

UI enrollment decreases, minority numbers up

Minority student population growth not reflected in faculty

BY SAM TAYLOR
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Overall enrollment for the University of Idaho is down half a percent from last fall's numbers, according to a 10-day enrollment report released by university officials this week.

The university has seen a 13.4 percent increase in overall enrollment over the last five years. A 3 percent increase in the number of graduate students helped boost the overall enrollment this semester, but there were fewer freshmen

enrolled this fall than in 2003. Provost Brian Pitcher attributes the decrease to smaller graduating classes from high schools, not only in Idaho, but also around the nation.

"The economy is not pushing students back to school yet, either," Pitcher said. "But the fact of the matter is we held our own, despite decreases (in the economy)."

The university has seen a constant growth in minority student enrollment and international student attendance. But the number of minority teachers on campus is low in comparison with the growth of student minorities.

While there are 756 Caucasian faculty members at UI, there are only 13 Hispanic faculty members and one black

professor, according to Brenda Mitchell, employee records technician for the Human Resources Department.

Overall there are 61 instructors listed as minority faculty members. Francisco Salinas, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said the lack of diversity in the faculty is not unique to this university.

"But we have a unique responsibility to lead by example," Salinas said. "It's important for students to see a diverse faculty and right now that's an important missed opportunity."

Salinas said the campus is doing some things to promote diverse hiring, but not enough. The College of Law is a great example of a department taking a stance on diversity, Salinas said.

"The dean of the College of Law has committed to showing a change in how we hire staff," Salinas said. "We as the flagship institution of the state have committed through our words and actions that diversity is important to us."

Meanwhile Pitcher said the recruitment of minority students continues to climb, despite new procedures that make it difficult to obtain a student visa and enter the United States.

Both Pitcher and President Tim White point to growing numbers in UI research programs.

"The UI has grown a \$105 million-per-year research enterprise that provides important financial support for students, but also generates the new

knowledge and innovation that is key to growing and sustaining the Idaho economy," White said in a university press release.

Enrollment in the last five years at UI has been nearly even with that of Boise State University, which has documented 13.4 percent and 14 percent increases respectively.

Pitcher said due to the recession, some students might have stayed closer to home this year, which could mean attending BSU.

Last spring as UI asked the State Board of Education for an 8.5 percent increase in student fees, along with Lewis-Clark State College and Idaho State University, BSU did not raise its

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Voters targeted on Idaho campuses

State and campus wide efforts underway to bring in college voters

BY CYNTHIA REYNAUD
ARGONAUT STAFF

Looking at Idaho's voting record for young adults, it seems students on the University of Idaho campus don't care what political candidates have to say, even as they find themselves bombarded with campaign ads from a heated presidential race.

Idaho has recorded a steady decline in the youth voter turnout, down 27 percent from 1972 to 2000, according to the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement and the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

On the UI campus some students have been working to change the trend of political

officials in Boise have become concerned.

"They are certainly aware of this at the national level and acting accordingly," Idaho Secretary of State Ben Ysursa said.

The secretary of state's office teamed up with Marilyn Howard, the state superintendent of public instruction, in August to bring interactive voting programs into Idaho high schools, allowing students to vote in mock elections.

A Web site that will open next week, www.idahovotes.gov, has been devoted to the upcoming elections and targeted toward younger voters.

"We realize that tomorrow's leaders are in college today," Ysursa said.

UI political groups are not the only ones spreading the word around campus. Students also have taken charge and are reminding their peers they need to vote.

"The way I see it is that if you don't vote, you have no right to complain about any of the outcomes," Amy Lowe, a UI junior said.

Students around the country seem to be responding as national and local campaigns target younger voters with programs such as Rock the Vote and CollegeVote.org.

Controversial issues being discussed in this year's presidential election, such as war, education and gay marriage also are bringing more students to the polls, Ryffel said.

"Students are very concerned about the issues of education funding, terrorism and war," he said. "They're realizing that politics is more than just taxes."

The college vote is going to be one of the major deciding factors this year, and both parties know it, Ryffel said.

The fierce race between Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry and President George W. Bush also promises to draw more young voters to the polls.

"I think the lines between the two candidates are clearer than they have been in many years," Ysursa said.

Ryffel and Stout agree that every vote makes a difference.

VOTING, see Page 3

"The way I see it is that if you don't vote, you have no right to complain about any of the outcomes."

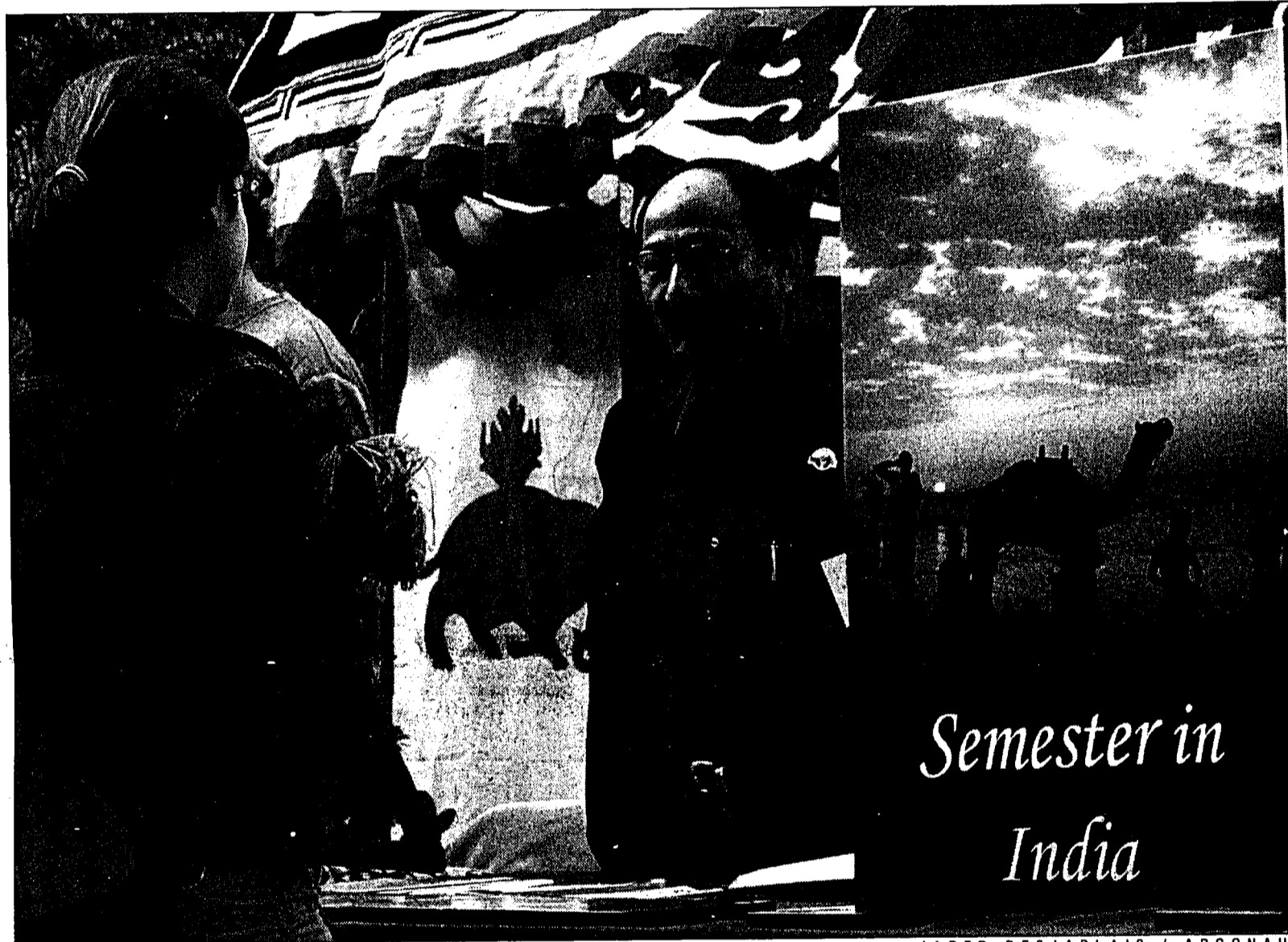
AMY LOWE
UI JUNIOR

apathy. The UI College Republicans and UI Young Democrats are doing their part to register and educate students on campus before the November elections. Representatives from both groups said they are seeing results already.

"We've sponsored debates of state and local candidates along with community events to help raise awareness for the local Democratic candidates," said Bob Stout, president of UI Young Democrats.

"The interest and involvement in this election has increased incredibly across the board," said Cameron Ryffel, president of UI College Republicans.

But as Idaho maintains one of the lowest rates of college-age voters in the nation, state



Narayan Shrestha talks to students about studying in India on Thursday at the UI Study Abroad Fair at the Idaho Commons Plaza.

JARED DESJARLAIS / ARGONAUT

UI students gain global perspective

Intern, study, volunteer programs featured at fair

BY KIMBERLY HIRAI
ARGONAUT STAFF

One of the University of Idaho's favorite slogans is, "From here, you can go anywhere."

The UI's study abroad program proved to be a prime example of that phrase Thursday in the Idaho Commons Plaza, where UI students learned they can travel to more than 70 different countries through study abroad and student exchange programs.

Popular destinations include Australia, England, India, Ireland and Spain.

