Snow causes problems for Palouse area residents

Christopher Clancy
Staff

Drifting snow and icy conditions during much of last week and this week have wreaked havoc on roads in northern and central Idaho, creating hazardous conditions for many motorists commuting to and from the University of Idaho.

The National Weather Service expects continued snowy weather in yet another storm front makes its way into northern Idaho and eastern Washington, according to the NOAA, internet web site.

The record snowfall forced the closure of the Moscow-Pullman highway, and State Highway 195 in Washington between Pullman and Lewiston last week prompting the Latah County Sheriff’s Department and the Washington and Idaho State Patrols to ask drivers to stay off the roads “unless absolutely necessary.”

Student commuters, who are often forced to drive when conditions are less than favorable, should prepare for winter driving conditions, said Mike Gregory of the Moscow Police Department. Gregory recommends drivers be more attentive to conditions that can make driving more difficult.

“Drive more slowly, and be prepared for winter conditions. Carry a blanket or sleeping bag and water if you plan to travel any great distance...definitely have chains,” Gregory said.

One obvious side-effect of the intense snowfall has been an increase in the sale of snow tires and tire chains. With more snow predicted for this week, area drivers are flocking to local tire dealers.

“In the month of January, we’ve seen an increase (in sales) of studded snow tires and chains of probably five to six 50 percent and 100 percent,” said Moscow Les Schwab Tire Assistant Manager Larry Enright. “We’ve been very busy, even for this time of year.”

Other tire dealers have noticed a similar activity.

While only one fatality has been reported in the past week, in Rathdrum, ISP dispatchers in Lewiston and Coeur d’Alene have reported an increased number of accidents, the majority of which have been “side-ways”, and vehicles running into drifts. In Moscow a number of two car fender-beenders have occurred, most involving drivers who couldn’t stop at intersections because of compact ice and snow, Gregory said.

For 24-hour road reports in northern and central Idaho call 882-3595 and in Washington call (206) 434-7277. On the Internet, road and area pass conditions are also available via the National Weather Service at http://www.wcr.noaa.gov/wx.

Homecoming committee positions open for next fall

Jennifer Eng
Staff

Homecoming might be nine months away still, yet the search is on for several hard working individuals.

“Homecoming is a time for students of the university to celebrate the UI Vandal spirit,” said Homecoming Chairperson Amy Czarniecki.

Students and other interested people that can promote this spirit are asked by Czarniecki and the committee to stop by the Student Union to pick up applications for Homecoming committee positions. Positions open are: assistant Homecoming chairperson, assistant parade chair, two living group co-chairs and an advertising and public relations chair.

Assistant Homecoming chairperson would be selected for a two year position. In 1997 the assistant chairperson would become the Homecoming chair.

The assistant parade chairperson is also a two-year position which would lead to the parade chair position in 1997.

The Homecoming committee is doing something different this year regarding the Grand Marshall. Students and alumni can nominate a well known Vandal alumni to fill the position.

Applications for Grand Marshall nominations can be picked up in the production offices at 121 Young Union. ”The Student Union for Homecoming positions can be picked up in either the productions office or at the Student Union information desk.

Czarniecki said, “I would like to increase participation, make Homecoming a more visible event in the community and throw in some new activities along with the old Vandal traditions.”

The application deadline has been moved up from Jan. 30 to Feb. 6. “It’s an excellent opportunity to be involved in such a campus tradition. You have the opportunity to meet a lot of people and viewpoints. It’s been a wonderful experience,” the said.

Czarniecki added, “Homecoming is for anybody who is a Vandal whether it’s 10 or 20 years old. It’s one event that surpasses living group rivalries and college rivalries.”

St. Augustine’s sponsors weekend retreat at Lake Coeur d’Alene

Julie McCoy
Staff

Northern Idaho people aren’t the only ones who think a trip to Coeur d’Alene Lake can be a religious experience.

St. Augustine’s Catholic Church on the University of Idaho campus is sponsoring a weekend retreat for anyone over the age of 19.

The trip is organized and made up mostly of students. The retreat is scheduled for Feb. 9 through Feb. 11 and will be held at Camp Lutherannes, a retreat on Coeur d’ Alene Lake. Father Mark Schumacher, new to St. Augustine’s this year, is expected to attend the retreat.

Marc Schreiber, a coordinator at the trip, expects 50 or more people to attend. The retreat focuses on the individual’s relationship with God and includes various activities such as skits, talks and personal time.

“The talks are not classes, they are more informational and put on by actual students,” Schreiber said. “Topics for the talks include “God’s Love,” “Prayer,” “Who Am I,” “Reconciliation” and “Growth.”

Schreiber said after each talk students break off into smaller more intimate groups to discuss the topics.

Schreiber said the retreat is aimed at getting people more about their religion and getting closer to God, but it’s not just for Catholics.

“We want to invite everyone over the age of 18 of every denomination,” Schreiber said.

Students interested in attending the retreat can pick up information forms at St. Augustine’s or St. Mary’s on Feb. 9.

Donations of $25 are being requested for those who can afford it, but Schreiber said whatever people can afford to give will be helpful.
Feminism and Christianity

Feminism and Christianity is the topic of the Student Enrichment Fellowship to be held Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Student Union Golden Room. For more information call Matt Gray at 882-8376.

Why you have a soul and life after death

John Mitchell will be speaking Feb. 1, at 8 p.m. in the Music Auditorium concerning “In the Presence of the Master: Seekers for the Soul and Life after Death.” Mitchell has a master in Philosophy of Religion and Ethics at Biola University. He is an author, life and campus lecturer specializing in articulating and defending the Christian world view. The event is sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ.

FPIR holds information session, job interviews

The Fund for Public Interest Research is holding an informational session Feb. 8, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Brick Hall faculty office. For more information, call 882-7189. "The session will be held to fill positions in 40 different offices." The organization is a non-profit, national environmental organization that organizes grassroots campaigns for groups. The FPIR is interviewing and selecting interns for their professional campaigning staff.

Career Services holds workshops

The UI Career Services Center is hosting workshops and job fairs, starting today, at 3:30 p.m. with a session called “The DISCOVER Career Planning program.” On Feb. 1, at 11:30 a.m. a workshop called “Getting started” will be held to Career Services; and later that day at 3:30 p.m. another workshop called “Preparing for the Interview” will be held.

Research Colloquium

Using data he collected in Brazil in August 1995, Washington State University graduate student Joseph K. Vaughn, will hold a research colloquium on atmospheric aerosol at 5:30 p.m. in Room 25 of the Janssen Engineering Building at 3:30 p.m. "Aerosolic Aerios is a genus of airborne particulates and may not be the ozone," said Vaughn. Using radiometers which measure light Vaughn will compare data showing the effects of atmospheric aerosol on climate and atmospheric conditions.

Women’s Center noon program

Today’s UI Women’s Center noon program will focus on “Black Women and Health.” Dr. Lisa Litton, certified nurse midwife, and Pam Palmer, childbirth educator at Pullman Memorial Hospital will moderate a panel discussion of childbirth and related topics. "Preparing for Childbirth" will be held.

Announcements

Law would exact costs if natural mother wants infant back

BOISE—In one week, Billie and Vicki Vanderwoude of Burley had to react to the natural mother who wanted her back, and pay $4,000 for the woman’s hospital costs.

They learned to love Shelby Lyne in seven days. That was all the time they had with her. Their story, which happened two years ago, is driving a proposal by Sen. Dean Cameron, R- Rupert, to make natural parents pay for medical fees, food, clothing and other expenses incurred by adoptive par- ents if the natural parents reclaim their child.

But Cameron’s proposal puzzles Rosanne Hardt, administrator of the Division of Family and Children Services at the Department of Social and Health Services.

Under current law, the only way natural parents could recover legal rights after adoption goes through is if they can prove fraud or trickery.

She had not read through the bill, but she thought it might be unnecessary. Other ways, however, could be relevant.

Cameron’s bill would also apply to parents who consent to adopt after adoption proceedings, then withdraw before actually signing a consent form. Parents are not reimbursed for their expenses.

It is a bill that Vicki Vanderwoude wants to see made law. She and her husband, Bill, have moved from Boise to Pullman in exchange for taking Shelby. "We believe in adoption," she said.

Reimbursement has trickled in from the natural mother $25 at a time.

She blamed her attorney for fail- ing to set up an adequate stipend in the first place, and said that such a law would have helped protect her from losing Shelby.

---Associated Press

Pullman, Moscow hospitals drop talk

MOSCOW—A plan to merge the hospitals in Pullman, Wash., and Moscow is dead.

Blaming misunderstandings, high emotions and Washington State University opposition, officials at Pullman Regional Hospital and Gringman Medical Center announced yesterday that plans for joint governance have been terminated.

The merger plan, already trou- bled by discontent in Pullman and the Pullman Memorial Hospital Foundation, was unable to recover when Washington State officials also began questioning it, hospital officials said.

Boise doctors urge restraint

BOISE—In an extraordinary about-face, Techmeroical Technologies Inc. reinstated Steve Appleton as president and chief executive officer today after months of executive turmoil.

Mr. Appelton resigned from his position last Monday despite years of success and billions of dollars in profits, and was given a three-month severance package.

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Bosnian and Herzegovina—Hundreds of prisoners of war were freed across Bosnia on Sunday, the day before President Alija Izetbegovic de- clared a cease-fire, allowing the prisoners to return home.

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Batt's worker compensation measure hits spotlight

Associated Press

BOISE—What could be the biggest issue before the Legislature this year moves into the spotlight this week.

In the fourth week of the 1996 session, the Senate Commerce and Human Resource Committee will consider the bill from Gov. Phil Batt to extend worker compensation insurance coverage to farm workers, ending agriculture's 79-year exemption.

At least four other bills on the subject have been introduced, and the Idaho Farm Bureau, which has staved off seven previous attempts to repeal the exemption, is expected to push its own legislation.

But the featured bill is the one from the governor, and Batt is putting the full weight of his office behind it. Some legislative leaders are predicting that it stands a good chance of passing this session.

The governor got a powerful ally when he announced a plan to cut worker compensation premiums.

