



ASUI leadership faces a busy week with legislature

BY CAMERLY COX
ARGONAUT STAFF

Katie Whittier has her job cut out for her as the ASUI lobbyist at the Idaho State Legislature. But this week, she had backup. Many ASUI leaders, ASUI adviser Steve Janowiak and several members of the presidential cabinet are joining Whittier in Boise for the annual Legislative Breakfast.

Education meetings before visiting with state leaders.

In a press release, Emily Davis, ASUI director of communications, said Hansen attended the meetings "to better acquaint herself with state leaders and to help see that the University of Idaho continues to rank as one of the top state institutes."

The legislature is addressing education and budget issues this week, and Whittier said this is the perfect time for ASUI representatives to visit. She is encouraging them to pursue Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's budget outlined in his State of the State

address, the new legislation regarding changing student fees to tuition and the expected increase in funds for Highway 95.

ASUI representatives also expect talk on the ASISU lawsuit against the state board Davis says one of the most important issues for which ASUI leadership will be lobbying is education.

"Education funding is going to be the big dog," said Sen. Eric Everett.

"The most important accomplishment that could be achieved this session is to push legislators to accept the gover-

nor's budget proposal for higher education," Davis said. "The governor submitted his proposal two weeks ago to the legislature for review and it is in discussion in JFAC - a committee which combines both Senate and House members assigned to budgeting."

Whittier said the budget increase is not enough for higher education and the University of Idaho, "but we need to fight for what we get."

"One bonus to this legislation is it helps legislators understand the importance of funding increased enrollment," Davis said. "A proposal like this satis-

fies a long-standing need."

The members of ASUI had a hectic schedule. They arrived Tuesday night and attended a lobbying committee meeting at the state house the following morning. They spent the rest of the day meeting and talking to legislators. Thursday morning was spent at the legislative breakfast to speak again with state representatives.

Sen. Elizabeth Bento said she hoped to talk to legislators individually and gauge where they stand on certain issues.

"We want to sway votes and talk to legislators who may be on the fence," she said.

Many senators said they were there to lobby for education, but Everett said there are many ASUI senators who had their own ideas about what they would be doing.

"I will also be working on lobbying for changes in helmet laws with Sen. Bento and others," he said.

He added they were there to lobby for issues concerning UI, but they also wanted to make themselves known.

"It's good for the legislators to have our personal stories, to get to know us and have us in the back of their minds as they're making decisions," Everett said.

Freshman spends spare time helping others

BY KIMBERLY HIRAI
ARGONAUT STAFF

Throughout his high school career, University of Idaho freshman Alex Krone always thought he couldn't make a very profound impact upon his community, but he continued helping out where he could.

The Moscow native helped the Moscow Junior High School wrestling team as an assistant coach after his own wrestling practice on the Moscow High School team. He also donated his time during the offseason to get the team ready for competition again.

After graduating from high school, Krone moved to the University of Idaho campus, a goal he had made for himself four or five years earlier, which paid off after he was awarded the title of Greek student of the month for November and December 2004 for his work in his fraternity, Theta Chi.

He was finally a permanent resident of the campus this fall, instead of a frequent visitor, he said. The microbiology and mathematics major had visited the campus often in his younger years and seen much of Ridenbaugh Hall and the mathematics department due to his parents' jobs as professors in voice and mathematics.

From the first time he stepped onto campus, students noticed Krone's direct attitude towards helping others.

"When he rushed in August, I thought of him as someone who was very driven," senior philosophy major Adam Elder said. Elder is the chaplain for Theta Chi.

After being accepted into Theta Chi during the fall of 2004, Krone finally had the opportunity to make what he felt was a true difference within his newly defined community, and took the opportunity in full stride.

Several weeks after the school year began, Krone saw the need for better safety for students throughout campus. Shortly after, Krone pitched an idea to aid women while walking home on campus to Alicia Lewis, who was at the time the coordinator for the Violence Prevention Program.

"I was doing a safe list for women in case they're walking home at night and they need help, need to be walked home,

"You have two options in college, you can just go through the motions ... or you can do so much more."

ALEX KRONE
UI FRESHMAN

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DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME



Junior Corey Jenkins practices juggling flames Thursday night outside of the LDS Institute of Religion. Flame juggling, nunchucks, dancing, comedy and drawing are some of the talents that will be displayed for Friday night's talent show at the LDS Institute.

UI student recovering from multiple stab wounds

BY SAM TAYLOR
NEWS EDITOR

University of Idaho student Brandon Elliott never had surgery before early Monday morning. Of course, he had never been stabbed seven times, either.

The stab wounds on Elliott's shoulders, chest, face and neck, one which almost ended his life, put him in the hospital for four and a half hours of surgery, and so many stitches went into him that the surgeon finally lost count, he said.

Travis A. Van Caster, 22, a UI senior majoring in virtual technology and design, is in custody on a \$5,000 bond after allegedly stabbing Elliott, 22, multiple times at about 2 a.m. Monday.

Because they had been drinking that night, most of the incident between the close friends is hazy to Elliott and his girlfriend, 22-year-old Shannon Marlowe, a UI sophomore who is taking the semester off. But what remains clear to both is the dark puddle of blood in which Elliott lay, in the middle of a handicapped parking spot at the Tule Place Apartments in the 1200 block of West A Street.

Van Caster refused repeated requests for comment about the incident while he remains in the Latah County jail.

Elliott said he is not exactly sure why he and Van Caster began to fight, but witnesses agree that Van Caster, normally the nice guy when he drank, did not seem like himself that night.

"He had a weird look in his eye," said Jay Gomez, a UI architecture student who had been drinking with the group until about 10 minutes before the fighting began. "He was super-aggressive. ... None of us have ever observed Travis like he was that night."

Michael Mello, a UI senior who is blind, and Andrea Travis, a UI junior studying public relations, live next door to Elliott, and had dinner with Van Caster that night.

"He came over at about 7 p.m. and we prepared dinner," Travis said.

As the three prepared their food, Elliott, Marlowe, and Gomez came back to Elliott's apartment from Mingles Bar, where they watched the NFL playoffs, Gomez said.

Mello and Travis said Gomez came over at about 9:45 p.m. and invited them to the other apartment to hang out and drink. They decided not to go, Travis said, but Van Caster said he was going to go say hello.

"Then he said he was going over to visit with them (Elliott and the others) and he never came back," she said.

Van Caster spent the rest of the night drinking beer and gin at Elliott's apartment with the group, Elliott said.

While Van Caster had been drinking since about 9 p.m. with Elliott and the others, Gomez said he did not notice any changes in him until right before he left.

"Brandon was trying to talk to me on the couch and Travis tackled him and wouldn't let him up," Gomez said.

At that point, Gomez got fed up with how Van Caster was acting, he said, and left.

Nobody is clear about what happened between that time and the time when the fighting began. What is clear is that Van Caster's friends said he did not seem like his usually nice, happy self - even getting so angry that he hit Marlowe and Elliott.

"I think he was partially playing around, but he hit Shannon in the nose," Elliott said.

An argument about Van Caster being aggressive ensued, and he and Elliott went outside to discuss the situation.

Inside their apartment, Mello and Travis could hear the two talking in the parking lot.

"From what we heard, Brandon was talking to Travis about hitting them and pulling his hair. ... I heard Brandon talking to Travis about pulling his hair because he wouldn't give him a cigarette," Mello said.

Surprising to Mello at this point, he said, was how Van Caster's voice sounded compared to earlier in the evening, when he spent a nice evening eating dinner with him and Travis.

"His voice was different, and he's usually the jolly drunk guy," Mello explained. "It was deeper and huskier. ... I noticed it right away when he talked."

"(There was) more raw emotion," Travis added about Van Caster's voice. "It's kind of hard to

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Money 101: weight-loss pills

BY LISA WAREHAM
ARGONAUT STAFF

The diet pill is one of many weight-loss plans college students use to lose or prevent the "freshman 15" they are promised to gain.

Elise Lorcher, a freshman majoring in justice studies, said she tried three different types of weight-loss supplements, Xenadrine, T-Lite and Dermaloss.

She said she used Xenadrine for three weeks before exercising and lost weight.

"I was working out non-stop, so I don't know if it was 'cause of the pills," she said.

She said she stopped using Xenadrine because she didn't like the side effects.

"It makes you shaky and really fidgety," she said. "I would just have the need to get up and walk."

Virginia Beck, a registered dietician at the Student Health Center, said the shakiness is because of caffeine.

The Xenadrine label said one dose of the supplement is about equal to one cup of coffee, and the dose is twice a day.

Beck said caffeine can cause insomnia, high blood pressure and headaches.

She added diet pills often contain caffeine because it raises metabolism, but not enough to see a drastic

change in weight. She said after about two months the body gains tolerance to caffeine and weight loss stops.

Lorcher said Xenadrine also upset her stomach.

Beck said tea extracts are used in diet pills as laxatives; Xenadrine contains green tea extract.

The front of a Xenadrine bottle says it's clinically proven, but Beck said many of the tests diet pill companies practice don't prove enough. She said she read about a company that tested six people in 24 hours, and four people lost half a pound.

"That just cracks me up." When asked about clinical studies, a Xenadrine associate said, "We are not here to give interviews" and gave a Web site that she said contained the information; it did not.

The marketing director was not available and did not return calls to the Argonaut.

The marketing director for Dermaloss was not available, and Jessica Taylor, marketing director for T-Lite, said she did not have test result information available.

Lorcher said Xenadrine also suppressed her appetite. "It made my stomach feel like it wasn't hungry, even when I hadn't eaten in six hours," she said.

Beck said many diet pills contain fiber, which makes the body feel full faster.

"Instead of spending \$30 on a bottle of pills, people should just eat fresh fruits and vegetables," Beck said.

Lorcher said she tried T-Lite because the bottle says consumers can lose up to 10 pounds in three days. She also said the bottle included a meal plan.

"I was more focused on the diet plan and not the pill," she said.

She said she lost some weight, but she thought it was because of the meal plan.

"I was starving. ... They only let you eat five crackers and two tablespoons of peanut butter, so it's basically like starving yourself," Lorcher said. "I gave it up 'cause I couldn't do the diet plan."

She also said T-Lite made her sick to her stomach.

"I just felt like I didn't want to do anything," she said.

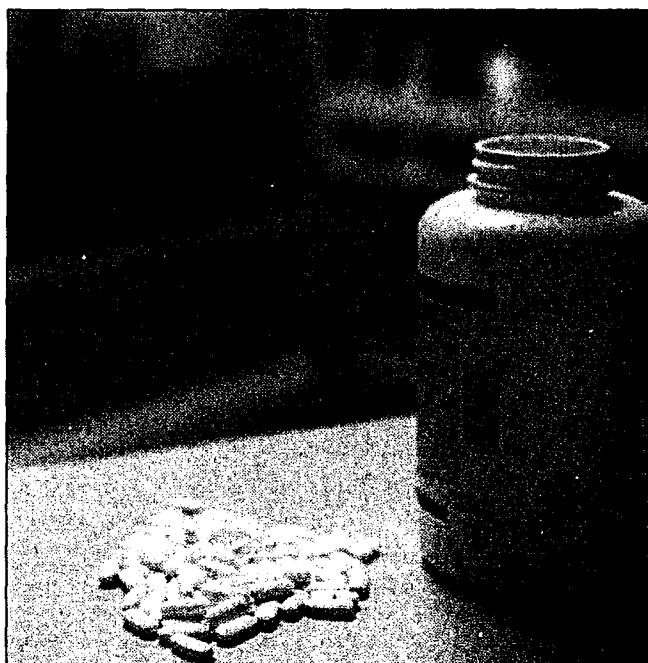
Taylor said the ingredients guarana and eleuthero in T-Lite "have natural appetite suppressants."