Students visiting the fair not only received a look at their options when traveling, but also spoke with students who have studied abroad in the past.

UI junior Amy Van Wassenhove visited

INFO BOX

Students interested in participating in a study abroad program can contact the Study Abroad Office at abroad@uidaho.edu or visit the office on the ground floor of the Living Learning Community.

New Zealand during her study abroad experience.

"There's just incredible people; you get to see incredible cultures, and you learn a lot more than you would in your typical classroom," Wassenhove said. "You're taking classes, but you're also learning so much about yourself."

Wassenhove also experienced customs of the Maori people who are indigenous

to the country, along with political aspects of New Zealand, and participated in an outdoors organization where she experienced in everything from horseback riding to paragliding.

Students at the fair also attended advising workshops, which help prospective travelers decide on the right program, financial affairs, and proper planning and policies. These sessions are held semiweekly throughout the year.

UI often shares exchange agreements with many of the programs offered to students.

Exchange programs allow students to pay regular university tuition, but study in a different country. Students from the foreign school UI students visit will in turn come to the university in Moscow.

Many students are unaware that academic credits will transfer from foreign schools. Students who participate in study abroad programs through UI will always receive credits for those classes taken in their country of choice.

Students also have expressed concern in the past regarding the length of time they will stay in a foreign country, fearing that

STUDY ABROAD, see Page 3



KIANNA HAIL / ARGONAUT
A live mouse is caught on a trap in McConnell Hall this summer.

Some mice tales long, some mice tales short

Rodent population in UI dormitory under control

BY NATE POPPINO
ARGONAUT STAFF

University of Idaho students and staff disagree over the outcome of a reported mouse invasion of a university residence this summer.

Scott Koehler, UI manager of maintenance services, said university residences has only caught three of the rodents in McConnell Hall. One mouse was found this summer while two more were caught in a mechanical

room last week.

"The story about mice was blown out of proportion," Koehler said. "In a farming community like this, there's always a chance of getting mice in the buildings. I don't think McConnell is any worse than anywhere else on campus."

Students who stayed in McConnell over the summer told a different story. "Many were caught," UI junior Joe Nutting said.

"I caught one and three or four guys on the first floor caught some," said Nutting, a physics major.

Students living in the university residence reportedly began seeing mice in late June. UI junior

"It wasn't a great job, but it was good. It wasn't like they said, 'Screw you; buy your own traps.'"

JOE NUTTING
MCCONNELL HALL RESIDENT

ior Dima Myedvyedev said he first saw a mouse running under his heater in his first-floor room. When other students in the building began reporting mice, Myedvyedev, an electrical and computer engineering major,

bought traps and set them up with peanut butter and bacon bits.

"People on my floor, the basement and the third floor saw them," Myedvyedev said. "One guy said he saw three."

When the mice kept evading his traps, Myedvyedev and others called maintenance services, which came and put traps and sticky pads in students' rooms and around building entrances.

Myedvyedev said his traps never caught any of the rodents because of an ultrasonic mouse repeller his mom sent him.

"One guy caught three mice on the sticky pads," Myedvyedev said.

Koehler said when his staff heard the complaints, they followed standard procedures for capturing mice. Two of the staff members are licensed in pest control.

Michael Griffel, UI director of residences, said the cleaning staff did a thorough job of searching for mice.

"The staff was very aggressive. They put traps everywhere," Griffel said. "There were mouse droppings and I think there was evidence of a small mouse nest, but those were the only mice we caught. Some reports were certainly exaggerated."

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A STUDENT AFFAIR



Students browse the UI Get Involved Fair outside the Idaho Commons on Wednesday.

JARED DESJARLAIS / ARGONAUT

MICE

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Nutting said the difference between the numbers reported by students and the numbers reported by the university could be because some of the students who bought their own traps or used university traps could have emptied them and not reported anything.

"If you catch one, you just throw it out and (UI) Residences never knows," Nutting said.

Despite the differing experiences with the small rodents, Nutting said he thought maintenance services did a good job responding to complaints.

"It wasn't a great job, but it was good," Nutting said. "It wasn't like

they said, 'Screw you; buy your own traps.'"

Koehler said he hasn't heard any more complaints this fall, other than the two mice caught last week.

"We're still continuing to do anything and everything that can be done," Koehler said.

Carrie Parmer, McConnell hall co-president and senior health, physical education recreation and dance major said she hasn't heard much about mice yet.

"I just moved in this fall, so I haven't seen any," Parmer said.

Griffel said McConnell has no history of mouse problems, but UI Residences will always respond to complaints.

"We're always concerned about health risks with mice," Griffel said.

STUDY ABROAD

From Page 1

their travels will set them back in their college careers.

"I don't see any setbacks. I think students worry about that," said Jill Kellogg-Serna, Study Abroad senior program adviser. "If they plan ahead of time and really look into the different options, there's no reason why it should set them back."

Each program offers a unique array of experiences, including those countries that share the same national language.

"Most students believe that they will find a very similar experience to what they have here in the United States; the language is the same, the pop culture is the same," said Jane Batzloff, study abroad and exchange officer for the University of Sunshine

Coast in Australia.

"They're usually amazed when they actually arrive in the country and find that things are really quite different. When you come to our campus at University of the Sunshine Coast in Australia, we have kangaroos all over our campus."

Students visiting Australia will also find outdoors activities, such as yachting and diving by the coral reef near Sunday Island, whale watching in Hervey Bay, and paying visits to such places as Sydney, local markets, and aquariums.

About 200 to 250 UI students travel each year in study abroad, exchange and independent programs such as the Peace Corps.

"Don't worry about the money; don't worry about if it's going to set you back. This is something that you really should do, and you will never regret it," Van Wassenhove said.

ENROLLMENT

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cost for attendance.

According to an enrollment press release on the BSU Web site, the uni-

versity has even resolved to try to slow down acceptance to the university because of the rapidly growing student body.

Despite increased costs in attendance, UI still has the highest retention rate of freshmen to sophomores in the state.

VOTING

From Page 1

"Five hundred thirty-seven people swayed one whole election," Ryffel said, referring to the election between

Al Gore and George W. Bush in 2000.

"Students should have an active voice in the issues," said Stout. "I think once they see they have the power to influence policy they may start really believing their vote really counts."

What to look for at the polls

The candidates:

- See if they agree with your views on issues important to you.
- Look at their background (previous occupations, decisions, etc.)

The issues:

- Decide your views on each of the major issues including international policy, defense of marriage act, education funding, tax plan and budget balancing proposals, social program reform, etc.
- Check the voting records of each candidate. These can usually be found in voting guides.

You can learn more about the presidential candidates by visiting their Web sites:

John Kerry (Democratic candidate): www.johnkerry.com
George W. Bush (Republican candidate): www.georgewbush.com

Grad Student

Fall Fiesta

Monday, September 13, 2004
4:00-6:30 PM.

On the Lawn • Northeast Admin Lawn
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Hosted by your Graduate Student Association

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<http://www.webs.uidaho.edu/gsa/>

ANNOUNCING THE 2005-2006 U.S STUDENT FULBRIGHT COMPETITION

The U.S. Student Fulbright Program is looking for outstanding students who will have the minimum of a bachelor's degree by May 2005. Graduate, post-graduate, and law students are also encouraged to apply, but applicants may not hold a doctorate degree. Must be in good health and a U.S. citizen at the time of application. Fulbright awards provide roundtrip transportation, language or orientation classes (where appropriate), a living maintenance stipend, book and research allowances, tuition (in some cases), a health/accident insurance for students to teach, study, or conduct research abroad.



New program booklets and applications are now available in the International Programs Office in LLC Building 3, Ground Floor.

Fulbright Information Session

An info session will be held on Tuesday, September 14th from 2-4pm in the Commons Horizon Room.

On-Campus Application Deadline: September 29th, 2004

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Volunteer opportunities at Whitman Hospital & Medical Center, Pullman Memorial Hospital, & Gritman Medical Center. Space is limited!

To register call

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MAILBOX

Columnist should be praised for being moderate

Dear Editor,
 Interesting response by Jesse Drennen to my earlier letter regarding Mr. Carter. If he were an astute reader, he would have realized I was complementing Mr. Carter for being a moderate conservative (is that an oxymoron?) rather than the "... devoutly puritan, reclusive robots ..." who so often become conservative columnists, while reminding him that he should look before leaping to conclusions — conclusions such as he is a very rare breed as either a non-journalism major or a conservative working for the Argonaut as a columnist.
 As a fiscal moderate and social liberal, I am too far right for the Massachusetts Democrats and too far left for the local Republicans. I don't think anyone has ever accused me of being a conservative before. Thanks. Maybe I should show my kids that letter title. Then again, maybe not; my daughter might kill herself laughing.
 On another subject, congratulations to Joy Passanante on publication of her new book "The Art of Absence." I'm glad to see readings continue in the Law School courtroom. Here's another activity for Tara Karr to add to her list of free entertainment.

Helen Walrath Hill
 Alumna
 Haverhill, Mass.

Letters policy

The Argonaut welcomes your letters to the editor about current issues. However the Argonaut adheres to a strict letter policy:

- Letters should be fewer than 250 words typed.
- Letters should focus on issues, not on personalities.
- The Argonaut reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and clarity.
- Letters must be signed, include major and provide a current phone number.

