



Showers
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ASUI eyes changes in appointment process

BY SAM TAYLOR
ARGONAUT STAFF



MYHRUM

The ASUI appointment process for student government leadership is being reshaped.

On Thursday, ASUI President Isaac Myhrum informed his executive staff members — board chairs and committee members who are appointed and serve “at the pleasure of the president” — they would have to reapply for their positions halfway through their terms.

However, Myhrum issued a second letter to his staff members and the senate on Friday stating he might have moved too quickly and will review only certain staff members.

Myhrum said his first decision was an attempt to make ASUI positions avail-

able to students on campus who might not be aware of position openings. Previously positions have been filled on recommendations from board chairs, he said.

In both decisions Myhrum called on the ASUI senate to hold public interviews for each nominee to each position.

The first decision would have resulted in the interviews of more than 40 students in front of the senate in one night. However, the second decision will result in interviews during the first sen-

ate meeting of the fall term for only those positions being reviewed by Myhrum and vacancies in ASUI.

The first senate meeting of the fall term is May 5, when the departing senators will have their final meeting and goodbyes and the new senate will hold its first meeting, Myhrum said.

Several executive staff members agreed with the first decision but not with the timing.

Peter Stegner, ASUI Community Relations Board chair, said there have been many conversations between students in ASUI regarding checks on executive positions, and he understands where Myhrum is coming from.

“During the meeting, when he let everyone know, it seemed pretty drastic,” he said.

Stegner said because of the current reorganization of boards and ASUI budget issues, it might not have been the best time to have everyone reapply for their positions.

Stegner also said while singling out individual board members might cause tension, it will help ASUI in the long run because it will strengthen weak aspects.

“The biggest thing is accountability in positions,” he said.

Chris Dockrey, ASUI Faculty Council representative, said he supported Myhrum’s first decision because it would have allowed ASUI to start with a clean slate.

“I supported the idea overall, but considering the amount of people, there were time issues with the senate,” he said. “The current decision is executive

board-friendly now, and analyzing specifics does the exact same thing.”

Other executive staff members disagreed.

Joe Lasuen, ASUI Activities Board chair, said he thought Myhrum’s initial decision was in poor judgement.

“I think [Myhrum] should have involved more people in the decision-making process,” he said. “But I’m happy to see he changed his mind in the end.”

Sen. Kimberly Farnen, who initially raised concerns about the ASUI appointment process, said she is in favor of changing the appointment process and reviewing positions in ASUI, but not in the mass format first ordered by

PROCESS, see Page 3

UI officials: Proposed employee pay lag won't likely occur

BY JESSIE BONNER
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

A proposal that UI employee paychecks be held for one pay period next semester is not likely to be implemented, after a week of consideration by UI administrators.

The two-week pay lag would have saved the university an estimated \$4.1 million and helped close the \$5 million gap in next year’s budget.

However, at a Faculty Council meeting Friday, Provost Brian Pitcher said the proposal to hold one of the 14 paychecks UI employees will receive in June through December did not seem like a good idea.

“The more we’ve investigated the lag payroll, we keep identifying new problems,” he said.

At a time when UI salaries rank well below the national average, the pay-lag proposal also met with some resistance from the UI faculty.

“I think it should demonstrate that you’re being listened to,” said Fran Wagner, Faculty Council chair. “It wasn’t long ago that the payroll lag was high on the agenda.”

Under the pay-lag proposal UI employees would receive the withheld paychecks on their last day of employment at the university. Wayland Winstead, executive director of Institutional Planning and Budget, said these paychecks would create unexpected deficits in the future, making it more difficult to plan yearly budgets.

“The more we have discussed the issues, the more uncomfortable I have become with the lag in pay,” he said. “It doesn’t solve the problem.”

The pay-lag proposal was drafted by a task force that also made recommendations for layoffs, furloughs, temporary salary reductions and shorter work weeks.

The final decision regarding the role of UI salaries in next year’s budget will be made early this week by interim President Gary Michael.

“We need to finalize within the next few days, certainly within the next week,” Pitcher said. “It’s been suggested that we look at further internal borrowing as an option.”

UI administrators said the university’s financial situation would not be so tight if the state had provided adequate funding and allowed them to ask for an additional student fee increase.

Wagner said although universities around the country are facing similar cuts from state funding, the situation at UI is different.

“Our case is exacerbated by the University Place and deficit spending,” he said.

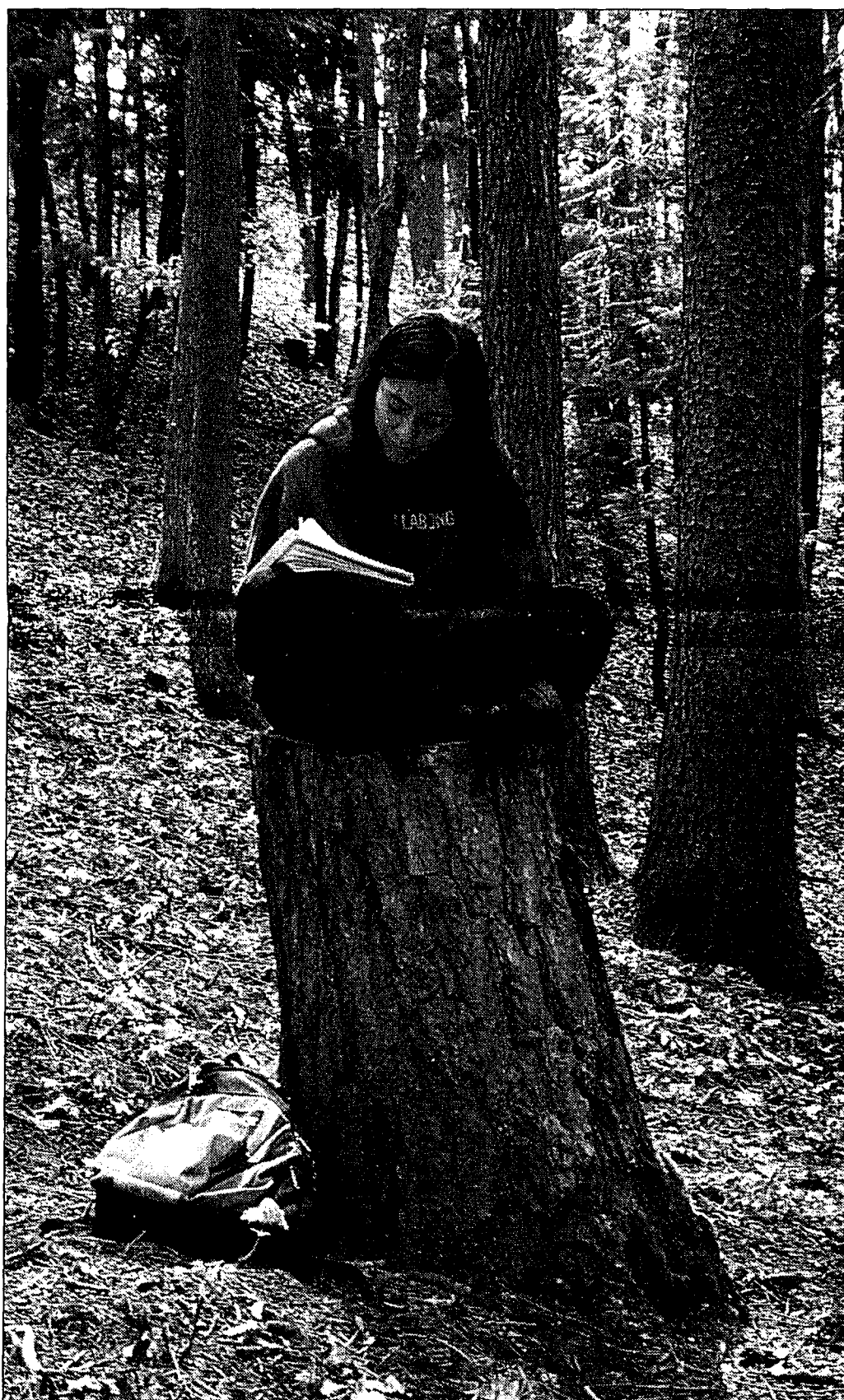
The first phase of the University Place project in Boise, the Idaho Water Center, will cost the university \$1.7 million next year. One of Michael’s first decisions as president was to pull the university out of further internal borrowing as an option.

Wagner said the amount the project will cost the university is actually around \$4 million with the loss of the annual \$1.9 million donation from the UI Foundation.

UI faculty members also asked if more major cuts will be announced before the end of the semester and before incoming President Timothy White arrives. After a memo announcing campus-wide restructuring was released by

PAY LAG, see Page 3

STUMPED



DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT

Kimberly Hathaway, a senior psychology major, spends part of her Monday afternoon writing under the shade of the trees in UI’s Charles Houston Shattuck Arboretum.

ASUI lights the way for campus safety

BY SAM TAYLOR
ARGONAUT STAFF

The UI campus has its own black holes, but ASUI is working to light the darkness.

In an effort to expand ASUI campus safety initiatives and maintain an adequately lit campus, ASUI President Isaac Myhrum and the ASUI senate have organized the installation of new lights on campus and a campus night walk.

Myhrum said the section of road between the Food Research Center and the Art and Architecture Building, and the section of road between the Life Sciences Building and the old UI Women’s Center, are poorly lit.

However, UI Facilities has an annual \$15,000 in funds for ASUI campus safety initiatives, and ASUI intends to use the

money to purchase new lights for the areas before the year ends and the budget rolls over.

Myhrum said the lights that will be installed will cost about \$4,000 each. They will look similar to lights already installed on the Administration Lawn.

Myhrum also said the campus night walk will take place from 8-10 p.m. April 29, beginning and ending in the Idaho Commons Panorama Room. It will be open to the public. Specific groups have received invitations to secure their presence at the event; groups receiving invitations are the Residence Hall Association, the Inter-Fraternity Council and Panhellenic.

“This is not only fulfilling a campaign promise, but we’re making sure we meet the needs of our campus,” Myhrum said.

Myhrum said he wants students to know ASUI is doing everything it can for the student body, and with the installation of new lights and the campus night walk, students will see that improvements are being made.

Myhrum also said the lighting project is in no way related to the recent cut of the Vandal Taxi program; ASUI is not attempting to increase its safety credibility.

“I’ve seen a lot of ASUI leaders promise this, and nothing has been done about it,” he said. “It’s something we wanted to do and we’ve always been interested in.”

Back to Iraq:

Navy ROTC captain returns 13 years after first mission

BY BRIAN PASSEY
EDITOR IN CHIEF

In 1991 Capt. Ron Plucker was nearly shot down over Iraq during the first air mission of Operation Desert Storm. Now, 13 years later, he is going back.

When Operation Iraqi Freedom began last year Plucker volunteered to return to Iraq but was told to remain at his post as the commanding officer of UI’s Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps. Recently he was asked to volunteer in Baghdad working for the Coalition Provisional Authority — the head of the military in Iraq.

Though trained as a naval flight officer, he is not entirely sure what his duties will be in Iraq. Plucker said he will not be going on missions as he did in Operation Desert Storm.

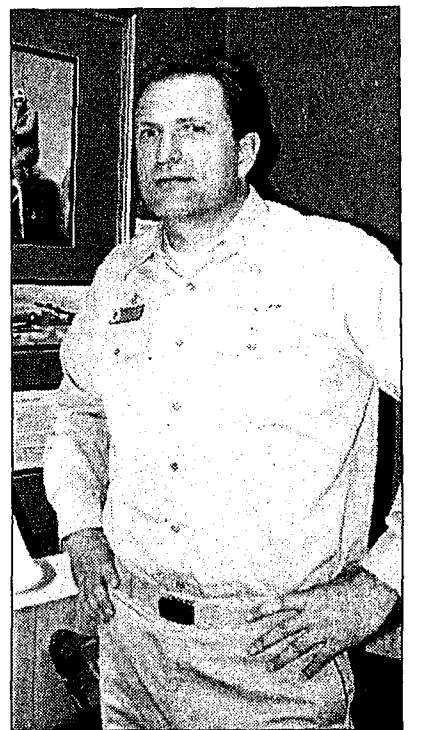
“I won’t be flying. I’ll be working on the staff there,” Plucker said.

“Ever since 9/11 I’ve wanted to do something like this,” he said. “Duty, honor, country; you hear those words all the time, but I really feel like I want to do this.”

The assignment to serve in Iraq came about when Plucker responded to a Navy-issued augmentation request to his unit asking for volunteers to serve for six months.

Plucker said he would probably extend his service time if asked.

“There’s a possibility they could extend me, but right now it’s a six-month temporary duty assign-

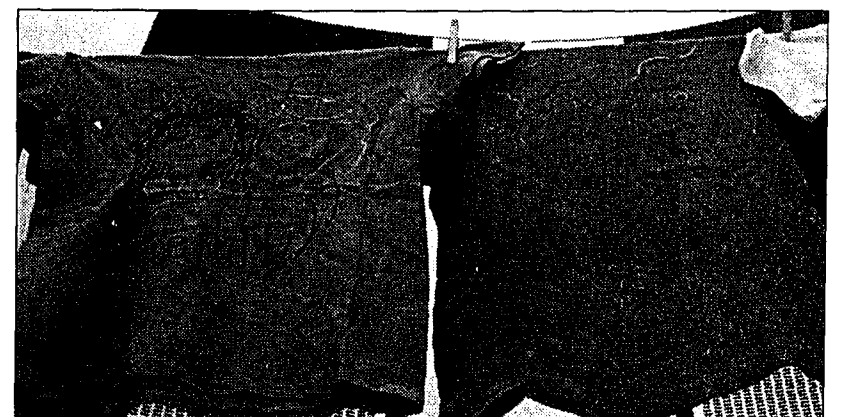


BRIAN PASSEY / ARGONAUT
Capt. Ron Plucker, commanding officer of the UI Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps, will go to Iraq this week.

ment,” he said. “I love serving my country. If I had to extend I would do it.”

Plucker left Saturday for a six-day training session in Texas, after which he will immediately fly to Iraq. In Texas he will receive anti-terrorism training, medical tests and training in combat arms — specifically the 9 mm pistol and the M-16 rifle. He will also be

IRAQ, see Page 3



JOSH DEAN / ARGONAUT

Shirts displaying messages against violence toward women and children hang from a clothesline in the Idaho Commons Rotunda on Monday.

Fair, events highlight UI’s recognition of Sexual Violence Awareness Month

BY TARA KARR
ARGONAUT STAFF

April is Sexual Violence Awareness Month, and UI organizations are sponsoring activities to raise awareness of the realities of sexual violence.

