Secrecy surrounds settlement

By SHERRY DEAL
News Editor

The University of Idaho reached a settlement with four female UI employees who claimed sexual discrimination and salary inequity prompted them to file formal complaints with the Idaho Human Rights Commission and a suit with the U.S. Department of Labor.

Betsy Thomas, Taijanae Cochauer, Inman Fenston and Diann Milholliin, all Student Advisory Services employees last year, filed the charges after James Bauer was promoted from director of student activities to assistant dean of student services last spring.

Cochauer and Fenston are now employed in other university departments.

Last March, former UI President Richard Gibb admitted "mistakes" were made when Bauer was promoted. After job title changes and several other alterations were made, and after the position was advertised nationally, Bauer applied and was hired.

However, none of those involved in the settlement are willing to comment on the terms of the agreement.

"In the settlement, the parties agreed that the terms of the release shall remain confidential," UI President Elizabeth Zinser said in a news release Tuesday.

According to the release, the agreement came after many discussions with the four employees, Zinser and Carol Hahn, Affirmative Action officer. The agreement dismisses the charges made against the University of Idaho.

SHAA applicant asks president to work with SHA on prayer issue

By M.L. GARLAND & SHERRY DEAL

University of Idaho administrators and campus church officials agree the Student Humanist Association may have a valid complaint about prayer at commencement ceremonies.

"It is totally inappropriate for any religion to be exercised at commencement," said Bruce Wollenberg, director of the Campus Christian Center. "It's a public-sponsored event for the entire citizenship of the state."

SHA, president and co-founder Todd Harper and other SHA members said they are opposing prayer at commencement ceremonies because it is unconstitutional, and also because it may offend non-Christian students.

"We fully support religious freedom," Harper said, "but it has no place at a state institution." SHA does not anticipate litigation this time and would prefer to work out the situation with the administration.

Hal Godwin, acting dean of student affairs, said he plans to work with the commencement committee on the issue.

"I look forward to entering into a discussion on the topic," Godwin said. "SHA has a legitimate view and we will give them a forum."

However, Rick Bouillon, commencement committee chairman, was unable to speak on behalf of the committee. He did say he was concerned about how commencement relates to religion.

Jan Hansen, director of the Latter-Day Saint Institute of Religion, supports having prayer at any event, but says he believes no one should be forced to pray.

"I would fully support the Student Humanist Association," Wollenberg said. He said he might help with their campaign.

When Wollenberg worked at the University of California at Santa Barbara, he became involved in a similar situation. Several members of the religious community conducted a letter campaign against the administration to have invocation and benediction removed from the graduation ceremony.

According to Wollenberg, the administration did not respond to their letter. "Our prayers were 'quietly dropped from the program.' Religious groups should sponsor their own strictly private affairs with no official sanction," he said.

Elizabeth Brandt, American Civil Liberties Union member and UI labor law professor, said she has looked into the
By SCOTT TROTTER
Associate Editor

The University of Idaho's first attempt at mandatory pre-registration Nov. 19-17 was a success, according to Registrar Matt Telin.

"I'd like to congratulate the students, faculty and staff for making the first pre-registration a success," Telin said. "UI is definitely ready for pre-registration."

"We're only half way through looking at the results, but we feel the pre-registration was beyond our expectations," he said. "We figured on anywhere from 4,000 to 5,000 students to go through pre-registration, and we got over 6,000. So we are really excited." Telin said 85 percent of UI's undergraduates, almost 100 percent of the law students and 76 percent of the graduate students went through the pre-registration process, which is actually the first phase of a three-phase plan that will incorporate Touch Tone registration in the next few years at UI.

"I'm really happy with the percentages, especially the number of undergraduates who used the process," he said.

Telin also said the percentage of seniors who used the pre-registration process may actually increase by the end of finals week.

"We're still receiving course selection sheets daily, so there are probably still students out there who need to file at the Registrar's Office before they leave," he said. "Students who are still hanging on to their registration forms need to make sure they actually turn them in, or registration hasn't happened."

Telin said that students who have filed for pre-registration will now be able to avoid the problems of registering in the ASUI-Kribble Done and will only need to go to the Dome for financial aid disbursement and to finalize fee payments.

"It makes the process simple in regard to finalizing registration of students," he said. Telin said that students who owe the UI money should pay their accounts to avoid additional hassles.

"Students who owe outstanding accounts should clear them up before leaving to avoid having to make a trip to the Bursar's Office," he said. "We had 2,300 students stop by to pay outstanding debts before registering this fall semester."

Kagi bids farewell, new officers sworn in

By VIVIANE GILBERT
Staff Writer

The new ASUSI president and vice president and six new senators were sworn in at a double senate meeting Wednesday.

At the first meeting, retiring ASUSI President Tina Kagi, Vice President Lynne Major and senators Mike Mick and Kurt Gustavel said their farewells to the senate.

Also at that meeting, the nominations of Bill Broadhead, Bill Heffner and Tony Lingner to the senate were approved. The three new senators were sworn in by Kagi.

After the meeting, David Pena was sworn in as the new ASUSI president by Kagi. Pena then swore in the new ASUSI Vice President Mike Geich and senators Amy Anderson, Brent King and Doug Korn.

The new senate then conducted its first meeting, at which Sen. Steve Dunn was elected ASUSI Senate Protempore.

In a tearful final presidential address, Kagi thanked her family and friends for sticking by her throughout her term, which she called "the longest year of my life."

Kagi said she was leaving office with a great sense of satisfaction, knowing that she accomplished everything she said she would.

"I haven't been easy, but nothing really worthwhile is ever easy." — Tina Kagi

Former ASUSI President Bill Heffner

"It's been great, but now I'm through, and I'm very glad that I'm through," Kagi said.

She mentioned the hard times the senate had been through during the year, such as problems with the Student Center Association and the fee increase; and the changes, such as a new university president, food service, and bookstore.

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In case as an ACLU member, but not as a lawyer."

"I do feel they have a good philosophical argument," she said. "It's definitely worth discussing."

She said last year's prayer at the UI commencement was "very religiously oriented."

"It excludes non-Christians," Brandt said. "It should be something a public school does.

The local ACLU does not have the ability to litigate, but may be interested in a letter writing campaign, according to Brandt. She plans to address the idea at the next local ACLU chapter meeting in early January.

The chapter will decide at that time if it will become involved with the issue.
New coordinator seeks to involve minority students, improve image

By VIVIANE GILBERT
Staff Writer

Minority students at the University of Idaho have a new friend in Student Advisory Services: Miquel Almanza.

Almanza has been named UI’s new minority coordinator, of Minority Programs.

Almanza replaces former coordinator Trujean Cochran, who resigned last spring.

Almanza has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Bethel College at North Newton, Kan., a master’s degree in education from Bethel College, a master of arts in secondary education from North Illinois University. He has more than 12 years of teaching experience, from junior high to the university level.

Almanza arrived in Idaho from Illinois in late October. He visited the Northwest for the first time when he came to Idaho to interview for the job. He is still looking forward to trying to get used to the various aspects of life in Moscow, including the unpredictable weather and the lack of big cities.