OUR VIEW



NOAH KROESE / ARGONAUT

Assault weapons ban a victim of politics

Beginning Monday, Americans will be able to legally purchase Striker 12, TEC-9 and UZI assault weapons for the first time since 1994.
 With the passage that year of Title XI of the Federal Violent Crime Control Act, a 10-year moratorium was placed on the purchase of "military-style" weapons. Signed by former President Bill Clinton and supported by both Democrats and Republicans in Congress, its goal was lower gun crime rates. Continuation of the ban required renewed authorization by Congress.
 However, the ban will expire Monday with only a feeble attempt at renewal and noise from both sides.
 It is shameful that politicians are so concerned with keeping their seats in this election year that they will let this vital policy slip quietly into oblivion.
 In March, the Senate added the ban to a bill limiting the liability of gun manufacturers. It then failed to pass the bill by a vote of 90-8.
 President George W. Bush has said he would sign a bill renewing the ban. Congressmen from both parties have argued its merits. Police unions, victims' rights

organizations and other interest groups supporting gun control have contended the expiration of the ban will trigger more crime.
 The National Rifle Association and others have maintained the ban is a violation of the Second Amendment right to bear arms. They also have said the ban has not affected gun crime rates because those who commit crimes with assault weapons are not concerned with the law and are not likely to purchase the weapons legally in any case.
 Ban supporters argue the purpose of assault weapons is to kill people, the ban opposition argues the virtues of assault weapons as hunting and collectors' items, and both claim a policy decision in the opposite direction would victimize more people than it would benefit.
 However, the true victim is the ban, a piece of legislation that has the possibility to save lives and should be supported. And it is a victim of politics. In this election year, politicians are more concerned with their electability than their policies.
 Following the passage of the 1994 act, the Democrats lost their majority in Congress, which they attributed to their role in passing the ban and the subsequent increase in

voting by right-leaning gun advocates. Clinton told USA Today "the fight for the 'assault weapons ban' cost 20 members their seats in Congress."
 Also, the March bill on which the ban was riding was killed by an impressive majority following intense lobbying by the right-wing NRA.
 Congressmen say neither the House nor the Senate will take action on the ban because there is not enough support for it. There is support for the ban, from both the Republican president and the Democratic Party platform. However, no one will risk angering the substantial voting block of middle Americans who could swing the close election.
 Instead, they will let the ban expire for now. And when the new president and the new members of Congress are settled in office, they will address it, with a four-year cushion for the opposing public to forget their action.
 If only politicians cared as much for the safety of their constituents as they do for the security of their offices.

A.L.

What a jackass

Finding proper candidates for this column has been difficult in the last few weeks. I attribute this phenomenon to the jackass column itself. Terrified of being lampooned by some snot-nosed, wet-behind-the-ears punk with a keyboard, jackasses everywhere have been behaving themselves.
 I am happy to have been such an amazing help to the community and gladly accept your praise and gifts (they can be left at the Argonaut on the third floor of the SUB).
 My job, however, is not done just yet. Apparently, one Stefan A. Wohl of Texas allegedly dumped 800 pounds worth of fecal matter over a bridge in Chicago. The fecal matter showered onto a tour boat floating below. Five people were hospitalized.
 Wohl denies dumping the matter, even though Chicago police have videotape of the bus, which was being used by the Dave Matthews Band (they weren't in the bus), the license plate number and descriptions from people on the boat. This guy is — if you'll pardon the pun — is full of crap.
 If anything, he should be proud of his accomplishment. It takes more than stupidity to screw up that bad. It takes a good amount of luck as well. What are the chances of sewage dumped from a moving bus landing on a boat below? How about a tour boat? Fate was smiling on this monumental shit show.
 Not to mention that it happened in Chicago, the windy city, giving new meaning to the phrase "the shit hit the fan."
 I don't know if I'm alone in this, but I truly hope that some of those tourists were foreigners visiting the States. Not because I have anything against foreigners; it would just be a perfect — although scaled down — model of American foreign policy.
 Unfortunately for Mr. Wohl, or whoever the phantom bus driver on the bridge that day was, he didn't commit such a devastatingly perfect atrocity on purpose. Such a planned event would be deserving of punishment, but also respect. No, Wohl (or phantom bus driver) is simply a moron who accidentally had greatness fall upon his idiotic actions. He or phantom guy is surely a jackass.
 Along the same vein, I have a personal jackass story to tell. This one is a little more local.
 An unnamed friend of mine — who does not have a history of mental disability or instability, by the way — was having a beer with me at the bar the other night. This character was giving an amazing oratorical masterpiece on his recent fishing trip when he paused and looked me sternly in the eye.
 "Sean," he said, "I have something personal to tell you."
 "OK," I replied. "I won't tell anyone." Which, I suppose, makes me kind of a jackass now.
 "I wiped my ass with my own hand the other day."
 Now, allow me to clarify that later — several minutes later, following unsupportive laughter — I felt much sympathy and empathized with the situation that he bravely marched through. But right away I could only think of one thing: Jackass.
 Remember, I am still taking submissions for jackass candidates. Feel free to e-mail me any stories or events you may have seen or heard that can be verified. Also, fecal humor will not play a prominent role in all jackass columns. I cannot, however, promise that it will play no role at all.

SEAN OLSON
 Opinion Editor



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

Wars on concepts like terror and drugs are futile

The United States likes to declare war. Right now we have a war in Iraq, one in Afghanistan, a war on terror that stretches to every corner of the globe and a war on drugs that does the same. All of these wars have something in common. They are all waged against an intangible enemy, predominantly an impoverished one, with no end in sight.
 Our battles in the Middle East benefit from having borders and eventual resolution. As for the latter two, they can never be won, which is just one of the unfortunate side effects of declaring war on a concept.
 Jon Stewart recently joked to the graduating class of his alma mater, William and Mary College, "We've declared a war on terror. ... After we defeat it, I'm sure we'll take on that bastard ennui." I like the quote because it lampoons both the impossibility of ever wiping out terrorism and the administration's choice to label our sprawling battle against extremism a "War on Terror" as opposed to one being fought against terrorism and terrorists. As if with the capture of bin Laden the emotional state (for lack of a physical one) of "terror" will simply puff out of existence. America's battle against terrorism is not a new one. Terrorism has been a popular method of guerrilla shock-combat since before Jewish zealots killed Roman soldiers pre-Biblically.
 The problem is that terrorism is effective at terrorizing. As anyone who has encountered any form of media since 9/11 can attest, terrorism and the media have formed a sort of morbid symbiosis.
 The Irish Republican Army got sophisticated enough to time its attacks so they would coincide with the printing

FRANK MCGOVERN
 Argonaut Staff



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

of the popular week-end-edition European papers. The attacks would occur in time for the papers to stream big-type banner headlines, but not with enough time for the reporters to do any in-depth research that might ease the drama. Terrorism is a cheap, well-published and slippery way for an ideologically united group to hit-and-run an entrenched power.
 Terrorism is also a wobbly term to define. One man's terrorist is another's freedom fighting hero. Were the American yahoos involved in the Boston Tea Party or the battles of Lexington and Concord terrorists? King George likely would have said yes. We celebrate our independence but aren't so keen on similarly occupied Palestinians, Sinn Fein-ers, Iraqis, Afghans, Basques and Greek Cypriots lighting fuses. Of course, this isn't to say that terrorism is ever a moral course of action. Killing civilians to make a point isn't war; it's murder.
 Two of the significant problems with America's "War on Terror" are obliviousness and strategy. Lefty pundits are fond of saying: "They hate us because we don't know why they hate us." Our current administration refuses to address why America was attacked. If terrorism is a tree, we consider it a success every time we trim a few of the thousands of leaves and ignore the root. Did al-Qaida pull our name out of a hat? Why does America arbitrarily support the Israelis over the Palestinians? Are

Israelis just fundamentally better people, more worthy of our money and munitions?
 A similarly troubling fight is the "war on drugs." Like terrorism, particularly Islamic terrorism, whose ranks are being filled with poor, angry kids with nothing to lose, the war on drugs is fought below the poverty line.
 Crack cocaine is virtually identical to standard cocaine save the addition of a food product that renders it smoke-able. However, the laws for possession of crack, a drug predominately abused by poor African-Americans, are draconian compared to those for standard cocaine possession. Rush Limbaugh, the thrice-divorced beacon of morality that he is, recently attended rehab for his drug problem. Over the course of a number of years, Limbaugh gluttonously consumed tens of thousands of OxyContin pills, not to mention thousands of less powerful painkillers. OxyContin is arguably the most powerful opiate painkiller available by prescription and is virtually identical to heroin. Had anyone without millions and celebrity been caught with even a tenth of a comparable amount of heroin (or even that many painkillers) the book would have been thrown at him and the key thrown away. As it stands, Limbaugh was applauded for his bravery after employing his maid to score illicit drugs off the street, lying to his wife about it and continuing to demand harsher penalties for drug abusers.
 Not that Rush should be demonized for his problem any more than anyone else diseased with addiction should (well, maybe a little). Drug laws in this country need to be rethought. Just as pruning the terror tree does little to stop the problem, imprisoning non-violent

offenders does even less to stop drugs. Any high school kid in the know can tell you it is often a hell of a lot easier to buy a bag of dope on the street than it is to buy a fifth.
 Prohibition made millionaires out of murderers and only increased the consumption of alcohol. Right now, alcohol is legal and responsible for untold car wrecks, episodes of domestic violence, bar fights, karaoke, alcohol poisoning and so on, while marijuana remains illicit. If you are interested, check out how many people have ever overdosed on marijuana or become physically addicted to it, or for accounts of violence stemming from marijuana ingestion.
 Occasionally, our two quixotic wars overlap. The government attempted a short-lived campaign suggesting that buying drugs funded terrorism. While certain terrorist groups do benefit from the drug trade, those that attack America and Americans don't. The campaign also failed to mention that the massive quantity of oil America consumes is responsible for the wealth of the Bin Laden family. Ironically, the Taliban regime was amazingly effective at ebbing opium production in Afghanistan.
 Now that the Afghans are liberated, their country went from supplying zero percent of the world's heroin, to supplying 70-80 percent. While this is good news for Lou Reed, it probably isn't for America.
 Drugs and terrorism are bad; there are no two ways around it. I choose not to associate myself with either, but there are those that always will. It is time that the richest and most sophisticated country on the planet replaces knee-jerk reactionism with reasonable legislation and intervention.