“I know the lack of support that there can be for victims of sexual violence ... because of the lack of knowledge in the area,” said Lisa Dillman, director of ASUI’s Violence Prevention Program. “It needs to be known that [sexual violence] happens on our campus.”

The main event is the “A Day to End Sexual Violence” fair from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. today at the Idaho Commons Plaza. The fair will include a safety survey by ASUI and more than 20 booths sponsored by campus and area organizations, including the UI Women’s Center and Brotherhood Empowerment Against Rape.

Dillman said the fair will give

people an opportunity to learn where they can receive help and support if they or someone they know is assaulted, or if they want more information about sexual violence in general.

“For the people out there that have been assaulted, raped or molested, they’re not alone and they shouldn’t have to feel that way,” Dillman said.

Students from the Health and Safety 311 class, which covers acquaintance rape, will sponsor a poster presentation from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. today in the Idaho Commons Wellspring Room.

Tonight the Violence Prevention Program will host a Poetry Slam in the Idaho Commons Clearwater Room. Participants will recite poetry on preventing sexual violence.

The Violence Prevention Program, the Women’s Center and Alternatives to Violence of the

AWARENESS, see Page 3

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NEWSBRIEFS

Global justice tour visits UI

Luis Adolfo Cardona, a Colombian trade unionist who escaped being murdered by an anti-union death squad in his home country, is accompanying the United Steel Workers Association as representatives embark on a two-month tour through seven states to raise awareness of the local and international effects of free trade.

Cardona will speak at 1 p.m. Thursday in the SUB Silver Room. The Steel Workers associate member program allows students, activists, unemployed workers and those without a collective bargaining agreement with their employer to become members of a labor organization that has been fighting for economic and social justice for more than 60 years.

The event at UI is sponsored by the Office for Multicultural Affairs and the Program in Latin America Studies. For more information contact Julia Plaskowski at 883-3609 or julialouisep@hotmail.com.

UI named one of best values in higher education

UI recently was named one of the 77 Best Value Colleges in America by the Princeton Review and No. 33 of the 100 Most Unwired College Campuses in the United States in Intel's second annual ranking.

Colleges were judged on academics, college costs and financial aid. Information is collected both from college administrators and more than 100,000 current college students.

"A UI degree continues to be a great value for students," said Dan Davenport, director of UI Financial Aid. "Through the continued growth of our scholarship program we have been able to provide

access to higher education and to attract top academic students from throughout the Northwest."

UI was also named one of the most wired campuses in the country.

"Three years ago UI was cited as one of the 'most-wired' university campuses in the U.S., and now our advanced wireless technologies qualify us as among the most 'unwired' campuses today," said Glenn Wilde, vice provost for library and information technologies. "UI student leaders and our ITS services worked hard together to develop the wireless network. They recognize how mobile computing empowers their education, whether it's in their classrooms, at the Commons or in their residences."

UI Provost Brian Pitcher said despite the year's fiscal setbacks and reorganizations, "These national rankings provide a broader perspective of what's happening all across the nation in higher education. As fees and tuitions rise everywhere, UI remains a comparable value."

For more information contact Nancy Hilliard at 885-6567.

Student organizations garner recognition

The ASUI Activities Board will host a reception for all members of ASUI clubs from 6:30-8 p.m. April 28 in the Idaho Commons Rotunda.

The student organization reception and awards ceremony will be an open house with food. The awards ceremony starts at 7 p.m.

The Student Organization Achievement Awards is a new recognition program designed to recognize outstanding clubs, programs, club members and advisers. Applications are due at 5 p.m. Wednesday in the ASUI office in the Idaho Commons.

DIRECTORY HOW TO USE THE ARGONAUT

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CAMPUSCALENDAR

- #### TODAY
- "A Day to End Sexual Violence" fair
Idaho Commons Plaza
11 a.m.
 - Sexual Violence Awareness poster display
Idaho Commons Wellspring Room
11 a.m.
 - Natural Resources Week raffle
Idaho Commons
11 a.m.
 - Athena general meeting
Idaho Commons Horizon Room
noon
 - UI Arboretum Associates annual meeting
Renfrew Hall, Room 111
7 p.m.
- #### WEDNESDAY
- National Denim Day
All-day observance as part of Sexual Violence Awareness Month
8 a.m.
- #### THURSDAY
- Natural Resources erosion demonstration
College of Natural Resources lawn
10:30 a.m.
 - Martin Forum: "Islam in Morocco"
Idaho Commons Clearwater Room
noon
 - "Handling Upset and Anger"
Student Recreation Center, Classroom 103
3:30 p.m.
 - Pet First Aid with Red Cross
Pullman Gladish Community Center
6 p.m.
 - Natural Resources panel discussion
Mennard Law Building, Room 103
7 p.m.
 - Natural Resources films
Idaho Commons Gold Room
6 p.m.
 - "Pirates of Penzance"
Hartung Theatre
7:30 p.m.
 - Student Recital
School of Music Recital Hall
8 p.m.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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Solutions from April 16

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	COMATOSE	IWO
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AGO	STARWARS	
POUR	HAIRY	URGE
ROD	ROY	TRAIT
CONTEMPT	AWEIGH	
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- 9 D smount
- 10 Wife of a rajah
- 11 Capital of the Netherlands
- 12 Enemy
- 13 Serpentine curve
- 21 Small dam
- 22 Shore up
- 25 Sudden forward thrust
- 26 Far from flighty
- 28 Sully
- 30 Accumulate
- 31 H I the high points, briefly
- 32 Fat Tuesday
- 33 Individual
- 35 Ostrich relative
- 37 Noses
- 38 Flower with velvety petals
- 42 Liberate
- 44 Delerment
- 45 Went angling
- 46 Groups of eight
- 48 Elevate
- 50 Caesar's language
- 51 Make joyful
- 52 Scatter
- 53 Frauds
- 56 "Runaway" singer Shannon
- 57 Significant period
- 58 Rejuvenation resort

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IRAQ

From Page 1

issued his desert camouflage, helmet and body armor.

In addition to serving his country in Iraq, Plucker also has a special mission of his own. During the first air mission of Desert Storm, when Plucker's EA-6B Prowler was nearly shot down by an Iraqi missile, one of the other planes on the mission was not so lucky. Plucker watched from the cockpit as Lt. Cmdr. Scott Speicher's FA-18 turned into a fireball after being hit by Iraqi fire. The plane plummeted to the ground as Plucker continued the mission to take out radar installations near Baghdad.

The military has since found evidence suggesting Speicher — a friend of Plucker's — survived and became a prisoner of war, but Iraq never gave an account for him.

"My own ambition is to go out and see the crash site in the desert," Plucker said. "That's not the reason I'm going, but if I'm going to be there that's something I want to do."

Plucker described this mission in an interview with the Argonaut last year. He was the naval flight officer in charge of communications, navigation and electronic warfare on the plane.

As they crossed the border into Iraq, Plucker saw flickers of light on the ground.

"They lit up like somebody threw a light switch," he said. "It dawned on me that, oh my God, they're shooting at us."

Later in the mission Plucker's plane made evasive maneuvers to narrowly avoid an Iraqi missile, but in the process the plane popped a circuit breaker and took out all the lights in the cockpit. The pilot thought the plane had been hit until the popped breaker was found. Plucker's crew shortly discovered they had lost their combat air patrol — the F-14 fighter jet that was supposed to be flying just off their wing to protect them — but they continued on with their mission.

After completing the mission Plucker's crew headed back to the carrier.

"As soon as you cross the border coming out of Iraq you can just feel your whole body relax," he said.

They landed during sunrise and one of the commanding officers told them it was estimated that Plucker's plane had a zero chance of making it back. That same officer had the opportunity to fly the mission instead of Plucker but turned it down because of the danger. On Plucker's second mission, the next day, they lost two more planes.

"Desert Storm was really an exiting moment in my life," he said. "There's sort of an adrenaline rush you get when you are in danger. Getting close to retirement, this is another opportunity I'll have to feel that again."

Plucker is about 26 years into his 30-year maximum in the Navy, but shortly before volunteering for Iraq he received orders to transfer to the

Strategic Air Command in Omaha, Neb., in October. There he will work with space operations in control of surveillance, weather and global positioning system satellites.

Though he will be away in Iraq, Plucker will still be assigned to his unit at UI until he transfers to his Omaha. Col. Bruce Barnes of the U.S. Marine Corps will replace him in July as commanding officer of the joint Navy and Marines ROTC, but Plucker plans to e-mail the students in his battalion during his stay in Iraq to keep them updated. He will also give a presentation when he returns.

Plucker has enjoyed his three years in command of UI's Navy ROTC as he watched the students grow from "kid[s] out of high school" to officers.

"It's been a great experience — probably one of the best jobs in the Navy," he said. "I feel pretty privileged."

Some of the students Plucker has taught at the ROTC are now serving in Iraq, and others were among the first to go last year. The Moscow-Pullman community and the two universities have all been extremely supportive of the ROTC programs, Plucker said, and he referred to his time here as a "great tour."

After serving for a few years in Omaha, Plucker plans to retire and work with his brother on a vineyard they just started near Walla Walla, Wash. The vineyard — called Twin Captains because his brother is a fire department captain — is on their father's wheat farm. The brothers were supposed to plant their first acre of grapes the day Plucker leaves for Iraq, so he said he will now miss that first part of their venture.

When he was working on the farm as a boy, Plucker would watch Navy jets flying low-level training missions over the farm, inspiring him to one day join the Navy. He joined the Navy ROTC while attending college at Oregon State University during the mid-1970s.

He graduated in 1978, was commissioned as an officer and began cruises on an aircraft carrier all over the world, traveling to most of the continents. He has now had more than 1,000 landings on 11 different carriers.

"When Saddam invaded Kuwait our carrier deployed straight to the Persian Gulf," Plucker said.

While there Plucker landed in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and other countries. He also flew missions over Iraq following the war to see if Saddam was upholding the cease-fire agreement. Plucker said the capture of Saddam has affected both the United States and Iraq.

"I think it's affected the morale of troops significantly," he said. "I think the day's going to happen really soon that we capture Osama bin Laden."

During the April 2003 interview Plucker said he was "more than impressed" with Operation Iraqi Freedom. He still maintains his support for the war.

"I think we're doing our job over here," he said. "I still believe in our mission."

AWARENESS

From Page 1

Palouse are sponsoring "Denim Day" on Wednesday to protest injustice against sexual assault victims.

Denim Day began in 1999 in protest against an Italian High Court decision to overturn a rape ruling because the victim was wearing jeans, according to a Violence Prevention Program press release. The court stated that because jeans cannot be removed without the help of the person wearing them, the victim could not have been resisting her attacker and therefore was not raped.

"The ruling sparked a worldwide reaction for its refusal to recognize the role coercion, threats and vio-

lence play in the act of rape," the press release states.

Women and men at UI and throughout Moscow are encouraged to "break the dress code and the silence" by wearing denim Wednesday.

Also, the Clothesline Project will be on display in the Idaho Commons Rotunda throughout the week. The project features T-shirts decorated by survivors of sexual or domestic violence and friends of survivors.

To recognize Sexual Violence Awareness Month, students, faculty and staff can wear ribbons available at the UI Dean of Students Office. Teal ribbons recognize victims of sexual violence and purple ribbons recognize victims of domestic violence.

PROCESS

From Page 1

Myhrum.

Farnen said many questions about the appointment process have come to the attention of senators and executive staff members in the past weeks.

"There needs to be a process of looking at things in a more efficient manner, and we're not ready for rapid decisions," she said.

Farnen said ASUI is in need of new blood and she would love to see what students can offer ASUI.

"Recommendations (from board chairs) can be qualified candidates, but we can create more competition, and we'll have more quality people applying," she said.

Farnen said opening the process to the public will

force current ASUI staff members to push themselves to the best of their abilities.

Justin Eslinger, presidential policy adviser, said any student can apply for any position, even without an opening. Applications will be reviewed once there is an opening, he said.

Eslinger said there are at least five ASUI positions that need to be filled for the fall semester — including lobbyist, attorney general and director of Health and Wellness.

Myhrum would not comment on which of his staff he thinks could be doing a better job, but he said part of the problem is the lack of communication regarding his expectations between himself and those members.

"I just want to make us as effective as possible," he said.

PAY LAG

From Page 1

Michael in October, administrators have announced the consolidation of the Student Recreation Center under the Athletic Department, the closure of the UI Press, a proposal to eliminate the UI studio arts program and the closure of the Office of Diversity and Human Rights.

"I don't know of any others at this point," Pitcher said.

A task force is currently being assembled to propose further program eliminations this summer. Pitcher said the UI Vision and Resource Task Force will focus on "what we need to stay true to and invest in, and what we need to transition out of."

Low-income students find equal education comes with high price

BY BRUCE MURPHY
MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

(KRT) — Ever since she was in fifth grade Lyah Holmes has wanted to be a doctor. But as she worked toward her diploma at Milwaukee's Rufus King High School, she began to worry.

"I knew I couldn't afford the college tuition," Holmes said.

Holmes ultimately chose Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee because, despite the higher tuition of a private college, it gave her the best package of grants and loans, along with a work-study position. But even that fell well short of covering her costs.

Now a sophomore, Holmes works eight hours a week on campus and another 21 hours a week off campus at a local bank. She's had to scale back her class load to keep up. She also could take out more loans in order to cut back on work, but that would saddle her with as much as \$20,000 in debt by graduation, with years of medical school education yet to finance.

Unlike some students' families, Holmes' family can't afford any help.

"Honestly, I'm overwhelmed," Holmes said.

In Wisconsin and across America stories like Holmes' are increasingly common.

Fifty years after the Supreme Court ruled that blacks must receive an equal chance at a quality education, a college degree has become the ticket to the middle class. But it is a ticket that poor families — a high percentage of them minorities — often can't afford.

"We're increasingly becoming a class-based society where if you're rich and white, you're able to go to a four-year college, but if you're poor or a student of color, maybe we'll provide a community college for you," said Tom Mortenson, senior scholar at the Pell Institute in Washington, D.C.

Even a community college is unaffordable for many. "Cost is an issue here," said Tony Baez, provost at Milwaukee Area Technical College, which often is the

last hope for minority students seeking a postsecondary education. Though it might cost as little as \$1,100 a semester for full-time tuition — modest by post-secondary standards — many students do not even try to enroll, or enroll and then drop out.

"The overwhelming reason was they ran out of money," MATC spokesman Jim Gribble said.

At Wisconsin's flagship college, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the number of students who receive Pell Grants, which go to low-income students, has been declining for more than a decade. Mortenson, who recently completed a study ranking universities on how well they provide access to all classes of students, gave UW-Madison an "F."