The National Federation of Independent Business backs the bill because small businesses also will see lower premiums if it passes.

In the House, the action this week might be on tobacco "stings," the enforcement operations aimed at seeing if retailers are selling cigarettes and other products to minors.

A House committee was informed last week that Idaho must adopt some sort of state sting guidelines, covering the use of minors, buying tobacco products, to meet federal regulations. But some State Affairs Committee members balked at introducing the proposal, indicating it might have a hard time even getting out of committee.

State Affairs Chairman Ron Crane is holding a bill introduced by Rep. James Steichaf, D-Sandpoint, to eliminate the requirements that there must be at least two sessions of live dog races to allow the Post Falls dog track to offer simulcast betting on other races.

Crane said fellow Nampa Republican Rep. Dolores Crow is working on legislation that would completely eliminate dog racing—other simulcast betting—so Steichaf's bill will be held until the competing bill surfaces.

In a year when state funds are tight, it appears unlikely the 1996 Legislature will be in the mood for major changes in state tax laws.

But there's not stopped lawmakers from trying.

Six House Democrats last week introduced bills they say would give homeowners real property tax relief—tax cuts that were promised by the governor's $42 million tax cut last year but never delivered.

They said land values are dropping through the conservative House tax committee.

"For most homeowners the potential tax relief was more than offset by another increase in taxable value," said Rep. Ken Robinson, D-Boise. "Total residential taxes in Idaho rose $21 million in 1995.

The House Democrats said their proposals would extend the existing homeowners exemption to land values, and offset inflation in taxable values.

Rep. Robert Schaefer, R-Nampa, also has a plan to quell rapid increases in residential property taxes. He introduced a bill freezing residential property values for tax purposes until the property was sold.

But the House Revenue and Taxation Committee killed the bill on Friday. Rep. Golden Linford, R- Rexburg, said a subcommittee felt the measure would not work.

"It would be a tax shift from those who don't sell property to those who do sell," he said.

The House tax panel on Monday will vote on legislation proposed by Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Drummond, to allow counties to get out of community college districts. It's one of a number of proposals to help ease the property tax burden in Kootenai, Jerome and Twin Falls counties for support of community colleges.

On Tuesday, the House Health and Welfare Committee gets its first look at a proposal to change the name of the state's largest agency. If it becomes law, the Department of Health and Welfare would become the Department of Health and Human Services.

Meanwhile, the Senate State Affairs Committee will work on a proposal to create a citizens committee on reapportionment. Votes approved that idea in the 1994 election but the Legislature has done nothing about it yet.

"There's no hurry. The next legislative and congressional redistricting will not come until after the 2000 Census."
City to consider symbolic gay marriages

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO—Gay couples may soon be able to "do" in a symbolic civil wedding performed by the county clerk.

Under the proposed plan, gay couples who register as domestic partners would pay $30 to have the ceremony, though the union would carry no legal weight.

The proposal would create "a ceremony to symbolize the existence of a domestic partner-ship," Supervisor Carole Migden said Thursday. "It's a very San Francisco sort of thing."

The Board of Supervisor is expected to vote on the proposal Monday. Five supervisors, three of whom are gay, are sponsoring the plan.

At least 3,000 unmarried couples, most of them gays, have paid $35 to file as domestic partners in San Francisco since the procedure became legal in February 1991, according to the county clerk.

A voter-approved law gives retirement and health benefits to city employees' domestic partners. Adding the symbolic marriage ceremony is expected to double or triple the number of couples regist- tering, according to a memo by Assistant County Clerk Nancy Alfaro. The county clerk traditionally performs civil marriages.

If half the couples already regist- tered have a ceremony, that would generate $45,960, according to Alfaro. The county estimates new couples registering could add another $41,500 this year.

Volunteers would perform the ceremonies, and processing would cost about $3,000, according to the county clerk's office.

"A large number of taxpayers have asked for this service from us," said Alfaro. "In the past, the right of these individuals to have their relationship resolved by access and fairness issues." The proposal comes as the state Assembly considers a bill to pre-supervise, same-gender marriages from other states.

The state of Hawaii may become the first in the United States to legalize gay marriages. In 1994, the California Legisla-ture passed a bill that would have set up a statewide registry of unmarried domestic partners, but Gov. Pete Wilson vetoed it.

"Although this won't really remedy any legal discrimination, it is a step forward," she said.

City seeks to increase discharge into river

Associated Press

HAILEY, Idaho—City officials are defending their request for a sixfold increase in the amount of sewage they are allowed to dis- charge into the Big Wood River.

Increasing the amount of solids that may be discharged into the river from 41 pounds to 188 pounds per day is necessary in light of last May's vote rejecting a $1.9 million bond issue to triple the capacity of the city's sewage treatment plant, Hailey City Administrator Daryle James said.

"Voiers didn't want to pay for a plant that would have continued to meet the 30-pound limit. With the bond failure we were forced into looking at several options, includ- ing to challenge Hailey's waste allowance," James said. "Personally I would just as soon only see us putting a maximum 30 pounds into the river because I love the Big Wood River."

The State Division of Environmental Quality has completed an analysis of the potential impact of increasing the discharge limit.

But Greg Mitich, the division's senior water quality engineer in Twin Falls, said he would not comment on deadlines until the federal Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed them.

James said state environmental engineers decided in 1976 that the Big Wood could handle 188 pounds of solid waste per day without dam- aging the river.

But the discharge permit for the city's sewage treatment plant was never changed to reflect that find- ing.

"Through the years we continued to meet the 30-pound limit, so it wasn't changed. We never bothered to change it," James said. "If the state approves 188 pounds, they'll be the ones held primarily responsi- ble for making sure it stays a Class A pristine river. We don't want to degrade the river."

The initial limit was based on the prediction that the Wood River Valley's growth would be predomi- nantly along the Ketchum-Sun Valley area.

But Hailey's population has quadrupled to about 5,500 in the last 25 years, and a building mora- torium now is in place.

Meanwhile, the Ketchum-Sun Valley sewage plant is allowed to discharge 505 pounds of solids per day into the river, even though plant superintendent Dave Swindle said the average from 1991 through 1995 was 59 pounds.

Marc Bridges, water quality director for Idaho Rivers United, said the city's request to put more sewage into the Big Wood seems unwise.

"Based on the fact the valley is growing and improving water quality, it's not in this day and age to increase the potential to exacerbate the prob- lem," Bridges said.

But James said nobody has per- sonally told him they opposed the plan.

"I don't know why. Maybe they feel comfortable and think this is what they want," he said. "The vot- ers have the final say. They decide if they want to increase the amount of contamination going in, and if they do, then they need to be able to sleep with that."
Judge refuses inmate's request for abortion

BOISE—Tina Johnson, the first Ada County Jail inmate to request an abortion, but a judge has denied her request. Johnson, 33, was about two months pregnant when she was arrested on rape charges in December.

Nearing her second trimester this week, Johnson decided to keep her baby—that she admits she shouldn't have one. Johnson said she was denied any medical treatment until she was about a month pregnant, then she was denied any counseling, and now she is not even allowed to see someone who could help her.

"It's a travesty of justice that they are able to accommodate her through an unwanted pregnancy," McCullough said. "Yet, when a woman has made a choice for herself to terminate that pregnancy, they can't support her to the same degree."

"But it's like, when a person is sentenced to die, do you have to stop the execution?" Killenced said. "There's a similarity here, and I'm sure the judge shopping will continue."

Seeking permission from another judge is not an option for Johnson, McCullough said. McColl said Johnson is running out of time. "Every day that access is denied increases the risk for her," McColl said. "Abortion allows the procedure becomes more restrictive for each trimester. The procedure becomes more complicated, and it's more expensive."

Under current law, a woman cannot have an abortion in the third trimester unless it would save her life or unless the fetus would not survive birth.

Chenoweth says unwanted wolves are mistreated

LEWISTON—Conservative Congressman Don Young says if she was in the same situation as the latest batch of gray wolves brought to Idaho, she would bite a bigger, too.

Meanwhile, federal biologists hoped to release 12 more wolves in central Idaho, during the early days of No Return Wilderness during the weekend.

A dozen wolves captured in British Columbia, Canada, bit the man on the moon Wednesday when he tried to pet its cage as a water supply. By protocol, the biologists were not allowed to pet and test it for rabies. But the broke the skin.

Chenoweth, R-Idaho, has waged a war of words against returning wolves to central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park.

"These wolves have been chased down, removed from their homes, tranquilized, stuffed into cages and dropped into unsuitable territory in the dead of winter," she said. "If I were to come to Idaho, I would have bitten someone, "I told the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to delay the wolf transplants, but to no avail.

And in a Friday letter to Fish and Wildlife regional director Ralph Morgan, Chenoweth requested an "immediate accounting of the second round of wolf reintroduction, including equipment, labor and the names of everyone involved. She also called for the names of groups which have contributed to the project.

Wolf activist Steve Paulson, a spokesman for the Lencore, Idaho-based Gray Wolf Committee, says his group also favors natural reintroduction of wolves into Idaho and Yellowstone.

The committee joined another group, Friends of the Wolf, to offer a $7,000 reward to anyone who could free one of the captive wolves in British Columbia before transport to the United States. Paulson is in Canada's Yukon Territory with other activists trying to stop that government's wolf control program.

But the committee opposes the current wolf transplants because the predators are considered "experimental, non-essential populations in their new range instead of having the full protection of the Endangered Species Act. That means the wolves could be killed if they are caught preying on livestock."

The committee also claims the Forest Service has failed to address the creation of habitat corridors that would allow for natural expansion of wolf populations.

The final shipment of a dozen wolves bound for central Idaho was expected to be released along the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. The wolves for Idaho and six for Yellowstone will be the last shipment of the year. The release of the eight wolves in Idaho on Thursday after a 23-mile backcountry snow and mobile convoy was delayed by snow that prevented flying the animals to a Middle Fork airport.

"It seems like every time we start moving wolves, it starts snowing," Fish and Wildlife Service spokesman said.

The release of 20 wolves in Idaho and 17 in Yellowstone this year surpasses last year's batches of 15 and 14, respectively. Rose said the episode reflects the strain with which the agency was able to capture wolves in British Columbia this winter.