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

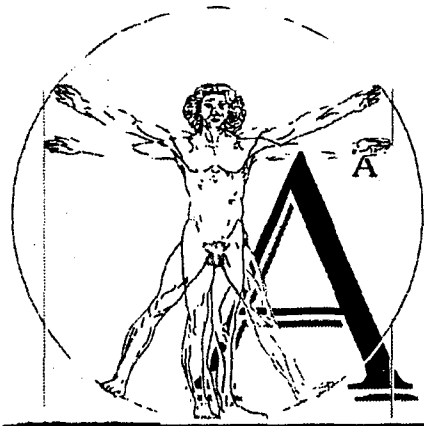
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ARTS & CULTURE

'Lover' abounds in 'The Art of Absence'

BY TARA KARR
ASSISTANT ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

It's easy to see why Joy Passanante picked "The Art of Absence" as the title for her book of short stories.

The majority of Passanante's stories deal with some sort of absence, for the most part marital unfaithfulness. Included in this category are stories of wives struggling with the absence of husbands, be it literal or emotional. Their husbands are aware of this void but do not care. In turn, the wives drift to other men, who are either married and absent from their wives, or young and absent from the real world. Everyone seems dissatisfied, chasing after lost lovers (Passanante uses the word "lover" gratuitously, reminiscent of an old Saturday Night Live sketch featuring Will Ferrell).

With all this misery and adultery, it would be easy to think that "The Art of Absence" would be an emotionally draining, depressing book. Rather, several stories carry enough point and purpose to redeem themselves.

"Between the Thorn Bushes," for instance, tells the story of a married mother of two carrying on an affair with a young college student, but her lover (there's that word again) is so conflicted and innocent in his attempt to prove his adulthood that he's endearing.

In "Absence," the first story in the book, the woman's absence in her marriage is intertwined with her experiences after a mastectomy.

The best stories, however, skip over the whole "cheating lovers" business and bring something new to the table. "The Lowest Bid," which at first appears to be headed in the direction of an affair, is instead a vivid story of a woman who wants more for her life. "Davey Goldenkopf, Guru" is an intense and humorous view of family interactions.

The highlight of the book is the final story, "Only Sons," which is shockingly tragic, but surprisingly unique. Those unprepared for subversion of the common short story structure may be unsure, but the narrator's voice alone makes the "Only Sons" something special.

Passanante has a sharp eye for detail. She often spends several sentences zoomed in on one character, working out every facet of appearance until the reader has no choice but to imagine things exactly as the author intended.

The personalities of these characters are often — but not always — just as well developed. Some, like old friends Reggie and Vonnie in "Reginette Red" and the title character in "Davey Goldenkopf, Guru," practically leap off the page as living, breathing, thinking humans. Passanante writes their dialog, actions and history so smoothly it's easy to imagine that there might be someone out there picking up the book and saying "Hey, wow, I'm in a story." On the other hand, some characters melt into each other, with little personality to distinguish them one from the other — in particular the absent or neglectful husbands in so many stories.

It's difficult not to like a local author. Joy Passanante is the associate director of creative writing at UI, and infuses her short stories in "The Art of Absence" with little nods to Idaho. Several stories are set here: Lake Pend Oreille, Moscow Mountain and the fishbowls at Gambino's are all given moments of glory.

Still, the stories fluctuate between brilliance and frustrating similarity so often, the book as a whole is not greater than the sum of its parts. Though many readers may adore Passanante's style and be begging for more, "The Art of Absence" left me ambivalent.

REVIEW



JOY PASSANANTE

"The Art of Absence"
★★★★ (of 5)
Now Available

Now Available

PERFECT STRANGER



Alicia Bickley and Michel Moisant star in Nick Green's adaptation of "The Stranger." The show is featured Saturday night at the Hartung Theatre.

Coincidence or consequence?

Lizards may be our real global leaders

People have always wondered who really runs the world. Along with UFOs and the CIA fluoridation that taints our precious bodily fluids and saps our will to live, the real rulers-of-the-world question is probably the most hotly debated conspiracy topic this side of Roswell. Is it the corporations? The Freemasons? The Tri-Lateral Commission? The Illuminati? The attendants of the annual Bilderberg meetings? The owl worshippers at Bohemian Grove? It might just be a cabal of multi-dimensional, bloodline-manipulating, shape-shifting giant lizards from outer space.

As you've probably already guessed from my wacky and cliché-filled opening paragraph, the answer, according to David Icke, is the lizards. Icke (pronounced "Ike") hasn't always been a crusader for amphibian liberation. In fact, before he was a prophet, he was a professional goalie for Hereford United and a respected sports-caster in Great Britain. Then, out of the blue, he was raptured by epiphany. He broke from professional sports and all of its accouterments, began exclusively wearing turquoise, and became a punch line in England.

Soon after, he prophesied a bloated array of calamity and catastrophe bound to befall the British Isles with unsettling intensity. Fortunately for Britain, but not for Icke, nothing happened and he retreated from the spotlight to regroup and find his purpose. In his resulting vision quest, Icke stumbled across an ancient Mayan tablet showing vaguely reptilian creatures descending

upon the planet. His new career had begun.

The lizard tablet was the first stepping stone in what was to become a vast path of conspiracy. The tablet and the research it spawned eventually yielded the thesis that would define his work and life. Icke theorized that around 3500 B.C., alien "reptilians" descended onto the Earth in the Middle East and procreated with ancient peoples. The result was a series of half-man, half-reptilian bloodlines that rule Earth to this very day. The bulk of the proposed reptilian half-breeds are the usual suspects of conspiracy lore, including the English royal family, the president's family, Dick Cheney and so on.

Icke followers go on to suggest that Princess Di was married into the Windsor family to refresh the dynasty's increasingly reptilian-looking bloodline with some fresh human DNA. Always an outsider by any standard, Diana was eventually murdered because of her continuing hard-line "being a human" policy. Icke also includes several "people" one wouldn't normally suspect as lizards, but when you think about it, definitely are, including Kris Kristofferson, Boxcar Willie, Bob Hope, the Rat Pack and Billy Graham. A point of clarification: Icke suggests the lizards are in charge and simply run the world through proxy groups.

In the opening paragraph I asked which group represents the real leaders of the world. David Icke would answer that they all do; just that the CEO, president or 33rd degree Grand Master of those groups would prefer a soothing heat lamp to a recliner.

Surprisingly enough, certain parties have found fault with the notion that evil lizards, fronted in part by Boxcar Willie, control our destiny. Despite eight hot-selling books and speaking tours that consistently sell out huge arenas, David Icke catches animus from pretty much everyone. The majority of people dismiss him as a quack, though others find a darker motive. The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) accuses Icke of being a veiled anti-Semite, using giant lizards as a metaphor to propagate the centuries-old "Jews run the world" myth. Icke insists that the Jewish people have had it

just as bad or worse than any gentiles at the hands of our reptilian overlords and dismisses the claim as "their" attempt to tarnish his good name.

A good number of conspiracy enthusiasts claim Icke is a tool of orchestrated disinformation. He presents a conspiracy so wild that reasonable theories are broad-stroked as crazy and discredited simply by association.

Other than the army of believers who corroborate his claims with their own bad lizard experiences, David Icke has little solid evidence as support. Though his theory sounds like something expected from a street-corner loon, Icke isn't crazy in a rambling, incoherent way. He writes and publishes feverishly, converses sensibly (topic matter, notwithstanding) and strings his conspiracy together in a logical, if scatter-shot, manner. Icke's dialogue and literature sometimes swing toward the esoteric, as in the following interview: "I suggested in 'And The Truth Shall Set You Free' that we could well be living inside a vibrational prison. That somehow a vibrational net had been thrown around this third dimension which made it very, very difficult for three-dimensional embodied consciousness — if you like, the consciousness that's looking through the eyes and hearing through the ears — to connect with its multi-dimensional self."

To his credit, Icke is harried more than seems logical for a person who should probably be dismissed as a novelty. He's attacked by the ADL, leftist groups, pretty much everyone else, has a large percentage of his interviews in the legitimate media cancelled without explanation and has his work censored.

