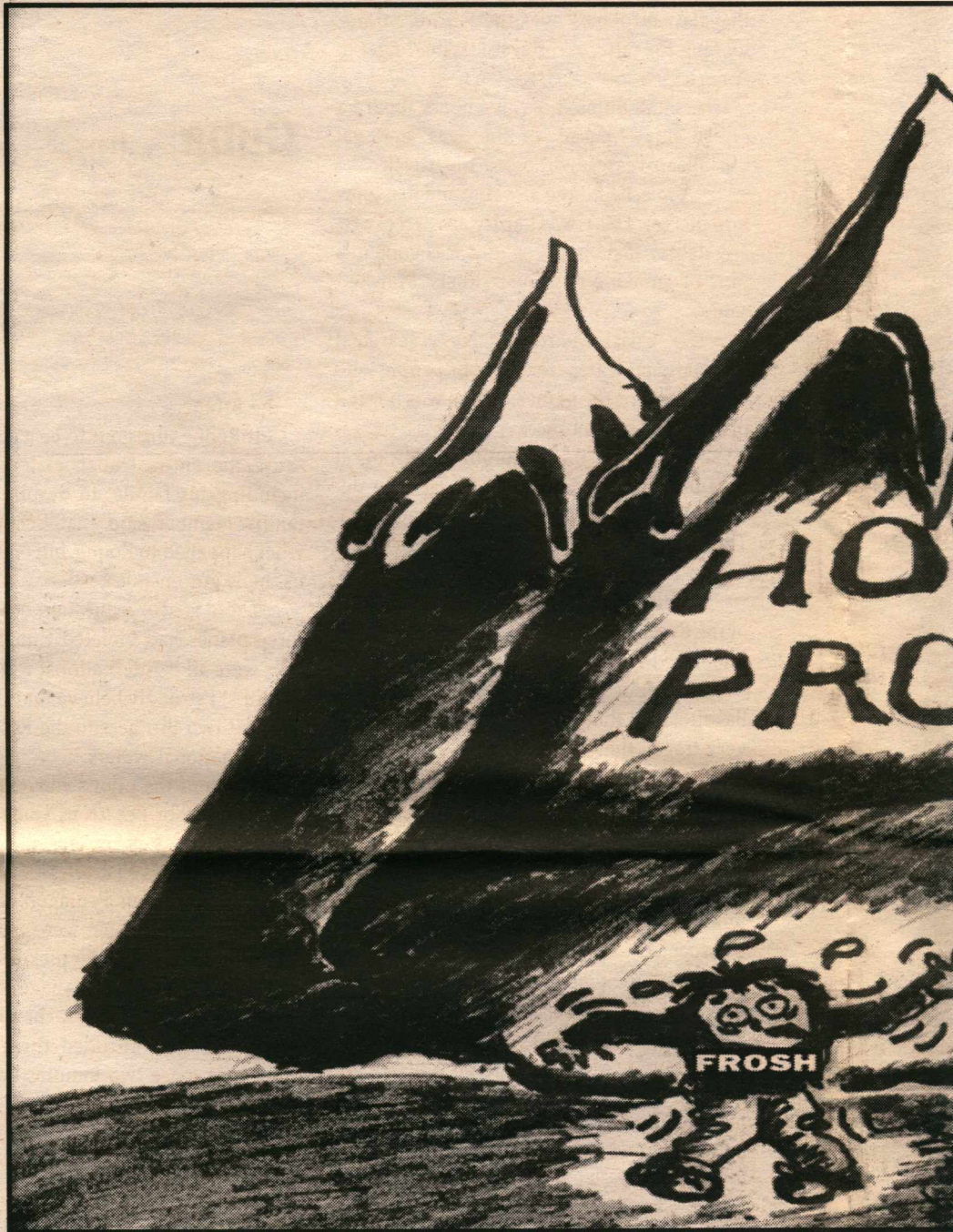
Dr. Ron Ponsford, the head of the psychology department, is instrumental in the honors selection process and routinely gathers information and statistics concerning the program.

"For some students, this program simply wasn't the thing for them. It doesn't mean that they aren't smart, many just couldn't handle the independence. This is a course designed for people who are aggressively inquisitive and curious," remarked Ponsford.

The majority of students who were accepted to the first year of the program were initially interested in the idea because of previous involvement in honors or AP courses in high school. They wanted to be challenged. Or at least this is what they claimed. So what changes their responses in the

long run?

Debbie Bartlow, a current participant, claims that it was difficult to adjust to the reading and discussion format. "It's very easy to slack off. Many don't do the assigned reading and with the way the program is set up, they never get penalized for it. It is easy to talk your way around things in a discussion setting. There is a difference between saying



you want to learn and actually putting forth the effort that it requires."

Dr. Karl Martin, a third term honors professor, warns that high achievement in high school does not necessarily mean that someone will enjoy the program. "It's not just high achievement. It's a certain kind of intellectual activity which is very interdisciplinary and writing based. This involves not tests, but verbal participation in class. It's hard to know if those who dropped the class were overly concerned about grades and expected an A or B because it was an honors class, or simply had a limited perspective on judging their own achievement in college from lack of experience."

"For some students, this program simply wasn't the thing for them." ~ Dr. Ron Ponsford

A key reason for the honors dropout rate is that the grading system is entirely subjective and very demanding. Ponsford believes that grade panic hit many during the first term. "We had a meeting with the students and their parents during registration in which we explained that being in the honors program doesn't mean that you get A's. It's highly competitive. But what happens in a meeting like that is everyone looks around and thinks, 'Boy, that other guy's in trouble.' It is very hard to personalize something like that."