The prospects for another wolf transplant next year will depend on how well the animals in the two zones survive.

"If it continues to go as well as it has in the past, we'll take a look at the program and see if it's needed," Rose said.

Bell urges consideration for resident campus programs

BOISE—Interim University of Idaho President Tom Bell is urging legislative budget-writers not to be so dazzled with high-technology delivery of education that they forget about traditional college learning.

Bell said the university is reaching out across the state to make programs available to, Boise who cannot get to Moscow and wants to play a role in developing the virtual university concept the governor's task force is pushing.

But, he told the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee on Tuesday, "the living and learning experience of a resident campus gives students access to quality professors and leaders."

"The University of Idaho is important to the economic development of this state," he said. "Producing high-quality graduates is the fuel for technology transfer and economic development."

And the pressure in recent years to accommodate off-campus demands for education, particularly for engineering in Boise, has taken its toll from on-campus programs, Bell said.

"That situation has been aggravated by last summer's 2 percent budget reduction imposed by Gov. Phil Bono to cope with Idaho's slowing economy and reduced tax revenues."

That bolthole cost the three universities and Lewis-Clark State College $3.5 million from this year's already anemic $171 million state support package. That in turn prompted reduced class offerings and other cuts on the four campuses.

But while the bolthole was accommodated this year, Bell urged lawmakers to restore the cash in the 1997 budget over Bell's recommendation to make the cuts permanent and hold state support to $178.6 million.

But that, Bell said, is especially important for the UI so the new president, who should be...

* SEE BELL PAGE 8
LaRocce frustrated medals have not been printed

COEUR D'ALENE—A former Idaho congressman who spearheaded legislation to award Desert Storm veterans with silver medallions is disappointed not a single medal has been stamped for the soldiers.

Nearly four years after Congress passed the Commemorative Medal for Veterans of Persian Gulf Bill, sponsored by former Rep. Larry LaRocce, D-Idaho, it seems unlikely the U.S. Mint will ever strike a silvertar.

A spokesman for the Army said medals for the soldiers will not be produced until the mint sells enough bronze duplicates to cover the costs of striking 700,000 silver medals.

That appears unlikely. The U.S. Mint reports fewer than 55,500 bronze medals have been sold. That is only enough to strike about 10,000 silver medals, said Capt. David Farlow of the Army Total Personnel Command in Alexandria, Va.

"Because of that, we have not informed them to start minting them up," Farlow said.

Gunsmiths Michael White said nearly $800,000 has been raised through the sale of bronze duplicates. LaRocce believes that is enough to start striking medallions for soldiers.

The medallion legislation became law on May 13, 1992. The bronze medals went on sale in August 1993 and White said the mint will continue to produce them as demand warrants.

White said he did not know what would be done with the bronze duplicate revenues if enough money was not raised to mint the silver medals. The mint estimates net bronze sales at $245,000.

LaRocce said he has not given up hope on his legislation. This month marks the 5-year anniversary of the start of the Gulf War and the former House member said it may be a good time to renew interest in the bill.

Kennedy, Irish Americans blast British stance on peace talks

BOSTON—Irish Americans should put more pressure on the British government to agree to all-party talks for peace in Northern Ireland without insisting that the Irish Republican Army disarm first, U.S. Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy II and Irish-American leaders said Sunday.

"The truth is, in no case...have we seen an insistence that groups in armed struggles give up their arms as a prerequisite to peace negotiations," Kennedy said at a Fenway Hall news conference. "The British have ignored a 16-months cease fire by the IRA."

An independent commission headed by former Sen. George Mitchell of Maine recommended last week that the British government drop its demand that the IRA disarm. The commission also urged the IRA to start disarming as soon as talks begin.

But British Prime Miniser John Major immediately rejected the commission's recommendations. Major also called for elections to precede all-party talks, pleasing the British-backed Unionists in Northern Ireland, who constitute the majority of the region's residents.

Kennedy said Major's response was aimed more at shoring up his support among British conservatives than at furthering the peace process.

"I just can't believe that the British are going to hold with this position," Kennedy said. "It appears to be a blatant political attempt by John Major to grab more conservative votes" to keep his party in power.

Elections without negotiations and protections for their rights are unacceptable to the IRA and minority Catholics in Northern Ireland, who believe the Unionists would gain even more power, Kennedy said. Others said.

Bill O'Donnell of Boston Ireland Ventures, a group that encourages investment in Northern Ireland, said the British reaction to the Mitchell commission recommendations was discouraging.

"I think it sends a very chilling message to the international business community" that has been encouraged the peace process to invest in Northern Ireland, O'Donnell said.

Kennedy promised to put pressure on Michael Ancram, the British minister who has been holding informal talks with the political wing of the IRA, when Ancram visits Washington this week.
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**News**

**Tuesday, January 30, 1996**

**Picketers say nursing homes are expensive, cost tax payers millions**

**Associated Press**

POCATELLO, Idaho—A federal grand jury has returned a 12-count indictment charging Patricia Persons and Mountain State Insulation and Supply Company of Idaho with various violations of federal law. The violations related to the submission of false proof of training for asbestos abatement and medical examination certificates. The indictment alleges that Persons, 48, and Mountain State Insulation failed to obtain required accreditation for employees, then issued false certificates to satisfy federal contract requirements. The indictment also alleges that these falsified certificates were used to secure asbestos abatement contracts with several Idaho school districts.

**Grand jury returns twelve-count indictment**

**Associated Press**

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**BELL • FROM PAGE 3**

selected by next fall, can start his tenure looking forward rather than coping with budget reductions and relocations.

- If the cash is not restored and the precedent continues for expanding programs throughout the state, Bell said, "something is going to have to give." Both Agriculture Dean David Lineback and medical education program director Mike Lukowski also said Bell's austere budget plan would take its toll on the state programs.

- Lineback said that coupled with cuts in federal support, the research and extension budget would be cutting over two dozen positions.

- Lukowski said elimination of his programs' discretionary money will undermine efforts to encourage rural Idaho high school graduates to pursue medical educations and then return to practice in rural Idaho.

- Bell acknowledged that off-campus enrollment at Idaho is the fastest growing segment of the student body. And he said future technological advances—if coupled with improvements in infrastructure—will greatly expand programs such as the national exchange of engineering programs and the national technology university via satellite.

- "Technology is going to improve our ability to do that," he said. "But it is not going to replace the quality of one-on-one contact." With cash tight, House Appropriations Chairman Kathleen Gromley raised the prospect of future aid cuts. She cited the absence of low fees for Idaho schools compared to similar schools in Washington.

- "Compared with our peer institutions," Bell conceded, "we're still a very good buy." But former Senate Education Chair Jim Little said, "It's not fair, and people are considering the budget now. It's going to increase the potential for expansion of off-campus programs. He said that could happen as more and more people feel the cost is denying them access and why look for one-on-one alternatives.

- "We must be sensitive to balancing cost with access," Bell said. "I would hope we would never reduce the resident experience for students. There's so much value in that."
Clinton finally gets his man

President Bill Clinton may not have gotten Dr. Henry Foster as surgeon general—but he got him on staff at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Much to the chagrin of Republicans, who rejected the nomination of Foster for surgeon general last year, the president has stood by, and finally found a place for Dr. Foster. The president now will put him in charge of advising the president on medical issues involving youths. A White House spokesman said Dr. Foster would be named as a special adviser to the president on teenage pregnancy.

This has got to be knots in the stomachs of the conservatives who voted down Dr. Foster. The mantra of Foster's foes was that he gave inconsistent statements about his record on abortion. The constant drumming on Foster's memory eventually cost him the job.

Inconsistent memories about events that happened years ago are no measure of a physicians medical or administrative capabilities. Whether Foster could remember minor surgical procedures from years past or not, should never have disqualified him from the position of surgeon general.

Foster was nominated in the wake of Joycelyn Elders controversy. Elders quit the job after making a series of blundering and politically suicidal remarks, some, remarkably about the effervescence nature and positive aspects of jerking the gherkin, and the female equivalent. Could've been a way for kids to avoid pregnancy, AIDS and all the rest of the risks prone to inherit overabundant, unprotected genititals.

The goal of the president in positioning Foster in the new position is to reduce the number teen pregnancies by a third in 10 years. A commendable goal. It does not matter what side you take but debate your views full open—pro or con—nobody, I mean no one wants to see doctors perform more abortions.

Those who continue to say Clinton waffles on issues and is of weak moral character have to be surprised too. Foster was a political liability when the confirmation hearings were happening. The constant attacks had to tarnish the image of a struggling president.

Clinton always stood by Foster, the Republican-controlled Congress tried to bluff a good ol' boy from Arkansas. They forgot that southerners stick together. I hope Foster remembers who got him there and why; Clinton wants someone to tell kids about life the way it is.

"Is anybody sitting in the Oval Office, whipping scotch, thinking to himself, "Foster is in; now if I could just slide the budget through the back door too...."

—Dennis Sasse

YOU are the key to success during your college years

I t is said one should take the teacher and not the course. Good instructors can make courses students sometimes find irksome into classes that are quite interesting. Most college students are trying to improve some aspect of their lives, whether financially, intellectually, etc.

The University of Idaho has truly great professors. Last semester I took a statistics class. I have never been any good at mathematics, in fact in high school I squirmed by the UI entrance requirements of two years of Algebra with a D average.

I took statistics from Professor Bill Michelson. He made the subject an interesting knowledge and provided practical applications for the students to learn from. I have used what I have learned from the course daily. My experience in this course has been at the UI. Case in point: I have never done well in mathematics, but with a teacher that cared about the students...Andrew White

offered real world applications the class was a success.

Perhaps an argument can be made the most important days of class are the very beginning week and obviouly the final week. The first days of class are crucial. Students need to evaluate their instructors, examine the syllabus and look at their options before it is too late. If a class isn't what one expects, careful planning and reshuffling procedure options can be pursued.

This is not only a fall semester taught by a professor who better understand the students is advantageously in most cases. University life in many aspects prepares students for life in the "real world." It's the students responsibility make wise choices that best fit their respective agendas.