When it comes to what the average Homo sapiens Joe can do against a foe so cold-blooded, Icke doesn't offer much advice. He doesn't even claim his goal is to convince people he's right, or even to change minds — just open them. His stated purpose is to illuminate the road to self-discovery and let everyone find the truth for themselves. So keep an open mind, and always work to root out the evil reptile in all the facets of your own life, be it selfishness, racism or an actual bad lizard.

Are bar codes the mark of the beast?

In 1982, Mary Stewart Relfe published "The New Money System 666" a book that claimed the unassuming barcode was actually the Mark of the Beast — a satanic emblem seared onto every product bought and sold in the western world. The Mark of the Beast is hidden in the barcode as an encoded 6-6-6, each six represented by the beginning, middle and ending "guard bars" in the code. Since then, the coming cash-free society has been fodder for extremist Christian conspirators. Adding fuel to the hellish flames, the United States has gone from our twelve digits and adopted the European thirteen-digit model. The general idea is that now that we are comfortable with the barcode, in the near future Satan will somehow facilitate the tattooing of a possibly invisible barcode on the right hand or forehead of his followers before Armageddon. This tattooing will presumably lead to the terrifying eventuality of swarms of checkout demons armed with satanic scanners. As unlikely as it seems, however, holes have been identified in the barcode conspiracy. First off, though the guard bars look like six-codes to us, the computer doesn't read them as such. Also, it would be next to impossible to tattoo a readable barcode onto elastic, aging and changing skin.

From the Vault: Caustic Soul reminisces, The Autumns rock

A very cold, desolate sound resides in Caustic Soul's latest release, and this is reflected in the title, "An Absence of Warmth."

A concept album about "The Great War," a reference to World War I, the disc's cover shows a faded picture of a line of soldiers, bayonets and all, charging forward toward some unseen enemy.

Caustic Soul seemingly used every musical effect available to make a dreary, dismally atmospheric 62-minute album. Dark bass lines drone; a drum machine's sterile beat rolls on; vocals reminiscent of "Type-O-Negative" and "Joy Division" murmur and occasionally wail; cathedral organ synthesizers call out.

Song titles that include "Steel Thorns," "Solitude" and "Passchendaele" help to further emphasize the album's darkness.

Lyrics such as "My arms burn with fire/my eyes charred by tears/I can't get past the wall/Dark moments and whiskey caressing my life/it's just the card I've been dealt," set a wartime scene.

Certain elemental themes seem to pervade Caustic Soul's lyrical repertoire, specifically fire, the color crimson and falling. In many of its songs, external voices of old men in very depressing tones speak in a hardly distinguishable language. They speak of probably less-than-happy memories, reminiscent of Roger Waters' "Amused to Death" which deals with old horrific World War stories. (Would this be the music of Hemmingway's Lost Generation?) From the instrumental setup to the lyrical style to the topics addressed, "An Absence of Warmth" doesn't end up presenting much original thought.

If music to which one can slit wrists isn't one's particular cup of tea, then this release might be one to skip. It resembles to uninitiated listeners an idea that might be tucked inside one's head of what predictable bad music is. These consumers would find a no man's land of stale melodies and clichéd lyrics stagnating like the album's packaged anguish.

If the only way you can fall asleep is crying in misery, this album could help. If you're into "Joy Division," "Type-O-Negative," early "The Cure," "Interpol" or Roger Waters' material, you might find a place in your presumably dark heart for Caustic Soul.

RUSS MEINE

Citizen Cope fuses various musical genres — reggae beats, R&B vocals, blues, soul and southern sensibility — into a smooth, full sound that is laid-back but forceful.

"The Clarence Greenwood Recordings" has an easy-listening pop sound embedded into it, giving likeness to contemporaries Jack Johnson and Kinky.

Clarence Greenwood is the main man, possibly the only man, behind Citizen Cope. He is the songwriter, producer and singer, and plays a variety of instruments. From his beginnings as a disk

VAULT, see Page 8

ARTS BRIEFS

Camus' 'The Stranger' comes to UI this weekend

The Other Place Theatre Cooperative will present "The Stranger" at the Hartung Theatre on Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

The play is an adaptation of "L'Étranger," Albert Camus' existentialist novel, by UI alumnus Nick Green, and is directed by Charles Pepiton.

"The Stranger" tells the story of a man named Meursault, who refused to cry at his mother's funeral. Through a series of increasingly peculiar and humorous encounters with multiple characters, he eventually finds himself on trial for murder.

The cast includes recent MFA performance graduate Michel Moisant as Meursault, with UI alumnus Britt Heisel and UI faculty member Alicia Bickley each playing multiple roles.

The company recently returned from Victoria, British Columbia, where it staged the production at Victoria's 18th Annual Fringe Festival.

The choir is open to third- through sixth-graders. Public, private and home-schooled students are invited to participate. Auditions will be 10 minutes long and no preparation is required.

At \$52 fee (\$32 for students on the reduced hot lunch program) is due at auditions unless prior arrangements have been made.

New and returning students must call the Moscow Arts Commission at 883-7036 to schedule an appointment.

Choir rehearsals will be held from 3:30-4:30 p.m. every Monday and Thursday beginning Sept. 23 at Lena Whitmore Elementary School.

Mayor seeks arts awards nominations

Mayor Marshall Comstock is seeking nominations from the Moscow community for the 2004 Mayor's Arts Awards. Nominations will be accepted in four categories: Individual Excellence in the Arts, Outstanding Achievement in Arts Education, Outstanding Contributions as a Patron of the Arts and Outstanding Contributions as a Business Benefactor to the Arts.

Nomination forms are available at Moscow City Hall or by calling the Moscow Arts Commission at 208-883-7036 to request the information by mail or email. Deadline for nominations is Sept. 27.

Live music highlights Moscow gallery reception

Music from the Boogie Doctors trio will be featured at the opening reception for the first multiple-artist exhibit at 6 p.m. Friday at the new Moscow gallery, Above the Rim.

The band will play at the main floor of Paradise Creek Bicycles. The reception, with beverages and appetizers available beginning at 5 p.m., will be at the Above the Rim gallery, which is located up the stairs from the main floor of the bike shop.

The reception will celebrate the conclusion of the Moscow Art Walk series and the opening of an exhibit of six local artists' work at the gallery.

The band comprises trumpeter Fritz Knorr and pianist Jeanne McHale, who share vocal duties, and drummer Gina Gormley. The Moscow musicians play jazz standards, polkas, blues and boogie-woogie tunes.

Tickets on sale for Drew Carey's Improv All-Stars

Tickets are on sale to see Drew Carey's Improv All-Stars perform Oct. 30 as part of Washington State University's Dad's Weekend 2004.

Carey will bring the popular "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" show to the Beasley Performing Arts Coliseum at 9 p.m. Familiar faces from his TV show will join Carey on stage, including Colin Mochrie, Greg Proops, Chip Esten, Brad Sherwood, Jeff Davis and Sean Masterson.

Tickets are \$34 and \$31 and can be purchased at all TicketsWest outlets, by phone at (800) 325-SEAT or online at www.beasley.wsu.edu.

Youth choir auditions set for next week

Moscow Arts Commission Youth Choir auditions will be held at 3:10 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at Lena Whitmore Elementary School.

'Anacondas' fails to match predecessor

BY SEAN OLSON
OPINION EDITOR

REVIEW



"ANACONDAS"

★½ (of 5)
Now Playing

The key to developing a sequel to a little-remembered and less-liked horror film is making sure it is a sequel.

"Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid" seems to have the concept of "sequel" confused with the concept of "remake." And as most astute moviegoers know, remakes should only be made of good films.

Gone from "Anacondas" are the recognizable name actors (the original somehow starred Jennifer Lopez, John Voight and Ice Cube), but the storyline remains almost exactly the same.

Understandably, a sequel to a film about giant snakes cannot stray too far from the original. People go into jungle; snakes find people in jungle; snakes eat people; people scream. But the similarities don't stop there.

An expedition by a young company, with young scientists, goes into Borneo to find a rare orchid that supposedly holds the key to the fountain of youth. Backed by a large corporation, they set off into the jungle with a young ex-special

forces boat captain during the rainy season. The boat is wrecked and they encounter very large, very hungry snakes.

Much like the original, the characters are to be trusted as much as the snakes. Sabotage runs rampant during the hunt for the flower and people turn against one another (just like the first film).

There is little to nothing that can save "Anacondas." Audiences who appreciate foul horror films just for being foul may find it endearingly atrocious, but they certainly couldn't argue anything but.

The checklist of possible saving graces for the film sums up the overall atmosphere of "Anacondas."

Acting: Not any, although it was amusing to see the list of no-talent future wash-ups



Even a new cast couldn't revive "Anacondas 2: The Blood Orchid."

attempt to give a monologue from time to time.

The script: Always leaning toward camp and sprinting away from substance, character development is on the level of elementary school reading lists: "Jack likes to eat pizza. He doesn't like vegetables."

Special effects: This one is a little less cut-and-dry. Since studios have shown the top of the line in effects, it becomes very difficult to impress audiences when the budget doesn't stretch to \$100 million. The effects lie somewhere between straight-to-video horror flicks and the effects for the original "Anaconda," which were better.

Camp factor: While campy horror has its place, camp walks the edge of a knife when

it comes to pulling off an entertaining flick. Trouble can come from so many places when camp is involved. A movie can try to be too campy and end up silly or, as in this case, it can take itself too seriously to be campy.

