A laughing matter

Idaho Repertory Theatre opens 45th season with comedy 'The Foreigner'

by Dave Jack Bresponses

In her latest role, Jeri Schreiber will play the lead in a production of "The Foreigner," opening this week at the Idaho Repertory Theatre. Schreiber, who has played a variety of roles in the past, is looking forward to the challenge of portraying Mollie, the character who is known for her phobia of social situations. She says she is excited to bring the character to life on stage.

In the production, Mollie and her husband are visiting a small Georgia town for the weekend. Mollie is apprehensive about the visit, but her husband, Henry, is eager to spend time with his family. When Mollie meets a group of local men, she becomes extremely nervous and refuses to speak to them. Meanwhile, a local writer named Hartung begins to notice Mollie and her behavior.

As the weekend progresses, Mollie finds herself in a variety of social situations, each one more uncomfortable than the last. Her husband is forced to confront the reality of his wife's phobia, and he must find a way to help her overcome her fear.

The play is directed by Gary Schmidt, who has directed several productions at the Idaho Repertory Theatre. Schmidt says he is excited to work with Schreiber and the rest of the cast on a light and funny production. He says the play is a perfect fit for the Repertory Theatre, which is known for its wide range of productions.

The production opens on Friday, May 13, and runs through June 18. Tickets are available at the theatre's box office or online at www.idaho-rep.org. For more information, call 208-882-7321.
May graduates can take advantage of lowest interest rates on loans

BY JULIANA EWANG

According to UI financial aid, the current May graduate owes an average of $20,625 in student loan debt.

Robert Dunn, associate director of financial aid at UI said, "No matter how difficult your financial situation is, you can almost always find a solution. There are plenty of options and help available out there."

This is good news for May graduates with student loan debt. On July 1, the interest rates on Federal Direct Loans are scheduled to increase from 6.8 percent to 7.9 percent. "That is the lowest interest rate ever," Dunn added. "That is not even a low rate when the program begins in the 100s. That is a huge amount of money." Dunn said.

"It is a normal amount," Dunn continued. "It is a typical amount that we are seeing. It is a great deal to be paying back." Dunn said. "It is going to be a lot of money." Dunn said.

"This is the time for students to get their ducks lined up — it is figuring out how much they owe and choosing a payment plan," Dunn said. "It is very important to choose a plan that fits your finances." Dunn said.

"The Direct Loan Program offers a number of repayment plans," Dunn said. "Standard, extended and graduated plan options are available. Students can choose the plan that best fits their finances." Dunn said.

"Students can choose to have their payments start out low, then increase every two years. The payments can continue for 10 years, depending on the total amount owed," Dunn said. "It is very important to choose a plan that fits your finances." Dunn said.

"Income Contingent (IC) options are available," Dunn said. "These plans allow the borrower to choose the payment plan that best fits their current financial situation. The main advantage of the IC plan is that you only pay a minimum payment each year, usually $40, which can be paid off as soon as you qualify." Dunn said.

"Because students have income in mind," Dunn said. "The IC plan is meant for students who have income but cannot afford to pay a set amount each month. The payments are based on the student's income and are usually lower than the standard payment." Dunn said.

"The Extended Repayment Plan (ERP) is a plan that allows students to have a longer period of time to pay off their debt," Dunn said. "The ERP plan allows students to have a longer period of time to pay off their debt, usually seven years. The monthly payment is lower than the standard plan, which can make it easier to pay off the loan." Dunn said.

"The graduated repayment plan is a plan that helps students who have a lower income than the standard plan," Dunn said. "The graduated repayment plan allows students to have a lower monthly payment than the standard plan, which can make it easier to pay off the loan." Dunn said.
Radiohead forgets about the past on "Amnesiac"

By Helen Price

Radiohead has released "Amnesiac," their first new album in five years. The album features eight songs, including the lead single "Pulk/Pull," which was released earlier this year.

"Amnesiac" marks a departure from the band's previous work, which often centered around complex, multi-layered arrangements. Instead, "Amnesiac" is more streamlined and focused, with a simpler, more direct approach to songwriting.

The album opens with the title track, "Amnesiac," a slow, atmospheric piece that sets the tone for the rest of the album. "Amnesiac" is followed by "Pulp/Fuse," which features a catchy drumbeat and simple melody. The song is a departure from the band's usual experimental approach, with a more straightforward, pop-oriented sound.

Other standout tracks include "Kid A," with its minimalist arrangement and haunting vocals, and "Heave," which features a driving beat and a powerful, emotional hook. The album closes with "The Eraser," a haunting, synth-heavy piece that leaves a lasting impression.

Overall, "Amnesiac" is a strong release that shows Radiohead's continued ability to evolve and push boundaries. Despite the band's long absence, "Amnesiac" proves that they remain one of the most innovative and influential groups in rock music.