"There’s a lot to explore," Almanza said. "I like the environment, and the change in terrain." His decision to come to Idaho was influenced by the people he met while here for the interview, Almanza said.

"I was very impressed with the inherent ability of the group," Almanza said. "I knew I could work with the people."

Almanza was also impressed by UI President Elizabeth Stimmel’s commitment. In addition, he said, this area is open to developing opportunities for minorities, more so than the Midwest or Eastern United States.

Almanza said one of his main goals for the UI is to further develop the minority profile of the university using organizational techniques.

Organization in minority groups provides minority students with a sense of community and increases visibility, Almanza said. Minority students need to realize they have something to contribute to the university.

"The larger community is strengthened," Almanza said. "We need to build stronger bridges and connections between people."

Almanza said that interagency between minority and non-minority students benefits the institution because it creates a "healthy tension."

"That is good in a learning environment," Almanza said. "It gets rid of monolithic points of view, when people get a chance to see different literatures."

The Office of Minority Services works with UI’s 300 U.S. minority students. U.S. minorities are defined as Asian, Black and Native Americans, Hispanics, Pacific Islanders and Alaskan Natives.

This distinction can cause a problem, according to Almanza. "People think the minority population is OK, because they lump them (minorities) together with the international students," Almanza said.

Almanza said another office at Student Advisory Services deals with international students.

Borah Symposium seminars offered for credit

By SHERRY DEAL
News Editor

Three special policy science seminars are planned for next semester in conjunction with the upcoming Borah Symposium.

The three, one-credit seminars will cover topics related to the Borah topic "The New Europe." Gorbachev’s New Europe House will be taught by political science Professor Anos Yoder. In a seminar called "Social and economic changes in the Former Borah Foundation Committee, Yoder said that the seminar "would be on how to examine the Soviet and East European internal reforms of the past two years and how they are preparing the way for economic and military cooperation between Eastern and Western Europe." Richard Spencer, assistant professor of history, will teach "The Other Europe: The Political and Social History of Eastern Europe in the 20th Century." In his proposal, Spencer said the course is intended to "give students historical background to recent and future events in Eastern Europe by examining the political and social evolution of the region during this century." The course will look at the Baltic States, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania, Albania, Bulgaria, Greece and East Germany. "Economic and Ecological Crisis in Eastern Europe: An Impediment or a Driving Force Behind the Transition Toward a Market Economy" is planned by Piotr Jasinski, assistant professor of geography. It will examine economic and environmental conditions in Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union.

According to Borah Committee member Bill Broadhead, Borah Symposium guest speakers will also visit the seminars. "Students will have the opportunity to talk to people who are coming in for the conference," he said. "The seminars should be interesting, informative and quite timely in light of the world situation."

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Messott bat to appear here soon

The "dimmitt doll" has been stuffed in a box with the rest of the Munch's screen print. I've even removed the posted (female) Rules. The 2:00 a.m. production nights containing work of wall-to-wall and it's for us to move on.

The deadlines and condolences go to my Managing Editor Matt Helmick who will take over the newsroom, and it's for me to move on.

News Editor Sherry Deal saved these deadlines through the turbulence. Keeping the front page newsworthy will be a small task compared to her press conference this past season.

"Hey, Dadel!" has become part of my vocabulary thanks to Associate Editor Scott Toth. He, with some help, has always made production nights interesting. However, as he goes out into the real world, I must give him this advice: Don't throw your best shoes out the window. You may not have a ladder handy to get them out of the ivy.

Many individuals have claimed copy goddess/ queen status for the only one who has deserved it. She will always reign over us.

Sports Editor Russ Blegg is a godsend to a sports illiterate editor. And Entertainment Editor Stephanie Adams has straightened the one night and completed her section first. That is a tremendous process....

Despite threats of violating open meeting laws and having to deal with difficult people, News Assistant Todd Harper did an excellent job covering various events. Copy Editor Vivian Tisch and Beth Pettibon spent hours making articles coherent.

Occasionally, a very tough.

We owe eternal gratitude to straightening goddess Donna Fristoe. She's straightened out the paper in more ways than one. Chris Fritter, alias Dave Zill, and Todd Smith, graphics god, made those last-minute illustrations possible.

Due to a lack of space I cannot thank each writer and columnist individually. But if you are always stressed, we wouldn't have a paper without you.

How true it is.

Ed Moore, our counterpart in ASU Advertising, literally made the paper possible with his excellent sales techniques. He ought to be said about his high-voltage office basketball games and original renditions of pop tunes. Unfortunately, I can't print them.

We would have never made it through without your support, Stephanie, Jamie, Cynthia and Juanita. They screened many-a-call, fixed the computers and provided us with wonderful soup/meal nights.

And my thank yous would be incomplete without kudos to Lady Elizabeth. You made some interesting articles and editors possible, and I have the utmost respect for you and wish you luck in every endeavor.

Thank you all for bringing UI "Tomorrow's News Today." It hasn't only been Good for U, but good for the credibility of the Argonaut. — M.L. Garland

Letters to the Editor

The above is not an intention statement of what has transpired. I was contacted by an Argonaut writer at 10:10 p.m., at home, on Dec. 11. I was told that the above article appeared. I was not told that the above was a complete rewrite by the next day and that my comment was urgent. Because of the constant call to run inside the peacefulness of my home, I asked the person to call me at my office, which was not contacted.

— Elizabeth Barker Brandt

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— Elizabeth Barker Brandt

No commitment

Editor:
I am writing in response to your article Humanist Group Opens Confrontation Practice published in the Dec. 12 issue of the Argonaut. In the article Todd Harper, president of the Student Humanists Society, indicated that the ACLU was "'willing to assist in a writing campaign'...in support of the SHS position. This is not a correct statement of the ACLU's involvement in the issue at this time.

Mr. Harper contacted me as a member of the ACLU staff regarding whether the ACLU would be interested in supporting the SHS position on this issue. I indicated to him that I thought that this was the type of issue that the ACLU would be interested in and that a likely response was that we would send letters to the university seeking a resolution of the problem. How- ever, I told Mr. Harper that I feared that we would be unable to raise the issue at the next business meeting of the ACLU and seek their approval. I did not make any commitment to Mr. Harper regarding ACLU support for this issue. As there was no December board meeting, I have not yet had an opportunity to discuss this with the board. Consequently, the ACLU has not taken any position yet on Mr. Harper's request.

Finally, the article indicates that local ACLU members have "refused comment at this time." This is also an incorrect statement of what has transpired. I was contacted by an Argonaut writer at 10:10 p.m., at home, on Dec. 11. I was told that the above article appeared. I was not told that the above was a complete rewrite by the next day and that my comment was urgent. Because of the constant call to run inside the peacefulness of my home, I asked the person to call me at my office, which was not contacted.

— Elizabeth Barker Brandt

SHA correct

Editor:
This letter is in response to an article in Tuesday's Argonaut. It that article, the Student Humanist Association takes a stand against prayer at university commencement exercises.