Many students find it helpful to plot out their entire college schedule, start to finish. Study the university core, college core and major/minor requirements. More important is course work for those students who wish to pursue fields in the medical, legal just what we need, more interesting accounting, engineering, etc. professions.

Sadly, I'm not exactly what we would call "the cream of the crop" when it comes to academics. However, I have talked to many academically successful students and they all agree on one point. It's a combination of hard work and getting the right assistance is advantageously in most cases. University life in many aspects far outweighs the college or university one is attending. I came out high school as an Idaho resident with a "not so hot" grade point average and knew either UI, Boise State University or Idaho State University was where I was going. I also knew if I didn't get the job done at UI, it would be cutlasses. Private schools were not in the picture. Who can afford the high tuition prices?

Look around Idaho and the Northwest. Where are the successful graduates from? The UI, BSU, Washington State University and University of Washington are responsible for many of them. Examples of Idaho graduates who have done well include Dennis Hawkins, executive director of the Washington State Bar, Gary Adkisson, CEO of Albertsons, UI Alumni Board Member and Nampa attorney Phil Peterson, Raydean Johnson, right, who is the 3 in the J-U-B engineering firm, not to mention the numerous medical, accounting, law, engineering, etc. firms that are lead by UI graduates. It's not surprising to find that many firms and businesses around the Northwest primarily hire out of the UI.

What do successful people have in common? Some were exception al scholars at UI, others were great students from Idaho. Idaho Senators Larry Craig and Dirk Kempthorne are UI graduates. The one aspect successful people have in common is they work hard. There is no way around—hard work pays off. The UI may not be the most affluent school or have the highest tuition price, but it teaches the students who pass through the campus to work hard—and in my book it's all that matters. I'm not saying this is your ticket to the Oval Office, but I don't score well on standardized test but I can assure people the key to success is hard work. The UI is truly a great place.

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Mining trashes east as well as west

Associated Press

Tennessee has cause to be concerned that surface mining could send tens of thousands of gallons of orange water over Fall Creek Falls, one of its grandest natural attractions.

Skyline Coal Co., which is operating less than eight miles from Fall Creek Falls State Park in Blount and Van Buren counties on the Cumberland Plateau, wants to open a new mine closer to the park.

Although the park itself is protected, environmental groups have petitioned the U.S. Office of Surface Mining to ban mining in 130 square miles around the falls. That area covers the park’s entire watershed plus what can be seen from overlooks on top of bluffs surrounding the falls.

The OSM is expected to produce a draft impact statement by next fall. A final decision could be made by early 1997.

People in the immediate area, says park manager A.J. Anderson, have “a lot of mixed feelings” about the petition.

There is concern that a new mine could pollute the falls and keep many of the park’s one million annual visitors from coming. The visitors leave behind $3 million state revenue each year.

But, in a region short on jobs, Skyline employs 60 workers and generates $11 million in payroll, taxes and purchases of goods and services. The company has opened three mines near the park since 1987. Only one is in production.

The decision about the falls needs to protect both the environment and the economy if possible.

Some questions about a new mine involve technology and the progress that mining companies have made in preventing mined land from its original condition. Other questions involve the limits of technology, whether companies can be trusted without tight regulations and how effective state and federal supervision can be.

The history of surface mining in this state is the staff of nightmares—navaged mountain-sides and valleys, polluted rivers, mining companies defying the law, wildcats tearing coal from deep within the ground and stealing away without making any effort to restore the ruined land.

Lax state supervision caused the federal government to take over surface mining regulation in 1984, leaving Tennessee as the only coal-producing state in the Southeast without a state mining regulation program.

Since then, regulators have done much better at keeping miners within the law. The federal OSM requirements, which include filling pits, grading the land to its former contours and replanting trees and ground cover.

Miners claim times and mining practices have changed. “We are big advocates of the park,” said Jim Mottet, Skyline’s general manager. “If we’re going to hurt the park, we don’t want to mine.” He says “contemporary reclamation” covers excavated areas more quickly and minimizes usage of polluted water. State regulators say the company’s new methods have worked.

But the Sewanee coal seam, which Skyline and other companies in the region have worked, has been particularly susceptible to acidic or toxic mining runoff. There have been what officials call rampant problems from another nearby mining operation, conducted by Sequatchie Valley Coal Co. In the past, the state’s Division of Water Pollution Control cited Skyline for more than two dozen violations.

Fall Creek lakes already can see one example of pollution in the occasional rod-dish-orange color of park streams. The discoloration is caused by bottom deposits stirred up by development at a manmade lake in the park.

For its part, Skyline argues its new mine would still be half a mile or so from the proposed no-mining zone of production, it wouldn’t reach the watershed boundary for six years. Even then, the company says, it will be able to protect the park from any damage.

Religious guidelines set-up for schools

Associated Press

For years religion in our schools has been argued, in town meetings, by state legislators and yes, even in our highest courts.

At last, a new guide for parents that outlines religious liberty rights in public schools was released Dec. 7 by the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center and the National Congress for Parents and Teachers.

The guide addresses 15 questions about religious expression and practices in schools.

Answers are based on First Amendment religious-liberty principles as interpreted by the courts and agreed to by a wide range of religious and educational organizations.

U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley said the guide will help curb misinformation about the role of religion in public schools.

The entire issue has confused and frustrated students, parents, educators and administrators for years.

The pamphlet addresses 15 questions and answers geared to try and end the confusion about religion in our schools.

The questions are:

- Is there a constitutional separation of church and state?
- What is the law on religious symbols?
- What is the law about religious expression in schools?
- How do we know if a school is violating the law?
- Is it constitutional to teach about religion in public schools?
- How should religious holidays be treated in the schools?
- May students be excused from parts of the curriculum for religious reasons?
- May students form religious clubs in public schools?
- May students wear religious gash and display religious symbols in public schools?
- May students be released off-campus for religious Instruction during the day?
- What is the relationship between religion and character education in public schools?
- We found all of the questions and many of the answers very informative. Religion will always be a very important issue in our schools.

Copies of the 16-page pamphlet may be ordered from the First Amendment Center. For information, call the First Amendment Center’s John Lewis at 615-321-9588.

We suggest every interested individual get a copy of the pamphlet.

The federal impact statement will address most of these issues. One more assessment would help guarantee regulation will be consistent and persistent enough to prevent serious violations and to make reclamation work. Companies may not always be "advocates of the park."

Tennessee needs either dependable defenses against evasions of the law or the ban that environmentalists have sought.

The concept of the "office" has changed dramatically in the nineties.

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Looney Tunes cartoon caper in Washington


All about some political cartoons, too.

But in the Senate, he's not taking the hobo-cartoon caper lightly. Sen. Paul Tsongas, D-Mass., managing to embed himself so in his image was not enough to prevent his image from being shown, as was his case, in the cartoon.

In the process, he himself, and some political enemies, managed to preserve valuable images of each other. Sen. Rockefeller is known for his skill in drawing and public relations. Sen. Tsongas is known for his skill in drawing and public relations.

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Overcome the winter doldrums

Winter tips of the week

This week’s tips go to those of you who are enjoying our snow in a relaxed way. Monday, here are this week’s snowmobiling tips:

The most frequent cause of snowmobile accidents appears to be collisions with automobiles. It should not even be necessary to say that the snow machines have no place on highways, but there are always a few winter warriors who seem concerned to race along the main vehicular arteries or on medians of divided highways. No snowmobiler should operate his rig on public roadways, shoulders or inside bands or ditches of the county, state or U.S. highways unless extremely heavy snows have rendered such a road completely impassable for automobiles and trucks. When it is necessary to cross a main roadway, first turn on your lights and then, with the snowmobile at a 90-degree angle to the road, make a complete stop and yield to all traffic.

Learn the distances required to bring your snowmobile to a stop at various speeds under varying terrain and ice conditions. Remember, unless the snowmobile generally operates on hard pavement, snowmobiles always run on a slick surface that has an infinitely greater degree of variability than blacktop.

Water trouble?

When tap water has a "rotten egg" odor due to the presence of hydrogen sulfide gas, it’s a sign that the bacteria living in the hot water heater says Ernestine Porter, University of Idaho extension technician and consumer environment specialist.

"The bacteria that produce the odor will not endanger your health," Porter said, "but you’ll want to control them." She suggested these lines of attack:

• Use of chlorine in the water system can control the problem-causing bacteria.

• Increasing the temperature of the hot water heater to 100 degrees for several hours should kill the bacteria. Afterwards, flush the heater and turn down the temperature. Be sure to avoid scalding yourself or someone else.

• The high temperature of the water should be turned off only if the hot water heater has a pressure relief valve.

• Flush low-flow lines and leaping water masts to eliminate dead ends.

Wildlife’s winter search for food

Wild game animals are hungry as they search for food while winter snow covers the landscape. When Idaho gets a winter severe enough to bring animals out of the hills into contact with humans, some people wonder why the animals are not being fed.

According to the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the good-hearted citizens and sportmen of this state, the answer may seem simple. Wanting to help wild or domestic animals in need is human nature.

The Department of Fish and Game is working to maintain the largest game population. They also want to provide an emergency situation, not sustain a program that maintains larger game populations than the area can normally support.

The Fish and Game considers Idaho’s wildlife and their habitats a resource for all Idahoans. There is no one game in which the department places the most emphasis. Rather, the emphasis is on the conservation of all wildlife resources.

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission believes big game numbers can be controlled through adequate harvest to maintain winter ranges at their proper levels. The commission also claims big game populations should be maintained under natural conditions and available forage.

Wild game animals are a major factor that determines the basic size of big game populations. It must be maintained to allow the animals to prosper and propagate. They also do not sanction any widespread supplemental feeding programs.

The commission agrees there are times when unusual weather patterns create critical periods of stress. When winter forage becomes limited or unavailable, sometimes forces animals into areas with people.

Several winter feeding ranges have been replaced by homes and some migration routes have been blocked. Problems relating to feeding programs vary. Health problems include eye and respiratory infections that are frequent in herds concentrated around feeding sites. Diabetes has increased among wild animals, causing problems in fawns that are fed every winter.

Some people feel the Fish and Game is reluctant or too cautious about establishing winter feeding programs. The department’s reasons and policies are based upon decades of experience and study.