There were very few A's given last term. In fact, the

average GPA of the class first term was only 3.0. This seems very low and it worried many Presidential Scholars who needed to maintain a 3.7 to keep their scholarship. Because the course is worth six credits, if an honors student taking 18 credits gets all A's and a C+ in Western Intellectual Traditions, their GPA would be 3.36, disabling them from their full Presidential Scholarship.

how much effort I put into it, it was never good enough. I had never been in a situation like this before. But in retrospect, it did improve my writing skills and taught me a lot about reasoning, rational, and overall structure. It's easy for them (the professors) to forget that the people in the class are new freshmen. The demands are so different from high school to college honors classes."

Martin recognized the grade issue and responded, "I don't grade my honors classes any different than I do my regular literature classes. I begin with the assumption that an essay that meets the requirements is average work. I try to hold that line so I can somehow reward those who exceed the expectations. That line is raised slightly in my honors class but I try to keep in mind what my students in other classes are doing."

Does the honors program give anything back to NNC? Martin thinks so. "Some people see it as a recruiting tool. Our college can now compete with other colleges in terms of a higher academic demand. To the students, it gives the opportunity to deal with subjects from a range of disciplines. And to the general NNC community, the participants coming from an honors background enrich existing programs and they raise the level of classroom discussion."

Another focus of the Western Traditions was to enhance the professors involved. However, according to Ponsford, the faculty isn't "beating down the doors" to teach the program. "The Freshman Honors takes them out of a course in their own department. It is also rather threatening to teach in front of another professor and do all of the necessary research."

So how do you judge the success or failure of a program in its infancy? Many of the students who have dropped the program chose not to comment on their reasons for leaving, making it impossible to come to any solid answers as to what needs to be improved. Dr. Ponsford

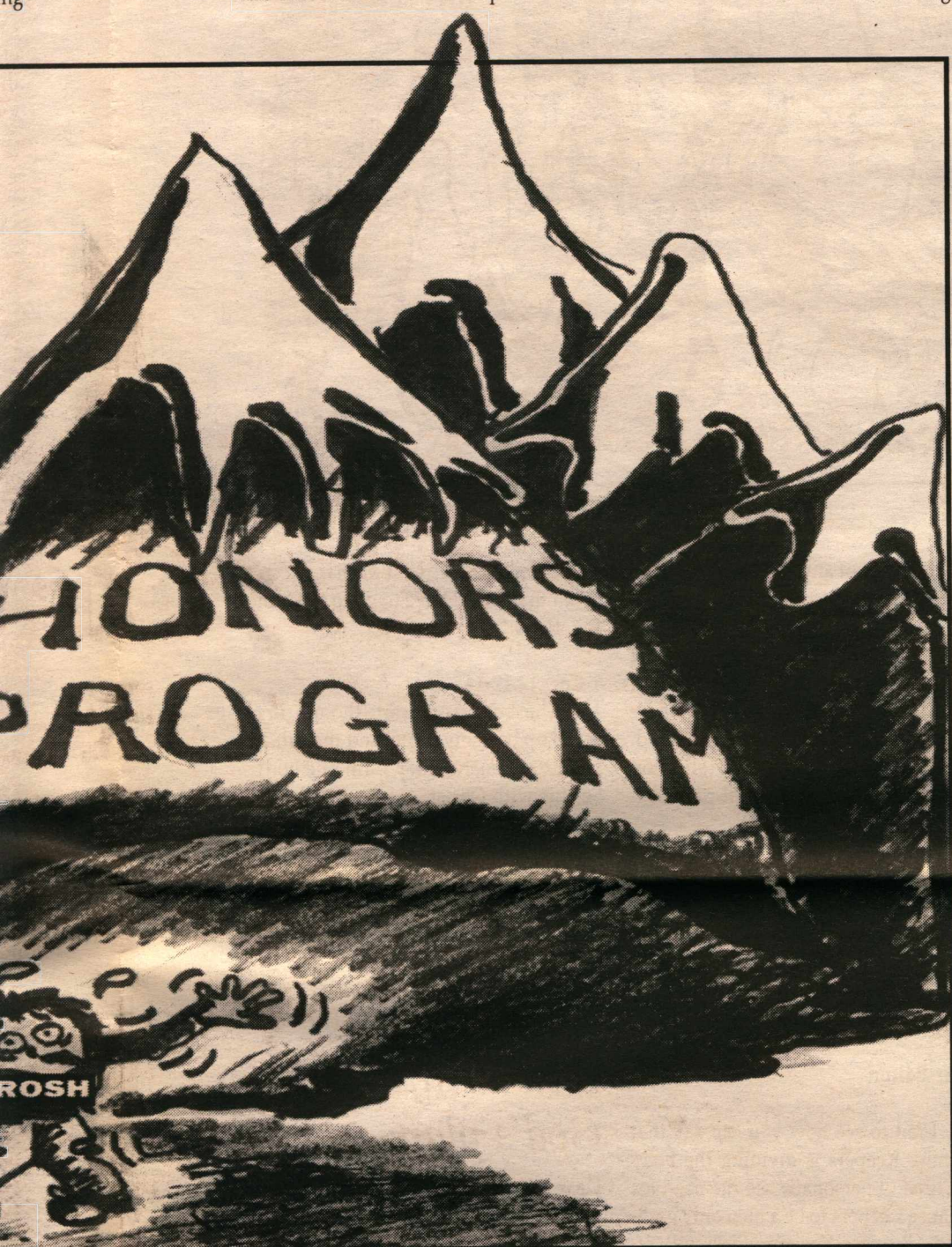
was the first to admit, "We're just feeling our way along. This one needs to be adjusted, no questions." Dr. Martin feels that the first step needs to take place in the admissions process and applicants need to be better informed of the nature of

the course. "There needs to be better communication early into the term between the students and faculty to help them decide, with good information, whether or not they should remain in the class."