And the film does take itself seriously. It has the attitude that it's sure people will walk out of the theater straining their necks to check for snakes around the corner. The reality is that they will strain their necks shaking their heads so hard, wondering how they just dropped \$7 on "Anacondas."

Nothing can save this trite, formula fodder. It has a place in the movie morgue next to "Ishtar."

UI student artwork displayed at Co-op

The next art show at the Moscow Food Co-op will open Sept. 16, with a reception from 5-7 p.m., exhibiting the work of UI student Ching-Yi Wang.

Wang is a doctoral candidate, studying in the College of Education. Her paintings reflect her childhood fascination with natural themes in her native country of China.

Schedule for Eastside Cinemas

Showtimes in () are for Friday-Monday only.

"Cellular" PG-13 (12:50), (3:00), 5:10, 7:20, 9:30 p.m.

"The Bourne Supremacy" PG-13 (12:10), (2:35), (5:00), 7:25, 9:50 p.m.

"Wicker Park" PG-13 (11:40 a.m.), (2:10), 4:40, 7:10, 9:45 p.m.

"Suspect Zero" R (2:45), 9:35 p.m.

"Allen vs. Predator" PG-13 (12:30), 5:00, 7:15 p.m.

"Princess Diaries 2" G (12:00), (2:25), 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 p.m.

Schedule for University 4 Cinemas

Showtimes in () are for Saturday and Sunday only.

"Resident Evil 2" R (1), (3:30), 7:00, 9:30 p.m.

"Open Water" R (1), (3:30), 7:00, 9:30 p.m.

"Exorcist: The Beginning" R 9:30 p.m.

"Without a Paddle" PG-13 (1), (3:30), 7, 9:30 p.m.

"Paparazzi" PG-13 (1), (3:30), 7, 9:30 p.m.

ESPN gets sharp, goes back to school

ZAP2IT.COM

(KRT) — Celebrating its 25th anniversary on Tuesday, ESPN took time off from looking backwards to discuss the sports network's future. ESPN is set to launch a new college sports network, as well as an HD version of ESPN2.

Dubbed, fittingly, ESPN2, the new college sports network should be ready for a March launch, carrying mostly Division I football and men's and women's basketball initially. The channel will feature studio shows, live telecasts and rebroadcasts of games that already aired on other channels within the ESPN family or on corporate sibling ABC.

According to media reports, the college spin-off is an opportunity for ESPN to make better use of its currently existing

assets. The Hollywood Reporter notes that the Department of Justice has been investigating ESPN's "warehousing" of college events, a practice in which the network holds the rights to a game, but opts not to telecast it.

"We think there's a tremendous opportunity between the amount of product out there, as well as the outlets that we have," says ESPN President George Bodenheimer.

ESPN2 will compete with Fox's rebranded FCS (Fox College Sports), which launched on Saturday, and the aggressively expanding CSTV (College Sports TV), which is carrying everything from college debating to Mountain West Conference athletic events (starting in 2006).

ESPN2 HD would also premiere next year.

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ARGONAUT SPORTS & REC

Vandals not worried about rebounding

BY NATHAN JERKE
ARGONAUT STAFF

After a highly emotional, roller coaster week for the University of Idaho football team, the Vandals are ready to get back to where they left off before last Saturday's disappointing loss.

Despite receiving a 65-7 drubbing from Boise State, the Vandals are confident they can get prepared for another big game this week. UI is traveling to Logan, Utah, for its Sun Belt Conference opener while still trying to recover from one of its worst losses since joining Division I-A.

"I think team morale is good," coach Nick Holt said Tuesday in a press conference. "Obviously, that is one of the things you worry about with something that happened like that on Saturday night and what's gone on around here in the past. That's one of the biggest issues we need to overcome here is getting the kids regrouped and focused on the important stuff and getting their heads high."

Few players escaped criticism from Holt following the season-opening loss, but the positive message that he expressed was that the team was going to get better and most of the mistakes of week one will be corrected.

Several of the players resounded the sentiment, say-

ing they've already started seeing the difference in practices this week.

"We just need to fix some of everything," sophomore receiver Wendell Octave said. "So we're playing faster and we're doing everything quicker now just to catch up to game speed."

The changes will need to happen against a USU team that was impressive in its 48-17 loss to Alabama on Saturday. While the score may not be evident, Holt said the Aggies' offense did a good job of spreading the field, throwing screens and opening up the running game with a solid set of receivers.

"The bottom line is we need to stop the run before we worry about all that passing stuff," Holt said. "But they do pose some problems with all their spread offense and all their screens."

The Vandals are familiar with the Aggies, as current UI offensive coordinator Nate

Kaczor is a former assistant for USU as well as Holt, who nearly followed former UI coach John L. Smith to Logan in 1995 before returning to UI.

But the Vandals are just as familiar on the football field as each team has beaten the other 14 times in the series with UI winning last year 20-13 in the season finale for both teams. However, this game is more than just a win for each as both schools are trying to regain higher status in college football before moving to the WAC next year.

"We just need to win; that's the bottom line," senior defensive end Brandon Kania said. "Everyone wants to win 'cause we're tired of losing in this program. We're ready to win and we're committed to win and we've been working our butts off. It's time to win."

Notes: Sophomore tackle Hank Therien will start the game against Utah State following a one-game suspension that kept him out of the season opener. With his return, Jade Tadvick will return to guard.



FOOTBALL
Next games
 • Utah State
 Saturday
 5:30 p.m.
 Logan, Utah

• Washington State
 Sept. 18
 7:30 p.m.
 Martin Stadium



KENTARO MURAI / ARGONAUT

Part of the Vandal football team practices at Kibbie Field on Wednesday evening in preparation for the Utah State game.

Cliff Mason will likely start at running back against the Aggies despite gaining only three yards on six carries against BSU. Jayson Bird and Rolly Lumbala will both see significant time coming off the bench.

The Vandals had 13 true freshmen play in the season opener, with as many as seven playing on defense at the same

Series: 14-14-2	Alabama def. Utah State 48-17
Last meeting: Idaho def. Utah State 20-13	Television: None scheduled
Last week: Boise State def. Idaho 65-7	Radio: KHTR 104.3 FM

Dedication a key for UI swim team

BY APRIL PRIOR
ARGONAUT STAFF

For the new University of Idaho women's swim team, the school year began with demanding practices, long hours and fortitude. Now they are striving harder than ever to prepare for the first home meet in 19 years.

This will and determination could, in part, have something to do with the swim program's recent reinstatement. The last UI swim program lasted from 1972-1985 where at least one teammate went to Nationals every year.

As the new team prepares for the season, each member is putting forth her utmost effort in hopes that this year, as the first, will be the best in a long line of great years to come.

The team practices every morning and evening for two hours at a time. These practices can include strength training and conditioning outside of the pool, as well as rigorous laps and drills. The athletic trainer keeps a close watch, ensuring the safety of each member as practices become increasingly difficult.

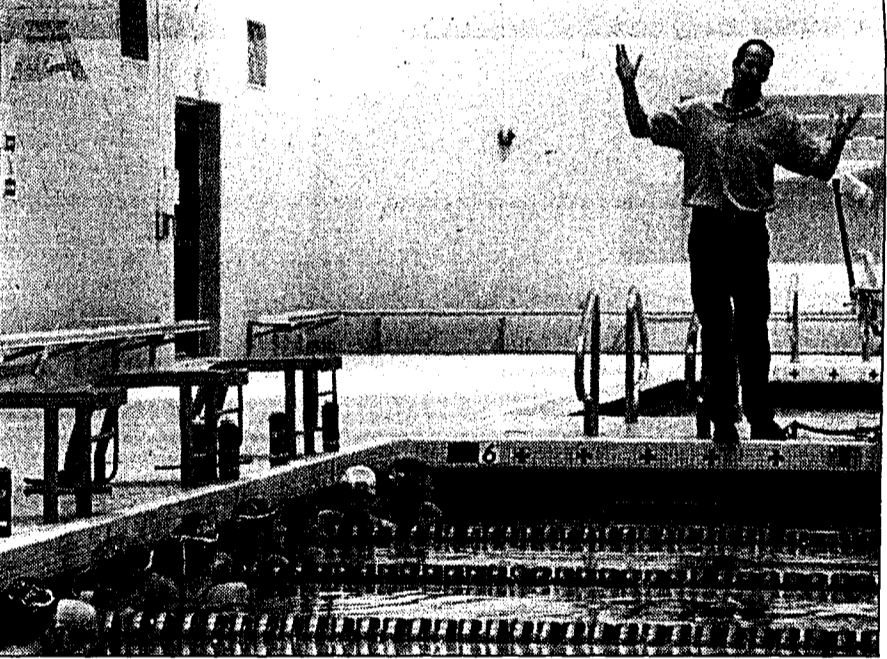
Coach Tom Jager, a five-time Olympic medalist and newcomer to the university, has aimed practices not only on training and conditioning, but says he is also focusing on members shedding their individualism and working together as a team.

Jager, along with assistant coach Dan Lawson, has also strengthened and fine-tuned the team's mindset.

"Each of the girls has her own talent and character that we can use to work together," Jager said.

Adriana Quirke, a sophomore with 14 years of swimming experience, said, "The practices are the same as what I am used to, but still much more difficult than last year." Quirke looks forward to introducing swimming to the university and hopes students will go to the meets.