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission begins big game numbers can be controlled through adequate harvest to maintain winter ranges at their proper levels. The commission also claims big game populations should be maintained under natural conditions and available forage. The commission agrees there are times when unusual weather patterns create critical periods of stress. When winter forage becomes limited or unavailable, sometimes forces animals into areas with people.

When the Idaho Fish and Game Department determines a critical situation exists, they will provide artificial food to wildlife feeding areas. They only want to provide for an emergency situation, not sustain a program that maintains larger game populations than the area can normally support.

This year, the Fish and Game Department has been working with county commissioners, livestock producers and landowners to establish artificial feeding areas. The department has been working to establish artificial feeding areas in cooperation with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

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Welder builds 'Cadillac of bear traps'

Associated Press
CHOTEAU, Mont. — Bob Facklam has gone to great lengths to accumulate the hot-tempered, hairy brutes who use his products. Humans like them too.

Facklam builds "the Cadillac of bear traps," said Pablo Espinoza, a game warden on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

"He just slowly worked and improved them until now when they are probably the best trap made in the world," said Mike Muel, a Choteau-based bear specialist for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Facklam’s Teton Welding and Machine shop, which builds about 10 traps a year, is starting to attract business from around the world. He’s been negotiating with the French. He’s got two traps in his shop that are going to Spain where bears will be brought in from eastern Europe.

A contract was just signed with the Cleveland Metro Park Zoo and Seattle’s Woodland Park Zoo. The zoo needs eight light, aluminum transport cages for a joint project to transport endangered Malaysian sun bears to the United States for a captive breeding program.

He’s got traps in Wyoming, Colorado, California, Texas and Alaska. Glacier and Yellowstone parks use them, as do the Monashe Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department and the Blackfeet and Salish and Kootenai tribes.

The traps come in different sizes for everything from black bears to Alaskan brown and polar bears.

The cost is between $2,500 and $3,600. The transport cages, which are collapsible for transport and include feed and water troughs, cost $2,550.

Facklam, 44, began building bear traps in 1985 to bolster his farm and ranch welding business.

Unlike the old culvert traps, Facklam’s traps are light enough to be used for helicopter relocation of bears, said Steve Frye, the chief ranger in Glacier National Park.

Facklam, it appears, has discovered what it takes to build a better bear trap.

His traps are "probably one of the best examples of a manufacturer and a user and if you can say it, the animal, working together to make the best possible product," said Frye. "I think that’s a real credit to Facklam, the fact that he’s willing to listen to his customers’ comments."

For example, Muel told Facklam that bears are more likely to go for the bait — usually road-kill deer meat or fruit — if the trap is flat on the ground and the bear can see through the end of the tunnel. The culvert-style bear traps were high off the ground on trailers.

Facklam traps are light enough for one person to pull them out of a truck to place flat on the ground.

There’s also the barred window at the end that the bear can see through.

If the bear grabs the bait, the door and back window cover — traveling on Teflon slides — slam shut in the blink of an eye. A tamper-proof, double locking mechanism prevents tampering with the doors.

A pulley system attached to a winch will open the trap door while the bear traps sit in the safety of a truck cab.

The problem with traps has been the fact that the occupant immediately wants out. Grizzly bears and black bears can hurt themselves trying to escape.

In one of Facklam’s traps, the bear might try hitting the barred window but the bars are close enough together so the brain can’t break a tooth. Should a smaller bear get a tooty hold, the aluminum bars are softer and more forgiving than steel, but still won’t break.

The smooth tube of the trap is designed to have a minimum of edges where the bear might scratch with its claws. If it gets a paw into one of the silver dollar-sized ventilation holes — essential to keep the animal cool — the edges are rounded so the bear can’t damage its claws.

Facklam, a Seattle native, served at Malmstrom Air Force Base and then lived in Harlowton and Billings before moving to Choteau in 1983. An avid elk hunter, he’s also started building and selling bear-proof, aluminum food containers for use by people traveling in the backcountry. $500 for a set of pans. The containers are now required in several area national forests.

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Saturday, February 3rd, 1996
8 p.m., SUB Vandal Lounge

Free Admission!

Free Coffee!
Late rally falls short for Lumberjacks

Dan Eklees
Sports Editor

The Northern Arizona Lumberjacks nearly got out of the woods, but a crunchtime clunker wasn't enough to produce winning results in a 66-64 loss to the Idaho Vandals in NCAA Big Sky Conference basketball action Saturday night.

NAU's defense held Idaho without a field goal and outscored the UI squad 13-5 in the final five minutes of the contest, but the Vandals converted at the free throw line in the final seconds to hold on for the win.

Shawn Dirden and Nate Gardner each knocked down one of two free throws in the final 30 seconds to put Idaho ahead 66-62. NAU's Jermore Riley dropped in a layup in the waning seconds for the final margin. The Lumberjacks trailed 65-62 before Gardner's free throw, but junior guard Charles Thomas was called for traveling with 12 seconds remaining to nix any chance at a game-tying shot for Northern Arizona.

Dirden nailed a three-pointer for Idaho (9-7, 2-2 BSC) at the 5:18 mark of half two, giving the Vandals a 64-51 advantage, but a pair of treys by Riley and another by Michael McNair quickly got the NAU crew back into the game.

"I just thought we let in the last 25 minutes...We played well enough to win and that was about it," Idaho coach Joe Cavena said.

Idaho looked to run away with the game midway through the first half. McNair drained a three for the "Jacks, cutting Idaho's lead to 19-13 with 9:25 left to play in the first half, but the Vandals responded with 14 unanswered points to give them a 20-point edge, their largest of the game. Northern Arizona stayed in the game with a 12-4 run to end the half.

"We missed a lot of easy opportuni- ties to get down big," NAU coach Ben Howland said. "It seems like so many games we've been close. It's tough to be on the bottom every time."

The Vandals stretched their lead to as many as 15 in the second half on two occasions, thanks in large part to junior guard Eddie Turner. NAU (4-13, 1-5) tried to force the Vandals to beat them from long range, but shifting into a 2-3 zone, the cat-quick Turner exploded through the key for short jumpers and easy lay-ins forcing the Lumberjacks to abandon the scheme.

The junior-college transfer scored nine of Idaho's 10 points in a key second half rally.

Turner tied McNair for game-high scoring honors, finishing the affair with 15 points on 7-11 shooting.

UI's Jason Jackman owned the paint in the opening minutes, pouring in Idaho's first three buckets to finish the first half with 10 points and 8 rebounds. The 6-foot-9 forward ended the game with 14 points.

"When you go out and hit your first couple shots everything seems to go well," Jackman said. "They didn't take me out my shot just stopped falling."

The contest marked the first game since Idaho's league opening loss at Idaho State two weeks ago in which the Vandals have shot less than 54 percent from the field. The Vandals still outshoot the Lumberjacks 44 percent (25-57) to 39 percent (26-66).

Northern Arizona (6-6) NAU 5-3, 2-1 BSC
Men: 5-14, Riley 5-14, Thomas 4-4, Bowden 3-3, Kibbie 3-3, Osmond 2-3, Abbott 1-2, Stimmel 1-1, Turner 1-1, Blackett 0-1, Jones 1-1, 2, Harrison 1-5-4-4, Gardner 1-1-1-1, Brown 1-0-0.
Point total: 20-57 1/2-16 1/2.
Women: UI 37, NAU 25, 3-point goals.
NAU 7-23 (McNair 3-6, Riley 3-3, Thomas 1-4, Abbott 0-2, Green 0-3), UI 6-12 (Dawes 2-3, Bowden 1-3, Roes 1-2, Jones 0-1). Total field goals NAU 14, UI 14. Rebounds NAU 39 (Taylor 7), UI 22 (Riley 5, Allgaier 4). Total Fouls NAU 24, UI 17.

Hathaway, Chiwira lead Vandal tracksters

Damon Barkdoll
Staff

Temperatures in Moscow, Idaho reached extremely low levels on Friday and Saturday, leaving foot-bound students frostbitten and spirits frayed. However, Idaho's Kibbie Dome was heated by the intense competition among indoors at an eight-team scoring track and field meet.

No official record was kept on how teams finished point-wise but the meet did give Idaho tracksters a chance to match their skills against teams from Washington State, the University of Washington, Eastern Washington, Western Oregon, the University of Montana, Simon Fraser and Cal State L.A.

The meet also featured two independent teams including Footlocker, sponsoring consecutive native Dan O'Brien and team Moscow USA.

Idaho coach Mike Keller was happy with the way his team performed.

"I thought our overall condition- ing is improved," Keller said. "Overall I'm real happy with our performance."

Among first place finishers for the Vandals was defending Big Sky outdoor champion Thad Hathaway, who finished the high jump with a mark of 7-feet 0 1/2 and triple jumper Chris Kwambana finishing at 59-9 1/2. The Idaho men also finished first in the 400 relay with a 3:11.59 mark.

Of those Vandals competing on the track, Keller was especially happy with newcomer Tawanda Chiwira's performance. Chiwira finished first in the second heat of the 200 meter with a time of 21.77 and second and over all in UW's Ed Turner who finished with a time of 21.38.

Several other Vandals placed near the top of their respected event, including Frank Breden, who placed second overall in the 3,000 meter run with a time of 8:53.85 and came up with a fourth place finish in the mile run also. Two hundred meter runner Felix Kamangitira placed second at 21.90, losing out to Chiwira, his teammate. Idaho's Jeff Judd also finished second to a team- mate, marking 4:43.34 in the high jump. The Vandals also got a fourth place finish on the field from Kyle Daley, who had a mark of 49-5 1/2 in the 35-pound weight throw.

Overall, Keller was pleased with the men's performance and said the team had competed for several Big Sky Conference qualifying marks.

On the Vandal women's side of the coin, Jills Wilner led Idaho with a second place finish, 46-6-1/4 indoor school record mark, Wilner also placed first in the 60-meter hurdles and 700-meter weight throw with a toss of 40-1/2.