Beck said those ingredients make the brain think the body isn't hungry. She said some studies have shown a small amount of weight loss with supplements of that nature. Beck said she thinks most of the weight loss is the placebo effect, when a person's brain convinces

PILLS, see Page 3

Recommendations for losing weight:

- Eat smaller portions. "Some restaurants give you enough pasta to feed a family," Beck said. "There's no reason why you can't take some of that home."
- Eat fruits and vegetables. They fill you up faster.
- Eat more whole-grain foods.
- Exercise four to five times a week. Do at least 30 minutes of cardio each day and in addition use weight training three days a week.



JARED DESJARLAIS / ARGONAUT
Many UI students turn to diet pills such as T-Lite or Xenadrine for a quick weight loss solution. However, there can be undesirable side effects because of the caffeine content. There are also products like Dermaloss that come in a patch form, and have fewer side effects.

OUTLOOK PALOUSE WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast for Today, Saturday, and Sunday with icons and temperature ranges.

DIRECTORY HOW TO USE THE ARGONAUT

Information on how to use the Argonaut, including publication schedule, funding, and contact information.

Additional contact information for advertising, news reports, and subscriptions.

CAPSULE FROM THE ARGONAUT ARCHIVES

Historical article from 1964 about the health hazards of smoking, including a report on the death rate for smokers.

Finance VP waits for Oregon job decision

Article about Jay Kenton, University of Idaho vice president of finance, waiting for a job decision from the Oregon University System.

CAMPUSCALENDAR

- Calendar of events including student recital, Friday night at the Rec, Saturday anime, and various symposiums.

NEWSBRIEFS

News briefs including Friends of the Clearwater potluck, Feb. 15 deadline for UI scholarship applications, and UI's Ron Sheffield honored by dairy industry.

Advertisement for the Argonaut application for the spring 2005 semester, including contact information and website.

CROSSWORDPUZZLE

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and solutions for the previous day's puzzle.

Continuation of news articles from the News Briefs section, including details on dairy industry honors and environmental issues.

Graphic advertisement for news briefs, including the text 'Have a news brief? Print it!' and contact information.

Large graphic advertisement for The University of Idaho Argonaut, featuring the title 'ARGONAUT' and the slogan 'Got a News Tip or Lead? Let us Know!'.

Advertisement for the Jazz Festival Special, offering a 10% discount on ads mentioning the festival.

Advertisement for Gambino's Italian Restaurant, featuring 'FREE Delivery 5pm to Close' and 'Home of the 18 Incher'.

Advertisement for the Argonaut newspaper, including contact information for advertising and circulation.

Advertisement for Argonaut Advertising Manager and Production, listing staff members and contact details.

Advertisement for Classified Advertising, detailing rates and policies for ad placement.

Advertisement for Argonaut Production, including contact information for the managing editor and production staff.

STABBING

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explain, you know?"

Lying in bed, the two heard Elliott and Van Caster arguing, as Van Caster began to scream at Elliott. Mello decided to get up and try to calm them down, but only made it to the middle of his kitchen before he heard the two begin to wrestle outside and slam into a wall where the window to their apartment is set into the building.

"I was pretty positive that I heard them wrestling because I heard grunts like someone was hurt or, you know, noises you would make in a combat situation," Mello said.

He emphasized that the noise was no small thud on the side of the apartment.

"We're talking a slam - full-out, like someone ran into the wall at full speed," he said.

Outside, Elliott thought the two were only hitting each other. He does not remember ever seeing the knife in Van Caster's hand; it happened so quickly.

Gomez said Van Caster had just gotten the Kershaw knife with a four-inch blade for Christmas.

"We got into a fistfight and we were punching each other," Elliott said. "I hit him, he hit me, I hit him and then I thought I got hit again and I hit the ground, but then I saw blood squirting from my neck."

Mello rushed out the door of his apartment, lunging toward the sound of the fight, he said. He felt the smooth, canvas feeling of Van Caster's jacket and wrapped his arms around his chest, confirming that it was Van Caster by the feel of his frame, and hearing Elliott underneath him.

"I reached out and felt Travis' jacket ... and I could tell that it wasn't Brandon's by how it felt," Mello said. "Travis was definitely the aggressor; Brandon was lying on the ground. ... I grabbed Travis in a bear hug and brought him back over to the wall by the window."

As Mello heaved Van Caster off of Elliott, Elliott realized he had been stabbed.

"I screamed, 'You stabbed me, you ... stabbed me,'" Elliott said.

Marlowe, Travis said, was hysterically screaming and crying, begging someone to call 911.

At that point, Mello said, Van Caster was completely cooperative, and his mood changed from anger to panic.

"He ran inside our apartment in panic and yelled for paper towels to put on Brandon's neck," Mello said.

Mello, out of breath from the struggle, dialed 911 and gave the phone to Travis so she could speak to the operator.

"Brandon actually asked Travis to leave and said they wouldn't tell anyone what happened. I don't think he knew how bad he was hurt," Mello said.

Van Caster and Marlowe took paper towels and held them to Elliott's neck,

where sutures now hold closed a 7-inch s-shaped slice across his throat.

Travis said when paramedics arrived to transport Elliott, he offered to walk to the ambulance himself, not realizing how bad his wounds were. When he got to the hospital, he found out they were serious.

"His voice was different, and he's usually the jolly drunk guy."

MICHAEL MELLO
UI SENIOR

"I got there in the morning after Brandon had just gotten out of surgery," Gomez said. "The doctor said his outside jugular had been cut and if the knife had gone any further it would have hit his inside jugular and he would have been killed."

According to the affidavit of Moscow Police officer Chris K. Hazel, when he and his partner arrived on the scene, Elliott was "lying on the sidewalk bleeding profusely from several cuts on his neck and chest."

Hazel stated in his affidavit that Van Caster and Marlowe were both holding paper towels on Elliott's injuries.

"I asked who injured Elliott and Van Caster said that he did," Hazel said.

Hazel then asked Van Caster to go to another officer while he tended to Elliott, the report stated.

After the paramedics arrived, Hazel went back to Van Caster and questioned him about the incident.

Van Caster told Hazel he and Elliott had been drinking since 9 p.m. and he had been speaking to Marlowe, the report stated. Van Caster said Elliott became angry and attacked him.

"Van Caster said he had his knife out and used it to defend himself," Hazel stated in the affidavit. "Van Caster said Elliott had come at him 'claws out' as if to claw his eyes. Van Caster said he was holding his knife up to protect himself and to keep Elliott away when Elliott ran into the knife."

Hazel arrested Van Caster for aggravated battery.

"We're all really in shock," Travis said of the incident. "We're torn because they're both friends, but what Travis did was inexcusable."

Everyone agrees that Van Caster had always been nice before, and nobody understands why he was so angry that night. "It put things in perspective that alcohol can change people and make us do things we can never imagine," Travis said

PILLS

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them something is happening when it actually is not.

Lorcher also tried Dermaloss - a weight-loss patch - for three weeks, and said it had the most satisfactory results.

"I wasn't as hungry. It cut my appetite by about half," she said. "And I felt good about myself."

She also said she didn't experience

negative side effects.

"You don't feel like you're high on drugs," she said. "You just are calm and don't eat as much."

She said the one negative aspect of Dermaloss is it leaves a sticky area where the patch was.

Lorcher said she stopped using the patch, but wants to start again because she liked her previous results.

Beck said the Food and Drug Administration doesn't approve most weight-loss pills, so the companies can write anything for ingredients,

even if it's false.

She pointed out that a pill containing caffeine might contain more than the label says.

Beck said she never recommends diet pills. She said they are costly and can be dangerous, especially for people with heart problems.

She said people wanting to lose weight should try to change their lifestyle instead of using a pill or dieting.

"You'll gain that weight back, and then more," Beck said. "Diet is a four-letter word."

FRESHMAN

From Page 1

or they're in trouble somewhere," Krone says. "It's a group of safe people that they can call."

Krone organized a list of people willing to walk women home at night through the help of Brotherhood Empowerment Against Rape.

Krone's volunteer service has extended to his church activities as well. Krone was part of the original group that created what is now known as The Crossing, a local non-denominational church. He and fellow students separated from a Nazarene church nearby.

"A bunch of us went to that church and just for various reasons decided to go our separate ways, and the youth pastor from that church started up a bible study," Krone said.

The youth group slowly transformed from a small gathering to a large group of about 80 people, who now attend organized church services. The Crossing has existed for about one year.

At The Crossing, Krone found yet another outlet to help those in need. A young girl from a family that attended the church had Type 1 diabetes and required special attention when she was being watched at church. Krone used his expertise to help.

"My mom has diabetes, but she is not insulin-dependent, so I got a lot of training from her. I was also in sports med all through high school," Krone said. "When I heard that she had diabetes, I sort of felt that that was an area that I could help her in."

Elder described Krone's attitude toward helping those in need.

"Alex has a very strong personality," he said, "and is one who desires to take charge to make a difference in his life as well as those around him. I think that his character is reflected in the way he serves others. He is a selfless man who genuinely loves people."

Krone volunteered as an assistant to the young girl. He would monitor the insulin pump on the side of her hip, and measure out the appropriate

amount of food she could safely eat when the other children had their snack for the day.

He was also trained to look for signs that she was having difficulties, such as a pale face and dark circles under her eyes.

When Krone is not participating in volunteer service activities, he often makes an appearance on the field. Krone wrestles, boxes, and plays football and basketball when he has time, he said.

Krone's main focus continues to be community service. He was recently elected Theta Chi's philanthropy chair, and has enjoyed the volunteer projects that involve his entire Greek family.

"I really like the philanthropy events," Krone said. "When we get our whole house involved and helping, that's something that really inspires me. It reaffirms why I like philanthropy so much because it's a group of 40 guys all put together for this one purpose of helping this one cause. It's amazing if you realize the potential that we have when we work together."

As for Krone's individual projects, he described them as events that simply came before him in his everyday life. Krone said ever since he arrived at UI, he has realized just how much any college student has the opportunity and ability to help those in their community.

"You have two options in college," Krone said. "You can just go through the motions, get your degree, and go on with life, or you can do so much more. And the potential is there for you to do so much more."

Krone plans to continue helping those in need during his college career, as well as after college, when he hopes to become a pediatrician or family practice doctor.



ALTA CUTLER / ARGONAUT

Alex Krone from Theta Chi is the 2004 November/December Greek student of the month. He is the founder of The Crossing, a local non-denominational church in Moscow and also an active community volunteer.

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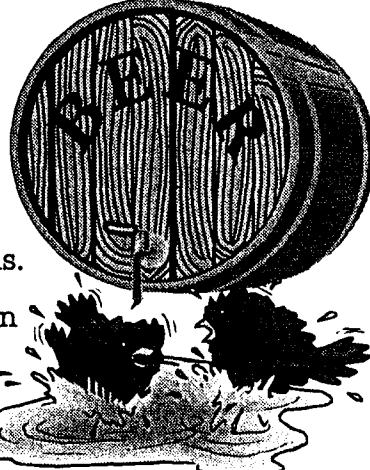
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Lawyers recognized for their commitment to Muslim community

BY AMBER EBERT
ARGONAUT STAFF

Every once in a while, someone steps up to the plate to help a neighbor, a person who is sometimes a stranger. In Moscow, 13 lawyers gave their time and energy to members of the Muslim community who were in need of legal assistance.

The 13 lawyers were recognized at an annual American Civil Liberties Union event Saturday in Boise.

The lawyers include: Leah and Steve Mahaffy, Cindy Miller, Janice Smith-Hill, Tim

Gresback, Chuck Kovis, John Judge, Jim Siebe, Tom Whitney, Connie Taylor, Tony Anagone, Monica Schurtman and Whynn Mossman.

Interrogations were at a high right after University of Idaho graduate student Sami Omar al-Hussayen was arrested for suspected terrorist activity. The lawyers assisted those Muslims who were interrogated in the aftermath of al-Hussayen's arrest.

"I am pretty passionate about recognizing the lawyers who helped out. Every student that asked for a lawyer got a lawyer.

The day Sami was arrested, it was very early in the morning and we had lawyers lined up by ten o'clock," said UI law professor Elizabeth Brandt.