Even Toby Marcovich, president of the UW Board of Regents, concedes the problem at UW-Madison. "We are not doing a good job of admitting lower- and middle-income students," he said. As for UW-Madison's record on enrolling black students, Marcovich said, "We have a long ways to go."

The result has been that some black students — arguably some of the best — go to colleges out of state, where they might be offered more financial aid or might find the racial climate more comfortable. A 2001 study done by Mortenson found that Wisconsin had a net outflow of 1,452 Pell Grant recipients, meaning that many more low-income and minority college students left the state than came. The figure is higher than in 38 other states.

Gerard Randall, a UW regent, said this could contribute to the problem Milwaukee has had building a black middle class. "We know that at least 50 percent of (Wisconsin) students who go to colleges in other states don't come back," he noted.

Experts stress it is difficult to isolate one reason as the sole cause of a student failing to enroll in or complete college. But many believe a lack of financial aid is one of the most important contributing factors.

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Airline security gets focus in Congress

BY STEVE JOHNSON
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

SAN JOSE, Calif. (KRT) — Airline passengers might want to keep their seat belts buckled. U.S. commercial planes soon could be equipped to fire lasers, launch flares and make gut-churning evasive maneuvers, and could increasingly fly at night with lights dimmed to foil any terrorists armed with portable missiles.

While no planes in this country have come under missile attack so far, federal officials want to be prepared.

Prompted by legislation introduced by Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has awarded \$2 million contracts to Northrop Grumman, BAE Systems and United Airlines to help find ways to protect commercial aircraft from such threats. The companies must report their initial findings by June.

Meanwhile, a separate bill introduced in Congress on March 30 seeks to limit the international proliferation of handheld missiles and would require the Homeland Security agency to issue a report on its plans to make U.S. airports and planes safe from the weapons.

Many people believe the danger is real. Nearly three-dozen

hand-held missiles have been fired at commercial airlines in other countries over the past 25 years. Those attacks, coupled with evidence that terrorist groups have thousands more such weapons, have aroused fears that airlines soon could be targeted here.

"I think it will happen one day," said James Carafano, a senior fellow at the Heritage Foundation. "There's a relatively robust supply of these things out there. They are small and relatively easy to smuggle."

But some of the ideas being discussed to defend airlines might not sit well with the flying public, said David Stempler, president of the Air Travelers Association.

"Clearly all this would have an effect on travelers," he said. "Just the fact that airlines and airports would need to go through these procedures to protect against a shoulder-fired missile might be enough to scare a lot of people away."

That would be a financial blow to air carriers already reeling from a drop in passengers since Sept. 11, 2001. Another worry is the expense of installing and maintaining the anti-missile system. Depending on how many of the nation's 5,575 passenger jets and 1,082 cargo carriers are equipped, cost

estimates range from \$5 billion to \$100 billion.

No one has decided who would pay that, but airline executives fear they'd get stuck with the bill. If that happened, said Doug Wills, a spokesman for the Air Transport Association, "it would cripple the industry."

So far only one commercial plane has been attacked in a noncombat zone. That was Nov. 19, 2002, when two missiles buzzed an Arka Israeli Boeing 767 as it left a Kenyan airport. Both missed.

Unfortunately, most of the attacks have been successful. Of the 35 cases in which hand-held missiles were fired at commercial planes, 24 resulted in the aircraft's destruction, killing more than 500 people.

Portable missiles are typically about 6 feet long, weigh 40 pounds and cost between \$1,000-\$250,000. Most are heat-seeking, homing in on the plane's hot engine exhaust, and can hit planes up to four miles away.

To counter them, many military planes drop flares to lure away the missiles. Flares also are being considered for commercial planes. But they don't easily fool advanced versions of the weapons, such as the U.S.-made Stinger B and the Russian SA-18.

Political analysts: Kerry must tread carefully on Iraq issues

BY DAVID JACKSON
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

WASHINGTON (KRT) — Protestors at a college in New York hoot the candidate for wanting to "stay the course" in Iraq; some unfurl a banner demanding "troops home now!"

The hecklers are Democrats. The candidate: John Kerry.

The killing fields in Iraq threaten President Bush's reelection bid, but challenger Kerry must also tread carefully.

He must answer Republican attacks over conflicting Senate votes on Iraq while placating fellow Democrats who wonder why we're there in the first place, said political analysts. And he must develop a coherent plan to bring stability to Iraq, foreign policy analysts said, all without appearing to capitalize on U.S. casualties.

"We are, after all, in a shooting war," said Jessica Tuchman Mathews, president of the Washington-based Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "This is not an easy line to draw. It's a very difficult position to be in."

Republicans are already trying to make it an uncomfortable one for the Democratic challenger.

"He looks for opportunities to play politics with the war in Iraq," said Bush campaign spokesman Steve Schmidt.

Kerry told supporters in New York on Thursday that Bush is trying to overemphasize the Iraq invasion's link to the overall war on terrorism, noting that Saddam Hussein was not involved in Sept. 11, 2001, and had no ties to Osama bin Laden.

The Bush campaign decried the statement, citing the newest threat from the al-Qaida leader.

"It is disturbing to realize that John Kerry neither recognizes nor understands the murderous ideology of our enemies and the threat that they pose to our nation," campaign chairman Marc Racicot said in a written statement.

Kerry denies that his views on Iraq are politically expedi-

ent, saying he agrees with the administration that getting Iraq right is crucial to global security. But he faults the administration for failing to attract more international help before the invasion, adding that Bush should still carve out a formal role for the United Nations in transferring sovereignty to Iraq.

"Our soldiers are overextended, and they are at greater risk today than they had to be, had we done this right," Kerry told students Thursday at Howard University in Washington. "And I think we deserve a president of the United States who knows how to get it right the first time."

Republicans stressed that a U.N. envoy is already at work developing a path toward Iraqi sovereignty by the U.S.-declared deadline of June 30. They also cited negotiations with NATO for new international troops.

"Sen. Kerry's policy is not a policy — it's just a lot of criticism and pessimism," said Reagan-era Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger.

Bush supporters, and even some Democrats, have also accused Kerry of inconsistency on Iraq, a charge likely to dog him throughout the fall campaign.

The Massachusetts senator voted to authorize a possible invasion in October 2002 — a time when many political analysts said Democrats needed to show strength on national security if they expected to take on Bush.

Then, a year later, Kerry voted against an \$87 billion budget request for both Iraq and Afghanistan — a seeming contradiction that the Bush campaign is again highlighting in television ads. Critics noted that by the time of the vote, Howard Dean had risen to the top of Democratic polls by attacking fellow Democrats — like Kerry — who supported the Bush-backed war.

Kerry said that in backing action against ousted dictator Saddam Hussein, he approved the war resolution with the understanding that Bush would seek international support.

While nations like Great Britain, Spain, Italy and Poland did join Bush's "coalition of the willing," the administration failed to win support from the U.N. Security Council, thanks in part to anti-war lobbying from long-time allies France and Germany.

Kerry backers have noted there were plenty of votes for the Iraq budget request to pass, so Kerry could record his protest without risking that troops would be deprived of support. Kerry said he opposed the bill because the administration lacked a sufficient plan to stabilize the country — and still does.

"The odds are better if the United States has a shared presence than if we are operating alone," he told reporters last week.

With lives on the line the political stakes are high for both men.

"Any presidential candidate, I think, has to tread carefully around appearing to capitalize on the troubles that are befalling American troops in Iraq," said Charles Kupchan, an international relations expert at Georgetown University. "It's a balancing act."

It may be toughest for Bush as he must actually set policy and be accountable for the results, analysts said.

"You look at this and it ain't working," said Jon Alterman, director of the Middle East Program with the Center For Strategic & International Studies. "We've seen them go back to the drawing board time and time again. At some point you have to say he's drawing on the wrong board."

Political analysts agree Kerry has to be careful in discussing Iraq, if only because he doesn't have the same access to military intelligence Bush does. Democratic advocates added that Kerry has to avoid being goaded by the Bush team into making statements on Iraq that seem overly political.

"Kerry is walking the tightrope extremely well — and Kerry is definitely walking a tightrope," party strategist Jenny Backus said.

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Troops in Iraq killed at rates approaching Vietnam War-era levels

BY DREW BROWN
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON (KRT) — With fighting in Iraq now at its worst, the number of U.S. troops killed by enemy fire has reached the highest level since the Vietnam War.

The first part of April has been the bloodiest period so far for U.S. troops in Iraq. There have been 98 deaths by hostile fire so far this month, more than in the opening two weeks of the invasion, when 82 Americans were killed in action.

"This has been some pretty intense fighting," said David Segal, director of the University of Maryland's Center for Research on Military Organization. "We're looking at what happened during the major battles of Vietnam."

The last time U.S. troops experienced a two-week loss such as this one in Iraq was October 1971, two years before U.S. ground involvement ended in Vietnam.

There are 135,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. Nearly 700 American troops have died since the begin-

ning of the war. As of Sunday 503 had been reported killed in action. At least 3,630 more have been wounded.

The Vietnam War started with a slower death rate. The United States had been involved in Vietnam for six years before total fatalities surpassed 500 in 1965, the year President Lyndon B. Johnson ordered a massive buildup of forces. There were 20,000 troops in Vietnam by the end of 1964. There were more than 200,000 a year later.

By the end of 1966 U.S. combat deaths in Vietnam had reached 3,910. By 1968 the peak of U.S. involvement, there were more than 500,000 troops in the country. During the same two-week period of April that year, 752 U.S. soldiers died, according to National Archives records.

U.S. officials said comparisons with Vietnam are invalid and reject the idea that Iraq has become a quagmire.

But the two-front battle that U.S. troops have been waging against Sunni and Shiite insurgents for the past two weeks is the most widespread resistance

U.S. forces have faced since the war in Iraq began.

Senior U.S. officials insist the current fighting is only a "spike" and not indicative of a widening war. On Thursday, Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, described the current fighting as a "symptom of the success" U.S. forces are having in Iraq. "The sole intent" of the insurgents is to stop Iraq's transition to self-governance and democracy, he said.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Thursday that the death toll was worse than he had expected a year ago.

He also announced that more than 20,000 troops, mostly from the 1st Armored Division, would remain in Iraq for three more months to deal with the insurgency instead of coming home after a year of duty.

Gunfire has been the biggest killer of U.S. troops, followed closely by improvised explosive devices. The two account for more than 250 deaths.

Those killed represent a wide range of military specialties. Truck drivers and clerks are get-

ting killed just as often, if not more often, than infantrymen and other combat specialties.

That's an indication of the kind of battlefield environment in Iraq.

"Even Vietnam was a more conventional war than this," said Charles Moskos, a sociologist with Northwestern University who specializes in military issues and worked as a correspondent in the Vietnam War.

"Here in Iraq there are no battle lines," he said. "It's all over."

Another striking difference is age. The average age of a casualty in Vietnam was 20 years old. The average age of a casualty in Iraq is nearly 27. The youngest American soldier killed in Iraq was 18; the oldest was 55.

More than 12 percent of those killed have come from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve, which helps explain why the average age of the dead is higher.

"Reserve components tend to be older," Moskos said. Another reason is that a number of special operations troops were also

killed in the early days of the war, and they tend to be older as well.

The dead were from all 50 states, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa and the Marianas, a U.S. protectorate.

As of Friday, California had 75 dead; Texas, 67; Pennsylvania, 36; and Michigan, 22.

Nearly one-third came from the South, including 22 from Florida and 18 from Georgia.

Nearly 70 percent were white, according to Pentagon figures from April 8, the last date for which those statistics were available. Twelve percent were Hispanic and 14 percent were black. Asians and other races accounted for less than 6 percent.

In a sharp departure from previous wars, 18 women have been killed, 12 of them by hostile fire, including a civilian lawyer working for the Army.

Sixty-five percent of those killed have been from the Army, which has had the most troops in Iraq. Twenty percent were from the Marine Corps, which has

taken more than half of the casualties in April because of fierce fighting in Fallujah.

Many of those killed were from small towns and inner cities rather than the suburbs, Moskos said.

Hostile fire has accounted for about 70 percent of the deaths in Iraq, according to figures compiled by the Pentagon and www.lunaville.org, an independent Web site that tracks coalition casualties.

One hundred U.S. troops have died so far in April, including two whose deaths weren't caused by hostile fire. In the first two weeks of the war 98 died, including 16 from nonhostile causes.

Since Vietnam there was one attack on U.S. forces that inflicted a higher death toll than anything experienced since: 241 servicemen were killed in Beirut in 1983 when a suicide bomber from the Islamic group Hezbollah drove a truck full of explosives into their barracks.

Many experts and historians cite that incident as the beginning of America's war with Islamic terrorists.

U.S. military battles Iraqi insurgents nationwide; Spanish troops pull out

BY MATTHEW SCHOFIELD
AND SORAYA SARHADDI NELSON
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

BAGHDAD (KRT) — As the fighting in Iraq widened and the death toll continued to mount Sunday, Spain's new prime minister said he's ordered his country's troops out of Iraq as soon as possible, and the top U.S. civilian administrator conceded that Iraqi police and security forces aren't ready to protect the country from insurgents.

A dozen American soldiers died Saturday, 10 of them in action and two in accidents, bringing the number of American soldiers killed in action in Iraq so far this month to 98, more than the amount who died from enemy fire during the U.S.-led invasion a year ago.

Facing a self-imposed June 30 deadline to return sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government that still hasn't been chosen, the Bush administration is now fighting to keep roads and supply lines open, battling insurgents virtually nationwide and trying to hold together an international coalition strained by killings, kidnappings and now by Spain's withdrawal.

An Egyptian news agency Sunday quoted Spain's new foreign minister, Miguel Angel Moratinos, as saying that Spain plans to withdraw its 1,300 troops from Iraq within 15 days.

The White House said it had expected the move, which new Socialist Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero had promised, but Sen. John Warner, R-Va., the chairman of the Senate Armed

Services Committee, on Sunday called it "troublesome," saying, "It will put pressure on the other coalition nations that have joined in this, I'm sure."

Sen. John Kerry, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, charged Sunday that the Bush administration has been "stunningly ineffective" in Iraq and said it will take a new president to build a broader international coalition there.

The U.S.-led coalition is facing separate Sunni and Shiite Muslim uprisings, and the fighting widened Saturday when five Marines were killed after they were ambushed on the Syrian border. That prompted Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to demand that Syria do more to prevent foreign fighters from crossing into Iraq.

Iraqi security forces will not be ready to safeguard the nation against militants by the June 30 power transfer, U.S. civilian administrator L. Paul Bremer said Sunday.