We are in complete agreement with them. SHA has taken this issue and strongly support their right to keep religious practices out of state institutions (such as the University of Idaho).

Not knowing of this so-called traditional invocation and benediction practice, we were appalled last spring when the prayer was formally conducted over the Kibbie Dome public address system, forcing it upon everyone in attendance.

It does not seem appropriate to us that a state institution endorses the Christian, or any other religion. The right to freely choose and practice religion should be an personal right, not protected.

Likewise, the right not to prac- tice religion and not have it forced upon you should also be protected.

The SHA is correct in their claim that this exercise is a violation of the separation of church and state. The First Amendment of the Constitution.

As graduating seniors, we are looking forward to the commencement activities, but we will be forced to boycott if the admi- nistration does not resolve this inappropriate practice.

— Bob Piper

Humanists disrupt

Editor:
I am writing in response to the Student Humanist Association's opposition to prayer at universi- ty commencement exercises. It is apparent from Tuesday's Argonaut that the group plans to harass the administration and pursue litigation to stop the traditional benediction and invocation of all religious practices that are made at such ceremonies. This is clearly one of the most serious objections that this group has taken up.

I am sorry that Todd Harper and his fellow humanists have so little worthwhile to do that they...
Better to receive than give

With a Ho, Ho, Ho and a deck the halls, it's Christmas time again. My favorite time of the year.

My tree has been trimmed since November 24. I’ve seen Jimmy Stewart save Bedford Falls, black and white and in color, three times in two weeks. My "Very Special Christmas" tape featuring Madonna, the Boss, and U2 was worn by Walkman from Hell after 24 hours of non-stop play.

In an effort to avoid the Christmas rush, I sent off my holiday greeting cards last Fourth of July weekend.

And I'm seriously considering buying a Chia Pet, the potter that grows, and the Clapper, "clap on, clap off," as gifts for distant, but not well-liked, relatives.

Yet, despite the overcommercialization of the holiday season, I pride myself on my adherence to the "spirit of Christmas." It is better to give than receive, unless what you're receiving is really, really good.

Now, with the wealth of Leon- na Helmsley, the power of Donald Trump, and the compulsion of Zsa Zsa Gabo, I would give the greatest presents the world has ever seen.

For example, I'd give University of Idaho President Elizabeth Zimmer her own stately court. In addition to a "cost of living" pay increase and a house manager, I'd stuff her stocking with a Boise foothills mansion. I'm sure Queen Elizabeth and Potato King J.R. Simplot would be great neighbors.

Meanwhile, I'd give former UI President Richard Gibb a silver and gold-plated framed portrait of President Zimmer digging up his cherished pumpkin patch. While wrapping gifts for little dogs, I'd tie a big red ribbon around Hal Godwin's present. It seems that acting vice president of student affairs' winter car, a somewhat dilapidated red farm truck, is having engine troubles. Perhaps Hal would find a new Ford Bronco in his reserved SUB parking space on Christmas morning.

To soon-to-be former ASUI President Tina Kagi and former ASUI President Russ Cuddy, I'd pen a gift certificate for one free marriage license.

While preparing gift certificates, I'd make one for soon-to-be ASUI President David Pena. His would be good for three free ASUI Senate appointments during his term of office. Offer valid only until February 21, 1990. Void where prohibited.

For my fellow editorial big mouth, "Ask" Lois Griffiths, I'd obtain a nicely packaged Greek affiliation. Help me decide, would Lois make a better Alpha Phi, Tri-Delt or Alpha Gam? In addition, I'd give Lois a lifetime supply of Greek letters so she can affix them to everything, she owns, enough hair spray to achieve the Vertical Hair Syndrome with her present and two cases of obscene perfume.

Please see COMM page 8

*ASK LOIS* ton page 6

your (sic) making lots o' friends on Greek row, snick, snick (sic, sic).

Response: Do you think so? That comment doesn't fit in very well with the death threats received at the Argonaut. Oh well, if you win a few, you lose a few.

Speaking of winning, here's another interesting comment:

Q: How did President-elect David Pena get into office when he isn't even affiliated with Sigma Chi?

A: That's a good question. I guess students really want for the honest and "no soap opera politics" platform. I agree.

Hey look, I passed up a chance to "rip" on Greeks.

Q: How long will the "New Hot 104" last? Have it been the "New Hot 104 long enough?

A: I think the "Old Cold 104," in spite of its nice rhythm ring and all, just doesn't elicit the same image. At least they got rid of that lame "Pumping the wattage into your cottage" line. However, I would like to point our that "No punk, no funk, no elevator junk" isn't too accurate. Since when isn't Tone Loc junk? Oh, that's right, I forgot. "Wild Thing" was a crossover hit on the country chart.

Q: The cube at the library won't answer my question. Will you? How come the library charges 30 cents a copy, whereas most other places in town only charge 5 cents? Even if you buy a copy card, it costs 6 cents. A because you want to copy "magazine" which can't have the library, you pay through the nose. Come on, most copies only cost 2.5 to 4 cents before markup. How can we fix this situation?

At Until this year, the library had been charging 5 cents a copy, whereas most other places in town only charged 5 cents. Even if you buy a copy card, it costs 6 cents. Because you want to copy "magazine" which can't have the library, you pay through the nose. Come on, most copies only cost 2.5 to 4 cents before markup. How can we fix this situation?

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>LETTERS

run page 6

have to try to disrupt a long-standing and very meaningful tradition. It is because of leftist loose-cannons like these that the rest of the country has to stand by and watch our legitimate religious symbols and activities being declared unconstitutional. It is clear that the First Amendment was meant as a prohibition against one state-sponsored, state-owned religion, and against the writing of restrictive religious laws. It was most certainly never meant to force religion out of government or society in general.

Harper expresses concern that the large international culture on campus would find the ceremony offensive. Frankly, the day that this university does one more thing to make life easier for foreign students on campus will be a sad one. Thanks to the hiring of non-English speaking administrators, some of this university’s primary math and science courses as well as others are becoming worthless and incomprehensible. I welcome foreign students, but I most certainly believe that they need to be catered to. At the very least, the foreign graduates had better realize that part of receiving an education in America might mean having to sit through a five-minute prayer.

As for the offer by Linda Griffiths-Harper to boycott the ceremony this spring, I encourage her to do so. Judging from her appreciation of tradition and ceremony so far, the commencement would be meaningless to her anyhow. Finally, I encourage President Zinner and the administration to ignore the whims of the Student Humanist Association and the ACLU, and continue the customs and traditions that the majority of students find meaningful and respectable. I likewise encourage the student humanists to realize that they are a bizarre minority and should try to respect those of us who hold these ceremonies in high regard.

—Jeffrey T. Drake

Erasmus agrees

Editor:

American society has roots that run deep in religious traditions. And those traditions ought to be watered by spiritual groups, not by public entities. State sponsorship, even of lowest-common-denominator religion, is inappropriate.

Therefore, as a humanist in the tradition of Erasmus and Luther, I fully support the Student Humanist Association in its opposition to prayer at commencement.