Brandt said the interrogations were intense and tempers were high, and she is proud of the lawyers who volunteered to be part of the questioning process.

Interrogations spiked again prior to the November elections, but there have been no reports of any recently, Brandt said.

Monica Schurtman, a UI law professor who represented al-Hussayen's wife and children, said the interrogations have

calmed down quite a bit.

"There were a number of students in the summer, a few in the fall, but those were much less frightening, less harsh. I think the questioning still really bothers people. People don't like to be singled out, but it's not as adversarial as it was right after Sami was arrested," Schurtman said.

The annual ACLU event served many purposes on Saturday. The main event was "The Next Frontier of Civil Liberties - Freedom to Marry," in recognition of same-sex marriages. The lawyers were not present because it was a last-

minute idea to recognize them at the event.

"I really wanted to do them the courtesy of letting them know that we were going to recognize them at the events, but it was late in the game and there were so many pressures - I do apologize to all of them for not letting them know," ACLU director Jack Van Valkenburgh said.

Van Valkenburgh said ACLU mailed the awards to the lawyers with letters thanking them for their efforts.

"We're really grateful, as all of us should be," Van Valkenburgh said. "They stepped up at times

when they were needed to provide emergency services. It was really critical and they made a difference. They dropped other things in their schedule and helped."

Specific members of the Muslim community who received assistance could not be reached for comment because their representatives would not give their names.

"You have to remember that many members of our Muslim community have been interviewed three to five times and they prefer to be pretty low-key," Brandt said

Olsson last candidate in English Department search for new chair

BY JOHANNA LUND
ARGONAUT STAFF

The search for a new University of Idaho English Department chair drew closer to an end as the lone candidate presented himself one last time in a faculty meeting Monday afternoon.

Kurt Olsson, an English professor at UI, is the only name on the ballot, and he is no stranger to the ways of his potential position.

Steve Chandler, an associate English professor, was also a potential chair, but withdrew his name from the ballot last week.

Olsson served as the chair once before, from 1980-1986. He also served as the dean of the College of Letters and Sciences at UI for 13 years prior to the combination of the school with the College of Arts and Architecture in 2002.

The meeting allowed Olsson to express his new hopes and plans for the department while the faculty and committee members asked questions.

"Life is a mystery to be lived, not a mystery to be solved," Olsson said in his opening to the audience. "I am confident that we can advance beyond the demons (budget cuts) from the past few years."

Olsson hit upon several issues, mentioning the loss of tenure positions as the No. 1 thing he hopes to affect. He said the department has lost its sense of continuity, leading to a "nomadic" feeling.

"This department means a

lot to me," Olsson said. "We need a system to bring in top people."

He hopes to create a nationwide search for instructors, but said many will not be interested without an opportunity for tenure. Current chair Dave Barber agreed.

"Everyone looks at a job without tenure as a second-ranked job," Barber said. "However, I do not think it is as urgent, just from my discussions with the administration. In the future, possible tenure track positions may be available again."

Olsson stressed the role the English department plays in the UI community, but expressed disappointment in the diminishing importance of the major.

"Our role has been to basically clean up comma splices," Olsson said. "Literacy means more to us. We have to excel."

He objected to what he referred to as the "whittling away of the major."

"We are just here to teach the basics, so they (UI students) can move on to the 'more important' classes," Olsson said.

He read several statistics regarding the reduction of English courses available, something he hopes to change. Creative writing is the only course to have increased, Olsson said.

Asked about embracing online learning as a tool for the English Department, Olsson replied it could be advanta-

"I do believe in technological advances, but it's an add-on to traditional learning," Olsson said.

If hired, Olsson will replace Barber. Barber is retiring at the end of the fiscal year in July.

The chair has many duties, including scheduling classes and evaluating faculty and personnel. The chair is the department's representative and is responsible for communicating the department's needs and aspirations to the administration and relaying their response, all things Olsson will do well, Barber said.

Barber said it is natural to return to Olsson as chair.

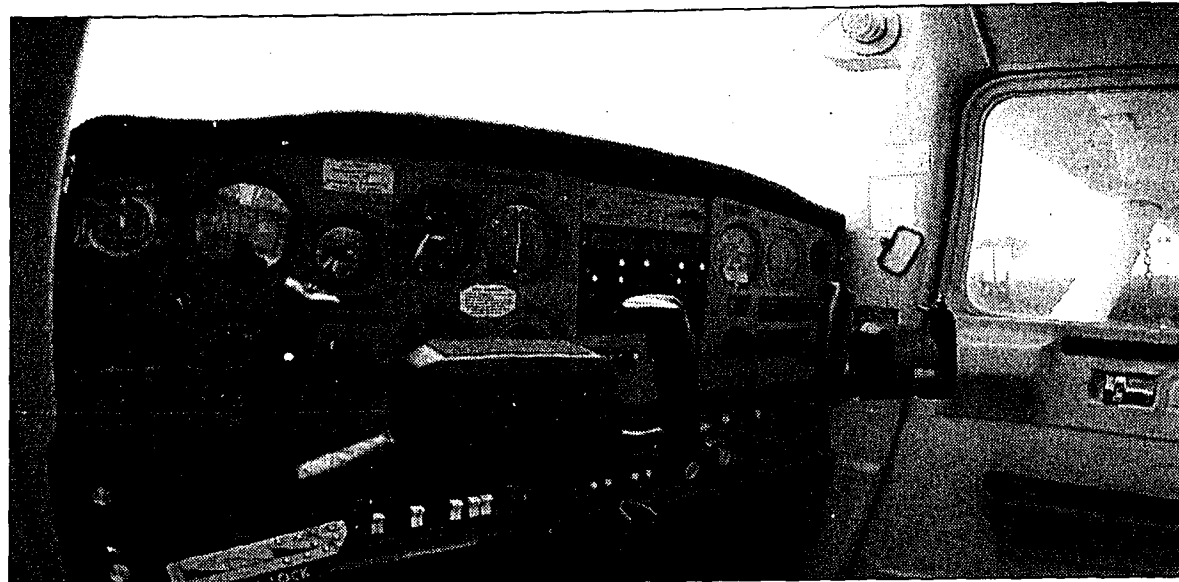
"Prior to Kurt becoming the chair, the department was at odds with itself. When he started, he was able to transform the atmosphere. He was able to convince the department that life would be more productive if we all got along," Barber said. "People were ... more productive and ... more willing to be here. He sort of created the modern English Department."

Barber plans to enjoy the free time he will have after he retires.

"I enjoy spending time outdoors. Now, I'll have the time," Barber said. "I would like to return to Spain. We lived in Madrid for a year. My wife and I have always wanted to travel. Maybe I'll even go back to school."

Ballots will be presented to the English Department faculty tomorrow, leading the UI one step closer to having a new English representative.

GET BEHIND THE CONTROLS



KENTARO MURAI / ARGONAUT

After taking the private pilot ground school course and getting a private pilot's license, students can take control from behind the real cockpit of a plane such as the Cessna 152 parked at the Pullman-Moscow regional airport.

Library grant places government information in the spotlight

BY JOHANNA LUND
ARGONAUT STAFF

Hidden deep in the depths of the University of Idaho Library, an array of knowledge waits to be found. And now, it is accessible directly from home.

The UI library has one of the largest collections of government documents in the Pacific Northwest. It has now taken steps to provide the collection to online users by joining a virtual reference program that uses software called Questionmark.

The program allows users to go online and ask questions of librarians across the country, library dean Ron Force said. Librarians can respond in real time, he said. They can even send Web pages and assist in finding the most relevant sources to the topic.

Available from the government document section of the library Web page, students can e-mail or simply log on for a chat session with a librarian.

"We decided to join primarily to test drive the (Questionmark) software. We have been consider-

ing using it at the library for some time," Force said. "But we did hope the program would be used."

The virtual reference program is similar to one provided by the Library of Congress. Headed by Illinois State University, the program started in November 2004 and will run until March 2005. The program could continue if use of the instrument increases.

"Use has been pretty sparse and this is a one-time grant," Force said. "It may be possible to fund it again if there is enough use."

More than 33 institutions participate in the program. In addition to UI, the University of Montana and Portland State University also contribute to the program.

The UI library has a copy of every government document published since 1907. However, many documents date back even farther, Force said. Congressional documents dating back to 1789 fill the library basement.

It is possible to read Martin Van Buren's address to the

Senate in 1821. An entire volume on the Battle of the Bulge collects dust in a corner.

"We have publications on anything you can think of ... all published by the government. They are the largest publisher in the country," Force said.

More than 1.5 million documents lay tucked away below the main library floor. The library has microfilm, CD-ROMs and the second-largest map collection in the Northwest aside from Seattle. All are government provided and only 40 percent of the information is available online.

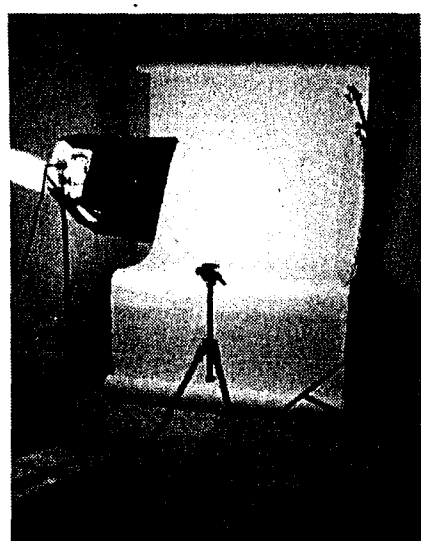
Force said the UI library is in the process of loading all the data into the main catalog.

"In the 1990s, the goal was to have everything electronic by 1998. That didn't happen, so the new goal is within the next five years," Force said.

In the meantime, the Virtual Reference Pilot Program is helping the UI community take a step forward in accessing government information.

"We have a responsibility to disperse information," Force said.

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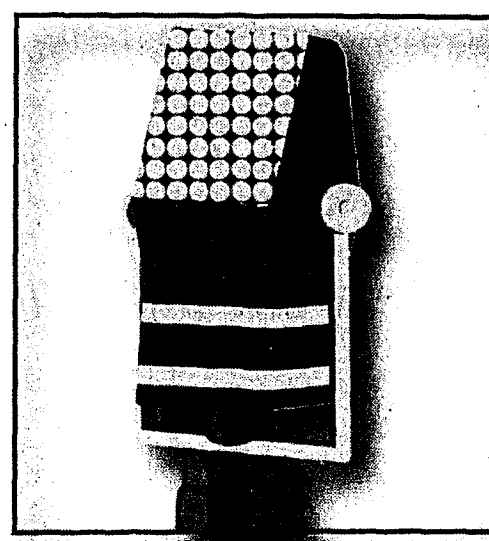


University of Idaho Poetry Slam Contest

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Watch As UI students compete for 1st place!
1st place winner will open for Diva Diction's UI performance on Feb. 1 and will represent UI at the Regional Association of College Unions International Poetry Slam Competition on Feb. 18 and 19.



Organized by the Student Activities and Leadership Programs Office
Commons 302, 885-6331

Americans are not the coolest kids in the world

BY ERIC GWINN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

(KRT) - Want a notebook computer that fits in your purse? Or a USB memory stick shaped like sushi? How about a 5-megapixel camera that's smaller than your wallet? Maybe you fancy a laptop made of the same material that keeps jet aircraft safe.

Gadgets express who we are in ways other status symbols can't. You can't carry your car with you everywhere you go. And though your shoes are always with you, they don't tell everyone how imaginative and tech-savvy you are. Whip out a notebook computer with an Apple logo on it, however, and people instantly know what you're all about.

Finding that purse-sized notebook computer or sushi-shaped memory stick - gadgets that look and act like nobody else's - takes a wee bit of effort though, unless you live in Asia, particularly in Japan.

There, electronics stores are stuffed with the latest and the greatest, filled with the odd and the mod. That's because the United States and Japan view electronic toys very differently: Japanese consumers are the world's early adopters, and they will pay top dollar.