Martin concluded, "I want my students to take with them a level of confidence that they can read

the works of some of the greatest intellectual figures in western civilization and truly engage in a prosperous conversation with them. Even though at age nineteen they may feel a bit inhibited by their works, they can still have a conversation with some of the greatest thinkers of all time. This confidence is the gift that I want to give to my students."

BY JENNIFER COLES
STAFF WRITER



However, according to Ponsford, the average GPA for freshmen who qualified for the honors program but chose not to participate was 3.1 in their humanities-type classes. This is only a 0.1 difference--proving that being in the class doesn't statistically alter your grade point that dramatically.

Ponsford's studies also show that the average honors student is taking more credits per term than the comparable group. Honors students have 16.9 credits a term, which is 2.2 credits more than the average freshman cohort load of 14.7.

"Our assumption is in starting out that when you take advanced students they will adapt to the academic demands of the series. The best students will adapt the easiest. Possibly we have overestimated how much adaptation that is... We had students complaining in their evaluations that we're treating them like they're young scholars or something. They're exactly right," Ponsford said.

Does the program expect too much? Sophomore Erika McCray has mixed reactions when she looks back to her involvement in Western Intellectual Traditions last year. "When you're in the class you feel like it's not really worthwhile. They don't tell you enough about what to expect. I never felt like I could truly succeed in that class. No matter

Freshman Honors Core: Facts on File

☒ The average GPA of students in the Honors Core is 3.0.

☒ The average GPA of those who qualified but didn't apply for the Honors Core is 3.1 (in humanities-type classes).

☒ The average credit load of students in the Honors Core is 16.9.

☒ The average load of their peers is 14.7.

☒ Over 1,000 students applied to NNC for the '95-'96 school year.

☒ 38% of the 1,000 who applied ended up coming.

☒ 396 freshmen who applied for admission to NNC qualified for the Freshmen Honors Core and were sent applications.

☒ 40 returned completed applications.

☒ 27 were accepted into the Honors Core.

☒ Only 17 remain at present, which is a 37% drop between first and second term.

Statistics gathered from Dr. Ron Ponsford and Terry Blom.

STAFF EDITORIALS

Senior Slick probably needed to die anyway

It's been the plight of NNC variety shows (and Senior Slick in particular) for several years. There just simply are not enough decent acts to fill the show. Students have become accustomed to lamenting the sad display of talent that the variety shows offer term after term. However, this year the senior class escaped the predicament. "It was canceled due to lack of participation, not organization," a senior class official told us. Lack of student interest struck hard this time.

The tendency might be to believe that variety shows have simply lost their gleam with students, but we don't think that's the problem. Students haven't lost *all* interest in variety shows, they have simply reached the saturation point as they do with any activity.

Just because something draws a large crowd doesn't mean that we have to beat the idea to death year after year, term after term. Students aren't tired of variety shows — they're tired of disconnected NNC traditions, and Senior Slick was one of those. It was a self-perpetuating activity that just had to happen every year because it always had. Students had no ownership, and students don't like that.

Further, an activity which requires major student involvement just a week before major papers are due, as well as on a weekend when tow groups are off-campus, demonstrates bad timing, to say the least.

Student activities need to be fresh and lively; adding themes to the same old traditions helps, but it isn't the same as coming up with your own ideas. Senior Slick needs to die and students need to replace it with either a new tradition, or better yet — just a fun and fresh idea with no mandate for it to happen again next year.

All this money, and nobody knows what to do with it

Don't say we didn't tell you so. Just over a year ago we warned you that the proposal out of Senate to raise student fees was reached prematurely. We said that until Senate could provide a detailed plan of what they wanted to do with the extra \$10 per head, per term, that students should reject the proposal.

Needless to say, we received heated criticism on our stance and were told that we were hindering the progress of student government. All we wanted to know was what Senate wanted to do with the extra money.

Senate asked for money when they had no definite plans to spend it. So you shouldn't be surprised to learn that after two terms of collecting higher student fees Senate had to sit down last week and figure out what they should do with all your extra money that has been piling up. There's no telling how much of your money Senate has sitting around, but the budget statement this week showed a balance of over \$10,000 with only two weeks to go in the term. (You should note that \$5000 is the required buffer amount for the account.) And money is expected to continue piling up this next term.

In addition, the vague ideas which wooed students to vote for the increase a year ago have fallen by the wayside. What happened to "fun activities for every weekend of the term"? What happened to "on-campus childcare and a lunch room for commuter students"? What happened to more clubs? All of these were good ideas proposed by then-President Lance Nelson—good ideas which required money but for which no plans were made prior to asking for more money. In fact, few plans have been made since.

Senate should have researched the costs of their ideas and developed plans to implement them, then they should have requested the money they needed. Instead, they arbitrarily set the amount of the fee increase and now their plans are controlled by the money they have left.

Senate violated the trust of students by asking for money they didn't know how to spend; further, having to work to come up with ways to spend it now is more of an insult than the first.

STAFF INFECTION

Stillman predicts that the Antichrist will be born in California this summer ... Overheard: "Probably the only two states Buchanan could carry are New Hampshire and Idaho" ... Oh my, Schlack shared a real thought: "maybe the song 'What if God was one of us' symbolizes the fact that the Catholic Church still has a hold on Western civilization" ... He listens too much to the Spirit of Heresy, though.

Brainstorming at the Constitutional Convention...



LETTERS

Platform rests upon false rumor

Maybe it's the nature of the political process, maybe it's the nature of politicians. Monday's chapel provided what one would hope was simply a case of a candidate presenting a platform based on honest misinformation and not a conscious attempt to gain support by deliberate misrepresentation.