Another Marine died in al Anbar province, home to both Fallujah and Ramadi, in the Sunni Triangle that's been a hotbed of resistance to the U.S.-led occupation.

Three soldiers died south of Baghdad when their convoy was ambushed near ad Diwaniyah. Another died in the southern part of Baghdad after a roadside bomb exploded. Two more died in apparent accidents, one when his Abrams tank rolled over in the northern part of the capital and another when he was electrocuted while working on a generator in Tikrit.

Roadside bombs and ambushes continue to

bedevil U.S. and allied troops, and coalition forces kept the major highways out of Baghdad closed Sunday. The road west to Jordan has been closed since fighting intensified earlier this month in Fallujah.

Despite an announcement that some convoys are moving again, soldiers in Baghdad have complained that they're afraid they'll be back on Meals Ready to Eat — prepackaged, long-storing "foods" — because not enough fresh supplies are coming from Kuwait and Jordan.

The most intense fighting this weekend occurred in Husaybah, a small city along the Syrian border. U.S. military officials said the explosion of a roadside bomb drew Marines to investigate about 300 yards from the border, where they were ambushed by an estimated 120-150 insurgents.

The fighting lasted for as long as 14 hours, military officials said, estimating that 25-30 Iraqis were killed. The Marines said women and children gathered around enemy mortars, but it wasn't clear if they were there voluntarily.

In Fallujah and Ramadi a shaky peace continued to hold Sunday, and sites were designated in the city for guerrillas to surrender weapons such as missiles, mortars and rocket-propelled grenades.

Talks were scheduled to continue Tuesday in Baghdad between community leaders and coalition representatives. More than 2,000 Marines remain dug in around the mostly Sunni Muslim town, and coalition officials have said they're prepared to resume offensive operations if talks fail to produce progress.

The other flashpoint in Iraq remains Najaf, where 2,500 American soldiers have joined a Spanish contingent in an attempt to shut down fugitive Shiite cleric Moqtada al Sadr.

A spokesman for al Sadr, who is wanted on murder charges, said at a news conference that the cleric's Mahdi Army militia would focus its efforts Monday and Tuesday to protecting Shiites coming to pray at the Grand Imam Ali Mosque during a holiday commemorating the Prophet Mohammed's death.

The Mahdi gunmen withdrew to a tight perimeter around the Grand Imam Ali Shrine and the Kufa Mosque on Sunday, and were splitting guard duty with another Iraqi Shiite militia, the Badr Brigade, which last year supposedly disarmed at the request of the Americans.

The pro-Iranian brigade, which according to its leaders has evolved into more of a social service organization, is said to be under the control of Iraq's leading grand ayatollah, Ali al Hussein al Sistani, who opposes al Sadr.

Attempts to negotiate a compromise over al Sadr with the Americans remained at a standstill, spokesman Qais al Khazali said Sunday.

His supporters in Baghdad, however, said they were firmly behind the young cleric.

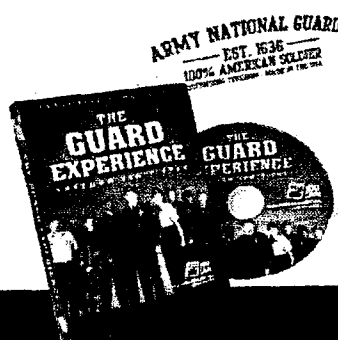
"We are not unfamiliar with the fight against those who oppose the truth of Islam," said Hasim al Araj, who runs al Sadr's Baghdad office. "Many will rise to fight for him if the Americans attack our city of peace."



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KATIEBOTKIN
Columnist



Katie's column appears regularly on the opinion pages of the Argonaut. Her e-mail address is arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

Marble statues, standing in the halls of Europe as a testimony to classical form, are beautiful. They were my favorite thing in the Louvre — so inspiring that I camped out in front of a couple of

them and attempted to draw them on a scrap of paper. True, they are ideals, flawless and smoothly muscular, but they are more realistic ideals than the tanned models on the covers of Cosmo. The statues actually portray goddesses as having a little fat.

About 37,000 people worldwide die annually from melanoma. Those with naturally pale skin and a family history of melanoma are most at risk. This should be an entirely preventable disease, and yet somehow we would rather risk death following the beauty standard of the times than face the world with healthy, paper-colored legs.

This dark beauty is fleeting. Eventually the sun simply turns tanned skin to a leathery orange mass. In some cultures

women are most beautiful around the age of 30, but in the plastic tan societies you can kiss your youthful appeal goodbye after your teens.

In Taiwan women avoid the sun to the point that they wear long-sleeved shirts in 100-degree weather. This may be extreme, but their grandmothers often have excellent skin.

If health is a compass in lifestyle, it is true that some sun is beneficial. Bodies need vitamin D, which they produce from sunlight, to function well.

However, you don't need that much. Walking to school sans sunscreen will probably do it for you. For most outdoor activities sunscreen should be your friend — and forget that it isn't macho to slather yourself in it before you churn up rapids or scale rocks. What if you get melanoma on your hands and have to cut them off?

No more rock climbing for you.

So picture yourself in this situation: You're hiking on a sunny day and realize you've forgotten your sunscreen.

What do you do? Go protectionless? Go back to the car and sulks? Walk backward so your face is away from the sun?

Not a chance. You simply make a hat out of leaves and grass, out of which you peer periodically to avoid bumping into things. This saves you from burns and is, in addition, remarkably cool.

Cool as in refreshing, not cool as in studly. Actually, it's dorky as all get-out, but you should lean more to the "who cares?" end of the oh-my-gosh-someone's-looking-at-me social spectrum, especially if you're worried about skin cancer, because that automatically makes you kind of a nerd.

However, since nerds end up ruling the world, jump onto this bandwagon of social rebellion.

OURVIEW



NOAH KROESE / ARGONAUT

Actions speak louder than words

About 200 students put aside tests, TV, parties and unrest regarding UI's current budget issues Saturday as they participated in the sixth annual Saturday of Service, hosted by the UI Civic Education Project. According to a press release, the many projects at the more than 15 locales included the following: gardening, cleaning up trash, painting playground equipment and a fence, and erecting a retaining wall at Philips Farm's picnic shelter.

In another display of community service, more than 150 students volunteered to paint six houses throughout Moscow on April 10 for the 16th annual Paint the Palouse, said Erik Elordi, house coordinator for the project. He said the volunteers paint the houses of people who "lack the physical or financial means to paint their own homes."

Service events such as these present great opportunities for students and others who feel powerless and fearful amid the recent department cuts to be active in improving the Moscow community. Rather

than be discouraged by what we cannot do, we should be encouraged by what we can do.

Protests, open forums and letters to the editor are all valuable tools in voicing discontent, but sometimes obsession in one area leads to neglect in another. We may be students, but we also live on the Palouse during our time at UI. Thus, we have a responsibility to do our part in making it a great place to live.

The University of Idaho student chapter of the Physical Education, Sport Science and Health Association did its part by putting on the Vandal Activities Fair for grade school students of the Palouse area Saturday, according to a press release. Children in grades one through six came to the Physical Education Building and participated in various fitness games under the supervision of about 25 College of Education students. Some of the proceeds went to the West Park Elementary Playground Equipment Fund.

Service toward local children is extremely important, especially in light of

the fact that higher education is not the only level of education that has sustained financial blow after financial blow as of late. It might be a cliché, but it is a good one: Children are our future.

Service is also a key avenue for students throughout campus — whether they are from a residence hall, Greek house or apartment — to strengthen bonds with others in the community, especially those people you don't normally fraternize with. Besides fostering new friendships, those bonds can go a long way toward mobilizing the students' voice and making it more effective for forming civil protests and raising concern to the administration's attention.

The Argonaut is fully aware of and concerned about the administration's and Idaho Legislature's decisions that have such a widespread impact on UI students. However, don't let tunnel vision impede your desire and ability to be a positive influence throughout the community.

J.A.

MAILBOX

Athletic Department money could go to better endeavors

Dear editor,

We have been following the saga of the Studio Arts program. It is inspiring to see how the arts and letters faculty members have come together, along with many folks in the community, to support this department. It is very sad, however, to read that they feel they have to offer to make cuts in their own departments and even forego raises, while the Athletic Department gets an extra handout in order to remain in the NCAA Division 1-A. The university has plenty of money to go around. The administrators need to think anew about how to use it.

What is a university for? Learning, teaching and research, as well as guiding students as they grow intellectually, creatively and morally into well-rounded citizens who can contribute to their society. The arts and sciences cultivate this kind of growth. Students with arts and sciences degrees bring home to their communities not only marketable skills, but a broader outlook on the world, and practice in working with new ideas.

What does the pursuit of big-time sports bring to a university? Big-time budget deficits. Big-time scandals. Dilution of intellectual and educational standards in the name of a temporary national "crown." Lessening of opportunities for local athletes, as coaches turn to national and international recruiting efforts. And for many student-athletes it also means a substandard education and bleak prospects for the future.

Throughout the NCAA, competitive sports programs regularly overspend their budgets by millions of dollars. At many large universities the athletic directors run minifields answerable to no one. They spend lavishly, busting institutional budgets and contributing to the nationwide hikes in tuition and fees. No expense is

too great to sign the latest star athlete. It's too bad if the legitimate educational departments of the college go begging. They are secondary to the pursuit of glory.

For a time the student-athletes are treated like demi-gods. The recent scandal of sex- and alcohol-soaked recruiting parties at the University of Colorado is just one visible example of a nationwide practice. NCAA coaches see their only job as winning games; they are not part of the educational mission. They spout drivel about building character in their players, but their basic lesson is "winning is everything," no matter how much money and rule-breaking it takes.

The student-athletes often get the worst of the deal. Many come to college with very poor academic skills and get little help while they are there. They come with unrealistic dreams of future success as professional athletes and are not encouraged to study and think about alternative life plans. Many take the easiest academic loads they can and often turn to plagiarism and cheating because they see no need for a life of the mind. Too many college athletes at these "sports factories" learn the lesson that they are above the rules. What they do not realize is that the coaches will just use them for a few years, then dump them when their eligibility runs out. How many college sports stars ever make a living in their chosen sport? How many more college students could benefit if the emphasis was put instead on lifetime sports as part of a complete educational experience?

Does the University of Idaho want to become this kind of sports factory? Is it a responsible fiscal policy to throw millions of dollars at a few sports teams while the thinkers, researchers and creators on campus are left to share a few meager scraps? Who benefits from big-time sports programs? A relative few. Who is hurt by them? Many, both in and out of the programs. Who will take new ideas out into the world and apply their energies to pulling Idaho into the 21st century? Graduates of the academic programs.

Here is a simple proposal: Hire a director for the physical education and athletic departments who is enthusiastic about cultivating healthy lifetime activities. Bring home the football and basketball teams. Expand the recreational and intramural opportunities of all kinds so that our own kids can participate and learn to enjoy physical activities. And redistribute about \$7.5 million of the current sports budget to departments where it will do some good. Turn the university away from the vicarious pursuit of athletic glory and toward the cultivation of well-rounded, intelligent citizens.

Stephen and Catherine Poppino
Twin Falls

UI needs Office of Diversity and Human Rights

Dear editor,

Before coming to Idaho I associated two things with the state: potatoes and the Aryan Nations. That was the image of Idaho that was exported to the nation. Now I know how much more there is here, but it's not just an image problem. In Idaho we have real, ongoing difficulty talking to each other across lines of class, ethnicity, religion or sexual identity. Dealing with this is one of Idaho's major challenges for the future, and the state's flagship institution should act as a guide. The UI Office of Diversity and Human Rights was created four years ago to help face this challenge, but the decision to eliminate it has just been announced. This would move the university in the wrong direction; it is a misstep we cannot afford to make.

The UI needs a central, visible Office of Diversity and Human Rights with a direct line to the top administration, because the university needs to say clearly to all of its students and employees, both current and prospective, that inclusiveness and respect for the human rights of all are key institutional priorities. According to the UI administration, this elimination would not involve a cut to

diversity funding, but rather a reallocation of funds from ODHR to other diversity-related offices. Since there is no urgent budget cut involved, the ODHR should not be dismantled before the arrival of President Tim White; he should have the opportunity to make his own determination regarding its importance to the university and the state.

Sarah Nelson
assistant professor of French and
chair of UI Juntura committee

Recently cut diversity office has plenty to offer

Dear editor,

It is with considerable dismay that we learn of the administration's unilateral decision to discontinue the Office of Diversity and Human Rights and remove director Raúl M. Sánchez, special assistant to the president for diversity and human rights. The administration's decision to discontinue this office comes at a crucial moment in Idaho's decades-long struggle to confront chronic discrimination on account of race, gender, class, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion and national origin. The decision not only weakens the university's ability to continue this vital struggle but sends a clear message that the state's flagship institution intends to defer the struggle to surrogate programs at inferior levels of funding where compliance is likely to be less meaningful. While aware of the budget issues confronting us, we want to make certain that the administration understands the consequences that this message will have on our state and on their own professional legacy here.

Diversity is one of the greatest challenges confronting the University of Idaho. It affects our ability to recruit first-rate students and faculty, and it makes retention a recurrent, well-known problem. Lack of diversity (and the sort of climate that nurtures it) also diminishes the job opportunities of our graduates with private and public agencies that continue

to take such issues seriously when crafting their recruitment efforts, and it will soon begin to influence grant opportunities at both public and private funding sources.

The Office of Diversity and Human Rights was established during a period of intense fear for minority populations in northern Idaho. In the past five years the Moscow area has witnessed two spectacular hate murders that involved University of Idaho students (either as victim or perpetrator). Every year the campus has been disturbed by repeated incidents of hate and intolerance, from the vicious attack on the property of the Gay-Straight Alliance to the recent controversy over racial slavery. In each case the tattered reputation of the state has depended upon the willingness of the University of Idaho administration, faculty and students to stand together in defense of Idaho's better nature.

The Office of Diversity and Human Rights has been a proud statement and an important part of that stand. Under the principled guidance of Raúl Sánchez it offered students and faculty a direct line to an administration that has become distressingly remote from the real concerns and aspirations of the campus community. The posture of our current administration and the ongoing climate challenges that minorities experience at this institution suggest the continued need to have a direct relationship between the Office of Diversity and Human Rights and the executive team. Mr. Sánchez fought the good fight on numerous fronts during his tenure. He understood that the just and moral cause is not always the popular cause, nor is it always convenient. What is more, he understood the possible consequences for him personally in standing up for what was right rather than what was expedient.