"When they buy, they go for the high end," says Douglas Krone, president of Dynamism, a Web-based U.S. importer of gadgets. "Japanese consumers, especially for consumer electronics, have always loved miniaturization and always have loved the latest and greatest. It's a very tech-obsessed society."

We Yanks love our technology, too, but we tend to wait till prices come down before we start buying in.

"If I'm making some consumer electronics goods," Krone notes, "if I wanted to clean up in the U.S., I would start by setting the price point: It needs to be \$1,499, so, engineers, this is where we need to end up."

"In Japan, I can be \$500 more than the next computer, as long as I have the newest technology, so I go to my engineers and say, 'Toshiba has this and Fujitsu has this. We want all that and more, and price is secondary.' The Japanese care more about the latest technology, and they pay for

it." But what if you're an early adopter at heart but stuck here in the United States, forlornly gazing Far Eastward?

You go to an importer such as www.audiocubes.com or Chicago-based www.dynamism.com. They'll connect you to the futuristic gear available overseas that will make you stand out as the cool kid on the block here.

The trendiest gear in Japan is all about miniaturization, led by smaller hard drives to hold music and video files and the display technology using organic light-emitting diodes, or OLED.

Unlike the typical liquid crystal displays on cell phone screens and computer screens, organic light-emitting diode displays can be extremely thin and are quite bright, even without backlighting. In the United States, OLED displays are showing up as the outer, time-displaying screen on flip phones.

Krone says among the more jaw-dropping advances that debuted in Japan are carbon fiber laptops so light and strong that you can hold one between your thumb and forefinger. The computer needs no internal fan because the carbon fiber dissipates heat created by the computer's components.

Late last year, Canadian PC-maker Voodoo brought the technology across the Pacific in a carbon fiber notebook for video game players.

At \$3,000 or more, a carbon fiber notebook is not for everybody. But then, neither is being an early adopter. It takes lots of disposable income (the Japanese have been saving less and spending more since the millennium, economists note), which also makes it easier to shrug it off when, say, that cool new videotape recorder you bought uses Betamax tapes, not VHS. You're already looking for a newer, cooler gadget anyway.

Americans tend to wait until technology is more proven and - more important - its price settles down from sky-high, introductory levels. We let the Japanese take a chance on the new stuff for us.

So the next time you're envying the latest gear some well-connected friend has just bought, remember she's probably not the coolest kid in the world.



Condoleezza Rice appears before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee before her confirmation hearing Jan. 19. KRT

Rice confirmed as secretary of state amid criticism

BY JIM PUZZANGHERA
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

(KRT) - The Senate voted overwhelmingly Wednesday to confirm Condoleezza Rice as secretary of state, despite sharp criticism by some Democrats over her role in planning and selling the Iraq war. Rice is the first black woman to serve as the nation's top diplomat.

"Condi Rice is a fine, fine public servant, greatly admired here in America and greatly admired around the world," President Bush said during a news conference shortly before Rice's 85-13 confirmation by the Senate. "And she will make a great secretary of state."

Rice, 50, who had served as national security adviser since 2001 and is one of Bush's most trusted aides, was sworn in at a private ceremony Wednesday night at the White House. She was scheduled to report to the State Department on Thursday morning to take over from Colin Powell.

Rice's confirmation is the culmination of what one supporter, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., called "a great American success story." She's risen from the youthful experience of racial discrimination in the segregated South to one of the nation's most storied jobs.

"Dr. Rice possesses this rare combination of management and administrative experience, of policy expertise, of academic scholarship and, not least importantly, personal integrity and character," said Senate

Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

Rice also made some unwanted history Wednesday when 12 Democrats and independent Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont voted against her nomination, an almost unprecedented outburst that was fueled by anger over the Iraq war. It was the second-most "no" votes ever for a secretary of state, according to the Senate Historical Office.

In 1825, Henry Clay was confirmed 27-

14. "It should send a message," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., who led the opposition to Rice's nomination and cast one of the votes against her. "Even if there were only two or three votes, the debate should send a very important message about candor and the whole truth and about being accountable and responsible for the things you say."

During often-contentious debate on the Senate floor Tuesday and Wednesday, Boxer and others accused Rice of misleading the nation about the threat from Iraq before the war and failing to admit mistakes in trying to stabilize the country after it.

The votes against Rice were an unusual rebuke to a sitting president, who traditionally is given wide leeway in choosing his Cabinet members, particularly secretary of state. Most previous nominees, including Powell, were confirmed by voice vote, indicating near-unanimous support. In other examples, the Senate on Wednesday confirmed Jim Nicholson as Veterans Affairs

secretary and Michael Leavitt as Health and Human Services secretary by voice votes.

The most "no" votes previously against a secretary of state since Clay came in 1973, when seven were cast against Henry Kissinger amid strong opposition to the Vietnam War, which he'd helped direct as national security adviser to President Nixon.

Rice followed Kissinger's path from national security adviser to secretary of state and faced strong criticism from Democrats for her role in guiding a controversial war, hers in Iraq. Even some Democrats who voted to confirm her, such as Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Joseph Biden of Delaware, said they did so despite reservations.

"Last week we gave Dr. Rice an opportunity to acknowledge the mistakes and misjudgments of the past four years," Biden said of more than 10 hours of questioning of Rice by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where he's the senior Democrat. "Instead of seizing that opportunity, Dr. Rice stuck to the administration's party line: always right, never wrong."

Republicans said the Democrats were just playing politics and were improperly impugning the credibility of a woman who was eminently qualified.

"I can only conclude we're doing this for no other reason than because of lingering bitterness at the outcome of the elections," McCain said. "We need to move on."



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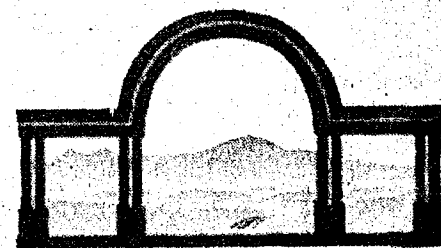
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MAILBOX

Column rehashes O'Reilly

Dear Editor,
Watching "The O'Reilly Factor" can sometimes be entertaining. But rehashing O'Reilly's pompous, near-sighted, partisan arguments in editorial form in a college newspaper (Protesters out of touch with Middle America, Jan. 25) is a little much. Especially when one can't even go so far as to invent his own derogatory buzzwords. No one really cares the first time you call something "ridiculous" much less the fourth time in a short opinion column. And repetitive use of the word "ideologue?" "No please don't call me an advocate of a particular ideology, anything but that." If you're going to imitate O'Reilly, Bill, at least try to hide your source by using your own vocabulary.

Aside from that, good job on the diplomatic, freedom-loving article. Its generous of you to plead with the Democratic Party to either be more like the Republican Party or else "throw in the towel all together" since "many core democratic (sic) values are similar to core Republican values."

What's the use of two parties anyways? All we need is staunch Republicans and we have it made. In the recent words of Pat Buchanan: "We do not have a true or tough conservative in the Oval Office. There is no conservative party in Washington. And we shall pay a historic price for it."

There is a reason America is great; it is the multiple-party system. And it's perfectly American to stand up for your side, even if it is done in a "ridiculous" manner.

Joe Bochenek
Physics
Moscow

Abortion kills a human being

Dear Editor,
I've heard "a woman has the right to do with her body as she pleases" many times. To make this defense non-contradictory, I must assume that the fetus is not an individual person. Maybe it is because the fetus is connected through the umbilical cord. But since the fetus doesn't attach until 6 days after conception, the morning-after pill would be technically worse than third trimester abortion. And how can it be just another part of the mother if the DNA is different?

Some say it is not actually human until it has developed characteristics that separate it from other organisms. Then what is it? A homo fetusian? Is there doubt that the DNA of the fetus might develop into a dog or cat instead?

Some say that if it weren't for abortion, countless kids would be raised in terrible family conditions. What about adoption? Or prevention?

Any way I look at it, I can't figure out how aborting a fetus isn't killing an individual human being. It seems that there is a contradiction in the law. Maybe abortion supporters should pass an amendment saying that murder is illegal, unless it is an unborn individual; or that humans are protected by the Constitution only once they're breathing.

I think it's one thing to abort a fetus because otherwise both it and the mother would die. But it is entirely different if we are destroying life to try to escape the consequences of irresponsible behavior. Can anybody help me understand?

Joshua Fusselman
Junior
Landscape architecture

Aid around the world is fair

Dear Editor,
I am writing to commend your article "U.S. soldier finds media portrayal of war less than accurate," Jan. 19 concerning reporting about Iraq. The piece cast a bit more realistic view on how items become "newsworthy," or take priority for printing. I wanted to hear from soldiers who have actually been serving there about the good projects they are completing to help people in Iraq. From many articles printed, the scene is portrayed as mainly suicide bombers, kill or be killed, and no successful rebuilding. We are in a bizarre situation, when the United States is bad-mouthed for not sending tsunami aid quickly enough, and at the same time, aid in Iraq is quickly bad-mouthed, trivialized and forgotten. I would also like to commend Frank McGovern his comedy articles. Don't be threatened by the "conservatives," or let them drag you down. I used to think he was trying to write on serious topics, but his blab-it and grab-it style fails to have a point, and always helps me laugh. Unfortunately, persons do need to be reminded of abstinence as an option (most foolproof) in today's sexuality. People claim to be informed about birth control options. However, I know people who do not use birth control despite the information they have. We must be reminded, caution: hot coffee is probably hot! Caution: cigarettes that used to cause terrible health still do! We have helped create our present scene.

Dave Kirkland
UI alumnus

OURVIEW

Staying out of suit right choice

The ASUI leadership made the correct decision when they refused to participate in a foolish lawsuit filed against the Idaho State Board of Education.

The student governments of Idaho State University and Lewis-Clark State College filed the lawsuit to cap student fees in an effort to minimize students' financial obligations as higher education institutions prepare for one more fiscal year of insufficient funding by the Idaho State Legislature.

In theory, the lawsuit would force the legislature to increase funding. However, in practice, it will support Idaho House Bill 768, which will establish tuition. If student fees are capped, the funds must be replaced by a new source. That new source will not be the legislature; it will be tuition.

In its present financial state, the legislature cannot increase funding. To

increase funding, it would have to increase taxes, a move it will not make as it allows the 1 percent sales tax to die quietly and as it refuses to repeal recent tax cuts. Also, the state board has already announced it supports the concept of tuition.

The lawsuit is a significant error that will enable the very thing it seeks to prevent. The funds will continue to flow from the same source: students' dwindling bank accounts. They will suffer greater financial burdens, as they will pay more in tuition than they paid in student fees.

Were ISU and LCSC to withdraw the lawsuit, the effect would be minimal because the subject has been breached. Legislators have been discussing tuition for years and now they have a reason to take action. In fiscal year 2005, the students at Boise State University, ISU and LCSC will likely begin paying for their education with tuition.

Fortunately, the University of Idaho is a land-grant institution with a student fee scale protected by the Idaho Constitution. On that basis alone, ASUI involvement in the lawsuit would have been dangerous, jeopardizing the status that may keep UI students' costs from rising.

Unfortunately, UI will be affected by the lawsuit. As costs at the other institutions rise, their presidents and alumni boards will begin lobbying to amend the Idaho Constitution. With a two-thirds vote by each house of the legislature and a two-thirds vote by the people of Idaho, UI students also will be subjected to tuition.

The student governments at ISU and LCSC have their hearts in the right place. However, in the realm of funding, higher education and politics, minds, not hearts, rule. This lawsuit will cause more harm than good and will leave a mark most will want to erase.

A.L.

Dear Iraq, best of luck

Dear participant in the Iraqi democratic process:
Your life is at risk. Sunday, when you cast your vote or run for public office, you may be shot, blown up, kidnapped or mutilated in who knows how many ways. Your family may lose its father or mother or worse, be threatened or kidnapped because you exercised your right to vote. These crimes may be propagated by your fellow countrymen or by foreign nationals who slipped through the porous border between your country and its extremist neighbors. But you should still vote.