—Bruce Wellenberg

>COMM

run page 7

With some help from Kinko's Copies, I'd give recently re-elected Residence Hall Association President Ray Horton a stack of political campaign posters. During his holiday vacation, he could tape them all up, and then secretly tear them all down.

For Doug Korn, I'd convince the University Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Council that self-righteous Interfraternity Council presidents should also be considered full-time students when taking just three credits.

And finally, for all my enemies, I would load up on Marriott's cellulose-wrapped banana bread. This Christmas treat is a great new twist on the well-established holiday fruitcake.

What a seasonal shame that I have no money, no power and absolutely no compassion.
Student photographers show work at SUB

The Three University of Idaho student photographers are featured in the SUB Gallery. Jason Munroe, Clint Bush and Dan Moyer are showing their work for their final project.

Munroe began taking pictures while working for his high school yearbook. Classes here at the UNI placed his interest, and he worked for the Argonaut with no pay first semester last year for experience. Munroe is a photography editor and has learned a great deal about development and photo design.

"My direction in this particular showing is analogous that aren't used today because there are newer and better ones," Munroe said. "They're all age-old classics."

Moyer took projector film he had been saving from filming the Vandal football games and used it as a prop. He emphasizes women in his photos.

"Some people might see my work as sexist, but I'm only interested in women, young women look good on film," Moyer said. "These photographs are illustrative, they are women."

Clint Bush previously worked as a deputy and found plenty of free time for photography while cruising around town.

...diversify, to widen my vision a bit. I need the challenge like to work with an outfitter perhaps as a photographic guide.

By Gretchen Kiley

Three Photographers. Left to right, Dan Moyer, Jason Munroe and Clint Bush will be showing their work at the SUB gallery on the campus.

Felicity fun farce

The songs and words of the Shakespearean era are being adapted by Whitaker, who is composing a new musical for a high school student group.

Student performing arts groups have taken to adapting not only songs and words of the Shakespearean era, but also to illustrious composers of the past for their stage productions.

"I'm interested in taking a piece of music and seeing how it would sound in a new context," said Whitaker.

Whitaker is working on a musical comedy that will be performed next spring. The musical will be based on the story of "The Three Musketeers." The play will feature a large cast of characters and will be performed in a large auditorium.

Whitaker is currently preparing for the upcoming performance of "The Firebird," a ballet by Igor Stravinsky, which he will direct in May.
Gumby album makes good gift

The ethnic Motown sound is present with a terrific horn section. The early "Gumby" sound, complete with "wo-ooos," is found on this album, too.

With the song "Ballad of Gumby" comes images of ghost riders in the sky. Frank Sinatra Jr. rounds out the whole album with his rendition of "The Gumby Heart Song," the original TV theme song.

All in all, the album is a terrific present, a package of new and songs no one has heard before. So if you're looking for the perfect gift for that certain hard-to-shop-for-teenager, look into Gumby - The Creem Album. — By Gretchen Kelley

Human Drama’s album an acquired taste
to your shelf.

The only criticism that I have of Human Drama is Johnny Indovina's vocals. 7 seems to be over-extending himself, and he ends up not complementing the music, but clash-blending with it.

The emotion Human Drama rejects. The music is superb. I'm not an expert on rock music, but I can tell you that this is a way of reaching you. They are not a group that can be backburnered on your music calls for listening effort.

Human Drama is a pleasant but acquired taste. — By Sally Gilpin

STUDYBREAK

• JOURNAL GOES ON SALE

The Paradise Creek Journal goes on sale next semester in early February at Book People in downtown Moscow.

The journal publishes fiction, nonfiction and poetry by University of Idaho graduates and undergraduates.

The price for the journal will be $2 for the current issue or $9 for 3 TV current issue plus all back issues.

Selected authors featured in the journal will read their works shortly after the journal goes on sale.

Anyone from any major interested in a staff position for the next issue should contact Cindy Lee by Feb. 7 through the submissions box in the English department.

An organizational meeting will be held Feb. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Reserve Room at the library.

New writers have until February to submit fiction, nonfiction or poetry. Students in all majors are encouraged to submit their works.

The ASUI is funding the current issue.

• PRICHARD GALLERY BREAK HOURS

The Prichard Art Gallery will show its current exhibits through Dec. 31. Special hours are 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. Friday, and 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday. The gallery will be closed Sundays and Mondays.

Upcoming shows will be installed Jan. 2-18.
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Lady Vandal down LCSC 64-50, move to 6-2

By Amy Jambon
Staff Writer

Both the University of Idaho and the Lewis-Clark State College women's basketball teams came out of Tuesday night's bout with a 4-2 record, but only the Lady Vandal claimed the 64-50 win.

Although UI started slowly, allowing LCSC to jump ahead 14-4 in the first half, the Vandal added nine unanswered points to put the lead into their own hands, where it stayed throughout the game.

UI was led by senior center Sabrina Dial with 17 points. Hettie DeJong added 14 points, and Krista Smith contributed 12 points, 10 rebounds, six assists and three steals to ice the game.

LCSC was led by Tracey Bridgewater, who scored 20 points and shot 8-of-10 from the field. UI will take a short break and prepare for a match-up against the University of Portland Dec. 22 at Portland.

Vandal return to the ASUI-Kibbie Dome in early January to face New Mexico State University and two conference teams, the University of Nevada-Reno and Northern Arizona University.

In mid-January the Lady Vandal will take a road trip to face Idaho and Montana conference teams.

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Edited by RUSS BAGGONE
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FRIDAY • ARGONAUT
DECEMBER 15, 1989

13
Idaho keeps asset; Smith stays

By RUSS BIAGONE

Commentary

That was a close one.

Last Friday, University of Idaho Vandal football Head Coach John L. Smith withdrew his name from the list of possible candidates for the head coaching job at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, N.M.

Although the job was never formally offered to Smith, as previous reports had stated, NMSU officials stated that he was their top choice. If Smith would have accepted the job, he would have reportedly been making more than $100,000 a season, nearly double his $51,000 salary as a first-year coach at UI. And if he had accepted the job, he would have had the option to take his entire coaching staff with him.

NMSU owns the nation's longest Division I losing streak at 17 games. The team is 4-40 for the last four seasons and has had only one winning season in the last 20 years — probable reasons in Smith's decision not to accept the job.

On the other hand, this year under Smith UI compiled a 9-3 record, the best ever for a first-year UI coach. UI has also earned five consecutive playoff berths and three consecutive Big Sky titles. With these statistics in mind, it's no wonder other schools keep trying to grab our coaches.

It all began with Dennis Erickson, who put the Vandals on the right track (finally), only to accept the head position at the University of Wyoming, move to Washington State University, and wind up at the University of Miami. Then came Keith Gilbertson, who led the Vandals to two consecutive Big Sky titles only to be lost to the University of Washington. Then this year, it appeared that we were going to lose another one — John L. Smith.

I heard comments such as "What are we, a stepping stone for good coaches?" or "Sure, just because we're doing great, someone else feels they need our head coach."