Also placing for the Vandal women was 55 meter hurdler Jackie Blacket who finished in third at 8.47. Finishing fourth for the Vandals was Althea Belgrave in the mile at 5:12.24 and Brigitta Stry in the 3,000 meter run with a time of 10:43.77.

The Vandals continue their indoor track and field season on Saturday in the Kibbie Dome with the McDonald's Open meet.
Vandal student-athletes work to excell in classroom

Byron Jarnagin

University of Idaho Vandal Athletic Department officials say positive student self-motivation can take the brass ring for the overall student athlete grade point average improvement.

Last spring semester's impressive overall 2.850 GPA for student athletes represented no plateau. The current fall overall GPA average of 2.965 emphasizes the fact that student athletes continue to get the job done in the classroom.

"The best thing about athletes is that they are usually geared toward success," said UI Athletic Director Pete Liske. "They need to achieve in both places to be successful, if you don't get your degree and if you don't get good grades your not successful, period." Liske feels that this is the way that a lot of UI student athletes are thinking, and further believes that this will in achieve academically is an unstoppable, motivational force that leads to success.

Student athlete academic numbers for last fall indirectly show the emphasis of the Athletic department's goal of putting classroom activity as priority one. Of Idaho's 252 total student athletes, about 49% achieved a GPA of 3.0 or better and seven of the 12 athletic teams recorded a team GPA of 3.0 or better. So why the success? Liske said it all begins with recruiting and evaluating prospective student athletes under the direction of Laurie Turner, coordinator of the Athletic Academic Services. "The first stage emphasizes comprehensive efforts of everyone in the Athletic department to help get the best students to start with, and to identify those students coming into the university that may be at risk academically and helping those students to be successful," commented Liske. "Emphasizing academic responsibilities and working with our athletes when they first come to campus to find out what the athletes is interested in is the second step."

Under the direction of the Academic department's leads, the University of Idaho offers student athletes a variety of academic programs and workshops. These programs help students become more prepared for future endeavors, such as jobs, graduate study, and other professional careers. However, the Athletic department has made a few changes to the program for the better. One improvement is the increased direct involvement of coaches and academic advisors with student athletes and their academic careers.

The fact that our department is proactive in the bottom line," said Turner. "From day one we are meeting with student athletes and their parents and constantly talking academics." Turner added that the formation of academic advisors within the Athletic department helps to stress academics even more.

Turner, said she stressed academics to her own players as a coach, even though a coach can talk academics well, often times the information goes in one ear and out the other, and the only things players pick up on is the "athletic stuff." What academic advisors in this department make a noticeable difference?

"Now that there is availability of an unbiased individual or individuals stressing the importance of academics, YES, I think that the academic ideas will sink in better than before," Turner added. "The Academic liaison watching over student athletes makes us take holding them to certain standards."

Another fail-safe for student athletes is the body known as the Student Advisory Board. This group which is comprised of individuals from each one of the different sport programs, works in con-

See ACADEMICS PAGE 17

The Wonderful Horrible Life of Leni Riefenstahl

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March 26 & 27

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Answer: Calculus

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Big Sky Women's standings

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Sports
Moscow, UI looking to host 1996 Palouse Winter Games

We all sport fans, another Super Sunday slipped away, hey. In the NFL season until July when pre-season kicks-off. Do not worry through, the NBA Finals, the Stanley Cup and March Madness all loom on the horizon. Oh yes, I almost forget, the centennial summer Olympics in Atlanta also take place this year.

What a year for sports. Of course, forgetting the summer games might not be difficult for sports fans on the Palouse who must fight winter storm after winter storm in a crazy white-out January. So a compromise, let's look at the Olympics, but localize the events to suit the current local climate. Welcome to the first ever Moscow Winter Games.

To begin with we need a theme, something catchy that captures the mood of the games. How about the "Why didn't I buy a four wheel drive, games?" Or maybe, "Another inch of snow and I transfer to Hawaii, games?" No, the perfect slogan, "Snow can be fun when you have not seen the sun, for 27 straight days!"

Well so much for a slogan, what about the events. Of course we should have some traditional events, how about skiing. We can have cross-country and downhill. We will set up the downhill course on the roof of the Dome and ski toward the residence halls. That's a good run, lots of pow- der at the start but a fast, icy track in the draw closes to the finish line.

Steelers fans booked flights to Pittsburgh. In their possession: a shotgun, highlight tapes of Terry Bradshaw, a map of the Steel City and one of those yellow terrible towels. Also kept in check with only a half or gained receiving yards.

So you see Pittsburgh fans, your Steelers were lucky even to be in the game. If NOT for O'Donnell and the Steelers' lucky rabbit foot play (the oxide lick), the mighty black and yellow might not have been as close as they came. They caught Dallas on a bad day and couldn't get the job done.

Let's not blame O'Donnell. Just give some credit to an underrated Dallas defense which forced four O'Donnell sacks. That kind of defensive pressure would have made any quarterback nervous enough to throw two bonehead interceptions.

Instead of blaming O'Donnell, examine yourself. And give a round of applause to the humble Larry Brown, who is everything but a flashy Deion Sanders.

Mike Stetson

As for cross-country, we better have a few courses. We can use Gus Wicks for the short speed events and then have the competi- tors ski from Pullman to Moscow for the mid-range course. I guess we need one more course for the really long events, how about the highway between Pullman and Lewiston, it never is open any more, that would be perfect.

What else, how about some skilled events that show off the versatility of athletes. Ice carving and snow angels. Competitors will meet on the Ag, Soi, lawn and to snow angels for the compulsory. Elements to look for will be a full arch in the wings and not notice- able foot prints going to the angel. The free on-curve will decide the gold as artists will have 12 hours to complete a sculpture of their own design. Points will be awarded for technical style and use of tools and attire.

Great, but what about team events, what would the Olympics be without a dream team or two? Okay, first we can have the stock car push, two and four person teams. The two person team will push a Volkswagen Bug 50 feet through snow one-foot deep. The four person team will push a Ford Taurus over the same course. The event will be timed and each team will get three runs, with the times combined for a winner.

We need a theme. How about, the "why didn't I buy a four- wheel drive games" or maybe the "another inch of snow and I'll transfer to Hawaii games."

Let's see, we have the artistic events, the traditional events, the team events, we need some speed events. The individual and two-per- son car-dig-out relays. Start with a car buried under snow, that should not be hard to find. Then have three divisions, snow shovel class, for sprinters, the cafeteria tray class, for the middle distances, and the glove class, for the stamina event. Each person or team will simply have to shovel the car out as fast as possible, one run per com- petitor in a timed event. The cars will be Ford Escorts and the com- petitors will need to drive the cars completely out of the parking space to finish the race.

ON CABLE CHANNEL 39

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January finds the department to use to not a risk. 

"Another improvement was moving from a department that only dealt with at-risk students to one that can benefit all students, even those doing well," stated Turner. "We are now extending our services to help those who are interested in graduate school, and to help student athletes find internship opportunities to make themselves more marketable."

From the "at risk" point of view, Turner says that the Idaho Athletic Department is pushing higher GPA standards and graduation rates. "One thing that we are doing better now is working with our transfer students and junior college athletes that may still have adjusting to do," commented Turner.

Further motivation for student athletes comes in a category called eligibility. "Depending on a student's situation different measures are implemented," said Liske. "For some,Tutorial work in the form of team study tables and grade monitoring on a weekly or daily basis for others sport participation privileges are revoked."

Specific programs offered by the Athletic department to student athletes include seminars on time management and stress management. "One of the biggest problems with freshmen or others simply at risk academically is that they have not learned how to manage their time well," said Turner. "We work with individuals who need to establish an organized schedule."

The athletic department now requires a freshman transition course, for student athletes who's GPA falls below a 2.30 coming out of high school or transferring from junior college.

Still, with all of these student help programs Idaho student athletes show themselves to be a step behind the masses with a fall semester GPA of 2.965. "I know that there are athletes who have set goals to improve personally which makes me believe this average has not peaked," said Liske.

To help the Athletic Department's academic program to continue to succeed, Liske said that creating more space for studying and counseling would be helpful. "I think the biggest thing we need right now is a new facility to create larger study areas for our athletes, and more rooms to accommodate the large number of programs geared toward academic excellence."

Liske said, plans are being drawn up for such as addition, and if the plans are agreed upon he hopes that construction will begin within a year or two.

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Junction with the UI Athletic Department on a plethora of student athlete issues from academic progress to jersey color. "These individuals serve as role models for other student athletes, and are usually team motivations," said Turner.

One of the biggest problems with others simply at risk academically, is that they have not learned how to manage their time well.

—Laurie Turner
UI Academic Coordinator

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What else can we add, how about a sidewalk slide? Competitors can begin at the Admin and slide, standing up down the hill toward the Forestry and Wildlife building and the power plant. Competitors who fall anywhere during the run, lose. The fastest time down the hill wins. Competitors will run from the Art and Architecture building to the Communications building since the slope levels there: Be careful, a fall here can cost you the gold.

Well, I guess all that remains would be opening and closing ceremonies. We can use the power plant as the teeth. It bitches out enough smoke to resemble a continuously burning flame. As for the festive opening show, why not use the Admin lawn? That way there is wide open space for lots of people and plenty of snow to play in afterwards. We can close the games in the same play, main because studen health is close

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ACADEMICS • FROM PAGE 15

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GAMES • FROM PAGE 16

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One-of-a-kind weddings

(AP) - Incorporating Norwegian touches and their favorite dance music in their wedding celebration places Carolyn Pytte and Jim Castonguay of South Salem, N.Y., among a growing number of couples who are opting for one-of-a-kind weddings.

There are many ways of personalizing a wedding, says Millie Bratten, executive editor of Bride's magazine. They range from adding ethnic customs and special music to creating a theme wedding.

"Theme weddings are fun and memorable," says Bratten, "and they give guests something to talk about."

Some themes noted by the magazine recently include costume weddings,

Diamonds symbolize power of love

Associated Press

It's just a little chunk of carbon, crystallized. But the crystal is enduring and full of surprises, like the good marriage it symbolizes.

The diamond has been prized as a betrothal symbol since at least the 15th century, when Archduke Maximilian of Austria presented his intended, Mary of Burgundy, with a ring set with a diamond.