Of course your safety is the United States' No. 1 concern. That's why we sent our troops to destabilize your country, destroy your homes and buildings, open up your borders, create a breeding ground for terrorism and declare victory before your dictator was even caught. True, it would have been helpful to bring in enough troops like our advisers told our president or get the support of more than England and ... oh yeah, Poland (I wouldn't want to forget Poland). But you see, we thought your leader had weapons of mass destruction and the sanctions that plunged you into poverty and failed to oust your dictator weren't enough.

Granted, you didn't have weapons of mass destruction, but since our leader doesn't like admitting when he is wrong, we had to come up with some other excuse.

On another note, please don't pay attention to the fact that you don't know for whom you are voting. You see, it is too dangerous for the candidates to put their names on the ballot. But it doesn't matter whom your representative is, just that he/she belongs to the political party with which you most strongly associate - assuming you associate with one of the parties, which might be difficult.

You have so many choices ahead of you. Of course, learning about them will pose a challenge since most of your country's infrastructure, including Internet and television, was destroyed when our country "liberated you." To that end, let me enlighten you of your choices.

The United Iraqi Alliance will really represent the majority Shiite group. It includes parties with patriotic names like the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq and the Islamic Dawa Party, neither of which seem to separate government from religion.

Next, if you are Kurdish you have a great party, the Kurdistan Alliance List, which is really just two large parties, The Kurdistan Democratic Party and Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, and nine other smaller parties. The only problem with this party seems to be that it thinks it is running in Kurdistan instead of Iraq.

Finally, if you are Sunni you have the Iraqi List, which is made up of the American-backed interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi. Though the party is actually secular, Sunnis don't have any other choices since the two influential Sunni groups are boycotting the election. So you might as well vote for the List.

The right to vote is the most important aspect of life in a free, democratic country. Take it from the country that has less than 50 percent voter turnout and about as much voter fraud as the Ukraine. We know what is best for you.

Plus, look at all you have to look forward to. You have the opportunity to see political ads that criticize opponents instead of furthering debate. Once you have your democratic process down, you get to look forward to things like election reform so the parties can get around pesky finance laws.

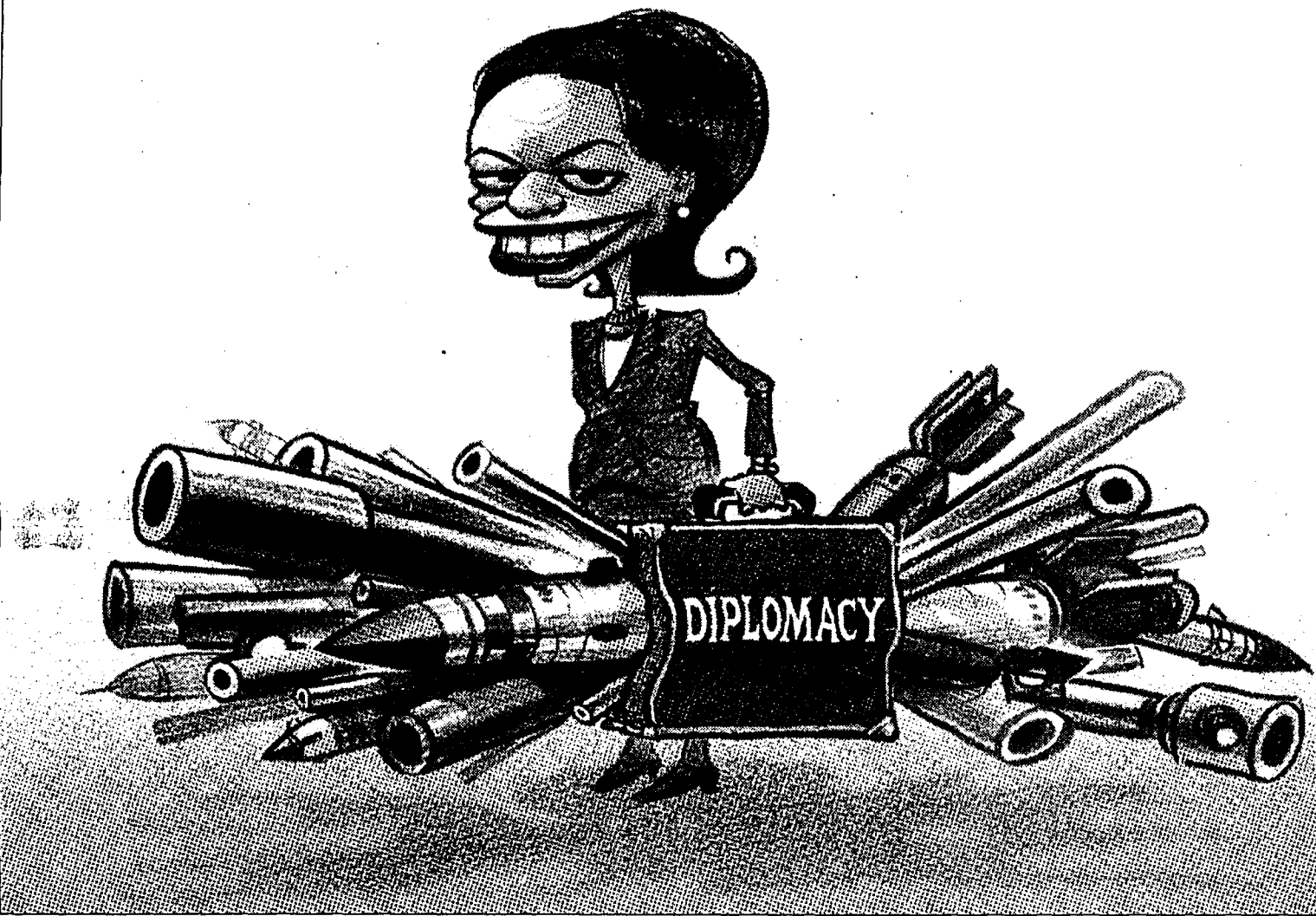
So citizen, exercise your right to vote, because if you have to die for something, it might as well be for voting in an election that is probably fixed and will more than likely be contested through court battles, protests and if you're really lucky, civil war.

Good luck.

JOSHSTUDOR
Opinion Editor



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



K R T

Don't worry: You're not alone

Hermann Goering, Nazi reichmarshall and Luftwaffe chief said the following at the Nuremberg trials shortly before his death: "Of course the people don't want war. But after all it's the leaders of the country who determine the policy, and it's a simple matter to drag the people along whether it's a democracy, a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship. Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the pacifists for lack of patriotism, and exposing the country to greater danger."

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

Thankfully, the world learned its lesson from Hitler's right-hand man. Something like that could never happen again; certainly not in an enlightened democracy like the United States of America. After all, look at our political makeup. (The following statistics were helpfully compiled by Michael Moore.)

- 57 percent of the American public believes that abortion should be legal in "all or most cases." In fact, 56 percent believe that a "woman's access to an abortion should remain as it is now," or be easier.
- 83 percent of American citizens fully support the goals of the environmental

- movement.
- 86 percent of us say we "agree with the goals of the Civil Rights movement."
- 85 percent support "equal opportunity in the workplace for gays and lesbians."
- 80 percent feel that health insurance should be provided equally to everyone in the country.
- 62 percent maintain that current laws should be changed so that fewer nonviolent offenders are sent to prison.
- 58 percent think labor unions were a good idea.
- 94 percent want federal safety guidelines for handguns. Even 64 percent of NRA members favor mandatory reporting of private handgun sales.

The fact is, even with war propaganda and fear-mongering politicking off the charts, the United States is still a predominantly liberal country. America, often despite how we vote, is and always has been a progressive nation. Sometimes we just forget.

We live in the most ethnically and culturally diverse nation on the planet. The United States has sizable populations of citizens from every continent, and patriot-representatives of virtually any imaginable class, creed, color and denomination.

Due in no small part to our legacy of openness to new ideas and the people dynamic enough to deliver them, we have surged to becoming The Superpower in a historical blink of an eye. Our founding fathers were a collection of anti-elitist, democratic, enlightenment humanists, deists and counter-cultural rebels. Never has culture been founded on braver, more accepting or more expansively liberal tenets.

Our Constitution and Bill of Rights

guarantee (and rely on) the kind of debate and dissent that our current president (first elected against the will of the people) is working to stamp out.

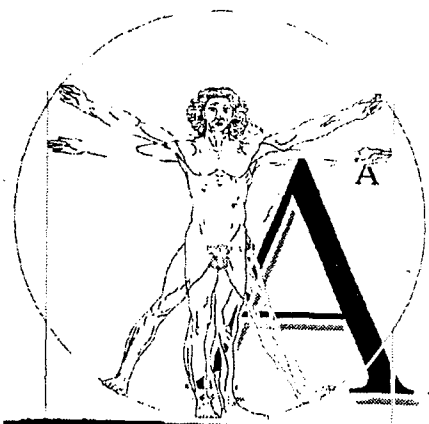
Any conservative (one who presumably wishes to conserve our national values) should have zero patience for statements like, "There should be limits to freedom," or, "If you're not with us you're against us." Also quotes like, "How do you know if you don't measure if you have a system that simply suckles kids through?" Because, seriously, he's the leader of the free world and he's talking about education.

The point is, despite the best attempts of the underdog to be to numb your higher brain functions and pimp out the core values of our country to facilitate no-bid contracts without the inconvenience of democracy jamming up the works, in our hearts, most of us are lefty pinkos.

We root for the underdog, because the underdog gave birth to us. And no amount of down-home Texas syntax-slaughter, good-ole-boy affectation or macho posturing should ever be able to obscure the fact that our president and the vast bulk of his Cabinet are not the little guy. As much fun as it must be, not many ultra-rich, Ivy-league, silver-spoon sons of Senators and/or presidents grow up to be cowboys.

Remember who you are, or dig past the evil-obscuring rhetoric and ask yourself honestly whom you sympathize with, the little guy or his Big Brother. Like Joseph Goebbels said, "If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it."

God blessed America; let's not make Her regret it.



ARTS & CULTURE

St. Lawrence string quartet soon to visit UI

BY TOM BANKS
ARGONAUT STAFF

Good live music is a valuable commodity of which many small towns are sadly devoid. Fortunately, such is not the case with Moscow. In addition to the annual Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, Moscow also is home to several smaller musical events.

Among these is the UI Auditorium Chamber Music Series. This series' third concert will take place at 8 p.m. Feb. 3. The featured artist will be the St. Lawrence String Quartet, a world-renowned string ensemble that consists of first violinist Geoff Nuttall, second violinist Barry Shiffman, violist Leslie Robertson and cellist Chris Costanza. The Canadian quartet is the current

ensemble-in-residence at Stanford University, a position it has held since 1998.

"They have performed all over the world. They were recently featured as part of the Great Performances Series in New York," said Mary DuPree, director of the Chamber Music Series. "They also did recent tours of Europe including London's Wignor Hall and Paris' Theatre D'ville."

Even though the sign on the way into Moscow reads "The Center of the Arts," the town boasts no venues on quite the same level of prestige as Lincoln Center or Rockefeller Plaza.

"It's one of the few chances in Moscow to hear such high-caliber musicians," said Robin Ohlgren-Evans, the series' coordinator.

In addition to its instrumental virtuosity, the St. Lawrence Quartet has a reputation as being excellent instructors.

"It's one of the few chances in Moscow to hear such high-caliber musicians."

ROBIN OHLGREN-EVANS
SERIES COORDINATOR

"These folks are known for working with young people," Ohlgren-Evans said.

"They do master classes and will work Saturday doing a clinic with people from seventh to 12th grade. They work doing coaching for local ensembles and play for them."

Dupree said the ensemble's audience draws from several age groups.

"It's a mix of young people and a large audience of older people. A lot of kids come. There's a lot of enthusiastic musicians in schools," she said.

Part of the chamber music series' goal is to provide education for beginning musicians, in addition to offering them top-shelf performances.