These comments hint that UI students are tired of losing good coaches.

UI has found a great asset in Coach Smith. Someone doesn't want to see the university lose for at least a while. Hopefully we'll be able to keep him for more than two or three years, but if Vandals tradition continues, our chances are not good.

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**OUTLOOK**

OUTLOOK

BY MATT WALO

Unknown to many waterfowl hunters is the excellent duck and goose hunting only an hour away from Moscow.

The chain lakes near St. Maries provide a feeding and resting area for thousands of migrating and local waterfowl each fall. With an abundance of birds to hunt and plenty of area to escape from other hunters, a shooter can enjoy pass shooting or decoying without worrying about skyscrapers as common to today's crowded preserves.

Most lakes can be easily accessed, so finding a spot to set up the decoys shouldn't be too difficult. If you don't have a boat, a float tube will work great and, in some areas, waders will also work well. Many of the lakes and backwater flats are quite shallow, but caution should be exercised because of a deep rise channel that runs through many of the lakes.

Hunting over decoys is my favorite method, and this year I was fortunate to hunt with veteran waterfowler Tom Raadke. His knowledge of ducks and duck hunting, plus his excellent calling, caused flocks after flocks of mallards, northern pintails and redheads to lock their wings and lower their landing gear right over the decoys.

The entire chain lakes system is steel shot only and, so leave your lead shot at home. The split season opens Saturday and closes Jan. 6. With this late cold season, many of the smaller, slower bodies of water may be frozen over, so look for patches of open water in which to toss your decoys and, most importantly, make yourself blend in with the surrounding cover and don't move a muscle when those flocks are circling.

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OREL HERSHISER

Out of the Blue

There are moments in baseball when the game can turn on one swing of the bat, one pitch, one catch. There were enough moments like that for me in the 1982 season to cover a career. In fact, I sometimes wonder if '82 was a dream.

In the heat of the National League pennant race, could I help carry the Los Angeles Dodgers with a string of 59 consecutive scoreless innings (longer than any one pitcher in history), pitch eight-straight complete games, win 23, pitch five shutouts in a row, then go ten scoreless innings in another? Could I lengthen my streak by adding eight more consecutive scoreless innings in the playoffs? Could I be named MVP (Most Valuable Player) of the championship series? Could we win the World Series against the highly favored Oakland Athletics? Could I become MVP in the Series too, win the National League Cy Young award and just about every other annual athletic honor I could think of?

See why I still find it hard to believe? But to know what really makes me tick today, let me highlight certain memories that may shed some light on who I am now.

BASEBALL BITTEN

At eight years old, I won the local Personality Baseball Contest and went to the finals at Yankee Stadium in New York. Walking into that historic stadium on a crisp, windy day I decided to be a big league baseball player. I was amazed at how many hits and throws seemed in that cavernous park. I hit a ball that seemed to go nowhere, and I wondered how a professional would ever hit a ball way into the outfield, let alone over the fence.

BAT, BALL, AND BIBLE

Next, when I look back over my minor league career, a jumble of impressions hits me.

Butch (Wickens) was a teammate at the Clinton, Iowa, Class A club. He intrigued me. When the rest of us were having a good time, he was reading His Bible, staying in the spirit.

I had a Bible. It was in the bottom drawer of my dresser at home, where it had been all of my life. I believed in God and Adam and Eve and heaven. People want to know what heaven is like.

When I asked, Butch would explain what the Bible said about heaven. Good people don't go there. Forgiveness people do. I was a sinner, just like everybody else. The only perfect Person was Jesus, and He had the punishment for sin. The only way to God was through Jesus. You had to receive Him, make Him your Savior.

"Where does it say that?" I asked.

"John 14:6 and Ephesians 2:8,9," said Butch. When no one was around, I looked up those verses in a Gideon Bible in the hotel room. Sure enough, that's what they said.

Butch and I were selected for the Arizona Instructional League in the fall. Out there I questioned him more. How could this be? What about that? His answers always came from the Bible.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT?

I finally got tired of making up questions. Butch couldn't answer. I had to do something about the sin problem he showed me. I was in Romans 3:23. I had to make the decision about John 3:16.

One September night in the hotel room I was reading the Gideon Bible again. My mind was racing. Do I believe what the Bible says? Yes. That all have sinned? Yes. That nothing I can do can save me from my sins? Yes. That Jesus did it all for me and that He is the only way to God? Yes. Do I want to become a Christian? I knelt beside the bed. I figured God would understand if I just told Him what was on my mind. I said, "God, I don't know everything about You. But I know I'm a sinner and I know I want to be forgiven. I know I want Christ in my life, and I want to go to heaven. I want to become a Christian."

Then that, I accept You. Amen.

CHANGED FOR THE BEST

How do I know Christ is real? Because while He changed me from a sinner to forgiven-sinner, He also realigned my motives. My mind was renewed because now I wanted to do what He wanted me to do.

I wanted to be the best baseball player I could be, and now that my motives were right, I was free to enjoy my pitching rather than be frustrated by it.

JOHNNY AND THE HYMN-SINGER

The night after I pitched the final game in the '82 World Series to beat the Oakland Athletics, I was a guest on "The Tonight Show." Johnny Carson asked about singing to myself in the dugout, and the audience wanted me to perform. I couldn't see there was no way out of it.

"Well, the one I can remember singing the most was just a prayer hymn." Suddenly it was deadly quiet. "As I sat on the bench I would sing:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

Amen.

OREL HERSHEYER WITH JERRY DINKINS

To know more about the life and career of Orel Hershiser, read his book, OUT OF THE BLUE (Wolgemuth & Hyatt, Publishers, Inc.: Brentwood, Tennessee), available at your local bookstore. This tract was adapted from the book by permission of the publisher.

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A Grand, Funky Conversion

Ask just about anybody within earshot of an FM radio in the early-to-mid '70s if they know Grand Funk Railroad and they're likely to recall the long, blonde hair and beared chest of the band's lead vocalist/guitarist/writer, Mark Farner.

They've likely begun to sing the "closer to home" refrain of "I'm Your Captain," or perhaps "We're An American Band" or one of the many other monster singles that are still staples of classic rock formats, which helped Farner and company sell 25 million albums in over a decade.

Give just one listen to Farner's debut on Frontline Records, Just Another Injustice, and you'll hear that familiar voice and sweet guitar sound, but there's something different at work. I've told many stories, made many girls cry trying everything that money could buy. When I crut in the middle of the night, I know how the voice of Jesus... I know how it feels to give him control and feel a revival deep down in my soul. In this testimony from the song "Come to Jesus," Farner reveals the spiritual reality that sometimes "too much" is simply not enough.

The first time that Farner, who did not grow up in a religious family, remembers praying was when he was nine years old, the year his father died. Farner had heard Billy Graham preach on TV that Jesus would take away your sorrows, and he asked God to take away his grief. With no one around to offer spiritual direction and discipline, Farner says he often prayed every night. He went on to grow up and seek after the two things he thought would fulfill him: rock 'n' roll, and money.