ASNNC Presidential candidate Chris Field has a major lesson to learn in politics when it comes to checking facts before basing one of his three platform points on what can at best be considered an unfounded rumor. His reference to a faculty proposal to move up freshman dorm hours, add a curfew for sophomores, and implement a sign-out policy for juniors and seniors drew an immediate and justifiably shocked reaction from the student body.

Unfortunately for Chris, no such faculty proposal ever existed. I attended the faculty meeting where, granted, several inquiries were made to Dr. Hills and Karen Pearson concerning dorm hours and a quiet time policy. It seems that some freshman dormitory residents were using a noisy living situation as a reason for poor academic performance and sleeping in class. The questions were answered and no faculty sponsored policy was ever proposed. However, it did seem to create a credible basis for a juicy rumor on which candidate Field successfully capitalized in his campaign speech. His reference to a meeting between a faculty member and Karen Pearson regarding a lights out policy to be enforced by RD's and RA's is completely unfounded. My simple phone call to Karen revealed that she had never been approached by a faculty representative... or candidate Field concerning this issue. In fairness, I tried unsuccessfully to reach Chris by phone before the Crusader deadline to hear his side of the story.

Before tossing around inflammatory and divisive issues, any candidate or NNC community member would be well advised to carefully check sources. The lesson learned here can and should be applied to anyone hearing

only one side of any issue. It is only by making the effort to be fully informed that one can be intelligently pass judgment on an issue. One would hope that Chris' intent was not to deceive and this is merely an isolated incident where the facts were not completely checked. The alternative is not a true reflection of our Christian educational process.

--Darlene Brasch
NNC Faculty Member

PK does not weaken the body

Dear Editor:

I fail to see how you can say that Promise Keepers is dividing the body of Christ. I personally see the need for Promise Keepers to be a men only gathering. Promise Keepers deals with issues that hit right at the heart of the man. The fact is, men and women are different, we do not think the same. Promise Keepers talks to men through illustrations dealing with personal experiences of other men in a language that men can identify with. Men are brought together through Promise Keepers and encouraged to examine their heart.

Because there are only men at the conference it allows men to put away any protective shell that might interfere with the issues of the heart. Let's face it, most men do not want to appear weak in front of women. Now I hope that you don't think that I feel men should keep their feelings from their wives, but that is what society has taught men. Sometimes it takes an event like Promise Keepers to show the men how to be open with their wife and children. Men who are at these conferences deal with the failures in their past and by seeing other men that are doing the same thing they gain strength and hope.

I fail to see how this can in any way weaken the body of Christ! Men and women need to have some things that are their own. Many churches have men's and women's retreats. PK is no different. Men and women are all part

of the Body of Christ. But that doesn't mean that we all have to go to the same functions.

1 Cor. 12:12-14

12 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.

13 For we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

14 Now the body is not made up of one part but many. (NIV)

--Lew House

Don't clutter up God's plan

Dear Editor:

My father and I recently had a conversation regarding your editorial on the admission of women to Promise Keepers. The reasons you give for excluding women are irrelevant to the goal of the organization, which as you stated, is to cause world revival through the family. Even unbelievers recognize that the destruction of the family unit is resulting in the destruction of our society. How do we then strengthen the family?

Ephesians 5 reveals to us the successful elements of strong families. It describes the man (husband) as the head of the family and uses Christ as the model for his role. Based on this, it would seem reasonable that the man must take a spiritual leadership role in order to preserve the family structure.

It would seem that any attempt to help a man do this is of great value. According to God, this is not the woman's role (she has other very important functions), so it simply makes sense to focus on the man, with the hope that he will indeed lead his family spiritually and cause revival to begin. This gathering of thousands of men at Promise Keepers is a wonderful opportunity for men to take a step in carrying out God's wishes for them. Let's not clutter up God's plan.

--Doug and Josh Williams

REVIEWS

El Charro will satisfy the Mexican enthusiast

When I opened the door to *El Charro*, I immediately knew that I had found a restaurant that served authentic Mexican food. The baby blue building with pink trim had not prepared me for such a sensation; however, once I stepped inside, the distinct grease and spice aroma that can only be created through the process of cooking true Mexican food overwhelmed my nostrils: this was the pleasant relief from Marriott that my body had been craving.

After finding a table, I was quickly met with a basket of homemade tortilla chips and salsa (made good, chunky, and hot) accompanied by a waiter who gave us menus and told us to take our time.

Upon seeing the menus, I was surprised, to say the least. There were 40, that's right, forty combination dinners that ran from \$3 to \$8. Included in the combos was everything from the familiar tacos, burritos, fried beans, and enchiladas to the less common chili verde, and items I had never heard of, including chalupas and chorizo con huevos.

For the Americanized diner, the menu also contained selections of steak and seafood, as well as the usual assortment of sandwiches and hamburgers. There was even a fresh tossed salad.

Less than ten minutes after we ordered, our plates arrived steaming and loaded with food. The tacos were better than fast food specials, including hot spicy meat, and shells fried in good, old-fashioned, artery-clogging oil.

The portions were very generous, and the little room in your stomach that might have remained was easily filled with the all-you-could-eat chips along with salsa that was definitely not made in New York City.

The atmosphere was pleasant. With a local Spanish station playing in the background, the room was noisy enough for you to feel comfortable conversing with those around you. The tables were arranged cafe style, spaced just right, and the decor gave you a sense of ease, with Spanish woven rugs and curtains, old photos, Mexican style statues and sombreros, beer ads, and a genuine set of bull horns.

If your fluency in the Spanish language is not honed to perfection, do not fear. *El Charro* has a friendly bilingual wait staff. If you had any questions on what the menu items were, they were more than ready to explain.

If you are looking for a quaint little romantic restaurant to take your sweetheart to, then don't bother with *El Charro*. But if you want good, old-fashioned Mexican food cooked right at extremely reasonable prices, then look no further.