"The goal for the program is for our young musicians to play and perform and become acquainted with the chamber music repertoire," said Gretchen Wissner, organizer for the workshop se-

tion of the series. After Thursday's performance, the ensemble is scheduled to spend Saturday conducting master classes for fledgling musicians in the area. The master classes will include a close-up performance by the quartet for the students' enjoyment, and also a general analysis of chamber music.

The chamber music series has been in Moscow for several years and, according to those affiliated with it, has done very well.

"It's tremendously successful. Every year we have more members and contributors and do more outreach," DuPree said.

"I like the quality of experience for kids, the work they put into it and the enthusiasm of young people for this wonderful music," Wissner said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Formerly The Widow Jenkins, the band now known as Coretta Scott drop into the Inland Northwest on its first major tour.

Coretta Scott returns to Spokane

BY JUSTIN BROGLIO
PRODUCTION EDITOR

As the guys from Coretta Scott load their guitars and amps into their 1997 Ford Cargo Van, rock fans and concert groupies filter out of Studio Seven in Seattle, Wash. It's been a busy week for Preston Thomason, Seth Woodward, Ben Emery, Josh Albright and Mike McClung. Being a small-town rock band trying to make a big name for itself in the vast world of new age rock is not an easy task.

"We pretty much do everything, from promoting the shows to setting up all the concert gear," says Thomason, the lead guitarist and vocalist.

While their manager tries to sort out record contracts and promotion budgets, the five members of Coretta Scott are touring the country and living the dream called rock 'n' roll.

After they left Seattle, it was on to Hell's Kitchen in Tacoma, then to Ellensburg, Wash., for a Thursday night show and tonight

they'll visit Spokane for a hometown show at Fat Tuesday's. From there they will return to the Palouse for a show at the Grange Hall in Clarkston and on Sunday night they'll top off their trip to the Inland Northwest at the Coeur d'Alene Tea House where they will be joined by Death To Grays and Savior Too Late.

"We haven't had to sleep in our van yet," Thomason says. "And as of right now this is our only job."

Hailing from such places as Craigmont, Omak, Wash., and the Spokane Valley, members of Coretta Scott have come a long way on the tough road to fame. Formerly under the name The Widow Jenkins, they played off and on at small-town venues while some members waited tables and others tried to find their place in business classes at the University of Idaho.

One year ago they set aside their nine-to-five routines and committed to the band now known as Coretta Scott. They headlined a monthlong tour of the Northwest

in summer 2004. They are currently touring with Clarity Process until mid-February, after which they will stay on the road with 5 Minute Ride and Still Life Projector.

For most rock bands, creating new songs is an individual aspect and usually left to the person with the toughest choices or the wickedest girlfriends. But for Coretta Scott, writing and producing new songs is a group process.

"When we write, that's all we do," says Thomason. "Everyone has a job in a new song and we all trust each other."

With backgrounds in punk, radio rock, country and metal, the members of Coretta Scott find inspiration around every corner.

"We're all over the board,"

Thomason says. "But one of our biggest drives is the Southern California band Saosin. They made it without a label and that's what we're trying to do."

For Coretta Scott, making a name for itself means hard work and large amounts of time on the road.

"It's really a labor of love," Thomason says.

With concerts six and sometimes seven nights a week,

CORETTA SCOTT, see Page 9



CORETTA SCOTT

Leland's 'Hip: the History' lacks a solid focal point

BY TARA KARR
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

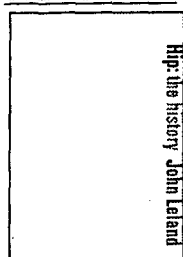
From Beats to beat boxes, Bugs Bunny to Velvet Underground, John Leland's "Hip: the History" covers expansive ground in the last few centuries of American pop culture.

For the most part, Leland's exploration of all things cool centers around the formation and early years of American hipness.

The catalyst of everything from the blues to pulp fiction begins, he says, with the introduction of slavery. He argues

that the interaction of black and white tastes and ideals created a situation unlike any the world has seen; because early Americans were either slaves or immigrants in a new land, they had a clean slate to create their

REVIEW



"HIP: THE HISTORY"
★★★ (of 5)
John Leland

own history. As time went on, whites stole from blacks, blacks stole from whites, new immigrant populations brought their culture to the mix and the result was uniquely American.

Leland's ideas are complex, but not complete. While the idea of a "blank slate" America is interesting and at least a little valid (but what about American Indians?), Leland tries to tackle too big a topic for one book.

Where Leland succeeds is where he talks about music. In-depth biographies, trivia tidbits and explications of style form complete pictures of American

music scenes. The blues, jazz, punk, grunge and rap are given due time, though Leland doesn't quite make it into the 21st century with indie rock or the elusive emo. Leland's knowledge is so immense and his writing style so fast-paced and engaging, the book could be an excellent primer on American music. That is, if he didn't try to squeeze in so much other stuff.

The chapters on hip literature are interesting, especially those that explore the lives of Beat writers such as Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg. Leland

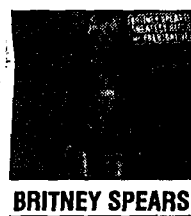
HIP, see Page 9

Spears brings back classics; 'Truth' should be deployed

Though some may argue she's lost her touch, "Greatest Hits: My Prerogative" is a two-disk set that proves Britney Spears still reigns as princess of bubblegum pop.

The first disk includes golden oldies like "Crazy" and "Oops I Did it Again," which still have the same overplayed feel as they did back when. But for those in need of some lip-synching a la Ashlee Simpson, the hits on this one will bring back the pigtails and plaid mini-skirts within. This disk also includes an abundance of newer, yet still overplayed, songs such as "Toxic" and "Me Against the Music," a duet with Madonna.

REVIEW



BRITNEY SPEARS
"Greatest Hits: My Prerogative"
★★★ (of 5)
Now available

The most noteworthy performance on the first disk is "My Prerogative," originally by Bobby Brown, which gives the song a refreshing twist. The lyrics conveniently pertain to her life and take on a more personal edge, yet still maintain that dance quality for which most of her songs are known.

While Britney has always had the "teen dream" title, the remixes and songs that were not previously released give a more sophisticated air to the music. The five remixes on the second disk have multiple talents behind the scenes who have taken pieces of popular works to maintain that "new hit" quality. However, the mixes extend to nearly nine minutes long, a feat that precious few songs can successfully achieve without being monotonous.

Unfortunately, these albums have not proven the pop idol has broken boundaries, but they do provide entertainment enough for those who have backed Britney from the "Hit Me Baby..." days.

April Prior

On either side of the party line, bad music is bad music. Drawing on his experience in the Gulf War, Dennis Kyne's rock album "Support the Truth" relies on war themes and his general frustrations with the world.

While Kyne promises thought-provoking songs about an experienced soldier, the record never actually delivers. The songs are drawn out, the acoustics

overpowering, and the lyrics are at times missing in action.

Kyne depends on the strength of his musicians and shock value of his controversial political lyrics.

Kyne is able to produce great work, as seen in the first track, "Ain't Goin' Back Again," reminiscent of '60s and '70s war protest songs. An aged quality in his voice propels the song to authenticity, and the slow tempo sets the mood for a classic war-torn narrative.

"Curbside," the second track, should be taken out with the trash. The lyrics come off whiny and do not play to Kyne's strengths. While describing life on the streets, Kyne sings, "I'm not the sinner/you see you are the one/soaking up everything and giving me none." The endless self-pity elongates the song and forces sympathy. Fortunately, sagging lyrics toward the end can be ignored and the music enjoyed.

It is easy to forget Kyne's flaws after listening to "Alzheimers." With descriptive lyrics and a creative theme, Kyne entices the listener with a smoky song about a lost soul. A low point is when backup vocals enter the piece, mimicking a slowly dying cow. After listening to the cow steadfastly drag the song on for more than five minutes, it becomes unbearably redundant.

The last track, "One in Ten," has a rapid pace and wonderful guitar, but the music quickly consumes the lyrics.

As Kyne sounds like an inaudible drunk, it's easy to tell that the song lacks the balance and professionalism necessary to keep the listener interested.

The only consistency on the album is the unflinching quality of the guitarist and drummer that carry the album along through each song. Kyne deserves credit for actually living through some of the lyrics, unlike most hollow songs that only give a pop-tartlet another reason to grate.

The idea for "Support the Truth" had a lot potential, but is an artistic disappointment. If Kyne sticks to his guns and records more crisp narratives like "Ain't Goin' Back Again," his musical mission might have a chance at success.

Abby Anderson

ARTSBRIEFS

Eldar says 'Do svidaniya' to this year's jazz fest

Eldar Djangirov, an 18-year-old Russian pianist who was a mainstay at the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, has pulled out of this year's lineup, according to a source at the jazz festival office. Djangirov would have been featured during Wednesday night's Pepsi International Jazz Concert along with Freddy Cole, Randy Brecker and a host of other musicians.

He was discovered in 1996 at a jazz fest in Novosibirsk, Russia. In 1998, he moved to the United States and started competing in festivals.

Djangirov first participated in the jazz piano competition during the 2001 Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and has returned as a performer ever since. He leads the Eldar Djangirov Trio and has recorded two CDs, "Eldar," released in May 2001 and "Handprints," released in June 2003.

Bucer's is packed full of music this weekend

The K. Queener Jazz Trio will perform on Friday night at Bucer's, and the Josh Kingsley Jazz Quartet plays Saturday. Both ensembles are composed of UI students. The jazz starts at 8 each night. There is no cover charge or age minimum for the concerts.

WSU seeks musicians for annual battle of the bands

The Student Entertainment Board at WSU is currently seeking bands to compete in April's "Battle of the Bands." All artists need to submit materials to the SEB office by Feb. 25 to be eligible for the competition. A fee of \$40 - \$15 for WSU students - is required. All genres of music will be considered.

Bands will be competing for a chance to open at SpringFest at the end of the semester. Various other prizes will also be awarded. Last year's winners opened for Cypress Hill, MxPx and Vendetta Red.

For more information on "Battle of the Bands" contact Sarah Lasky at (509) 335-3503.

Pink is WSU's color through Thursday

"Pink," a new art exhibit, will be at the Compton Union Gallery on the

WSU campus through Feb. 3. The exhibition is an installation of photography, documentary and environment.

The works explore issues of interest to women through personal anecdote and experience and were created by WSU staff member Anna Maria Shannon, along with documentary maker Brenda Congdon and photographer Beryl Striewski. The three will talk about the exhibit during a lunchtime lecture Thursday in the CUB.

Concert will benefit Clearwater preservation

Oracle Shack and Lisa Simpson will band together for the good of the Clearwater River Feb. 5 at the American Legion Cabin on Howard Street. Donations are accepted at the door and proceeds from the show will benefit Friends of the Clearwater.

The music starts at 6 p.m. and is open to all ages. Refreshments will be served.

Crumb is WSU's honored composer for 2005

University of Oregon professor David Crumb has been dubbed 2005's honored composer at the WSU's Festival of Contemporary Art Music.

WSU faculty will perform Crumb's compositions in a public concert at 8 p.m. Feb. 12 in Kimbrough Concert Hall. Student work will also be showcased at the festival.

Crumb was chosen because "his music is always dramatic, intense and eclectic," said Charles Argersinger, professor of composition at WSU and creator of the festival.

Pullman is alive with 'The Sound of Music' Feb. 25

The Pullman Civic Theatre will perform Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The Sound of Music," starting Feb. 25. Five performances are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. with one matinee at 2.

John Rich directs the play, with vocal direction by Rosemary Waldrop. The choral director is Dale Forrey. All advance tickets are \$10 and go on sale Feb. 1 at Dissmore's, Neill's Flowers and Gifts, and the Pullman Safeway. Tickets at the door are \$12 for adults and \$10 for children and seniors.

Before 'Rwanda,' Cheadle was 'Manic'

BY TYLER WILSON
ARGONAUT STAFF

Don Cheadle received a Best Actor Oscar nomination this week for his work in "Hotel Rwanda." However, that film is only playing on about 300 screens across the country. While its distributors take their sweet time bringing it to Idaho, check out his strong work in "Manic," an independent drama released to few theaters in 2002.