By August of 1963, Farner was a legendary rock star and a success story by any accountant's standards. When his wife Lesa left him, he recalled the sense of loss and sorrow that drove him to his knees when he was nine. In a church service in a small, elderly congregation in Onaway, Michigan, Farner recalls, "I was a stranger to them, but every word of that service was meant for me. When they gave an altar call I ran down to the front and asked God to forgive my sins and bring my wife back."

That very same day, Lesa Farner accepted Christ as her Savior a hundred miles away, and they were reunited the next day.

Farmer describes his early response to the realization of God's grace as immediate. "I probably should have been looking up the first year, I had such a zeal to win people who were lost to the Lord, I probably came on a little too strong," he laughs, remembering. Today, he says he's learned "a real Christian diplomacy," but reports no loss of zeal.

"Some people ask me what's come over me? I tell them all the God of love and only the truth can ever make you feel truly only comes from Him above."

From the song It's Not For Me, Farner Wake Up..., Frontline Records.)

Men of Science, Men of God

(Notes: There are many men and women scientists not included in this list who have also believed in God. We present these men as a sampling of scientists from various fields. Some of the more well known have been excluded, and some of the less known have been included.)

Johann Kepler (1571-1630) is considered to be the founder of modern astronomy. To some extent, he built upon the foundational studies of Copernicus and Tycho Brahe, as well as utilizing the telescope developed by Galileo, but it was he who discovered the laws of planetary motion and who established the discipline of celestial mechanics. He conclusively demonstrated the heliocentricity of the solar system and published the first epitaphs tables for tracking star motions, contributing also to eventual development of the calculus.

Kepler was an earnest Christian and studied for many years in a monastery, living only with reluctance to enter the study and teaching of astronomy when the Lord opened that door. He was apparently the first scientist to prove that, in his astronomical researches, he was merely "thinking God's thoughts after Him," a motto adopted by many following scientists since his time...Kepler wrote in one of his books: "Since we astronomers are priests of the highest God in regard to the book of nature, it befits us to be thoughtful, not of the glory of our minds, but rather, above all else, of the glory of God.

Francis Bacon (1561-1626), Lord Chancellor of England, is usually considered to be the man primarily responsible for the formulation and establishment of the so-called "scientific method" in science, stressing experimentation and induction from data rather than philosophical deduction in the tradition of Aristotle. Bacon's writings are also credited with leading to the founding of the Royal Society of London.

Sir Francis was a devout believer in the Bible. He wrote: "There are two books laid before us to study, to prevent our falling into error; first, the volume of the Scriptures, which reveals the will of God; then the volume of the Creatures, which express His power."

Michael Faraday (1791-1867) is universally acknowledged as one of the greatest physicists of all time. He was especially gifted in scientific experimentation, particularly in developing the new sciences of electricity and magnetism. He discovered electromagnetic induction and introduced the concept of magnetic lines of force. He invented the generator and made many other key discoveries and inventions. Two basic units, one in electricity, one in electrostatics, are named in his honor. He also made many key contributions in the field of chemistry.

Yet this great man was one of the most humble and sincere Christians one could ever meet. His family was desperately poor, but deeply spiritual, members of the Separatist sect, a small fundamentalist church whose teaching included emphasis on God's creation as purposeful and harmonious, designed for man's well-being. He had an abiding faith in the Bible and the prophecies. Unlike Newton, however, he made little attempt to "harmonize" his science with his Biblical faith, supremely confident that the two were both based on divine truth. He was an Active, not a Passive, resistor. He was very regular and faithful in the various ministries of his church, both public and personal. He fully believed in the official doctrine of his church, which said: "The Bible, and it alone, with nothing added to it nor taken away from it by man, is the sole and sufficient guide for earthly conduct, at all times and in all circum-

stances...Faith in the divinity and work of Christ is the gift of God, and the evidence of this faith is obedience to the commandments of Christ."

Joseph Henry (1797-1878) was a great American physicist and professor at Princeton University. He discovered the principle of self-induction (the standard unit for which is named after him) and invented the electromagnetic telegraph and the galvanometer. He was the first Secretary and Director of the Smithsonian Institution, and one of the charter members of the National Academy of Sciences, and a founder and early president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He demonstrated electrotherapy and experimentation making it a regular practice to stop, worship God, and then to pray that guidance for his important juncture of the experiment.

George Stokes (1819-1903) was a great British physicist and mathematician, making major contributions in many fields. One of the most significant of his studies was the development of the science of hydrodynamics, laying the foundation for modern engineering science of fluid mechanics. He held the chair at Cambridge University once occupied by Isaac Newton. Sir George was a godly Christian gentleman, especially known for his humility. He wrote a book on Natural Theology and frequently testified of his faith, even while speaking before learned scientific societies. He specifically wrote emphasizing his belief in the deity and bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Henri Fabre (1823-1915) was a friend of (Louis) Pasteur and was also, like him, a great Christian biologist. He was an observer of nature with great patience and carefulness. His studies of insects, especially in their living habitats, were unparalleled, so that he is generally considered the father of modern entomology. Fabre loved children and wrote many books on science for children.

These were very popular textbooks in French state schools until the intellectuals of the day reacted vigorously against such frequent references in them to God as the Creator and Sustainer of all things. In the later years of his life, however, like Pasteur, he received many high honors for his scientific investigations. His testimony concerning his belief in God was as follows: "Without Him I understand nothing; without Him I am all darkness...Every period has its manias. I regard Atheism as a mania. It is the malady of the age. You could take my skin from me more easily than my faith in God."

George Washington Carver (1864-1943) was the first scientist who was considered the world's top authority on peanuts and sweet potatoes and their products. Born a slave, he worked his way through college in the north and then returned to the south, desiring to devote his life to improving the quality of southern farm lands and the economic prosperity of his people. As a faculty member at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, he turned the number of plants and the number of offers, as the fame of his genius as an agricultural chemist spread. He developed over 300 products from the peanut and over 118 from the sweet potato. Carver was also a sincere and humble Christian, never hesitating to confess his faith in the God of the Bible and attributing all his success and ability to God. In 1939 he was awarded the Roosevelt medal, with the following citation: "To a scientist humbly seeking the guidance of God and a liberator of men of the white race as well as the black."

Charles Stite (1882-1954) was for many years Director of Research for the E.I.du Pont Company. As an organic chemist with many degrees and honors, he developed many new products and patents for his company. He was a man of great experience in his field, but also a simple believing Christian. He frequently spoke to scientific and university audiences concerning his faith and also wrote a small book entitled A Chemist and His Bible. After a stirring exposition of the gospel and an appeal to accept Christ, Dr. Stite gave this testimony of the Creator: "The world about us, far more intricate than any watch, filled with checks and balances of a hundred varieties, marvelous beyond even the imagination of the most skilled scientific investigator, this beautiful and intricate creation, bears the signature of its Creator, graven in its works."