Muppet Treasure Island unworthy of Stevenson's classic

Skip this movie. No matter how much your girlfriend/wife/kids whine and complain, no matter how much begging and pleading occur, do NOT see this movie. This is not, in any sense, a good movie.

One would think that the teaming up of the creative minds behind Jim Henson's Muppets and the finances and writing talents of Disney would be able to make at least a passable imitation of a movie. Unfortunately, *Muppet Treasure Island* proves that even the best can produce the worst.

This is not a children's movie. The violence is certainly curtailed from the original *Treasure Island*, but it is still a violent story, and *Muppet Treasure Island* reflects this fact. Events such as a song by Long John Silver (Tim Curry) and a chorus of singing Muppet skulls describing what awaits the Muppets in hell ruins this movie for parents who want some family time at the movies.

Muppet Treasure Island is not a movie for adults either. The music is so corny and poorly written that groans escape every spectator's lips when a chorus breaks out--the sole exception being "Cabin Fever," which was actually mildly amusing. Unlike previous Muppet movies, there is little or none of the sophisticated humor that flew harmlessly over children's heads into their parents' ears. The few jokes that are aimed at adults are either poor, in poor taste, or both.

The only amusing parts of the entire movie were the occurrences where famous Muppets, which otherwise wouldn't fit into the script, made cameo appearances. For instance, when the "bork, bork" (Swedish) chef turns up to cook up Kermit and company for some cannibals, another Muppet pops up and explains, "How else were we going to get him into the movie?!"

In fact the whole movie is laced with self-abasement. Numerous times, Rizzo (a Muppet rat) comments on how poor the movie is. Unfortunately, the movie IS terrible, and Rizzo's comments seem more appropriate than humorous.

The very noticeable exception to the tediousness of this movie (and the only thing keeping it from a serious "F") is the fight scene at the end of the movie. One can finally see Disney's dollars at work as Kermit, Piggy and Gonzo rout the pirate band with kicks, flips, and outstanding swordplay. One is left asking, "How did they do that?!"

Unfortunately, the last few minutes of the movie are not even close to justifying a full theater ticket price. Stay home and do homework, it's way more interesting.

Muppet Treasure Island proves even the best can produce the worst.

El Charro

1701 1 St N,
Nampa

Reviewed by
Ray Gibler

Crusader Rating
A

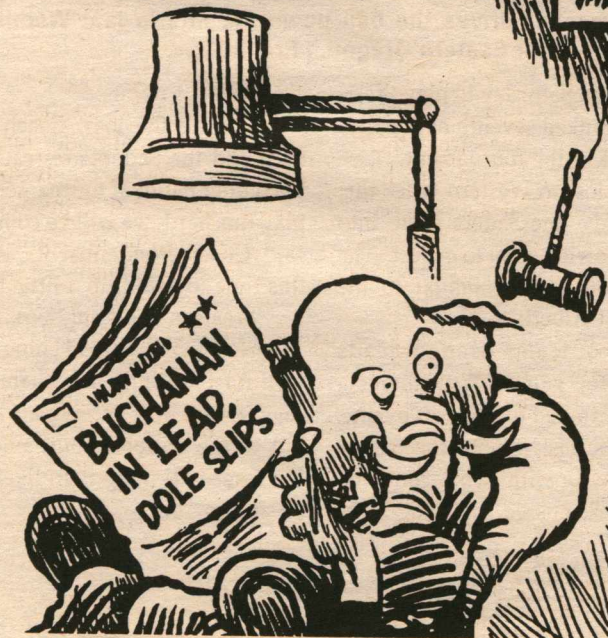
Muppet Treasure Island

Rated PG

Reviewed by
Jason Isbell

Crusader Rating
D-

MARGULIES
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Jim.Marg@aol.com



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
BREAK GLASS



Who is Abba's child?

A central theme in the personal life of Jesus Christ, which lies at the very heart of the revelation that He is, is His growing intimacy with, trust in, and love of His Abba.

In His human journey, Jesus experienced God in a way that no prophet of Israel had ever dreamed or dared. Jesus was indwelt by the Spirit of the Father and given a name for God that would scandalize both the theology and public opinion of Israel, the name that escaped the mouth of the Nazarene carpenter: Abba.

Jewish children used this intimate colloquial form of speech in addressing their fathers, and Jesus Himself employed it with His foster-father Joseph. As a term for divinity, however, it was unprecedented not only in Judaism but in any of the great world religions. Joachim Jeremias wrote, "Abba, as a way of addressing God, is *ipsissima vox*, an authentic original utterance of Jesus. We are confronted with something new and astounding. Herein lies the great novelty of the gospel." Jesus, the Beloved Son, does not hoard this experience for Himself. He invites and calls us to share the same intimate and liberating relationship.

The greatest gift I have ever received from Jesus Christ has been the Abba experience. "No one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him" (Matthew 11:27). My dignity as Abba's child is my most coherent sense of self. When I seek to fashion a self-image from the adulation of others and the inner voice whispers, "You've arrived; you're a player in the Kingdom enterprise," there is no truth in that self-concept. When I sink into despondency and the inner voice whispers, "You are no good, a fraud, a hypocrite, and a dilettante," there is no truth in any image shaped from that message. [...]

Years ago, I related a story about a priest from Detroit named Edward Farrell who went on his two-week summer vacation to Ireland. His one living uncle was about to celebrate his eightieth birthday. On the great day, the priest and his uncle got up before dawn and dressed in silence. They took a walk along the shores of Lake Killarney and stopped to watch the sunrise. Standing side by side with not a word exchanged and staring straight at the rising sun. Suddenly the uncle turned and went skipping down the road. He was radiant, beaming, and smiling from ear to ear.

His nephew said, "Uncle Seamus, you really look happy."

"I am, lad."

"Want to tell me why?"