As a result Mr. Sánchez's office has become an essential component of the university community. It has served a central role as an advocate for underserved and underrepresented groups on our campus. The office has been a resource for students, faculty and staff

who were faced with discrimination, harassment or other hateful acts. By abolishing it the university will significantly lower its declining reputation in the broader academic and market community — and it will undermine faith in the state's goals and our university's commitment to promoting diversity, tolerance and human rights.

It is perhaps understandable that the administration, in the midst of its financial distress, has lost sight of the struggle that gave birth to the Office of Diversity and Human Rights. Yet a university without a sense of its higher mission is worse than one that is merely crippled by financial hardship. The University of Idaho's current strategic plan states that the university values its "people-oriented faculty, students and staff who are accessible, helpful and friendly, bringing respect for others and an appreciation of diversity to our academic exercise." It is time for us to call it back to this common cause. Perhaps more importantly, given our increasingly polarized environment, the need for such a centralized entity has never been greater.

We demand unequivocally that the university administration retain the Office of Diversity and Human Rights headed by an administrator, like Mr. Raúl M. Sánchez, who is part of the executive administration team.

The Coalition of Diverse Voices, including, but not limited to: Cecilia Alcalá, Dr. Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Leathia Botello, Brigitte Brander, Mandy Daniel, Shaun Daniel, Connie Driver, Toney Driver, Edward Flathers, Rodney Frey, Kari Galloway, Ismael Genc, Dr. S.M. Ghazanfar, Dale Graden, Naomi Herrera, Jamal Lyksett, the Rev. Joan Montagnes, Joann Muneta, Sarah Nelson, Gary Machlis, Sally Machlis, John Morse, Andrea Neukranz-Butler, Sarah Penney, Sean Quinlan, William Ramsey, Alan Rose, Nicole Rose, Margaret Salazar, Francisco Salinas, Myron Schreck, Carolyn Shoemaker, Pastor Dean Stewart, Bob Stickrod, Aimee Stormo, Debbie Storrs, Shu-Li Wang.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The opinion page is reserved as a forum of open thought, debate and expression of free speech regarding topics relevant to the UI community. Editorials are signed by the initials of the author. Editorials may not necessarily

reflect the views of the University of Idaho or its identities. Members of the Argonaut Editorial Board are Brian Passer, editor in chief; Jake Alger, managing editor; Jennifer Hathaway, opinion editor.

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Play explores chilling psyches of men on high seas

BY FRANK MCGOVERN
ARGONAUT STAFF

Antarctica serves as an appropriate locale for "Terra Nova," Ted Tally's lonely survey of the iced peaks and canyons of pride. Tally, author of the screen adaptation of "Silence of the Lambs," is no stranger to darkly tinted and humanist psychodrama. So the writing, like the place, is sparse, chilly and stunning. The play opens with a slideshow of the places and players involved, namely Britain, Antarctica and Capt. Robert F. Scott (John O'Hagan), leader of an expedition from the former to the latter.

The bleak and striking slideshow segues cleverly to an expository monologue from Capt. Scott, a British naval officer and explorer freezing and likely hallucinating on the tundra. Roused from his slipping vision by perennial foil and multipurpose introspective mirage, Ronald Amundsen (Chris Schwartz) Scott addresses the audience members as if they are part of a turn-of-the-century gathering of English aristocracy. He announces his intention to march to the South Pole and back, a total of 1,600 miles. In addition to the obvious and significant danger of marching 1,600 miles across a frozen wasteland, Scott (and Great Britain) is com-

pelled by national pride. The aforementioned Amundsen has internationally announced his intention to lead his own Norwegian party to the South Pole and beat the Brits. Stung from a failed attempt on the South Pole earlier in his career and panicky at his advancing age and receding recognition, Scott promises British victory in the race to the bottom of the world. Seizing the pole first will be a conquest over both the Norwegians and their decidedly un-British — but more scientifically plausible — barbarism: using sled dogs for transportation and meat. The remainder of Terra Nova is a woozy narrative primarily following Scott and punctuated by guilt and

doubt-ridden interface with Scott's phantasmal nemesis, Amundsen. (In keeping with the austere personality of the play, the dialogue and narrative are culled from letters and photos found on the frozen bodies of the explorers). From the beginning the trek defines itself with ominous foreshadowing. Evans (Andrew Varenhorst), one of Scott's men, slices his hand, an injury that devolves into frostbitten gangrene and eventual psychotic wasting. Scott suffers through bouts of shame for, among other things, abandoning his new bride and unborn son.



Terra Nova was presented by the Student Theatre Organization last week. COURTESY PHOTO

TERRA NOVA, see Page 8

Sex guide's latest edition keeps issues unembarrassing

BY BENNETT YANKEY
ARGONAUT STAFF

For many in the 20-something age bracket that dominates college populations, the idea of a published sex guide may come across as an overly clinical approach to a favorite pastime, or alternately a grim harbinger of the anticipated boredom and frustration accompanying "settling down."

Despite the most colorful efforts of professors in human sexuality courses and numerous appearances by sex therapist Dr. Ruth on Conan O'Brien's "Late Night," the preferred method of most young adults for learning about sexual matters remains largely self-intuitive. "The Guide To Getting It On," written by Paul Joannides, published by Goofy Foot Press and now in its fourth edition, aims to change the common impression of sex manuals by presenting a factual, direct approach in a down-to-earth, irreverent and even humorous vernacular.

A rather imposing tome at nearly 800 pages, the guide is rounded out by an impressive array of comic-style line drawing illustrations. Rather than the husk-like, generic couples commonly photographed for the books everyone has leafed through in the "special" section of bookstores, anatomy, positions and diagrams are all portrayed here in effective, unembarr-

assing fashion, regardless of the subject matter. The lighthearted approach typical of the entire volume is best summed up in some of the more memorable drawings: A couple makes passionate love in a phone booth; a man with cornrows orally pleases a pregnant woman; two Tyrannosaurus Rexes copulate, locked in the throes of ecstasy. Touting itself as "The Universe's coolest and most informative book about sex," over the course of its editions the guide has been translated into 14 languages and used as an assigned text for college courses. The fourth edition, due for release this month, updates the guide with timely chapters such as "Sex & Cyberspace" and "Internet Dating." These, in addition to previously published chapters such as "Hand Jobs: Strokes for Blokes" and "Balls, Balls, Balls," compose a stunningly comprehensive collection of relevant information. Joannides said his intention with the new edition was to make the guide "as intelligent as any book ever written on sex, but also down-to-earth and fun, so that anyone could enjoy and benefit from it." In this he appears to succeed. For all the cleverly titled subject headers ("Playing the Back Nine? Bag it") and insight into more daring experimentation, there exists page after page of subject matter

SEX, see Page 8

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE



Barbara Bishop's "Patience" is now being displayed in the Ridenbaugh Gallery. DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT



COURTESY PHOTO

Paradigm is featured Wednesday as part of the noontime series in the Idaho Commons.

Noontime Series offers another unknown up-and-coming artist

BY SEAN OLSON
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

Sometimes UI gets in the habit of slipping a band in under the radar. Take Paradigm, comprising California natives who not only specialize in playing college campuses, but say they honestly enjoy it. ASUI's Noontime Series has them booked for Wednesday amid the series schedule that boasts both local and visiting artists. As far as students know, a band is playing at noon in the Idaho Commons. What they don't know is that one day they may brag about whom they overheard while eating a sandwich. Students probably won't realize that the five-member alt-rock group is getting play time on more than 60 college radios across the country. They won't know that Paradigm has played at 25 colleges from San Diego to Salt Lake City; most probably won't even know that Paradigm is on alternativeaddiction.com's top 10 unknowns list. Vocalist Shannon Curtis has the band headed in a familiar direction. She lists her influences as Sarah McLachlan, Remy Zero, Coldplay and U2, hardly anything that could be considered an underground sound for college students. But it has been catching on. The band says it has generated a following at ven-

ues such as The Paradise Lounge in San Francisco and The Hard Rock Café in Sacramento. Paradigm also secured a slot competing for a chance to open for poet and rocker Jewel in her 2003 national tour. They finished as finalists but missed the boat that time. Joining Curtis are Steve Stratton on guitar, Tony Edwards on drums and vocals, Keith Ogden on guitar and Kyle Knowlton on bass. The Noontime Series has pulled in acts like this before. Laurel Brauns played last year to a virtually unaware crowd. She has since been nominated as Female Musician of the Year by Jam Music Magazine in New England. As far as Paradigm goes, Curtis and Stratton do the songwriting. She says she writes about twice a week for hours at a time. She compares the process to birthing a new child, without the painkillers. The band got its start with Curtis and Stratton recording their songs and making demos together in early 1999. They were joined by the rest of the band later that year. The group released its first album, "Standing In Line," in August of 2002. Paradigm is fresh off shows in Utah and plays at Boise State University today. The concert is free and lasts from noon-1 p.m.

Tarantino pumps up the volumes with pop-culture panache

BY FRANK MCGOVERN
ARGONAUT STAFF

Apart from Kevin Smith and his brand of relentlessly self-indulgent "Star Wars" dorkery, Quentin Tarantino is Hollywood's most active and successful minor and purveyor of pop-referencing cinema.

Tarantino's previous films have been as much lovingly hand-crafted homages to the genre they redefine as they have been shrines to his peripheral passions of comics, music, kung-fu, kitschy pop-culture and art.

Both volumes of "Kill Bill" part company with their predecessors not so much because they lack the intricate patchwork of citation, but by being a reference to themselves. The allusions go so deep, culling and creating the zeitgeist from westerns to far-easterns, Kill Bill can feel as much like an assigned collage filmstrip from a hipster cinephile course as a big-budget picture.

Saving the movie from pretension — and, even less forgivable, boredom — is the obvious amount of fun (at least for Tarantino himself) that went into its creation. During almost any scene in either volume, it's not hard to imagine Tarantino excitedly bouncing in the seat next to you, babbling about his influences.

In predictable Tarantino fashion, "Volume 1" dangled tidbits of back story and plunged messily into arterial spray-heavy revenge. The damaged Bride, the awesome Uma Thurman, cut her way toward the titular Bill through Vivica Fox (in her best role ever), a super-cool yakuza army, Lucy Liu and whoever else got in her way.

In "Volume 2" the bride continues her blood-soaked swath to redemption, this

time through unfortunates Budd (Michael Madsen) and the California King Snake (Daryl Hannah).

Continuing another sticky runner, the unfortunate Bride gets it as bad as she gives, and as the complexity and sadism of the movie swell, so does the vengeance. The Bride plucks out eyes and explodes hearts. But for her trouble she gets buried alive, drugged, nailed with two barrels of rock salt at point-blank range and, in the unkindest cut of all, is emotionally manipulated.

And persisting altruistically with his at-risk actor's rehabilitation program that has partially or completely resurrected the careers of John Travolta and Pam Grier, Tarantino rescues Gordon Liu from undeserved obscurity and straight-to-video limbo in two excellent roles. One gets the feeling that Quentin Tarantino's directorial love alone transforms these cusp has-beens into iconic badasses.

A lot has been made about "Volume 2" finding the emotional core absent from the blood-soaked first installment, and rightly so. The Bride's relationship with all of the above burns brightly on the far ends of the emotional spectrum, never cooling toward the middle. Bill especially finds himself the object of the Bride's deepest and tragically complex love and admiration, and — only slight-

ly more fiercely — her abyssal hatred for his betrayal of it.

Her path is muddled with emotional attachment more dangerous than the gang of well-trained sociopaths bent on her painful demise; for the second time her righteous murder is interrupted by a child. Plucking the awkward emotional strings he created, Tarantino uses the complexity of his characters' passions to mold tenderness in situations that would be wooden absurdities in the hands of anyone else.

"Kill Bill's" style, true to form, runs as close to gimmicky as an excellent movie can. Flashbacks shine in vibrant black-and-white; kung fu training montages are peppered with Wu Tang-flavored animal styles (eagle's claw vs. crane and so forth) and Enter the Dragon-esque sloppy zooms set to inspirational RZA tracks.

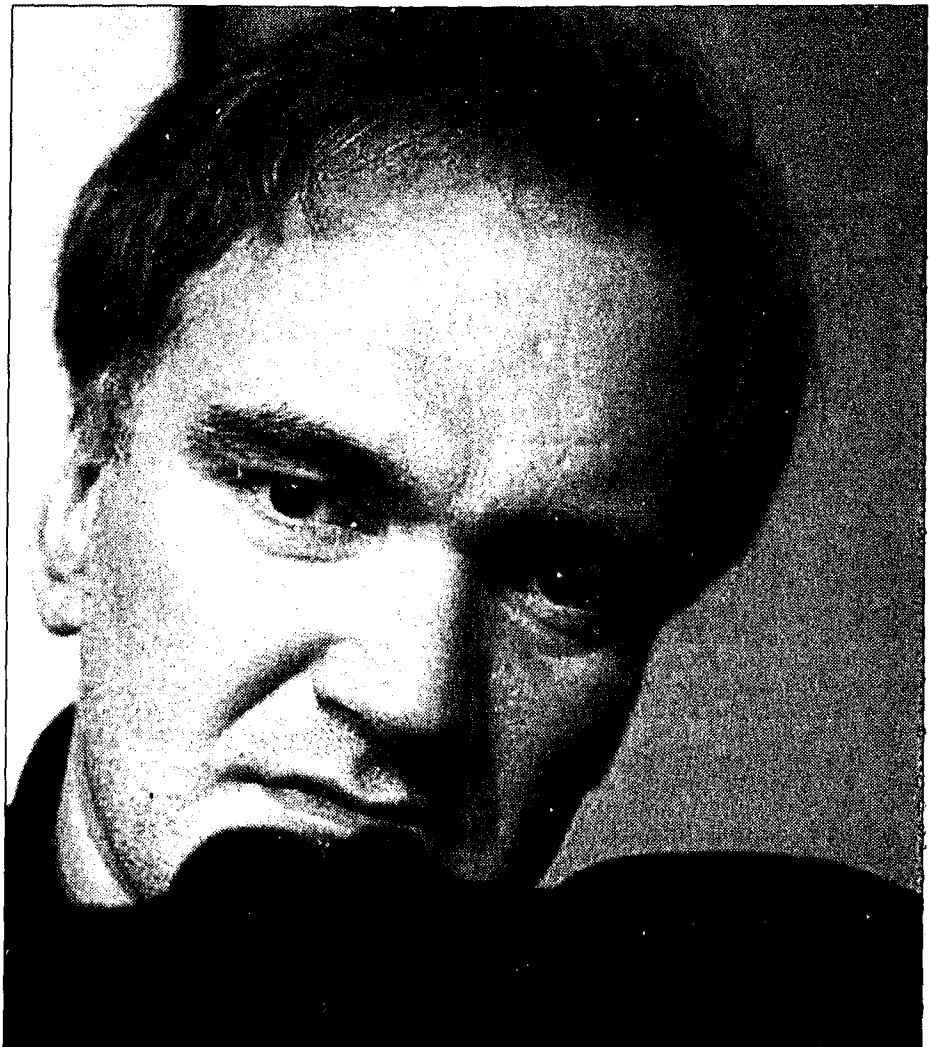
Needless to say, occasionally in his quest for the coolest movie ever, Tarantino stumbles over his own cleverness. The characters have a tendency to sound the same — all fluent in a hyper-hip dialect that exists nowhere else. Additionally, he sometimes leans back on a deus ex machina to ensure the solidity of plot points.