Wernher von Braun (1912-1977) was one of the world's top space scientists. With a Ph.D. from the University of Berlin, von Braun was a leading German rocket engineer, developing the famed V-2 rocket during World War II. He migrated to the United States in 1945, becoming a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1955. He direct-

With the above, the creation of a lot of energy, the line of the creation is seen as the collision of science and Christian life. In the foreword to an anthology on cre-
A Skeptic's Quest

Josh McDowell

I KNEW WHAT I WANTED

One day I was in New Beach, California, riding on a motorcruiser with a friend. We were zipping along having a great time, laughing, when two women pulled up beside us in a brand new Continental (that's a Newport Beach Chevy). After staring at us for about three blocks the woman on the passenger side rolled down her window and yelled, "What right do you have to be so happy?" Well, I couldn't see anything wrong with being happy. I love to laugh. What's wrong with wanting to be one of the happiest individuals in the whole world?

Not only did I want to be happy and have meaning and purpose in life, but I also wanted to be free. See, most people know what they ought to do, but they don't have the capacity, the strength, to do it. They're not free. They're in bondage. To me, freedom is having the capacity to do what you know you ought to do.

THE SEARCH BEGINS

So I started looking for answers. Now, where I was brought up, a lot of people had religion. So I took off on religion. I was involved in it morning, afternoon, and night. But I must have gone to the wrong church because I actually felt worse.

Next I thought, "Well, maybe education is the answer." So I enrolled in the university. I was one of the few students of the professors in the first university I went to in Michigan. I wanted answers. My economic theory professor could tell me how to make a better living, but he couldn't tell me how to live better. It didn't take me long to realize that a lot of faculty members, and students too, had more problems, less meaning to life, and more frustration than I did.

Then I thought, "Maybe prestige is the answer." Find a "calling" and give your life to it. So I ran for various student body offices and got elected. It was neat...knowing everyone on campus, making decisions, spending other people's money to do what I wanted. I enjoyed it.

But every Monday morning I woke up the same individual, usually with a headache because of the night before, with the same attitude, "Well, here we go again for another five days." Monday through Friday I sort of endured. Happiness revolved around three nights a week: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Then I'd start the whole cycle again.

Eventually I became frustrated. I doubted if too many students in the universities of our country had been more sincere in trying to find meaning and truth and power and purpose in life than I was — yet I hadn't found it.

WHAT'S WITH THESE PEOPLE?

About that time, around the campus I noticed a small group of people — eight students and two professors. There was something different about their lives. They seemed to have direction. They seemed to live for something when they were going, and that was very unusual.

Further, they seemed to have a type of love that was manifested in the way they treated people. I had observed that most intellectuals people talked a lot about love, but these people demonstrated something special in their relationships with others. They had something I didn't have, so I made friends with them.

After a couple of weeks, we were sitting around a table in the student union. I recall that six of the students were there and both of the faculty and one of their wives. The conversation started to get to God.

GOD AND THE BIG FRONT

Let's face it: if you're an insecure student or a young insecure person, or an insecure anything, and the conversation gets to God, you have to put on a big front. You know, I've got to look good to the other side of the table.

The bigger the front an individual puts on, the greater the emptiness inside. Well, I was putting on that kind of front.

Their talk irritated me. I wanted what they had, but I didn't want them to know it. I leaned back on my chair and tried to act nonchalant. I looked over at one young woman and said, "Why are you so different from the other students on campus?" She said two words I never thought I'd hear in the university as part of the solution." She said, "Jesus Christ.

"Oh, come on, I lied back at her. "Don't make me give that garbage about religion." She must have had a lot of courage and convictions. "Look," she said, "I don't tell you what I believe, but I told you you were wrong. Well, I apologized to her because I'd been very rude..."Please forgive my attitude, but to tell you the truth, I'm sick of this kind of thing. I just don't want anything to do with it.""

Then you know what happened? These students and faculty challenged me to examine intellectually who Jesus Christ was.

At first I thought it was a joke. How ridiculous. It was my opinion that most Christians had two brains. I thought one was lost and the other was out looking for it!

But these people kept challenging me over and over and over again, until finally I accepted their challenge.

THE SEARCH CONTINUES

I spent a lot of money to completely discreditable, but it backfired. I concluded that Christ had to be who He claimed to be. "You came to that conclusion intellectually," you say.

That's right. Let me show you how. I concluded that if I could show that either one of these two basic areas was not historical, then I would give up my case against Christ.

WHAT ABOUT THE BIBLE...

As we seek to demonstrate that the New Testament was not historically reliable. It was written years later, I thought, supposedly by the authors and legends had cropped in, along with errors and discrepancies. That's all I had to do, but, as I said, it backfired.

When I speak in a literature or a history class I state that there's more evidence for the historical reliability of the New Testament than for any 10 pieces of classical literature put together. For example, when you study history you need to develop a historiography, a proper approach to evaluating historical documents. There are three basic tests — the bibliographic test, the internal evidence test, and the external evidence test.

Let me just touch on the bibliographic test, which asks questions about manuscripts. A manuscript is a handwritten copy rather than a printed one. One question this test asks is: how many manuscripts you have. The more manuscripts you have, the easier it is to reconstruct the original (refered to as the autograph) and check for errors or discrepancies.

Let me tell you why I found in relation to the New Testament, published a book Evidence That Demands a Verdict in 1974, I was able to document 14,000 manuscripts of just the New Testament (that's not counting the Old Testament). In the revised edition I've been able to document 24,636 manuscripts of just the New Testament. The Number Two book in manuscript authority in all history is the Illday by Homer, which has 664 manuscripts.

...AND THE RESURRECTION

I felt the second area would be even simpler than the first one. Everything that Jesus Christ taught, lived, and died for was based on His resurrection. All I had to do was prove that it never took place. But that, too, backfired on me, and in fact led to my writing The Resurrection Factor because of the evidence.

Have you heard of Dr. Simon Greenleaf, who held the Royal Professorship of Law at Harvard? He was a skeptic, often mocking the Christians in his classes. One day they challenged him to take the three volumes he had written on the laws of legal evidence and apply them to the resurrection. After much persuasion he did that. In a public seminar that Dr. Greenleaf went on to write a book about his search. Greenleaf came to the conclusion that the resurrection of Jesus Christ and our all the best established events in history accord

THE PROBLEM OF WILL

So I had a problem. I found out that becoming a Christian was a lot simpler than I thought. I couldn't think of a faster way to ruin a good education or destroy intellectual pursuits or impede scholarly acceptability with my peers.

My mind told me that Christianity was true; but my will said, "Don't admit it." It came to the point where I'd go to bed at ten at night but I couldn't fall asleep until four in the morning because I had to get Jesus off my mind or go out of my mind.

NEW LIFE BEGINS

On December 19, 1959, at 8:30 p.m. during my second year at the university, I became a Christian.

That's when I prayed the old four prayers in order to establish a relationship with God — a personal relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ. Over a period of time that relationship has turned my life around.

First, I prayed, "Lord Jesus, thank You for dying on the cross for me." Second, I said, "I confess those things in my life that aren't pleasing to You and ask You to forgive them and remove them." Third, I prayed, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18). Third, I prayed, "I know now, in the best way, that I know how, the open of my heart and life and trust You as my Savior and Lord. Take control of my life. Change me from the inside out. Make me the type of person You created me to be.