His eighty-year-old uncle replied, "Yes, you see, me Abba is very fond of me."

How would you respond if I asked you this question: "Do you honestly believe God *likes* you, not just loves you because theologically God *has* to love you?" If you could answer with gut-level honesty, "Oh yes, my Abba is very fond of me," you would experience a serene compassion for yourself that approximates the meaning of tenderness. [...] Why did Jesus love sinners, ragamuffins, and the rabble who knew nothing of the law? Because His Abba loved them. He did nothing on His own, but only what His Abba told Him. Through meal-sharing, preaching, teaching, and healing, Jesus acted out His understanding of the Father's indiscriminate love--a love that causes His sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and His rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike (Matthew 5:45).

In these acts of love Jesus created a scandal for devout, religious Palestinian Jews:

The absolutely unpardonable thing was not his concern for the sick, the cripples, the lepers, the possessed ... not even his partnership for the poor humble people. The real trouble was that he got involved with moral failures, with obviously irreligious and immoral people. [...] This was the real scandal. Did He really have to go so far? What kind of dangerous love is this, which does not know its limits: the frontiers between fellow countrymen and foreigners, party members and non-members, between neighbors and distant people, between honorable and dishonorable callings, between moral and immoral, good and bad people? As if dissociation were not absolutely necessary here. As if we ought not judge in these cases. As if we could always forgive in these circumstances.

Excerpt from: *Abba's Child -- The Cry of the Humna Heart for Intimate Belonging* by Brennan Manning. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

Lady Saders drop conference championship

For the second straight year, the Lady Crusaders fell to Western Oregon in the final

The situation was not a new one for Coach Schmidt and the Lady Crusaders—playing the Wolves of Western Oregon at Monmouth, Oregon. This time it was for the conference championship.

Last season the Lady Crusaders played the Wolves in Monmouth three times, losing all three, once in conference play, once for the conference championship and once for the national

championship. NNC beat Western Oregon at Monmouth earlier this season only to lose at home later in the year.

NNC earned the trip to the conference championship for the second straight year by defeating Southern Oregon in the first round of the playoffs.

In the last game of the regular season the Lady Saders defeated the first-year squad of Albertson College. In a

game which the Saders never trailed, the Coyotes squad showed how far their program has come in just one year.

The Crusaders were led by Erica Walton and Kari Smith, who both put in 18 points for the game.

With a conference record of 9-3, the Lady Saders finished in second place behind Western Oregon, who finished 11-1.

The following Friday, Southern Oregon made the trip to Nampa for the first round playoff game.

Although the Lady Saders got off to a slow start, they used rebounding and strong shooting to hold onto the lead throughout the game. Leading at halftime, NNC stretched their lead as high as 18 points in the second half.

Led by Donna Knight's 22 points, the Saders blew the game open in the end to win, 74-59. Erica Walton added 20 points.

This win set up the rematch of last year's championship with Western Oregon, who defeated Western Baptist 90-56 in the first round, and NNC.

The championship game took place Monday evening. The Lady Saders were unable to overcome Western Oregon's bench. Despite the Wolves' depth, NNC was able to stay in the game. At halftime, NNC trailed 44-38.

Trailing throughout the second half, the Saders pulled to within three with just under a minute to play, 63-60. During the last minute NNC missed their three-point attempts and were forced to foul down the stretch. The



Erica Walton puts up the shot in Saturday's playoff victory over Southern Oregon. (Frahm)



Kari Smith drives for two of her 10 points against Southern Oregon (Chtangeev).

Wolves made their free-throws to ice the conference championship.

Despite the loss, the Lady Crusaders are ranked ninth nationally and have been ranked in the top ten most of the season, expect to get an at-large bid to the National Tournament.

Western Oregon 69, NNC 60.

By TOBY JEFFREY
SPORTS EDITOR

Saders ousted from playoffs by Western Oregon

Despite losing five of their last six games, the Crusaders head into the National Tournament with optimism.

For the first time in two years the NNC men won't be playing for the Cascade Conference title.

Saturday's loss to Western Oregon in the second round of the Cascade Conference playoffs put an end to the Crusaders' conference season.

At 17-12, Coach Weidenbach and team can now relax, recuperate and regroup before the national tournament.

Despite losing five of their last six games, the Crusaders are optimistic about the upcoming tournament. According to Coach Weidenbach, "Our last three efforts have been good, starting against Albertson."

After being blown out by Albertson in Caldwell, then dropping two games in the Western Oregon road trip, the Crusaders hosted the Coyotes of ACI (ranked third nationally) for the final conference game of the season.

In front of a packed Montgomery Fieldhouse, the Crusaders put on a show reminiscent of last year's national tournament games. Even Albertson Coach Marty Holly agreed, "They're back; nobody wants to play them here in the playoffs."

Albertson jumped out to a quick lead to start the game, but Chad Herron and Roy Garcia kept the Saders from falling too far behind. Herron finished the game with 17 points while Garcia finished with a team high of 19 on the night.

Albertson carried a 35-34 lead into the intermission, compared to the 15-point margin they enjoyed in the previous matchup.

NNC used a 9-0 run to begin the second half, taking a 43-35 lead. Albertson immediately followed with a 12-3 run and never trailed the rest of the way.

The NNC defense successfully held the Coyotes leading scorers, transfers Jimmy Kolyszko and Damon Archibald, to a total of 14 points. But the rest of Albertson's seniors stepped up to fill the void. The final score was 82-75.

Even though the Saders lost, giving Albertson the regular season conference title, NNC fans left the gym optimistic for the post-season.

"I'm super proud of my team," Coach Weidenbach said. "I thought we stepped up to the plate. If we play this way, we'll represent the conference well."

With the third place finish, NNC hosted Eastern Oregon in the first round of the conference tournament.