One clunky device in particular has the Bride injected with a truth serum "twice as powerful as sodium pentathol with none of the druggy side effects" to guarantee the viewer her dialogue is candid.

Whatever minor flaws perk up, however, only serve as the exceptions that prove the Tarantino rule: This movie rules. Only Quentin Tarantino could fashion one of cinema history's most hand-me-down entwined and self-aware studies of what's been done and make it absolutely original.



"KILL BILL VOL. 2"
★★★★½ (of 5)
Uma Thurman
Now Playing



"Kill Bill Vol. 2" is Quentin Tarantino's follow-up to last year's "Kill Bill Vol. 1."

SEX From Page 7

addressing everyday concerns and questions about sex, anatomy and (quite literally) everything in between in an approachable manner.

Refreshingly, the "down-to-earth" approach of the guide does not at any point come across as trying too hard — there is an inherent tone of dorkiness prevalent in the text that broadens its appeal while augmenting its credibility. A book such as this could have easily copped a more sarcastic air of faux-hip demeanor that would have vastly decreased its effectiveness.

For anyone searching for information on sex issues from menstruation to heavy bondage, or simply an entertaining and informative reference volume, "The Guide To Getting It On" stands alone in its class.

TERRA NOVA From Page 7

His crew tries to keep up spirits in the formidable face of the environment, Evan's increasingly debilitating injury and a lack of food, only to discover after 800 miles that the Norwegians had easily beaten them to the South Pole. The trip back is worse, of course, as the entire crew fades to the cold, illness, food shortage and ennui. By the end of the journey the three surviving explorers succumb only 11 miles from safety.

Though the play is unrelentingly macabre, it succeeds in not being emotionally draining, an impressive feat for such dark work.

The performances of the actors varied with their accents. Front man John

O'Hagan, as Scott, maintained the most impressive accent stability and turned in a good performance that suffered some from occasional neophyte-seeming swells of melodramatic emoting.

Rachel Santoro, playing Kathleen, Scott's new bride, who appears only in torturous flashback, did equally well as a strong-willed partner straining under loneliness and confusion. Santoro deserves added credit for appearing three times on the program, as actor, makeup designer and treasurer of the Student Theater Organization.

"Birdie" Bowers (Jesse Collins) was the group's optimistic comic relief but effectively avoided caricaturing. Collins was well-cast, believable and even sounded as though he had a sinus cold, which, if contracted for the part, makes for an impressive

loyalty to his craft. Dr. Wilson and Evans — Brett Affleck-Aring and Varenhost, respectively — were tucked into smaller roles and frequently reverted to American inflection, but both looked the part, and Varenhost's creepy dying psychosis bears mentioning. Chris Schwartz's Amundsen employed a kind of pan-European accent employing a mix hinting of Russian, Scandinavian and German but made the character amusingly dislikable (or likable, depending on how you felt about obstinate Scott).

Eric Branson as Titus Oates didn't even mess around with trying to form a British brogue. However, American articulation fit surprisingly well with Oates' pragmatic, gruff, occasionally cruel and selflessly cynical soldier. "Terra Nova" was an excellent play with well-worked but often green performances; it isn't a bad way to spend a couple of hours.

ARTSBRIEFS

Springfest 2004 tickets on sale

The Associated Students of Washington State University's Student Entertainment Board will present Springfest 2004 on April 24 at the Beasley Coliseum. The concert will feature Cypress Hill, MXPX, Vendetta Red and the winners of the Battle of the Bands concert. The doors will open at 4 p.m.

Tickets are on sale: \$15 for WSU students by April 20, \$20 for all other students with identification and \$29.50 for the general public. Students must purchase their tickets at Beasley Coliseum or through Campus Involvement, located on the third floor of the Compton Union Building. Tickets are also available online, by telephone and through all TicketsWest locations. A limited number of general admission tickets are available for floor seating; all other seating is reserved.

Schedule for Eastside Cinemas

Showtimes in () are for Saturday and Sunday only.

- "Alamo" PG-13 (12:40), (3:30), 6:20 and 9:10 p.m.
- "Ella Enchanted" PG (12:40), (2:50), 5:10 and 9:20 p.m.
- "Whole Ten Yards" PG-13 (12:35), (2:50), 5:05, 7:20 and 9:40 p.m.
- "Home on the Range" PG (1:30), (3:20), 5:10, 7 and 8:50 p.m.
- "Walking Tall" PG-13 (1:30), (3:30), 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Schedule for University 4 Cinemas

- "Hellboy" PG-13 (1:30), (4), 7 and 9:30 p.m.
- "Kill Bill 2" R (1), 4, 7 and 9:45 p.m.
- "The Girl Next Door" R (1); 4:30, 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.
- "Lady Killers" R (1:30), 4:30, 7:30 and 9:45 p.m.

Our University Is Under Attack!

Budget CUTS, Layoffs and Fee Increases, Research CUTS, Financial Aid CUTS, Job CUTS, Salary CUTS, Teaching CUTS, Program CUTS, Benefit CUTS

What's next? My opponent calls the UI a "Special Interest" and wants MORE CUTS!



My Record

- I voted AGAINST ALL HOLDBACKS and AGAINST ALL CUTS in higher education and public school budgets.
- I have NEVER voted for or recommended raising student fees
- I have always fought for increased funding and lower student fees
- I support public input, openness and accountability in government

I need your help to keep fighting for the University of Idaho

My opponent in the May Primary wants to cut state revenues. The result will be more layoffs, more programs eliminated, MORE CUTS. OUR UNIVERSITY IS UNDER ATTACK! Our entire community will suffer, our students, faculty, staff and local businesses. How can anyone want to cut the UI budget even more?

My pledge has always been the same: I am going to do whatever is necessary to adequately fund the University of Idaho and our public schools. That's the reason you elect me, and that's the way I vote!

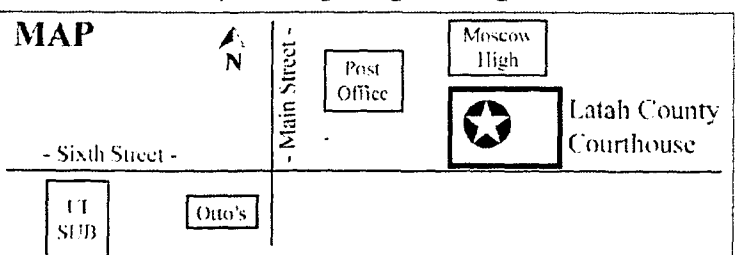
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Gary Schroeder is the #1 advocate for the University of Idaho and our public schools in the Idaho Senate!
Rep. Tom Trail

Now more than ever, schools need Schroeder.
Lewiston Tribune, 3/31/2004

Gary Schroeder has been a constant advocate for higher education. More importantly, he has always listened, encouraged and supported the concerns of students.
John Marble
ASUI President 1993-94

Gary Schroeder has been a most important champion for the UI in the Idaho Legislature. At this critical point in UI's history, we must have the chair of the Senate Education Committee be from Moscow. Gary has stood firm as the gatekeeper of his committee, protecting the interests of K-12 and higher education in Latah County and Idaho. We can do no better than to retain him as our legislator.
Sean Wilson
ASUI President 1994-95

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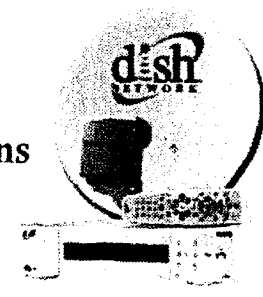
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The late John Belushi sings the blues again in a Chicago musical

'Saturday Night Live' star gets rare posthumous star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

BY CHRIS JONES
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

(KRT) — Not long after John Belushi overdosed from an injected mixture of cocaine and heroin in 1982 in a bungalow at the Chateau Marmont Hotel, Jim Belushi began a long campaign to get his late brother's name enshrined on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

It's not as easy as one might imagine. Letters must be written. The attendance of celebrities must be guaranteed. The image-conscious Hollywood Chamber of Commerce doesn't give out many posthumous stars — and, his comic genius notwithstanding, the manner of Belushi's death made his brother's quest all the harder. But the names Dan Aykroyd, Chevy Chase and Jim Belushi have clout, and the chamber acquiesced on April Fool's Day.

This was Jim Belushi's moment. Clutching his 4-year-old daughter, Jamison, to his chest, the star of ABC's "According to Jim" turned away from the photographers and toward the crowd of fans in the street.

"John's a hall of famer," Jim Belushi shouted with an air of palpable emotional finality. "We've retired his jersey."

Not exactly. In Chicago on Friday, previews began for a new stage musical based around John Belushi and Aykroyd's most famous comic creations. With a non-Equity cast and a relatively low \$250,000 production budget, "The Official Blues Brothers Revival" is the brainchild of Victor Pisano, who happens to be the second husband of Judy Belushi-Pisano, John's widow. The plot involves Belushi's character, "Joliet" Jake Blues, trapped in purgatory and needing to ascend to heaven.

Depending on one's point of view — and both were represented on Hollywood Boulevard on April 1 — it's either a worthwhile piece of homage to comic brilliance or a rather tawdry exercise in posthumous brand extension.

Belushi didn't want to talk about the show (in which he has no involvement), but he made it known to several people that he was irritated by all the plugs the show received at the star ceremony. Yet Aykroyd has blessed the Chicago project — albeit with an ample sense of the irony involved in a guy writing and directing a show about his wife's late first husband.

"The premise of the show is that John has come back to life," said the grinning actor, after ducking inside the police station to gain temporary protection from hordes of fans and paparazzi, "which would, of course, represent Victor's worst nightmare."

"They might be retiring John's number, but they're not retiring Jake's," said Pisano, holed up back in Chicago. "Jake is a fictional character."

But he has keepers. In 1971, the real John Belushi was discovered at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, Ill., by Joyce Sloan, now the producer emeritus of the Second City.

Following particular fame for an impression of Joe Cocker — replete with the intense and jerky physicality for which he later became famous — Belushi's big break came quickly. Barely a year after his Second City debut, he was cast in the stage show of "National Lampoon's Lemmings" (as was Chevy Chase), an off-Broadway revue that ran for nearly 10 months.

From National Lampoon (for whom he also wrote), Belushi went to "Saturday Night Live" in 1975, where he was, among many other brilliantly conceived characters, famous for the "Cheezeborger, Cheezeborger" sketch upon which the Billy Goat burger joints in Chicago still rest their fame. He won an Emmy in 1977.

It's clear Judy has an enduring love for her brilliant late husband, who she says was far more intellectually oriented than most people realized. But she was, of course, ultimately unable to prevent John's growing need for drugs, despite his many promis-

es to her that he would clean up his act. When asked about his death, she announced with a wry smile that she's conveniently changing the subject. But John's youngest brother stepped in.

"What I miss most about John," said Billy Belushi, a heating and air conditioning specialist in San Diego with no interest whatsoever in show business, "is that no matter where he was in the world, he always used to call me on my birthday."

"But now I call instead," Judy said.

The Blues Brothers began their lives warming up the studio audiences at "Saturday Night Live" at New York's Rockefeller Center, but they quickly became a full-fledged musical act. That's important because had the Blues Brothers been traditional characters in a sketch, like, say, the Church Lady or Stuart Smalley, they would have been owned by Lorne Michaels' Broadway Video, the producer of the show. But because the brothers blue were always a musical act, the rights to the characters were retained by their creators — Aykroyd owns Elwood and Belushi owned Joliet Jake.

"Jim," observed Sloan, "has no control over the characters." Following Belushi's death, his interest in Jake passed to his estate, which is administered by Judy and her second husband, Pisano, a writer and entertainment entrepreneur with a broad background in show business. It was, of course, the John Landis movie in 1980 that turned the

lovable rogues into cult figures, but there also were spinoff blues albums — such as "Briefcase Full of Blues" and "The Blues Brothers Soundtrack."

As John Belushi's longtime manager, Bernie Brillstein (who recently showed up playing himself at one of Tony Soprano's high-stakes poker games), noted at the Star ceremony, the entertainer made a hefty impression in a short time.

John did only 88 television shows and seven movies," Brillstein said, declaring John Belushi a bigger star today than

ever. "For a man still to have that much influence on our business is really something."

Indeed, without the Blues Brothers, it's hard to imagine that the House of Blues, a big national chain of blues clubs and a Chicago hotel initially financed in part by Aykroyd and Jim Belushi, ever would have come to be in Cambridge, Mass., in 1992.

In short, the Blues Brothers cut a wide swath. No one knows that better than Judy Belushi-Pisano. She says a lot of people have been ripping off the Blues Brothers over the last 20 years.

"They don't think of it as stealing," she said. "They think they are doing Johnny and Dan, but they're doing characters that we own." Judy says she has tried to be reasonable and there also have been a couple of officially licensed depictions — most notably in the "Legends" show in Las Vegas.

Nonetheless, most of the guys

plying their trades in dark suits and sunglasses around the world have been doing so without official authorization. Indeed, the two men in the cast of the Chicago show — two Canadians named Wayne Catania and Kieron Lafferty, who sport an uncanny resemblance to the original models — were discovered by Belushi-Pisano and Pisano doing their own illegal impressions that just happened to be filmed by the Arts & Entertainment network and just happened to be seen by Belushi-Pisano on television.

"We made them an offer they couldn't refuse," she said. "Boys, your Blues Brothers days are over. Unless ..."

Victor Pisano, the author and director of the show, seems ready for the question about why he would want to write and direct a show about his wife's first husband. Told about Aykroyd's joke and Jim Belushi's clear lack of interest in the project, he laughed.

"There may be issues with Jim, who's not involved, but there are no self-doubting genes in an Italian-American," Pisano said. He notes that the plot of "The Official Blues Brothers Revival" is based on an idea he

wanted to include in the "Blues Brothers 2000" movie but didn't get to.