The last thing I prayed was, "Thank You for coming into my life by faith." It was a faith produced by the Holy Spirit, based on God's Word and supported by evidence and the facts of history.

I've had several religious people talk about their "bolt of lightning." Well, after I prayed nothing happened. In fact, after I made that decision, I felt sick to my stomach.

"Oh no, McDowell, what'd you get sucked into now?" I wondered. I really felt I'd gone off the deep end — and some of my friends agreed.

CHANGES

But I can tell you one thing: in six months to a year and a half, I found I hadn't gone off the deep end. My life was changed.

A few years ago I was in a debate with the head of the history department at a midwestern university, and I said, "My life has been changed." He interrupted me rather sarcastically. McDowell, are you trying to make a Christian of me? I'm just a student.

I was tired of my restlessness. I was a person who always had been occupied. I had to be over at my girlfriend's place or somewhere in a rap session. My mind was a whirlwind of conflicts. I'd sit down and try to study or think, and I couldn't.

But a few months after I made that de- continued on back page
A Skeptic's Quest

continued from page three
cision to trust Christ, a kind of mental peace began to develop. Don't misunder-
stand, I'm not talking about the absence of conflict. What I found in this relation-
ship with Jesus wasn't so much the ab-
scence of conflict as it was the ability to cope with it. I have come to experience in a very real way Christ's promise when He said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives it." (John 14:27).

Control of Temper.

Another area that changed was my bad temper. I used to "blow my stack" if somebody just looked at me cross-eyed, I still have the scars from almost killing a man my first year at the university. My temper was such an integral part of me that I didn't consciously seek to change it...

One day after my decision to put my faith in Christ, I arrived at a crisis, only to find that my temper was gone! And only since the many years in 1959 have I lost it.

A MAN I HATED.

There's another area that I'm not proud of. Hatred, it wasn't something outwardly manifested, but a kind of inner grinding. The one person I hated more than anyone else in the world was my father. I despised him. To me he was the town alcoholic. If friends were coming over, I would take my father, lie him up in the barn, and park the car up square. When things got out of hand, we would tell our friends he had to go somewhere. I don't think any person could hate someone more than I hated my father.

HATRED BECOMES LOVE.

In maybe five months after I made that de-
cision for Christ, love for my father — a
love from God through Jesus Christ — in-
undated my life. It turned my hatred up-
side down. It enabled me to look at father squarely in the eyes and say, "Dad, I love you." After some of the things I'd done, that really shook him up.

When I transferred to a private univer-
sity, I was in a serious car accident. With
my neck in traction, I was taken home. I'll never forget my father coming into my room and asking, "Son, how can you love a father like me?" I said, "Dad, six months ago I despised you." Then I shared with him my conclusions about Jesus Christ. "Dad, He's Jesus come into my life. I can't explain it completely, but as a result of this relationship, I've arrived at the conclusion that love and accept not only you, but other people — just the way they are." Forty-five minutes later one of the greatest thrills of my life occurred. Some-
body in my own family, someone who knew me so well I couldn't pull the wool over his eyes, my own father, said to me, "Son, if God can do in my life what I've seen Him do in yours, then I want to give Him the opportunity." Right then my father prayed with me and trusted Christ.

Usually changes take place over several days, weeks, months...even years. The life of my father was changed right before my eyes. It was as though somebody turned in and on a turned up bulb. I've never seen such a rapid change before or since.

A Rebel Comes to Rest

Melissa Stringfield

LITTLE-TIME REBEL.

I have spent some time reflecting on the earlier years of my life. I am appalled by what a perfectly deceived and utterly dreadful sinner I was. My earliest memories are of sin. I wanted to avoid punishment, so I lied. I wanted a piece of candy my mother would not buy, so I stole it. I want-
ed to do something my parents forbade, so I did it. I did not think I was wrong; I thought they were wrong to deny me.

These are common childhood experiences, but they are sins, and sin is a not that so easily entangles.

I was a rebellious, thoughtless child, and I became a rebellious, irresponsible adoles-
cent. I had no respect for anything or any-
one. I held no value for myself and, conse-
quently, held none for others. I challenged parental authority at every turn and gained a reputation as a trouble maker at school. We all probably know one or two people who fit this description. But when you sin, you become a slave to sin, and that master takes hold insistently and slowly demands more and more.

When I finished high school, I left my parents' home. I casually shrugged off what little vestige of authority there was in my

life. I lived behind nearly all family and friend-
ties without a single regret. I was not a little lost lamb who had strayed from the fold, I was a militant rebel dressed in camouflage and prepared for guerilla warfare.

TREASURE, HOLLYWOOD STYLE.

I moved to the Hollywood Hills and be-
gan then in style some people would envy. I dated producers and directors. I took trips to Mexico, Washington D.C., New York and Miami. There was no lack of money, or the pleasures that it bought. I spent my days lounging by the pool and had my after-dinner drinks in the jacuzzi. I was at some of the best restaurants and parties in the best Hollywood Hills style.

Of course, there was an abundance of drugs in the car up until the sins. I was for ins-
tive types of marijuana and cocaine. As

sin's dominion over me grew, my group of friends grew in size and numbers and disintegrate. We were decadent and de-
bauded, prideful and profiteers. I stood, in

the midst of dissipation, selfish, uncar-
ing, unkind, and unloving. I was consum-
ed by material wealth, and yet I had noth-
ing. Numerous friends were always at my home, and yet I was lonely.

My father touched alcohol only once after that. He got it as far as his lips and that was it. He didn't need it anymore.

IT WORKS.

I've come to one conclusion. A relation-
ship with Jesus Christ changes lives. You can apparently laugh at Christianity, you can mock and ridicule it. But it works. If you trust Christ, watch your attitudes and actions — because Jesus Christ specializes in changing lives, forgiving sin and, remov-
ing guilt.

IT'S PERSONAL.

I've shared how I personally responded to the claims of Christ. You, too, need to ask the logical question: "What difference does all this evidence make to me? What difference does it make whether or not I believe Christ died on the cross for my sins and rose again?"

The answer is put best by something Jesus said to a man named Thomas who doubted. He told him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me" (John 14-6). You can trust Christ right now by faith through prayer. Prayer is talking with God. God knows your heart and is not as much concerned with your words as He is with the attitude of your heart. If you have never trusted Christ, you can do that right now.
The prayer I prayed was this: "Lord Jesus, I'm yours. I give my life, my soul, my body to the cross for my sins. I open the door of my life and trust You as my Savior. Thank You for forgiving my sins and giving me eternal life. Make me the kind of person You want me to be. Thank You that I can trust You."

AN OFFER TO YOU.

If you have just trusted Christ, or believe you are going to do so, write me. You will have a lot of questions, as I had. A profess-
sor once shared with me some principles about how my life could be changed through this new relationship with God through Jesus Christ. I'd like to send them to you. Thanks for letting me share my sto-
ry with you.

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