Although it wasn't pretty at times, the Saders did what was needed to pull in the victory, 85-81. Eastern had five seniors who did everything possible to keep their season going.

With two seconds remaining the Mountaineers trailed by only three, and had the ball. But NNC's defense forced a turnover and secured the win.

With the first round win, the Sad-



Tony Schumacher drives the ball down the line in last Wednesday's playoff victory over Eastern Oregon. (Frahm)

ers travelled on Saturday to play Western Oregon (ranked seventh nationally) in round two of the tournament.

Having lost to Western twice this season already, the Saders came into this game knowing what to expect. The Saders put on a show similar to the game against Albertson.

The two teams traded leads throughout the game. With under a minute NNC trailed the Wolves by one, 79-78. In the last minute the Saders gave up a lay-in with two seconds on the shot clock, missed the tying three pointer and missed two free-throws.

NNC was led by Trevor Stott's 25 points and 10 rebounds while Roy Gar-

cia added 14 points.

Despite the loss, Coach Weidenbach and the Saders are ready for the upcoming national tournament, "If we play this hard, we will be competitive," said Coach Weidenbach. "We'll use this time to mend up a little bit."

Western Oregon (22-6) will play Albertson (25-3) this evening in Caldwell for the conference championship. The winner will receive an automatic bid to the national tournament while the loser will more than likely receive an at-large bid.

By TOBY JEFFREY
SPORTS EDITOR

Form B-1040: Barry's guide to taxes

The X-Files is just one good thing that comes from taxes

It's income tax time again, Americans: time to gather up those receipts, get out those tax forms, sharpen up that pencil, and stab yourself in the aorta.

No, seriously, contrary to what many so-called "people" say, doing your income taxes is NOT difficult, as long as you're willing to take the time to read the instructions carefully and make up numbers out of thin air. I'll have some helpful tax-preparation advice later in this column, but first it's time for a patriotic message on the topic of: Why You Should Pay Your Taxes.

Basically, you should pay your taxes because, in the words of the late Abraham Lincoln, "Otherwise we throw you in jail." Your federal government needs your money so that it can perform vital services for you that you would not think up yourself in a million years. Of course, not everybody feels that these services are so vital; some critics note that during the recent Budget Crisis, when the government was shutting down every 15 minutes, hardly anybody seemed affected except government employees. This led some critics to conclude that the main service provided by the federal government is employing government employees.

Well, here's what I have to say to some critics: "Oh, yeah?" I say this is because I happen to believe that our government provides some extremely vital services, by which I mean "X-Files." This is a special FBI operation that is portrayed on a weekly TV show, also called "The X-Files," featuring two agents, Agent Mulder and Agent Scully, both of whom always look depressed to the point of root canal. Not that I blame them: They are responsible for investigating every paranormal event in the United States, which means they hardly ever talk to anybody who has not, at minimum, been abducted by space aliens.

Recently, I saw an episode where Agents Mulder and Scully were chasing around after this really disgusting slimy sewer-dwelling creature—caused, of course, by atomic radiation—

that was partly human partly lung fluke. (If you don't know what a lung fluke is, trust me, you are better off.) This creature reproduced by biting a sewer worker (whatever we are paying our sewer workers, it is not enough) and putting a larva inside him; later on, the sewer worker coughed up a baby fluke creature in a shower scene that I will never forget as long as I live because I happened to be eating a meatball sandwich at the time. The episode climaxed with Agent Mulder fighting IN A SEWER, and I recall thinking, as I watched them splash around in the slime, that if the government is going to take my money, this is EXACTLY the kind of program I want it to be used for.

So I'm sure we all agree that we should pay our Fair Share of taxes and to the best of our ability to figure out what was going through the minds of whoever, speaking of space aliens, wrote the U.S. Tax Code. This is why I'm going to devote the rest of this column to answering Your Common Income Tax Questions. The most commonly asked question, of course, is:

Q. Can you legally deduct the cost of the meatball sandwich, since you mentioned it in this column?

A. Don't be absurd. Yes.

Q. Does O.J. Simpson have to pay taxes on the profits he receives from his new video?

A. No, because we cannot conclusively PROVE that the person in the video is O.J. Simpson. It could be somebody who looks exactly like him and lives in his house and is also named "O.J. Simpson."

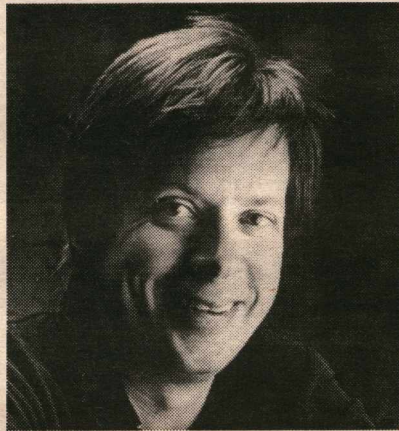
Q. You know the guy who does those Infiniti commercials? With the black outfit and the accent?

A. Yes.

Q. Don't you get the feeling he just thinks he's BETTER than everybody else?

A. Yes.

Q. How is the Internal Revenue Service coming along in its mission to develop a tax form so scary that merely reading it will cause the ordinary taxpayer's brain to explode?



A. Extremely well. The latest effort, sent in by alert accountant Craig Podosek, is Schedule J, Form 1118, which is entitled—I am not making this up—"Separate Limitation Loss Allocations and Other Adjustments Necessary to Determine Numerators of Limitation Fractions, Year-End Recharacterization Balances, and Overall Foreign Loss Account Balances."

Q. What do the IRS instructions for this form state about Line 1?

A. They state: "Be sure to consider on this line the possible interplay between the separate limitation losses and any net operating losses or net capital losses of which they may be a part."