"Manic" centers on Lyle (Joseph Gordon-Levitt of "Third Rock from the Sun"), a teenager prone to violent rage who ends up in the juvenile ward of a mental institution. Cheadle plays David Monroe, a dedicated but frustrated therapist in the ward. Much of the film involves Cheadle presiding over discussions between Lyle and other troubled teenagers.



"MANIC" Now on DVD

While the film focuses primarily on Lyle, Cheadle's portrayal of a therapist who often feels powerless is the emotional center of director Jordan Melamed's film. Cheadle turns what is essentially a supporting role into a towering, emotional presence every time he enters a scene. Cheadle is not only playing the blunt, tough-loving father figure to these kids, but he's also deeply effective as the man trying to hold himself together.

The rest of the cast gives solid performances, which more than compensate for an unreasonable amount of shaky, handheld camera work. Sometimes handheld cinematography can enhance the realistic portrait of a situation, and sometimes, like in this film, it's done to total exhaustion. Many viewers will be put off by this style, and some may be disappointed by the lack of solutions to the problems presented in "Manic."

What is most evident in "Manic," however, is how Cheadle has slowly gone from a sharp supporting player in films like "Ocean's 11" and "Traffic" to a powerful leading man. Cheadle may be recognized for "Hotel Rwanda," but "Manic" proves he isn't a one-hit wonder.

NEW DVD'S THIS WEEK

AVP: Alien vs. Predator: Sanaa Lathan, Lance Henriksen, Aliens, Predators.

Tough call, but those things from "Phantoms" could take them both.

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow: Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow.

B-movie nerds unite. With live actors and entirely digital backgrounds, this actually works on some warped '50s sci-fi level. Plus, Angelina Jolie with an eye patch.

First Daughter: Katie Holmes, Michael Keaton.

Movie #2 about the President's daughter. It'll be tough to beat out that Mandy Moore blockbuster, "Chasing Liberty."

Metallica: Some Kind of Monster Documentary about the members of Metallica debating the outcome of "Alien vs. Predator."

UP TO THE MICROPHONE



Andrea Lewis plays with the rest of The Clumsy Lovers Jan. 21, at John's Alley.

DANIEL BICKLEY/ARGONAUT

RELIGION DIRECTORY

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Cohen is a chip off the old block

BY JIM FARBER
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

(KRT) - When most songwriters pen odes to ex-lovers, they usually have the courtesy to change their names. Adam Cohen, however, makes a point of putting their real names in his song titles.

"I find that the actual people are so happy to have their names used, I would never steal that pleasure from them," Cohen says. "Who doesn't want a song written about them?"

For Cohen's new CD - recorded with his L.A.-based band Low Millions - he has bestowed that honor on no fewer than four women: "Eleanor," "Julia," "Jane" and "Nikki." Lest the pattern elude you, he titled the album "Ex-Girlfriends."

Cohen would like to qualify that these relationships didn't occur in too narrow a period.

"I don't have that much energy," he says. "They were gathered over an appropriate time span."

Cohen's career has also progressed in a leisurely fashion. The 32-year-old son of legendary rock bard Leonard Cohen released a critically admired but commercially doomed self-titled solo album in 1998. He also worked for a while as a songwriter, with one number covered

by Bette Midler and others used on demos by k.d. lang and Mandy Moore.

In the last few years, Cohen has hedged his bets by cutting spirited pop-rock CDs with the Low Millions and simultaneously recording more languorous solo work in his second language, French. Born in Montreal, he lived for many years in France with his mother, who parted from his dad when he was young.

Clearly, the Low Millions have more commercial potential in America than Cohen's solo project. Though EMI released "Ex-Girlfriends" last fall, its single, "Eleanor," has lately been gaining traction on Adult Top 40 and Triple A radio formats.

It's a pop song with a capital P, festooned with lots of canny little hooks and savvy wordplays. "Pop songs invite the listener into their chambers in the most unobtrusive way," Cohen says. "You need to get the hook in without the listener knowing it. You have to plant your flag in the chest cavity of every listener without them saying, 'Oooh!'"

Cohen began crafting songs with the Low Millions several years ago. The other players are all in-demand, L.A. musicians-for-hire who've toiled for acts like John Mayer, Alanis Morissette, Five For Fighting

and Ricky Fante. He admits that, when making the Low Millions album, "it was tough to convince everyone in the band that this was a project that would have legs. But as soon as the album came out and it picked up momentum, the fidelity of the people involved became more apparent. They became less like ex-girlfriends and more like current ones. Of course there's still the pesky phone call from John Mayer saying, 'I want my guitarist back.'"

The singer admits his father's advice came into play on the album, "whether I invited it in or not," he says with a laugh. "But, trust me, I invite it all the time. No one can pay enough money to have Leonard Cohen stand over your shoulder and say, 'This is good work, this is not good work.' I am the beneficiary of his taste and wisdom and experience."

Cohen maintains a close relationship with his dad, avoiding the self-consciousness of other offspring of famous parents. "I've been present at commiserations between the 'Sons of club," he says. "And I've managed to refrain from commenting. I pride myself on that. It must be frustrating for them. They're always waiting for the sob story from the Cohen kid."

Coincidence or consequence?

The Office of Information Awareness: Conspiracy or shadowy cabal?

My dedicated readers may have noticed I haven't been writing the conspiracy column in a while. You deserve an explanation, so here it is.

What started as a totally innocent mescaline-binge turned terrifying recently when I was kidnapped by a group of giant, extra-terrestrial shape-shifting reptilian henchmen. I won't go into details (mostly because it's all pretty foggy). All I know is that I woke up a week or so later on the floor of a Tijuana brothel.

The lizards apparently took all my money, tattooed "Montrose Rules!" on an "occult" portion of my anatomy and left me lying in a pool of someone's vomit. Except for the gang-probe it was the most horrifying experience of my life. No need to worry - this is the risk I take for knowing too much, and sharing that knowledge. After an embarrassing trip to the doctor and a shot of penicillin, I was no worse for wear.

Anyway, based on my own experience, every one of us knows that the government is involved in a slew of shady conspiring. These conspiracies range in believability from "pretty positive," (kidnapping lizards) to "totally super-positive," (JFK's assassination).

As much as they try to hide it, sometimes it seems like the government delights in just rubbing it in. One such example is the recently created Homeland Security intelligence-gathering apparatus known as the Information Awareness Office, a clandestine subdivision that succeeds in sounding both dully bureaucratic and frighteningly Orwellian.

The IAO is an all-purpose spook-collective that specializes in monitoring e-mail and cell-phone traffic for suspect interaction, along with "biometric signature identification of humans," and transactional espionage. Among the entities monitored under the lackluster-sounding rubric of "transactional" concerns are financial, educational, travel, medical, veterinary (do you really want to know why?), county entry, place/event entry, transportation, housing, critical resources and government communications.

So basically, they're monitoring everything they learn in some huge, evil, HAL-like database using advanced "Echelon" computer technology. Actually, the last sentence was copied almost verbatim from their mission statement. That's pretty creepy, and made more so by their selection of a logo, which is, I kid you not, a big illuminati pyramid hovering above the Earth. The globe is being spotlighted by an encompassing beam of light shining from the all-seeing eye of the pyramid. OK, so it's a little suspect.

The director of the IAO is John Poindexter. That doesn't sound too bad, right? With a name like Poindexter he couldn't be an evil genius, could he? *Sigh* He is.

Poindexter was appointed director on February 13, 2002 (probably a Friday). Before sitting at the helm of the IAO, Poindexter was Ronald Reagan's national security adviser. During his term as NSA under Reagan he was accused of smuggling cocaine by the Costa Rican government and convicted of lying to Congress, destroying evidence relating to the Iran-Contra scandal, defrauding American taxpayers out of their money and (I swear I'm not making this up) conspiracy. Now our president (Skull and Bones, remember) has placed him in charge of possibly the world's most advanced information acquisition unit.

Listed on their Web site is the following IAO plan for combating terrorism: "The most serious threat facing the United States is terrorism, a threat characterized by collections of people loosely organized in shadowy networks that are difficult to identify and define."

Does this sound like carte blanche to investigate everyone on the planet? What if you and a few of your buddies are having trouble deciding on a bowling team and trying a couple of different ones out? Would you qualify as a terrorist under IAO's standards? Probably.

However, for all my cynicism, I wouldn't let any of this worry you. After all, the illuminati pyramid is keeping an eye out for you with some loosely defined parameters lorded over by a felon convicted of fraud, perjury and conspiracy. How could that kind of thing possibly be bad?

FRANK MCGOVERN
Argonaut Staff



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

HIP

From Page 7

devotes so much time to music, though, that the literature sections don't quite have room to shine.

What's worse is when he starts cramming in a little commentary on film, visual art, technology, cartoons and social climate. While these topics are certainly vital to hipness, it just doesn't work to squish them all together.

While "Hip: the History" leaves readers able to answer more Trivial Pursuit questions and talk knowledgeably about race relations and culture, the mix of differently weighted topics makes for a tiring, long read.

If you're fascinated with pop culture, especially music, give the book a go. You won't regret it, but you may feel a little worn out by the end.

CORETTA SCOTT

From Page 7

Coretta Scott barely has time to travel from town to town. But despite all the obstacles, the band has managed to stay on top and become one of the most well known bands to come out of Spokane. With an unmatched work ethic and a true love for the music, the members of Coretta Scott have set their goals high and are looking at a bright future.

For more info on Coretta Scott, check out their website at www.corettascott.com.

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Tonight: Spokane - Fat Tuesday's (109 West Pacific)	Coretta Scott & Clarity Process
Coretta Scott	Best Kept
Clarity Process & The Midnight Society	7 p.m., \$5
7 p.m., \$5	Sunday: Coeur d'Alene Tea House (401 2nd St.)
Saturday: Clarkston Grange hall (corner of Appleside/22nd in the Heights)	Coretta Scott & Clarity Process
	Death To Grays & Savior Too Late
	7 p.m., \$5

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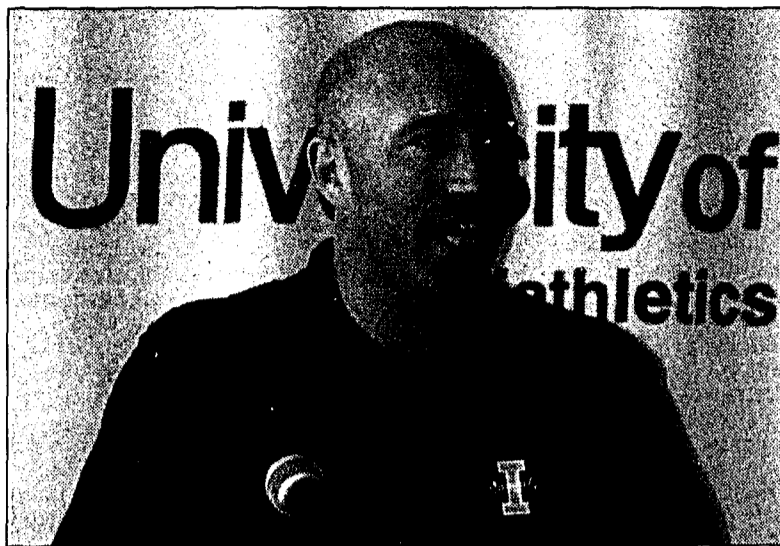
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ARGONAUT

SPORTS & REC



JARED DESJARLAIS / ARGONAUT
Peter Showler gives a short speech about his plans for the women's soccer team Wednesday after accepting his new position as head coach.

Fresh face joins Idaho's coaching ranks

Spear announces new soccer coach

BY BRENNAN GAUSE
SPORTS&REC EDITOR

The last couple of years have been a bit disappointing for the Idaho women's soccer program, but on Wednesday it took a step that it hopes will change things.

At an afternoon press conference, Rob Spear, the University of Idaho athletic director, announced the hiring of Peter Showler as the soccer program's new coach. The team's previous coach, Royce "Arby" Busey, resigned Dec. 13, 2004. Busey had gone 8-40 in three years as

the Vandal head coach.