Diamonds of that period were used in their natural crystal state - looking much like two pyramids joined base-to-base - notes Antoinette Matlins in "Engagement and Wedding Rings" (Gemstone Press, $14.95 paperback). Pyramids were identified with strength, power, and mystery, she writes.

"The very shape of the natural diamond crystal may have made it all the more attractive as the choice to symbolize the power of love and marriage."

But the best was to come, with later knowledge of how to cut this hardest of substances and unlock its innate brilliance and fire. Romantic as this sounds, these qualities can be scientifically defined, according to the Diamond Information Center, an industry group.

The modern diamond starts from the rough crystal, which is divided, or cleaved, by the cutter, following the crystal's natural grain. Then the gem is polished and shaped into facets, plane surfaces designed to achieve the highest degree of reflection and refraction.

The typical polished diamond has 57 or 58 facets, each proportioned in geometric relation to the others. When a ray of light touches the surface of the diamond, part of it bounces back into the eye of the observer, and the rest penetrates the stone and, as it goes, bends because of the optical density of the diamond, a process called refraction.

Then it makes a return trip from the internal surfaces of the diamond and emerges from the top, where it is bent again, revealing the colors of the spectrum. This light show looks like a dancing fire.

The effect is influenced by the nature and clarity of the stone. But no other gem matches the diamond's ability to sparkle, according to the DIC.
Computers aid planning process

Associated Press

Microsoft magnate Bill Gates says he once maintained a "virtual dating" relationship with a woman in another city via e-mail and cellular phone. "It's not surprising that computers are becoming a part of the wedding picture.

The powerful tools can keep track of wedding plans, carry messages to family and friends, aid in obtaining information from vendors, and sometimes even connect couples who want to complain, commiserate and ask one another advice.

To take advantage of all these services, a computer has to be equipped with a modem and the user needs an e-mail address, either through work or through one of the on-line services such as America On-Line, CompuServe or Prodigy.

For Carolyn Pyte and her mother, Patricia Pyte, both hooked into the Internet — e-mail was a valuable adjunct to planning for Carolyn's wedding.

"It was more efficient than a telephone call, less intrusive and less expensive," says Patricia Pyte. "Each of us typed in ideas for the reception when we got an inspiration . . . things that wouldn't have been worth a telephone call."

For those who are plugged in, but not connected, there are software programs such as the "Wedding Workshop" and "I Do: The Ultimate Wedding Planner," which are among a number of high tech versions of old-fashioned wedding planning books.

Programs such as these keep track of many details, such as wedding guest lists, seating charts, expenses, gifts and the names and addresses of vendors being considered or already hired.

These software programs are the most common uses of computers for weddings, according to Millie Bratton, editor of Bride's magazine. But they may be a form of technological overkill; a review of five current wedding planning programs in a recent issue of Bride's found none of them to be a significant advance on printed wedding planners.

While those who prefer using computers to pencil and paper may well prefer them, at prices ranging from $29.95 to $49.95, they are more expensive than the planners that sell for $20 or less, and a lot more expensive than a blank notebook that can be used for the same purpose.

For the computer-adept, the prospect of preparing a newsletter to keep family and friends apprised of wedding plans is daunting.

Such a newsletter would be especially helpful when a lot of people are coming from out of town, says Bratton. The ones she has seen typically include information on places to stay, travel directions, wedding events and arrangements, and information on local sightseeing from time not devoted to wedding festivities.

"We find that readers are using computers as a tool for organizing and as a tool for communicating," Bratton adds. "Vendors, too, are beginning to use the computer to advertise their services."

Recently Alan Fields was browsing one of the on-line wedding planning news- groups that have mushroomed in the last year or so and found an entire catalog of bridesmaid's dresses issued by Watters & Watters of Dallas.

As co-author of the self-published book, "Bridal Bargains" (Windsor Park Press, Boulder, Colo., $11.95 paperback), Fields has his own home page on the Internet, on which he posts updates, corrections, and letters from readers.

Fields sees the newsgroups, also referred to as chat and bulletin boards, as the most innovative use of computers.

"The Internet newsgroups are an uncensored look at what's really on the minds of today's brides and grooms," Fields says. While the opportunity to "chat" with other couples is a great idea, it is not always easy to make contact.

Laura Goetzl, who lives in Boston and is planning a wedding in Acapulco, is hoping to use the Internet to brainstorm and exchange information with other brides and maybe pick up some recommendations for local photographer, florist and caterer. So far, however, Goetzl has not found what she wants. Those "chatting" seem primarily to be vendors of goods and services.

"I'm someone with limited time, I am wary of opening up my e-mail address to unwanted advertising solicitations," says Goetzl. "You have to be careful because it is so easy to get your name out over a huge range."

Still Goetzl is using e-mail to advantage. "A friend of mine is e-mailing a friend of hers in Mexico City to get the name of a company that can supply handmade Mexican paper for wedding invitations," says the bride-to-be. "When she has the name, she will e-mail it to me. If the Internet didn't exist, I would have to telephone, which is more expensive and takes more time and effort."

Short hair easier

The bride-to-be who normally wears her hair short should keep it that way for the big day, advises a New York beauty specialist.

"Short or mid-length hair tends to be softer, looking and easier to wear even on your wedding day, not to mention more versatile," says Vernon Keetch, creative designer at the uptown Vitalis Sassoon Salon in New York City.

For some reason, many prospective brides start growing their hair longer as soon as they are engaged, in the belief that long hair offers more styling options with the big day. "But long hair pulled up looks just like short hair, notes Keetch.

"If you grow your hair out strictly for your wedding day and then cut it off right after the honeymoon, someday you'll be going to look back at the pictures and you won't really see what you looked like at the time of your big day."

The best solution to long hair on your honeymoon, especially if you are not good with your hair?

"Short hair can be worn either very stylish and polished or loose and natural," Keetch says. Bring your headpiece to your stylist a few months before the wedding so you can practice how you will handle it on the big day, he advises. It you're going to keep your hair up, Keetch can give you a lesson on handling it, which you can practice as the date approaches.

The last cut should be about two weeks before the wedding and coloring about a week before.

Another advantage to short cuts, are that after the ceremony, you can remove the veil without needing to be concerned about hair loss. Just run your fingers through your hair, and enjoy the party.

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For the bride and groom, the wedding is a mix of emotion and communion. Books written for them reflect this:

Miss Manners takes unerring aim at miscreant wedding practices in "Miss Manners on ( Painfully Proper) Weddings" (Crow Publishers, $14 hardcover), by Judith Martin. Among her targets are the idea of weddings as show business or as fund raisers for house down payments, exorbitant bridal showers and "money" dances, registry cards tucked into invitations, and the narcissistic bride who wants to control everything because it's "her" day, which must be absolutely perfect.

"Anyway, no bride in her right mind, if nature could produce such a wondrous creature, would want her wedding to be the Happiest Day of My Life," the author observes. "This would mean that everything from then on, such as the marriage itself, would be downhill.

Lovers pose that important question in all sorts of ways and not surprisingly these days, on the Internet, on the job, and at special places. Cynthia Clumec Muknowick has collected stories about proposals made through e-mail, disguised as a stock prospectus, and even during surgery in "Will You Marry Me?: The World's Most Romantic Proposals" (Macmillan $6.95 hardcover).

The zing doesn't have to go out of the marriage as time goes on, argue Joseph Lipari and Leonard Jobin, who suggest hundreds of ways to keep it going in "Isn't That Romantic" (Avery Books, $9.95 paperback). There are ideas about special presentations on birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, and other personal milestones.

Mary Engelbreit's distinctive artwork illustrates "Our Wedding Journal" (Andrews and McMeel, $14.95 hardcover), an album that encourages the couple to record their thoughts and words as well as the milestone itself.

You've seen (or perhaps even read) the books that explain in down-to-earth language how to run your computer. Here comes a wedding book in the same format:


"Modern Bride Honeymoons and Weddings Away" (John Wiley & Sons, $14.95 paperback) by Gerry Bain, travel editor of Modern Bride magazine, focuses on organizing the honeymoon getaway as well as planning destination weddings.

The author suggests romantic spots all over the country, the Caribbean, and abroad where the pair can marry and take the trip of a lifetime.

"Frommer's Caribbean Hideaways" (Macmillan, $15.95 paperback), by Ian Kershaw, offers a critique of the best and most romantic places to honeymoon on the islands. Included are hotels, spas, resorts, inns, and beachfront bungalows that cater to lovers of all kinds.

"Checklist for a Perfect Honeymoon" (Doubleday, $8.95 paperback), by Suzanne Rodriguez-Hunter, helps the couple choose the honeymoon tailored for them. Do they want to be pampered? To be left alone? Escape to a fabled city? To the beach? Have a trip keyed to fine food and wine, to art, theater or music? Or experience an adventure? The author even suggests ways to make the decision if there is a difference of opinion between the pair about the options.

An updated edition of "Engagement & Wedding Rings" (Gemstone Press, $14.95 paperback), by Antoinette Matlins with Antonio Bonanno and Jane Crystal, explains the history and traditions of this jewelry and tells how to choose, design, and buy it. Included is information about what to look for in diamonds and other precious or semi-precious stones, how to choose a setting, how to update heirlooms, how to find reputable jewelers, how to guard against ripoffs, and other advice to make the best choice within budget.

"An Ounce of Prevention" (Rainbow Books, $12.95 paperback), by Craig A. Tuttle, will help you preserve wedding photos, memorabilia, and papers with appropriate treatment, storage, and repair. The book covers photos, documents, books, stamps, trading and greeting cards and other collectibles and explains how inks, papers and chemicals react to environment and age.

Honeymoon: Limited time and finances?

For the bride and groom who have limited time or finances allotted for their honeymoon, a short three- or four day cruise is perfect. Several cruise lines offer beautiful ships for this market. The highest discounts are available when booked far in advance.

Cruising offers a diverse array of activities: shopping, gambling, Broadway shows, a vast assortment of watersports and many, many more. The dining experience is worth the trip.