Q. What?! People have to be TOLD to do this?

A. That is the pathetic state of our society today.

Q. I understand that Congress is considering a so-called "flat" tax system. How would this work?

A. If congress were to pass a "flat" tax, you'd simply pay a fixed percentage of your income, and you wouldn't have to fill out any complicated forms, and there would be no loopholes for politically connected groups, and normal people would actually understand the tax laws, and giant walking broccoli stalks would come around and mow your lawn for free, because Congress is NOT going to pass a flat tax, you pathetic fool.

GOT A QUESTION OR COMMENT FOR THE IRS? Speak it clearly into any electrical fixture in your home.

Then just wait.
Dave Barry is a syndicated columnist with the Miami Herald.

The Yogurt Affaire

presents the weekly

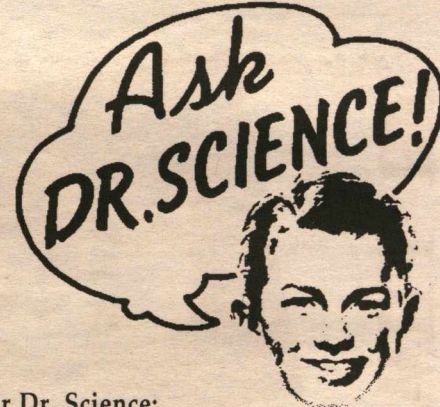
Top Ten List

Top ten reasons why Pat Buchanan should be elected ASNNC President!

10. Cheesy Speeches.
9. He might help us beat Albertson College.
8. He would kick all businessmen off the Board of Regents.
7. Wayne Paul would be toast. Wait a minute, Wayne Paul is toast.
6. He's a Doctorate in a Box graduate.
5. We're already isolationists.
4. Won't have to worry about abortions, dorm hours aren't long enough.
3. Mandatory haircut for Kevin Dennis.
2. He would block sale of NNC to IGA.
1. It's a useless position that he couldn't screw up.

Drop on by and fill out a Top Ten List at the Yogi. Lists collected Monday at closing. Best lists published in Crusader. Lists do not necessarily express the views of the Yogurt Affaire or its employees.

Hey, everybody it's time to . . .

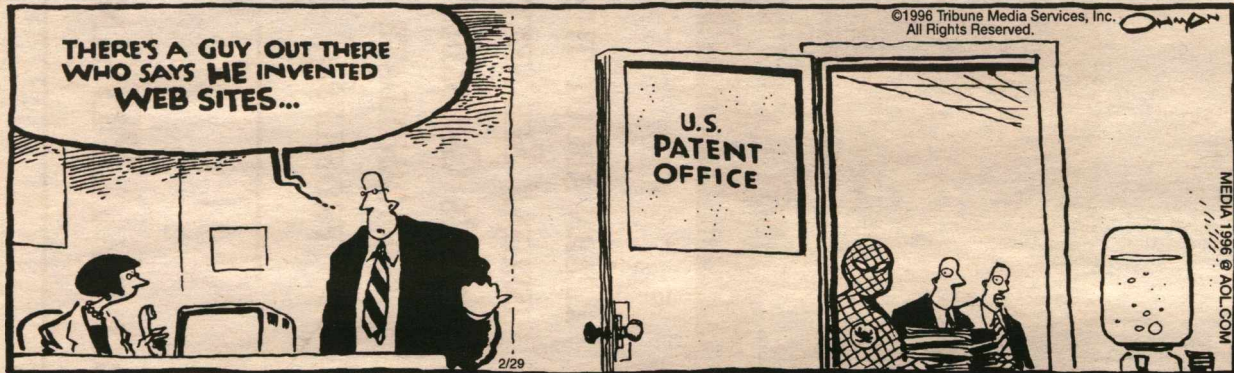


Dear Dr. Science:

Please help me understand the difference between men and women. I'm about to be engaged, and my future husband's behavior often mystifies me. Why do men burp in public?
--Heather Hutchins, Lawrence, KS

Men periodically enter altered states of consciousness, where the majority of their attention is focused inwardly, on a spot just above the naval. During this trance state, they seem to be thinking about something, but quite often there is simply no one at home. Often they are chewing, a hypnotic motion not unlike a cow working her cud. From an evolutionary standpoint, this behavior is equivalent to the aboriginal "dream time," where the astral body roams at will. This enabled primitive hunters to locate game at great distances. When the man comes to, he announces his return to this dimension with a loud burp. So take comfort in the fact that your future mate seems well adapted to at least a Neanderthal existence.

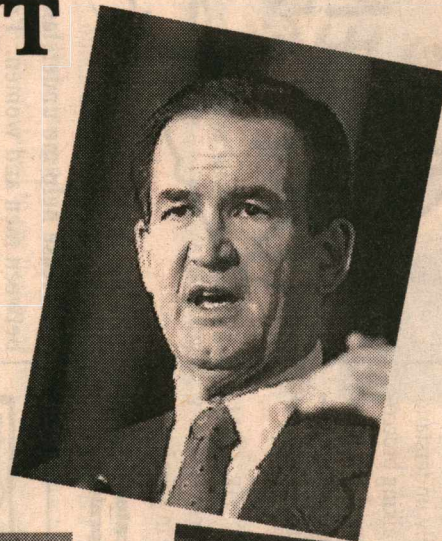
"There is a fine line between ignorance and arrogance," says Dr. Science, "and only I have managed to erase that line." Each day Dr. Science puts that philosophy to work and grapples with your questions. Write Dr. Science, Box 22513, San Francisco, CA 94122



ONE OF THESE MEN WILL BE PRESIDENT



DO YOU KNOW ANY
THING ABOUT
THEM?



LEARN ABOUT THE
ISSUES. SEE NEXT
WEEK'S CRUSADER
FOR CANDIDATE
PROFILES.



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