Pisano's concept is designed to emphasize the musical content of the original movie — widely credited for re-introducing several older blues artists to a new and younger audience.

The Chicago cast includes eight band members (who also act), three gospel singers and four main performers, including the two leads. Precious Taylor, the niece of local blues diva Koko Taylor, is in the cast.

And meanwhile in Hollywood, John and Jim Belushi's friends from Chicago and beyond often will be taking their limousines to Hollywood Boulevard. Or so Aykroyd insisted on April 1, as the likes of Ted Danson, George Wendt and Tom Arnold cooled their affluent heels on the sidewalk.

Aykroyd's instructions were clear to fellow admirers of a man whose comic genius was strangled by addiction.

Screech to a halt at the curb. Jump out of the car with a can of chemicals in hand. Polish John Belushi's precious star.

"For a man still to have that much influence on our business is really something."

BERNIE BRILLSTEIN
JOHN BELUSHI'S FORMER MANAGER

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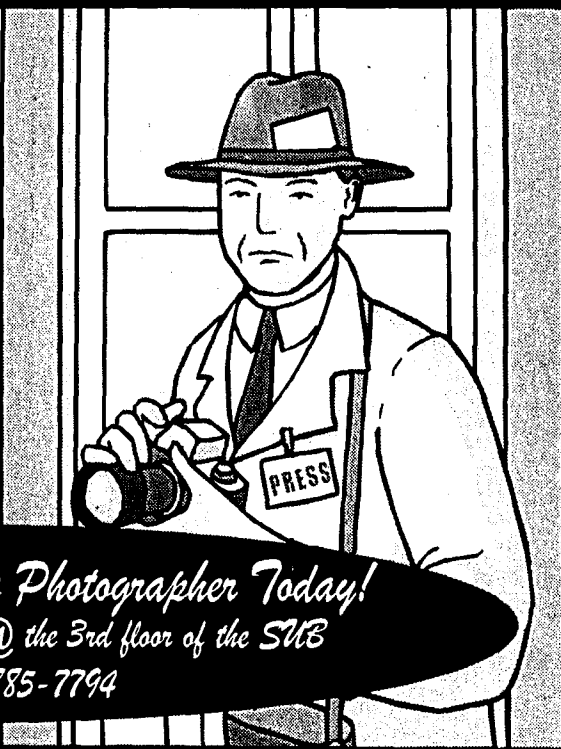
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Vandal tennis teams head to conference championships

BY BRENNAN GAUSE
ARGONAUT STAFF

Neither the University of Idaho men's nor women's tennis team is seeded in the top four of the Big West Conference championships, but both are legitimate contenders for the conference crown.

After a season of ups — UI was ranked as high as No. 69 in the nation — and downs — 3-7 in its last 10 matches — the Vandal men (11-8) are hoping to pull off a couple of upsets and come away with a conference title.

Despite coming off a weekend where it lost three matches, the men's team is heading into the conference championship confident about its chances.

"I think we're optimistic going in as an underdog," senior Brad Lum-Tucker said. "I think the team morale is high even though we lost three matches down there (Boise). We were in each and every

one of those matches."

"To do well at conference all of us, one through six, are going to have to play well," senior Fabian Dummett said. "We're going to have to come out strong in doubles and we're going to have to be supportive of each other."

Seeded fifth, UI (11-8) takes on fourth-seeded Cal Poly (12-12) in the first round Friday. Although the Vandals haven't played the Mustangs yet this year, they've faced them in the conference championships three out of the last four years and have a basic knowledge about their style of play.

"I expect them to be tough," first-year coach Katrina Perlman said. "They're always tough, they're always feisty, but I think we can do it. They're not going to give up anything, and I think we have to come out prepared to handle anything and do it from the start all the way to the end."

"They're going to be loud and obnox-

ious — just a normal California team," senior Chris Faulman said. "They're just going to scrap for a lot of balls and they're going to compete hard."

If the Vandals upset the Mustangs they will move into the semifinals against UC Santa Barbara, the No. 1 seed in the conference.

On the women's side, UI will have to win four matches in order to walk away with the conference title.

In their first match the seventh-seeded Vandals will go up against 10th-seeded Utah State (5-12), a team that UI beat 6-1 earlier in the year.

"We had a pretty good match against them, and that wasn't even playing our top six that day," coach Karen Human said. "We're ready for them again. They're a good team, so we're going to just go out there and play them and try our hardest, and whatever happens happens."

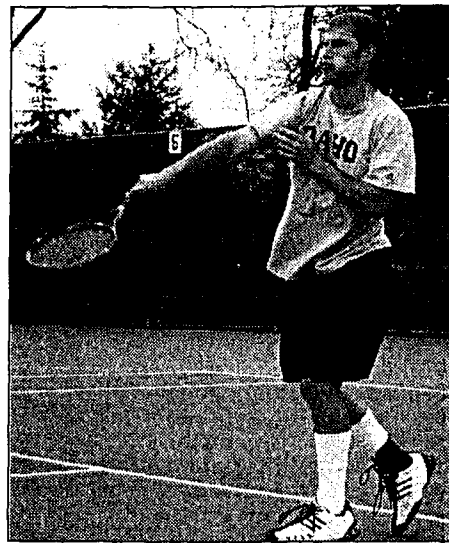
The women's team finished the regu-

lar season with a record of 12-8 — with three of its losses coming to nationally ranked teams — and is riding a three-match win streak going into the conference championship.

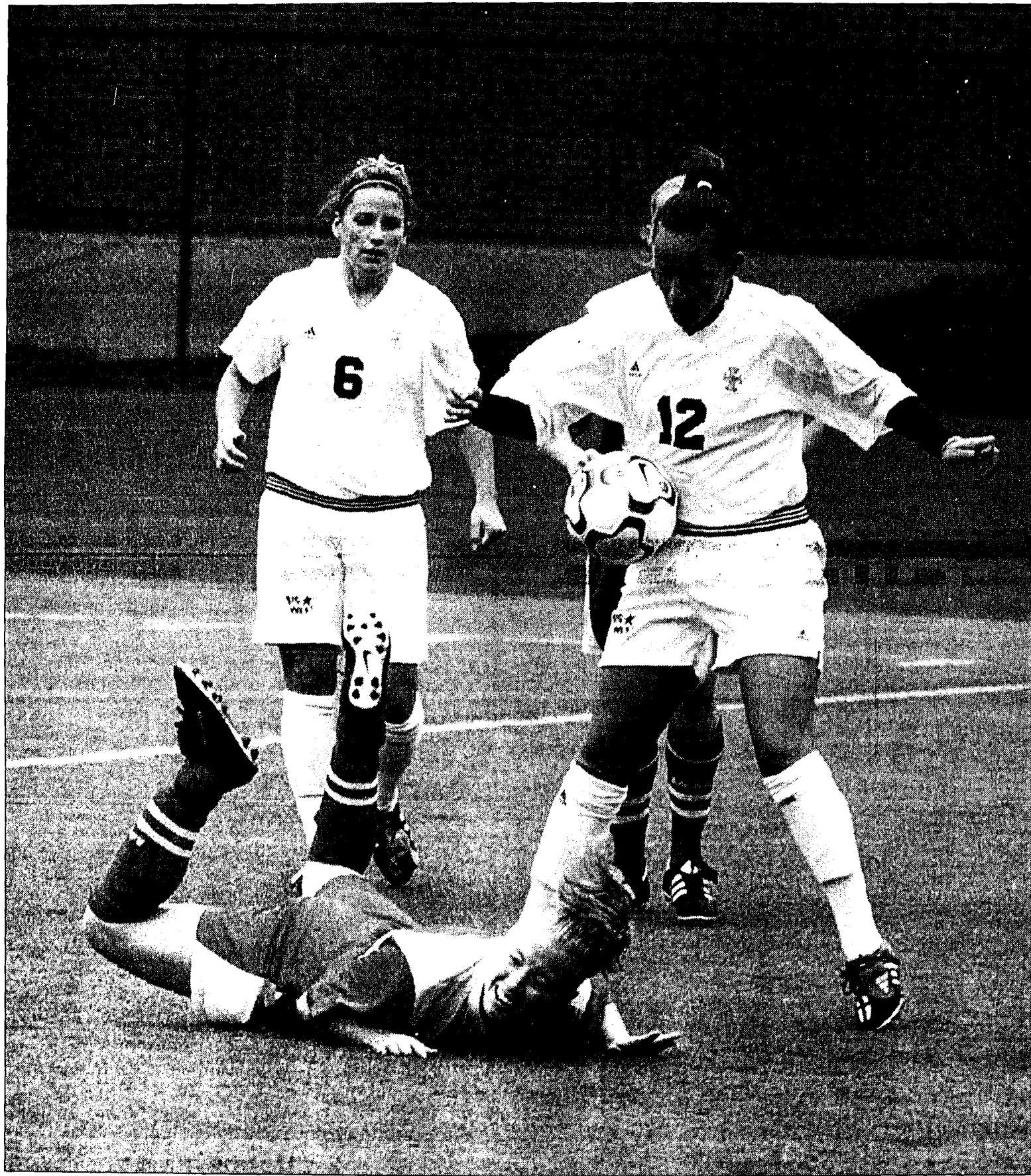
"I think we're definitely prepared, and I think we've got the right lineup right now," redshirt junior Sunel Nieuwoudt said. "After a whole season it's sorted out, so I think we're good."

"We're ready for conference. The girls are excited and I'm excited," Human said. "We've had a really great season so far, and the girls have done tremendously off and on the court. We're going out there to win it and have that attitude every day we're out there, and we're going to fight our hardest to get that conference championship and bring it back home."

If the women win their match against Utah State they will advance to the quarterfinals to face No. 1 seed Pacific on Friday.



DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT
Junior Seth Banks smacks the ball across the court during the Vandals' match against Lewis and Clark State College on April 9 at the UI tennis courts



DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT
Junior Amanda Findlay (6) backs up sophomore Morgan Bunday (12) as she blocks the ball that an Eastern Washington State player dove under in a win for the Vandals Saturday at WSU.

Soccer team splits with EWU, Gonzaga

BY BRENNAN GAUSE
ARGONAUT STAFF

The University of Idaho women's soccer team made a short trip Saturday to Pullman and came away with a win and a loss.

Playing on the Washington State University football team's practice field, the Vandals went up against Eastern Washington University in their first game and took advantage of a couple of follow-up shots to grab a 2-0 victory.

Although solid defense by each team kept the first half scoreless, both UI and EWU had a couple chances to grab the early lead. Twice UI players got a head on a corner kick, but neither connected for a goal.

The Eagles also had their chances, the closest coming about 18 minutes into the game when a hard shot hit the left goal post. However, EWU's follow-up shot went over the crossbar.

Seven minutes into the second half UI midfielder Melissa Martinazzi followed a shot from Amanda Findlay that went off the EWU keeper's hands and put it into the back of the goal to give UI a 1-0 lead.

About six minutes later the Vandals again benefited from the Eagle goalkeeper's inability to hold on as Katie Quinn fired a loose ball into the open net.

Neither team scored the rest of the way, resulting in a 2-0 UI victory.

"We came out with an attitude and aggression and really took it to Eastern

Washington," UI coach Arby Busey said. "We played a great game ... (We) deserved to win and got a 2-0 win, and I was very happy with the things we did this morning."

In the second game of the day the Vandals matched up with Gonzaga University and ended up on the other end of a 2-0 game.

Once again the UI defense played well as it kept the Bulldog forwards in check, but Gonzaga was able to score on two headers that just squeezed by UI goalkeeper Lindsay Smith.

Gonzaga's first goal came around the two-minute mark of the first half as a GU player lofted a corner kick that bounced around in front of the net before another Bulldog got a foot on the ball and scored.

The Vandals had a couple of chances early in the second half, but Gonzaga finally got control of the ball and worked it downfield. Another corner kick opportunity came up for the Bulldogs, and once again they took advantage of it to push their lead to 2-0.

"We just want to try to get better each game, and I think we did that," Busey said. "Sometimes getting better is finding out what you're not good at. I think fitness is an issue for us; we're not fit and we make bad decisions when we get tired. We made tired decisions and those hurt us in the second game."

UI returns to Pullman next weekend to participate in a seven-player-per-team tournament with a split squad. Last year both UI teams advanced to the semifinals of the tournament.

UI volleyball loses, learns in weekend matches in Pullman

BY BRENNAN GAUSE
ARGONAUT STAFF

The UI volleyball team may not have had its best weekend of the spring, but that's what the spring is for — to find weaknesses before the fall season starts.

On Saturday the Vandals went to Pullman to face Gonzaga University, Washington State University, North Idaho Community College and Eastern Washington University in shortened matches (the first two games are played to 21 and the third, if necessary, is played to 11).

The Vandals took advantage of the opportunity to play around with different lineups and players and worked on areas that need improvement.

"You know our biggest thing

is still working on passing," UI coach Debbie Buchanan said. "That and trying to be more consistent and getting our outsiders to get a better number."

"Today we didn't play really great," Buchanan said. "I thought we had one really good match; the other three matches were kind of mediocre and our kids got to try to pick that up. I know it's spring and you play different lineups, you play different kids ... you just try different things, which we did, but we still have to be able to come out and fight and push a little bit more than we did today."

In their first match of the day the Vandals lost to the WSU Cougars but rebounded with a win over NIC that ended up being UI's lone victory. The

VOLLEYBALL, see Page 11



DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT
Sophomore Amanda Bowman spikes the ball against NIC during a spring practice Saturday at WSU.

Vandal football team tests itself in first scrimmage

BY JAKE ROBBEE
ARGONAUT STAFF

Under a canopy of gray clouds and with the scent of spring rain in the air, the University of Idaho football team took the field Saturday at Coeur d'Alene's Lake City High School for its first full scrimmage of the spring season. The team hosted a free game for alumni and the public to see the new coach and the Vandals in action.

After a brief warm-up period and individual drill sessions, the Vandals broke right in the first half. Each half of the scrimmage consisted of 40 plays.

The first half of the scrimmage was dominated by the defense, as it forced the offense

to go three and out four straight times. The defense also held the offense to three field goal attempts. Sophomore kicker Mike Barrow was only able to capitalize on one of the opportunities, missing wide left from 46 and 44 yards and drilling a 39-yard kick to send the offensive squad into halftime with only three points.

"I'm really happy with the defensive line," said first-year coach Nick Holt. "That was a big question for me, but they're good players and they have a good coach (James Cregg). They really responded."

In the second half the defense again came out aggressively. But it was only a matter of time before the offense wore the

defense down enough to start a scoring tidal wave.