International cuisine is offered through breakfast, lunch, dinner and the midnight buffet. And if that's not enough you may enjoy cookies and ice cream at Afternoon Tea. You may choose to dine in the dining room, at poolside or in the privacy of your cabin. After all those meals, you may need a little exercise. Try the fitness center, swimming or throwing the dice.

Check with your local travel agent for brochures and available sailing dates.
Wedding dress a keepsake

Preserving the wedding dress and bouquet can give the bride nostalgic pleasure in future years, especially if they are cared for right after the nuptials.

Tips about preserving them are offered by Bride's magazine:

The Wedding Dress. Get the gown to the dry cleaner as soon as possible, no later than a month after wearing; to stains can be removed before they become permanent. Stains should be hand-treated, and those from sugar need special treatment, since regular dry-cleaning fluid cannot dissolve them.

Be sure to ask the dry cleaner to clean the gown individually and to turn it inside out to protect beading and embroidery. If the dry cleaner packs it, choose an acid-free storage box with acid-free tissue paper. The window of the box should be acetate, not plastic. And because the glue, rubber and metal parts in a headpiece can brown the dress, have it stored separately. Ask to see the dress before it's packed and inspect it carefully. Check it yearly so stains that emerge can be treated.

If you're packing it yourself, remove padding in the bust or shoulders after dry cleaning, and wrap the dress in a clean white sheet or muslin. The dress should be laid flat, not hung, in a dry area with an even temperature. Avoid attics or basements, which can be too hot or damp.

The Bouquet. Begin the drying process right away, before you leave for the honeymoon. Turn the bouquet upside down and hang it in a dark, dry place. In two weeks it should be completely dry and ready to decorate a wall or shelf. If you prefer, cut fresh flowers close to the base and place inside a large book for pressing; these can be used to decorate pages of a wedding album.

Western wear becoming popular

Associated Press

It's the '90s, so a cowboy can put on his Stetson and his best boots, grab his gal, and step lively down the aisle.

For the '90s look _ give or take a century _ the gal may be wearing boots and a cowboy hat herself. The boots will be white and the hat will have a tulle bow and veil attached.

Far fetched? Maybe, but a fringed white lace wedding dress, white boots and a tulle-draped white western hat were an instant success all over the country when shown in a western-wear mail order catalog in the spring of 1995.

"We sold about 1,300 dresses, about five times what we would normally expect," says Fred Wojcik, president of Cheyenne Outfitters of Cheyenne, Wyo.

The mail order company also sold something like 500 white wedding hats and quite a few pairs of white boots. For the fall catalog, released this past summer, a denim wedding outfit was added, and it did well, too.

Now, Cheyenne Outfitters has issued a separate 12-page wedding dress collection catalog. There are six styles of wedding dress, ranging in price from $700 to $2,200. There is also clothing for the groom, bridesmaids, flower girls and the wedding accessories such as fringe-wrapped toastng glasses and a cowboy and cowgirl cake topper.

Sales of western wedding wear have been best for the catalog house in Texas but also surprisingly strong in the Northeast and Midwest, says Wojcik. A number of those who ordered followed up by sending the company snapshots of their western-style weddings.

The photos show that when the bride goes western, the groom does, too, says Wojcik. Grooms typically wear a short tuxedo jacket or a long frock coat with black denim trousers and a dress shirt and string tie (all offered in the catalog), as well as black boots and a black cowboy hat. Crushed "broomstick" skirts and party blouses were standard attire for the bridesmaids.

Wojcik says that western themes for weddings seem especially popular for second weddings, when he theorizes, people want to do something out of the ordinary.

Another reason why a western wedding might be popular? "It's very affordable, not only because the clothes are less expensive but also because the food and service can be informal and cost less," Wojcik says. "The wedding can even be held outdoors."

He ought to know. Wojcik married Debbie Nolen in June, 1995, in a western-style outdoor wedding. She wore a western dress, the white tulle cowboy hat and white wedding boots from the catalog. He wore the frock coat in the catalog and black jeans, a black hat and his best black lizzard boots. The best man and maid of honor also wore western gear.

The western wedding fits into what bridal magazines refer to as costume and theme weddings. They're a growing trend, but far from the major one.

"To tell you the truth," says Rachel Leonard, fashion editor of Bride's, "most brides want to look like the all-American girl. In the '90s, that tends to mean wearing a dress of relative simplicity, understated with clean lines. The ball gown, the princess line and the sheath are the most important silhouettes."

Representative of that trend are dresses by Amsale Aberra, an Ethiopia-born American designer who prefers simple lines with fine fabrics and subtle detailing, such as a slender Aline lace sheath with a silver filigree train or a full-skirted satin gown over a tulle underskirt accented with silk flowers.

"I want a bride to be able to look at her wedding photographs on her 20th wedding anniversary and see an elegant gown as beautiful as ever _ not a trendy, fussy period piece," says the designer, whose line bears her first name.

Leonard says that one of the newest trends is for bridal dresses to have a color accent. It could be contrast piping on a white dress, colored embroidery at the neckline, or a silk flower on a bustle. Some dresses are even subtly colored in very pale pink or blue. Or the color may come in a pastel veil worn with a white dress.

Another fashionable direction is for body-revealing and body-baring dresses such as sheaths, halter tops, bare backs and dresses with cutouts at the shoulders or necklines.

Yet another bridal look is a sedate, high-necked dress with long sleeves. The style was popularized in the 1950s by brides such as Grace Kelly and Jackie Kennedy.

Those who crave a vintage look often go with lace, says Leonard. The dresses are new, but they have an heirloom look from the turn of the century or a little after. Vintage-style accessories such as ankle boots and strap buckle shoes are favorites with dresses such as these.

If the storybook wedding appeals, however, not to worry. "There are lots of fantasies out there _ medieval, Victorian, western, southern belle or Cinderella princess are some of the most popular _ and the manufacturers cater to them," Leonard says.

Of course, those fantasies do have a fairly steep price tag. The average price of a wedding dress across the country is $750, with better dresses priced between $1,000 and $2,000, and up. There are, however, more options in stylish dresses at lower prices, says Leonard.

Styles for attendants mirror those for the bride. Sheaths and other body-revealing styles are popular, but so are ladylike dresses that recall the '50s. More fashionable clothing that can be worn for other occasions is growing in popularity. This season, for example, there are chiffon pants with a lace top for bridesmaids.

New colors for attendants include chartreuse and lilac. But the old standbys of pink, red shades such as coral and fuchsia and navy blue are continuing trends.

Manufacturers are experimenting with dapper Hollywood looks for grooms and male attendants, says Leonard. High vests that show under the jacket and lapel insets of satin striped or newer looks. Mandarin collar shirts worn with a jewel rather than a tie are another fashionable direction.

Advice for prospective brides choosing a dress?

"If you are getting married on a ranch, western wear makes sense," says Leonard. "If you are getting married at the Rainbow Room, wear something glamorous."
Las Vegas Makes Wedding Planning Easy

Associated Press

Those deep into the angst of planning a large complicated wedding and concerned as bills pile up might well envy Barbara and Michael Carson, who combined their wedding and honeymoon during one weekend in Las Vegas in September.

Getting married in Las Vegas is an updated version of eloping. It is fast, easy, and, according to the Carsons, romantic, meaningful, personal, and fun. They both loved it.

"The wedding was tasteful, painless, quick and marvellous, and we even got to walk down the aisle," Carson says.

"We could concentrate on each other because we didn't have to worry about guests or family. All of my weddings, this was the best," says Barbara Carson, who had a traditional big wedding with all the trimmings in a previous marriage and found it highly stressful.

The couple, who live in San Clemente, Calif., made the five-hour drive to Las Vegas on Friday afternoon. They completed all wedding arrangements by telephone on Saturday morning and had the ceremony that evening at A Little White Chapel on the Strip.

The cost of the wedding, not including travel, meals or hotel was $312. This package price included limousine transportation between their hotel, the marriage license bureau and the chapel, flowers for the bride, a boutonniere for the groom, a video and photographs.

While they were sorry to exclude family members and friends who would have liked to have been there, the Carsons say that keeping the event private made it more meaningful to them.

They chose Las Vegas because it offered them an opportunity to be alone and because they saw it as a fun place with lots to do.

While they hadn't made plans before leaving San Clemente, Barbara did have the Chamber of Commerce mail her a booklet about getting married in Las Vegas.

"All that is required in paperwork is identification, information about your divorce (both have been married before), and proof of age," she says. "The booklet said to make preliminary plans ahead of time, but we did not. There were more than 20 places to choose from, so we felt sure we could do some on-the-spot comparison shopping."

The couple spotted the chapel on their way into town, liked what they saw of the picturesque white-washed adobe buildings, and got a kick out of the sign out front announcing that Joan Collins and Michael Jordan both had been married there. What clinched the selection for Barbara was the friendly reception she got when she telephoned. This was the most accommodating of the three places she called on Saturday morning.

The arrangements called for the limousine driver to pick up the couple at their hotel at 8 p.m. Saturday, drive them to the marriage license bureau, and wait while they obtained a license, which took about 10 minutes and cost $35, according to Carson.

Then they were driven to the wedding chapel, had a brief conference with their officiant, and walked down the aisle of a small candle-lit chapel with 10 pews, to taped musical accompaniment. The videotaped ceremony took about 10 minutes, after which the photographer snapped pictures. Then the limousine delivered the couple to a hotel where they had tickets for a show.

All told, they spent about $1,500 on the wedding and travel expenses for the weekend. But Carson says that they came home with a little more than they spent, since he won some money at the gaming tables.

"It was much more than I expected," Barbara says. "They were very respectful of marriage and of us."

A Little White Chapel is open every day, 24 hours a day, and stages as many as 250 weddings a week.

It has been operating since 1954, when it opened as a small mom-and-pop wedding chapel, according to Charolotte Richards, president.

Richards, who started as an assistant to the owners, purchased the chapel from their estate. Today, it is one of six owned by Richards, whose empire now employs 86 people, including nine officials and 17 limousine drivers.

Richards' enterprise also covers a dozen limousines, a flower shop, photography studio, video facilities, and wedding gown and tuxedo rental.

Her company also can arrange airborne weddings in a hot air balloon that holds up to 14 people. It is known as A Little White Chapel In the Sky.

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