Of the 17 athletes on the



DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT

Women's swim team coach Tom Jager works with the team Wednesday evening at the UI Swim Center.

team, 11 are freshmen.

"Most of us have made good friends with the older teammates," freshman Kacie Hogan said.

Paige Lee, also a freshman, said, "The team is small and so that makes it easier for us to get to know each other better. We have already had two barbecues together. I am anxious to see how we all perform at competitions."

According to Jager, the team will go to the Big West Championship Feb. 23-26 with a determination to win.

The team's first meet is Oct. 23 against San Jose State at the UI swim center, which is located between Memorial Gym and the Physical Education Building. Coaches and team members urge all students to come to the meet and begin a great year.

Marriage, the sportsman's way

It's fall. The leaves are changing, yet the days are still warm. According to my latest issue of Brides Monthly this is the perfect season for weddings.

And weddings, for the sportsman, cause mixed feelings. On one hand it's a wonderful opportunity to spend time with family and friends while hammered. But on the flip side, one has to sit through a long and often boring ceremony where the bride and groom pledge to spend their lives together, or something like that. I don't really know the details.

A sports professor I had once said that a wedding is the world's biggest exhibition game; it's fancy and all but it doesn't really matter.

So why have the ceremony be so serious? If it could be spiced up and made as interesting as watching Ricky Henderson in an interview, then sportsmen the world over would be more likely to take a wife.

Now, if you're hoping to convince your man to at least attend someone else's wedding, much less take the plunge himself, listen up because here's some tips for sprucing up the whole wedding ceremony.

First of all, the main problem with a wedding ceremony is that everyone is sober until the reception. A wedding is a serious moment of truth for any man to face, and for a sportsman to make it through without the shakes and occasional bouts of Irritable Bowel Syndrome, there needs to be at least a thin layer of alcoholic beverages coating his insides.

To rectify this problem one needs look no farther than an NFL or college football game for inspiration. Before each game the faithful fans partake in a tailgate party in the parking lot. Here fans can fill their bellies with beef and beer while gathering up the inspiration to scream obscenities at the opposing team.

Why not apply this tradition to weddings? Not only would everyone feel a tad less nervous, but the families of the bride will also have the courage to express their true feelings about the groom at high decibel levels, and vice versa. Plus, nothing says "great wedding" like beer and barbecue

stains on the bride's dress.

Secondly, the seating at a wedding is just plain wrong. Having people sitting in rows with nothing to do but cry into boxes of tissues is ridiculous, so change things up a bit.

Behind the preacher, have a replica outfield fence from Wrigley Field, ivy and all. And to add that special touch that says you care, have the groom's fattest friends and relatives standing up there with their shirts off (stomach and face paint optional).

These people will be the official hecklers of the wedding. From their vantage point they'll be able to let the minister know if he's screwed up by offering such helpful hints as "pull your head out of your ass" and "quit fumbling worse than Daunte Culpepper."

Thirdly, one of the best things about going to a sporting event is the service. Beer and hot-dog vendors are a gift to mankind, so why not make them a part of the special moment in your life when you swear to stay with your true love till one of you is dead.

As soon as guests begin to sit down, the vendors will wander in and serenade the audience with "BEER HERE. GET YOUR BEER HERE." And since that is such a beautiful song, the father of the bride won't have to shell out money for a musical group to be on hand to play the wedding march.

Fourthly, sporting events fill the pauses in action with bits of entertainment, and weddings shouldn't be any different. After the tailgate ends, select the two fellows who have indulged themselves a bit too much and place them in chairs near where the couple is about to be married. Have both of them wear Bobby Knight Indiana sweatshirts and instruct them to coach their team to victory.

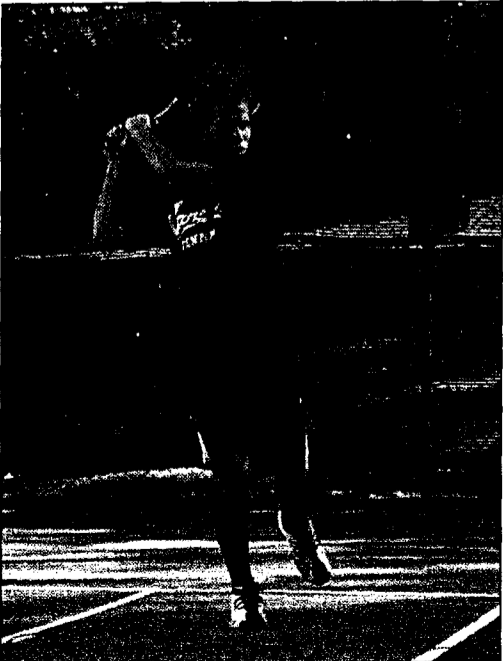
From their seats they can easily call audibles such as, "Don't do it, man. She looks just like a hooker I saw on a street corner in Vegas." And if the little flower girl screws up while strewing petals, they'll be in a perfect position to chuck a chair onto the court.

This will provide plenty of hearty chuckles for the other guests, in addition to keeping that flower girl on her toes.

There are endless other possibilities to make your ceremony more like a sporting event (some examples are tackling, tag-team matches and checking). So keep an open mind, because there is much to be learned, and emulated, from the wide world of sports.



Brenna's column appears regularly on the pages of the Argonaut. His e-mail address is arg_sports@sub.uidaho.edu



DANIEL BICKLEY / ARGONAUT

Senior Seth Banks practices with the rest of the men's tennis team Wednesday in front of the Administration Building.

Men's tennis team faces first test

BY JESSICA LEWIS
ARGONAUT STAFF

Despite losing the top two players from last spring's team, the University of Idaho men's tennis squad has reason to believe it will do just fine in the upcoming Boise Classic.

"We have some young guys that came in this year, and I think they will greatly contribute to the team," Katrina Perlman said, "and I think our seniors will do a great job leading us in the Big West this year."

The Vandals will be looking to replace All-Conference Big West honorable mention members Brad Lum-Tucker and Chris Faulman, who helped lead UI to a fifth-place finish in the Big West Conference championship and UI's first-ever national ranking (the Vandals were ranked as high as 68th at one point).

Last spring, Lum-Tucker and Faulman provided UI with a powerful punch at the top of team and the Vandals will need a couple players to step up if they want to compete for a Big West title.

Besides seniors Seth Banks and Hector Mucharraz, there are several players who

could possibly fill the roles of Lum-Tucker and Faulman. Sophomore Michael Suttner, a transfer from Colorado State, and freshman Terrence Nugent are two possibilities. Coach Perlman believes these players will help the team immensely.

One minor setback for the team is that one of the Vandals' other top players, junior David Suttner, tore his ACL for the third time. The team hopes he'll be back on the courts soon.

The women's team is also looking good as it has gotten several new players this year who look to blend well with a fairly strong group of returning players.

"We were really young last year," said Perlman. "This year we have a little more experience. Just having that year under our belt really helped out."

This will be Perlman's first year as the head coach of the men's and women's teams, although last spring she was the interim head coach of the men's team.

With the new players and from the way things are going at practice, Perlman believes the Vandal men's and women's tennis teams can compete with any team in the Big West this year.

First-year players make impact during opening week

BY BLAIR KERKHOFF
KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

(KRT) — Missouri coach Gary Pinkel recently asked his quarterback whether he could have played as a true freshman. Keep in mind that Brad Smith started as a second-year, or redshirt, freshman and was spectacular in his debut against Illinois.

"He said he couldn't even imagine playing as a freshman," Pinkel said.

That's how difficult it is to play college football, especially quarterback, when high school graduation was only three months earlier. And that's why the invasion of the impact rookies was the story of college football's first weekend.

Freshman quarterbacks started for Tennessee and Michigan and guided their storied programs to victory. The Vols' Brent Schaeffer became the first freshman to start at quarterback for a Southeastern Conference team since 1945 and helped Tennessee beat Nevada-Las Vegas 42-17.

When Schaeffer wasn't taking snaps, another 18-year-old freshman, Erik Ainge, was.

Michigan's Chad Henne was a surprise starter in the Wolverines' 43-10 victory over Miami, Ohio. A sore arm kept announced starter Matt Gutierrez on the sideline, and coach Lloyd Carr

started Henne.

Louisville's Brian Brohm didn't start the Cardinals' 28-0 victory over Kentucky, but he entered the game on the third series and directed Louisville's first touchdown drive.

Not so successful in debuts were two more freshman quarterbacks, Joe Fields of Syracuse, whose Orange lost to Purdue 51-0, and Air Force's Shaun Carney. The Falcons were drubbed by California 56-14.

Freshmen were making an impact at other positions throughout the nation. Alabama cornerback Simeon Castille returned an interception for a touchdown against Utah State. Indiana cornerback Tracy Porter picked off two passes against Central Michigan, returning one 96 yards for a score.

Georgia's Danny Ware, who rushed for 135 yards and three touchdowns against Georgia Southern, became the first freshman tailback to start a Bulldogs opener in 61 years.

Oklahoma running back Adrian Peterson rushed for 100 yards against Bowling Green and looked nothing like a freshman on his 35-yard touchdown run.

"He hit the crease and exploded through the hole," Sooners coach Bob Stoops said. "Not many players have that kind of burst."

Freshmen are arriving on campus

faster, stronger and in some cases earlier than ever. It's not unusual for a high school recruit to complete course work and arrive in December. Ware wrapped up his studies at Hargrave Military Academy in Virginia by Christmas and didn't miss a day of spring practice in Athens.