In the latter part of the second half sophomore running back Cliff Mason punched in the first touchdown of the game from 2 yards out. Then freshman quarterback Chris Joseph completed a 15-yard strike to senior receiver Orlando Winston.

After a 54-yard reception to sophomore receiver Wendell Octave, junior quarterback Michael Harrington capped the drive with a 1-yard shot to Brain Yarno. The last touchdown in regulation came from freshman Brain Nooy to senior receiver Jimmy Labita from 10 yards out

"I thought they were pretty

FOOTBALL, see Page 11

SPORTS CALENDAR

TODAY

UI women's golf at Big West Conference Championship, Los Angeles.

THURSDAY

UI women's tennis Big West Conference Tournament, Indian Wells, Calif.; Intramurals: Frisbee golf entry due

FRIDAY

UI track at Oregon Invitational, Eugene, Ore.; UI tennis Big West Conference Tournament, Indian Wells, Calif.

SATURDAY

UI track at Oregon Invitational, Eugene, Ore.; UI track at WSU Outdoor, Pullman; UI tennis Big West Conference Tournament, Indian Wells, Calif.; UI club baseball vs. Montana and Montana State, Missoula, Mont., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.; Palouse Thunder vs. Yakima Scorpions, Kibbie Dome, 7 p.m.; UI club softball vs. Gonzaga and BSU, Ghormley Park, Moscow, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

SUNDAY

UI men's golf at Big West Conference Championship, Los Angeles; UI men's and women's tennis Big West Conference Tournament, Indian Wells, Calif.; UI club baseball vs. Montana State, Missoula, Mont., 11 a.m.

Note: Intramurals — Entries for team sports will open one week before entry deadline. For more information call the Campus Recreation office at 885-6381.

Outdoor Program — For more information call the office at 885-6810.

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SPORTS NEWS

Men's basketball corrals second signee

Desmond Nwoke became the second signee of Leonard Perry's 2004 class Friday. Nwoke, 6 feet 8 inches tall, comes to UI from Laramie County Community College in Wyoming...

Swim team signs another recruit

The women's swim team gained one more member with the signing of Sara Peterson to a national letter of intent. Peterson is a senior at Mark Morris High School in Longview, Wash...

Men's tennis drops three in Boise

The UI men's tennis team started its weekend in Boise off by losing to Loyola Marymount 6-1 Friday. UI's lone point came from the No. 1 singles spot as Brad Lum-Tucker took care of Linas Cicenys 6-1, 6-2.

beat Colby Jager 4-6, 7-6, (10-6). UI's third match of the weekend was against No. 39-ranked Boise State and UI lost 0-7.

The Vandals' lineup faced some changes because senior Chris Faulman was forced to sit the match out due to a reagravated injury.

Idaho 1, Loyola Marymount 6. Singles: Brad Lum-Tucker (UI) def. Linas Cicenys (LMU) 6-1, 6-2. Nico Terrien (LMU) def. Chris Faulman (UI) 6-0, 6-1.

Idaho 3, University of Portland 4. Singles: Brad Lum-Tucker (UI) def. Roman Borvanov (UP) 2-6, 6-4.

Idaho 0, Boise State 7. Singles: Mahmood Rezk (BSU) def. Brad Lum-Tucker (UI) 6-3, 6-2.

Idaho 0, Boise State 7. Singles: Mahmood Rezk (BSU) def. Brad Lum-Tucker (UI) 6-3, 6-2.

Doubles: Mahmood Rezk and Matus Silva (BSU) def. Seth Banks and Fabian Dummett (UI) 8-1. James Ludlow and Ehren Vaughan (BSU) def. Hector Mucharras and Brad Lum-Tucker (UI) 8-3.

Vandals set regional qualifying marks at State Challenge Cup

The UI track and field teams competed at the State Challenge Cup on Saturday at the Mooberry Track on the WSU campus. The Vandals had three first-place finishers and two NCAA Regional qualifying marks.

Vandals perform well at Mt. Sac Relays

Several UI track and field athletes earned NCAA Regional qualifying marks and set new personal records at the Mt. Sac Relays last weekend in Walnut, Calif., over the weekend.

Freshman Jeff Luckstead took third in the 110-meter hurdles.

Women's basketball third on most improved list

With its first 20-win season in more than a decade, the UI women's basketball team was third on the 2003-04 Division I women's basketball "Most Improved Teams" list.

The Vandals finished the season with an overall record of 22-7, an 11.5 game improvement over their 2002-03 overall record of 10-18.

Palouse Thunder drops close game

Fourteen points in the third quarter and nine in the fourth were not enough as the Palouse Thunder lost 36-29 to the Walla Walla Stars on Saturday in Waitsburg, Wash.

best of the season and a regional qualifying time, and it ranks fourth in the world this season. Marakurva and Vander Meulen own the top two steeplechase times in the Big West this season.

Jan Eitel finished 15th in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase in a regional qualifying time of 8:51.74 and has the best time in the Big West this season.

Freshman Russ Winger took fourth in the men's shot put with a mark of 54-4. Brandon Folk threw a personal best and regional qualifying mark of 210 feet in the javelin.

Former UI standout Angela Whyte won the women's 100-meter hurdles with a personal best time of 12.75. Whyte's time is currently the best in the world this year.

Quarterback Scott Sumner threw a pair of third-quarter touchdowns and ran for one in the fourth to bring the Thunder to within a touchdown, but it was not enough as time expired.

The Thunder (1-2) host the Yakima Scorpions at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Kibbie Dome.

Seattle's DJ Dirk 04.28.2004 SUB Ballroom 9pm - Midnight EST Free with Vandal ID

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UI softball drops two to WSU

BY BETSY DALESSIO
ARGONAUT STAFF

The University of Idaho club softball team battled Washington State University and the weather Saturday at City Playfield in Pullman. In the end the Cougars dominated on offense, overpowering the Vandals 9-3 and 3-1 in a doubleheader during WSU's Mom's Weekend.

Christina Grigg was UI's starting pitcher in game one but was replaced halfway through the second inning by Brianna Tweedy. Grigg faced 19 batters, struck out two, walked six and gave up four hits. She also hit four batters.

In the first inning WSU shut down UI's offense, ending the inning three up and three down.

But the Vandals came out strong on defense as Lauren Cuvala snagged a line drive at second base. WSU took advantage of two walks and advanced runners to third on passed balls. A missed fly ball scored WSU's first and second runs, but UI prevented the triple as a relay from deep center field nailed the batter at third. Grigg then gave up another hit and a walk before striking out the final batter of

the inning.

WSU capitalized on Grigg's inconsistent pitching in the second inning, scoring its final seven runs. The Cougars advanced runners on a sacrifice bunt after the first batter was hit by a pitch. A single scored the runner, and another walk and a steal advanced two more runners who scored off a fly ball to left field. Another WSU single scored a run, and then Grigg hit the next three batters. She walked the next two before UI called in Tweedy for relief.

With two outs Tweedy was able to shut down the Cougar offense and finished the four-inning game facing four batters and striking out one.

The Cougars slowed down on defense in the third inning, and UI strung together three hits to score three runs.

WSU finished the game with four hits, while UI had five. Heidi Kopp led the offensive effort with two singles for the Vandals. Lauren Cuvala, Brandi Brumley and Rhonda Konen banged out one single apiece. Tarah McCallister, Cuvala and Brumley each drove in a run. Kopp said the team played

well in game one but gave in to one poor inning.

In game two UI sent in an entirely different team due to an extensive roster and struggled to do anything against the WSU defense.

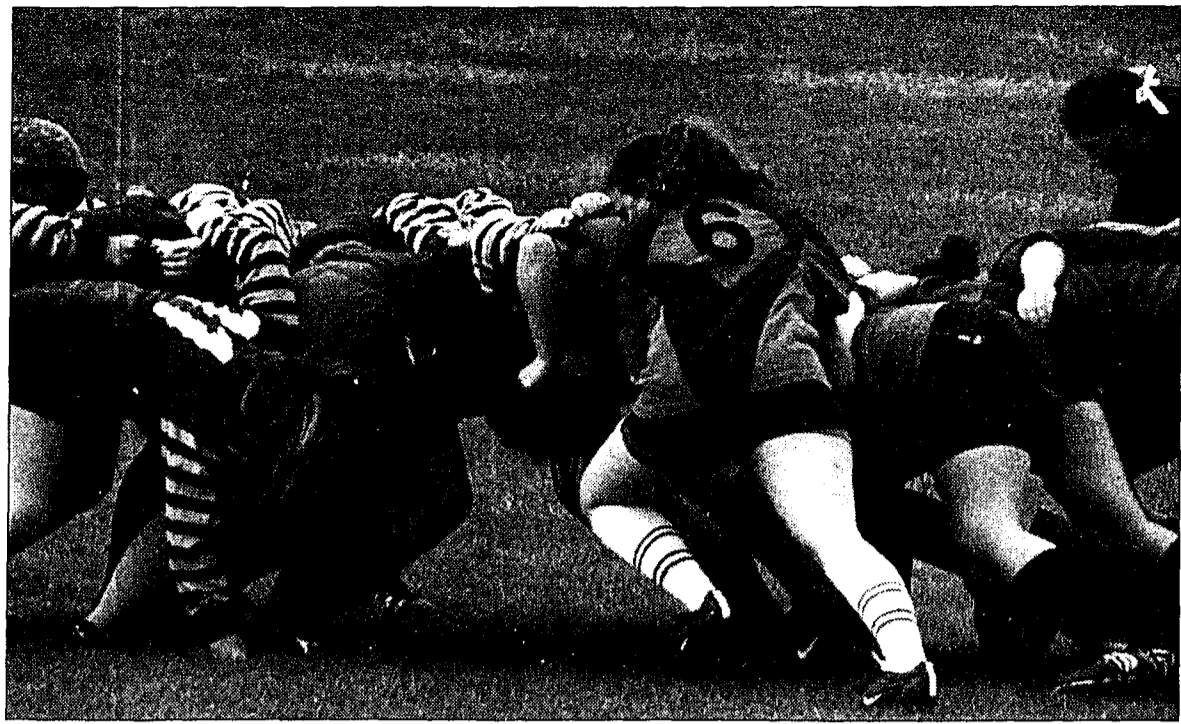
Lynsie Clott pitched all five innings of the game for the Vandals. She faced 24 batters, struck out one, walked two and gave up seven hits.

WSU held UI to four hits. Lauren Herrick led the Vandals with a double. Jackie Nelson, Brenda Eby and Clott each had singles for UI.

The Vandals scored their lone run in the first inning off Nelson's single. WSU scored two runs in the third inning after putting together four straight singles. The Cougars then scored their final run in the fifth inning off a solo inside-the-park home run.

"Overall we played good defense in the second game," Kopp said. "We were getting our bats on balls, but we couldn't get through WSU's defense."

The Vandals return home to face Gonzaga at 11 a.m. and BSU at 3 p.m. Saturday at Ghormley Park.



KIANNA HAIL / ARGONAUT

UI's Black Widows and Whitman College face off during a game on Saturday at Targhee field.

UI rugby squads don't let up in huge victories

BY NATHAN JERKE
SPORTS & REC EDITOR

recruits."

The University of Idaho men's rugby team didn't see much competition Saturday as the club team easily broke through the Coeur d'Alene Ospreys with a 53-3 drubbing at Taylor Street Field.

The UI women's club team, the Black Widows, went 1-1 for the day with a 43-0 win over Whitman College but dropped a close match to the University of Washington 7-5 in the last contest of the day.

In the first game of the day the UI men had little trouble scoring from the onset as UI scored a pair of tries and held a 14-point lead before the Ospreys got on the board with a drop kick for three points.

UI dominated from that point on, touching the ball down in the try zone twice more before halftime for a 26-3 lead.

Tony Rajek, who was playing in his first game of the spring season because of a broken collarbone, scored two tries in the first half: the first of the game and a 30-yard run through the defense to put UI up 21-3.

"The recruits have been a big deal for us; we've had a lot of new guys come out and play good for us," John Van Der Giessen said. "We're always trying to get better, always trying to get new

The Vandals continued the debacle after intermission with five more scores: four tries and a drop kick.

Van Der Giessen led the way for UI with the hat trick in the second half; his last two tries were breakaway runs of more than half the distance of the field.

"It wouldn't happen without my teammates opening up the holes for me," Van Der Giessen said.

The win came in UI's final game of the year, improving its record to 8-1 for the year.

The Black Widows had much the same luck in their first game as they shut out Whitman.

UI kept the ball in the Whitman end of the field for much of the game. The Widows' only lack of offense came on a missed kick after the second try of the game.

The Black Widows held a 33-0 lead at half but fell off in the second half with only 10 points on their way to the 43-point victory.

UI didn't have the success over UW, however, as the Black Widows scored only one try in the match. The Huskies also managed only one try, but the Widows missed the kick after their try to give UW the win.

The Black Widows return to the field this week with a match at noon Saturday at Taylor Street Field.

VOLLEYBALL

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squad went on to drop close matches to both Gonzaga and EWU.

The match against EWU went three games as UI took the first one and then lost the second 28-26. In the third match the teams traded points until the Eagles came back from a 10-8 deficit to win 12-10.

In its last match of the day UI went up against Gonzaga. The Vandals took the first two points

and then there were spurts where we reverted back to our old habits." The Vandals have one more week of practices to work on any flaws or weak spots in their play and have their last spring game Thursday against EWU.

"We'll work some on blocking," Buchanan said. "We haven't really worked on our blocking at all this year, and our blocking was pretty poor today, but it's something that we've been good at, and we're really trying to put the time in on the other things (passing and outside hitting) and really trying to make a push there."

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FOOTBALL

From Page 10

good," UI coach Nick Holt said of the quarterbacks' play. Of Michael Harrington, who saw substantial playing time last season, Holt said, "Sometimes it didn't look good, but it wasn't his fault. He made some nice decisions and some nice throws." The coaches then decided to put the teams into overtime, and

the first possession went to the offense at the 25-yard line. After a few plays Barrow made up for his previous misses by making a 47-yard field goal.

The final possession started with a quick strike inside the 10-yard line, and on third down Mason scored the scrimmage's final touchdown, his second of the day, from 3 yards out.

Cole Snyder led all defensive players in tackles with nine, followed by 11 other Vandals who tallied more than three tackles.

The defense racked up five sacks, four quarterback hurries and one forced fumble.

"The kids are having fun," Holt said. "They're seeing themselves improving."

The Vandals continue practice this week with a scrimmage at the Kibbie Dome at 10 a.m. Saturday before spring ball culminates in the annual Silver and Gold Game at 7 p.m. April 30 in the ASUI-Kibbie Activity Center.

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