"In that sense, he's not your normal true freshman," Georgia coach Mark Richt said.

But what is a normal true freshman these days? For one thing, he's in better shape than years past.

"The strength and conditioning starts so much earlier than it used to," Stoops said. "The coaching they receive in high school is better. Everything just seems more developed."

Even the confidence. Schaeffer admitted to a nervous stomach before Sunday's game, but you couldn't tell by his performance, completing seven of 10 for 118 yards. He led Tennessee on an 80-yard touchdown drive on the second series, and Ainge, the nephew of former NBA guard Danny Ainge, threw a 42-yard touchdown pass on his first series.

"I had butterflies," Schaeffer said. "But being a freshman, that's no excuse. You just have to play."

In front of more than 100,000 fans at Tennessee and Michigan. At least they were friendly fans.

"There's just no way to express that feeling," said Henne, who completed 14 of 24 passes for 142 yards and two touchdowns. "It was awesome to go out and see all of those people. You have to play through the nerves, play like you've practiced all week."

Tennessee plans to go with the freshmen all season. Carr hasn't determined whether Henne or Gutierrez, a junior, will start this weekend against Notre Dame.

"I'm a pretty slow thinker," Carr said. But Missouri's Pinkel will be curious to see the results of any program that sticks with a freshman quarterback in conference play.

"When teams see the highest-level defensive teams in their leagues, that's when it will get interesting," he said.

One true freshman, wide receiver Will Franklin, played for the Tigers in their 52-20 victory over Arkansas State on Saturday. Three played for Kansas — defensive tackles Todd Haselhorst of Olathe East and James McClinton and wide receiver Marcus Henry. No true freshman played for Kansas State.

Five freshmen played for Iowa State, including former Aquinas place-kicker Brian Jansen, who nailed a 37-yard field goal into the wind against Northern Iowa. All of them worked their way into the lineup, Cyclones coach Dan

McCarney said.

"It's maturity, and they're further along than most freshmen," McCarney said.

The Cyclones are rebuilding after a 2-10 season and were able to offer playing time to top-line recruits. But Baylor coach Guy Morriss said he plays freshmen only out of necessity.

"Unless I had a superstar, I'd redshirt an entire class if I could," Morriss said. "Every true freshman you put on the field, it will cost you that many games. But that's something you have to live with."

But programs have made it work, even with quarterbacks. Last season's Florida's Chris Leak went 6-2 as a starter. Houston's Kevin Kolb, who threw for 23 touchdowns and four interceptions, was 6-5, and Georgia Tech's Reggie Ball was 7-5. All led their teams to bowl games.

A freshman quarterback has won a national championship, Oklahoma's wishbone specialist Jamelle Holieway in 1985.

But the odds are against such success.

"No other position is more difficult to play, not just in football but in sports," Pinkel said.

"It's very, very difficult for a true freshman to play it."

The incredible bulks: Linemen bigger, better — and a lot scarier

BY GREG BISHOP
THE SEATTLE TIMES

(KRT) — Here were two large men, giant against giant, small car against small car, sauntering toward each other, faces contorted into snarls, adrenaline and machismo pumping through their veins. They stopped at an imaginary line; waited for the signal.

And then, BOOM. Somewhere, Isaac Newton cringed. That whole force-is-equal-to-mass-times-acceleration deal.

Bill Laveroni had spent a decade of his life coaching offensive linemen, and what he saw before him that day in 1990 was the future. That year, there were 39 players in the NFL, who weighed more than 300 pounds. This year, there are more than 200.

But Laveroni wasn't watching offensive linemen that day. He was watching sumo wrestlers.

"And I saw offensive line play," Laveroni said, his breath quickened after a spirited demonstration. "Japanese-style."

That's what offensive linemen have become in this glorified game of girth — faster, quicker, better-conditioned sumo wrestlers. A souped-up, slimmed-down version of the largest athletes on the planet.

The NFL never felt so large. Consider:

In the 1980s, legend told of a man who ate cereal out of a mixing bowl and once drank 48 12-ounce beers in one sitting during college. That man weighed somewhere between 320 and 330 pounds, normal by today's stretched standards. Yet William Perry was the biggest man on campus, and a regular nickname wouldn't do.

So they christened him "The Refrigerator."

When the Washington Redskins won the Super Bowl in 1983, their offensive line averaged 267 pounds. Seahawks tight end Jerramy Stevens weighs 265.

"You're going to have more 400-pounders," said Laveroni, who is in his first season as the

Seahawks' line coach. "There will be a 450-pound player. I don't think you'll see too many more linemen 290 pounds or less. I could see a sumo wrestler on an offensive line. It's just going to get bigger and bigger and bigger."

Well then, how did the NFL get so Naturally Freakin' Large? Players train like Olympians, for starters. They do so with regimens culled from strength and conditioning coaches, adding more strength and size with supplements legal and illegal.

On the offensive line, the shift from mobility to mass started in 1978 when the NFL changed its blocking rules, allowing linemen to extend their elbows farther than the span of their shoulders, allowing them to use their hands when they blocked. Bulk became more important, maneuverability less so.

But the league — like waistlines, McDonald's meals and Johnny Damon's hair — just keeps growing. Twenty years ago, linemen who weighed more than 300 pounds were in danger of being cut. This year, those who weigh less than 300 pounds are the endangered species.

So this is an offensive lineman's job description: lift weights, drink protein shakes, take supplements, run block, pass block, attend meetings, eat until food doesn't taste good anymore.

Seahawks center Robbie Tobeck calls it the seafood diet. See food; eat it.

Ed Cunningham, a former Seahawks lineman who works as a broadcaster for ABC, would eat 10,000 to 12,000 calories a day to maintain weight. If he didn't focus on consuming, he would lose 5 pounds.

"It was literally a part of my job," he said. "Just like a stockbroker checking the earnings, that was part of my job description: stuffing my face purple."

But what amazes former Seahawks quarterback Jim Zorn isn't how large these linemen have become, but how they push like sumo wrestlers, run like linebackers and eat like that guy who wins the Nathan's hot-dog-

eating contests.

"They're quicker than guys that weighed 260 when I played," Zorn said.

Cunningham spent his time between his sophomore and junior years at Washington living in Australia. He practiced with a rugby team, and one of the players told him he could be world class in that sport, even at 285 pounds. Seahawks center Dennis Norman can dunk a basketball. Seahawks guard Floyd Womack, a man they call Pork Chop, can jump rope with the ease of a 14-year-old girl.

"When you stop and think about it, these guys are athletes," Seahawks strength and conditioning coach Mike Clark said. "Really big athletes."

After Cunningham finished football, his doctor told him with a straight face, "Ed, you're a 70-year-old man who's been in 15 car wrecks."

"My fear, because of the wear and tear, is that we're going to get to the point where there's so much force that guys are just going to be snapping femurs," Cunningham said. "I don't see an end in sight. I don't feel like these guys understand what

they're doing to their bodies. I wish there was an education process."

Seahawks linemen said they understand the consequences but don't spend time dwelling on them.

They know that heavier athletes are at greater risk for diabetes, heart disease and high cholesterol. They know that the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health did a survey of 7,000 former players in 1994 and found that linemen had a 52 percent greater risk of dying than the general population.

But gain now outweighs pain then. So linemen eat. Lift weights. Take supplements.

This is nothing new. At Vanderbilt, in 2001, Laveroni identified 50 potential linemen. Only two were less than 300 pounds. All were high-school juniors.

A decade earlier, he was already scouting sumo wrestlers. Now, he can barely tell the difference.

"It has to stop now, doesn't it?" said Womack, the man they call Pork Chop. "We can't get any bigger, can we?"

NCAA finds fan behavior exaggerated

BY DAVID SELIG
THE DIAMONDBACK (U. MARYLAND)

(U-WIRE) — Ninety-eight percent of students said their behavior during collegiate athletic events is responsible and safe, according to a survey released Sept. 2 by the NCAA.

Data Development Corp. for the NCAA, the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, the TEAM Coalition and Anheuser-Busch conducted the study.

The groups determined that the perception of fan misbehavior at college games is inflated and said they intend to use the data to encourage students to act responsibly.

"All across the board before, during and after game activities, people had the expectation of [bad] behavior, but the reality is that a real small minority are actually involved," said Jill Pepper, executive director of the TEAM Coalition, an Arlington, Va., based alliance concerned with responsible drinking and fan behavior.

The phone survey polled 986 college students nationwide who attended at least one home football or basketball game in the past year. Respondents were between the ages of 21 and 29, because Anheuser-Busch did not want to associate itself with students younger than the legal drinking age, Pepper said.

According to the survey, 45 percent of students believe fans storm the field at most games, but the study concluded only 13 percent actually do, while 24 percent of students polled said they think most fans riot at most games, but only two percent actually riot.

The survey also found 82 percent of students who drink during events said they do so responsibly and in moderation, while 86 percent of students said they always feel safe at games.

Senior Associate Athletics Director Michael Lipitz said the fact that only a small percentage of students act inappropriately at games is true, but said the study's objectivity is questionable.

The groups involved in the survey — which said it is the first of its kind — are compiling posters, advertisements and other materials fostering better behavior at sporting events to distribute to fans and administrators. The materials should be ready by the end of the calendar year, Pepper said.

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