"When we looked at all the applications we felt it was very important to bring somebody in that came from a proven system," Spear told an audience of players, Idaho staff members, press and fans. "Pete surely is coming from a proven system. We wanted someone that had great on-field coaching experience, and ... we wanted someone who could fit in with our community."

Showler, a native of England, comes to Idaho from Portland State University where, as an assistant coach, he helped lead the Vikings to a Big Sky

Championship last season. While PSU was his latest coaching position, Showler has more than 17 years of experience as a coach. In addition to his coaching experience, Showler played college and semi-pro soccer in England.

"I'm very, very excited to take this opportunity," Showler said. "I came in last week, got a great feel from the staff here and from the girls. ... We're going to turn it (the program) around and take it to the next level."

"I want to create a legacy. ... With a new coach we're going to instill a new regime here which will allow the girls to take their athletic abilities, hone their technical and tactical skills and put it together on the field. The only

way this program can go is up." For a team that returns a majority of its players, a new coaching staff seems to be a positive change.

"I think we're all really, really excited," junior midfielder/defender Caitlyn Wicks said. "He (Showler) has a lot of experience, and it's really evident that he wants to be here with our program. I think he's exactly what we need to move forward."

Showler, who is now the third coach in the program's seven-year history, said he realizes that Idaho will possibly struggle while it adjusts to a new conference and a new coach, but feels positive about the program's outlook.

COACH, see Page 11

Oh Lebron, revenge will be a delight

Last year I took on the future of the NBA in a segment I called Lebron vs. Gause, and despite the bias of the author of the column (myself), Lebron emerged victorious in convincing fashion.

The sad thing was Lebron didn't just squeak out a victory, but he also managed to destroy my pride and self-confidence with ease. Though in my defense, I didn't really have much of either of those to begin with.

BRENNAN GAUSE
Sports&Rec Editor



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

But, like a slow-motion scene in a Hollywood movie, the count has reached eight and I'm struggling to my feet. On the mat lies a mixture of blood, sweat, urine and dreams, yet I'm not done.

I've had a year to turn my life around, so weak-kneed and wobbly, I'm getting back into the fight for Round II of Lebron vs. Gause.

Lebron: Has a child.
Brennan: Was told by several women that he was undateable because he "acted like a child."

Advantage: Lebron. Women seem to find a man with a cute little baby sexier than a guy who still has to staple a \$20 bill and a "Please help me" note to his shirt when traveling.

Lebron: Is showcased every week on TV, whether in a game or just in highlights.

Brennan: The only TV exposure he'll get is on "Cops" as the pale, skinny man who's been kicked out of his house in his boxers and is hurling drunken insults at his pregnant girlfriend.

Advantage: Lebron. But I bet I'll have a bigger fan base among the NASCAR demographic.

Lebron: Will be racking up triple-doubles for years to come.

Brennan: Most likely, the only time Brennan will be able to use the phrase triple-double is when describing his future dates.

Advantage: Lebron. Hey, love doesn't have a weight limit. Don't judge me.

Lebron: Steady diet of playing against NBA players has left his body sleek and muscular.

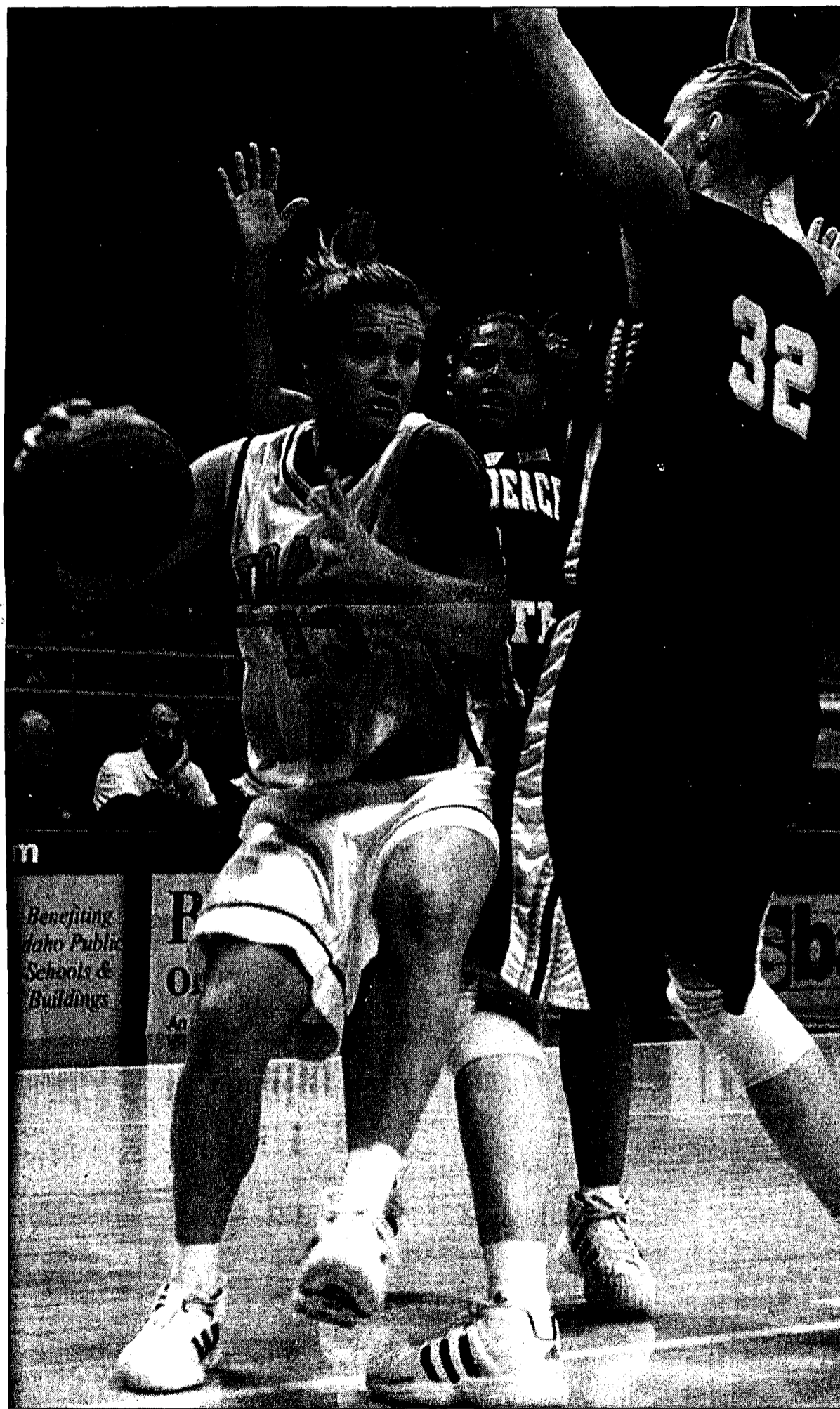
Brennan: Steady diet of cheap beer, Papa John's garlic butter and corned beef hash has left his body pale and greasy.

Advantage: Lebron. Seriously, each one of those garlic butter packets must be taking a year off of my life.

Lebron: Traveled to Athens to represent the United States in the summer Olympics.

Brennan: Traveled to the hospital after eating something that had turned black in the back of his fridge because, and I quote, "it had an enticing smell."

LEBRON, see Page 11



JARED DESJARLAIS / ARGONAUT
Sophomore Karly Felton dodges Long Beach State players as she drives for the basket during Thursday's game in the Cowan Spectrum. The Vandals will take on UC Irvine Saturday at 7 p.m. in the Cowan Spectrum.

Idaho topples top-ranked foe

BY SHAWN CAFFERTY
ARGONAUT STAFF

The Idaho women's basketball team continued its hot conference play, knocking off top-ranked Long Beach State Thursday night in Cowan Spectrum, 70-55.

In a game that started off slowly, it was the Vandals (11-6, 6-2) who caught on when it counted as they outscored the 49ers (11-5, 6-2) 28-14 in the final 12 minutes.

"What I thought was the big difference in the second half was that our defense really stepped it up," Idaho post Emily Faurholt said about the team's second-half success against Long Beach State.

Both LBSU and Idaho, who rank two and four respectively in offensive output in the Big West, started off the game struggling to score. After nine minutes of play Idaho held an 11-4 lead and went into the break up 29-27 despite shooting only 3 of 16 from behind the 3-point arc.

After halftime Faurholt and point guard Leilani Mitchell began to take over the game. The 49ers knocked in a basket to start the half, but Faurholt rattled off five straight points to push Idaho's lead to 36-29. The Vandals extended their lead thanks to a couple of steals and offensive rebounds from Mitchell, who finished with 19 points, six rebounds, four steals and three assists, but then the 49ers began to battle back.

With 12 minutes to play, Long Beach State closed the gap to 42-41. With their lead dwindling and their third leading scorer, wing Heather Thelke, sitting on the bench with three personal fouls, the Vandals stepped it up.

Faurholt hit the front end of a trip to the free-throw line, and freshman Stephanie Sax came up with the offensive rebound when she missed the second. Sax kicked the ball out to Faurholt, who drained a three to make it a four-point trip down the court for Idaho. From there on out, it was all Vandals as they knocked the 49ers from their perch atop the Big West standings. Going into the game, Long Beach State was tied with UC Santa Barbara with a 6-1 conference record with Idaho in second at 5-2.

"They are a very, very talented team," Idaho coach Mike Divilbiss said. "Any time that you make a mistake, they make you pay and they are really athletic."

Faurholt finished with a game-high 26 points, but one of the big differences for the Vandals was the play of freshman Jessica Summers, who posted a double-double in 35 minutes of play. Summers finished with 11 points and nabbed an impressive 14 boards.

"Jessica did a great job for us in the middle of the zone," Divilbiss said. "She gives us a tremendous space eater that just gets in front of the post, and she got some huge rebounds for us, and that has been a real weakness for us. I thought she really stepped up in that area."

Aisha Horn led LBSU with 14 points on 6-of-19 shooting and finished with 14 rebounds. The only other 49er to finish in double digits in scoring was Fernanda Santos. Crystal McCutcheon, who was 11th in the Big West in scoring going into the game with an average of 11.7 points per game, was held to seven points on 3-of-13 shooting.



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Next game

• UC Irvine

7 p.m., Saturday
Cowan Spectrum

Vandals intend to break more records at Cougar Invite

BY MACKENZIE STONE
ARGONAUT STAFF

The Vandals are heading back to Washington State for another competition with more athletes and less nerves.

Members of the track and field team competed in the WSU Open Jan. 21 and 22 in their first meet of the indoor season, snatching several first-place finishes.

Senior Tassie Souhrada won the women's high jump with a mark of 5-8 despite having recently recovered from a stress fracture. The injury prohibited her from practicing over the winter break, yet she still set a record for the WSU Open, beating the 5-7 set by Whitney Evans two years ago.

"I was able to come out and start com-

peting well in the first meet," Souhrada said. "I went from a short approach because I was hurt all Christmas break and didn't get to practice."

As of Jan. 25, Souhrada's jump placed her as the 2005 Western Athletic Conference leader in the high jump.

Souhrada will compete at the Cougar Invite on Saturday, but will change from a short approach to a long approach, which she thinks will make her jump higher. She hopes to win the high jump again at the invite, but is focusing more on her technique and form over the bar.

"At this time of the year it is more important for her to jump well technically than to focus on winning or losing," coach Wayne Phipps said.

The women's high jump is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Idaho's Heather Hoek will take the 400-

meter dash in a time of 1 minute, 0.7 seconds. Freshmen Marie Errecart and Amy Keller placed third and fourth.

Idaho swept the men's weight throw. Matthew Wauters placed first with a throw of 60-1 1/4. His teammates, Russ Winger and Marcus Mattox, finished second and third. Winger finished second in the shot put and set a personal record with a throw of 54-11 1/4. All three competed unattached in the WSU Open.

For the women, Jennifer Broncheau fouled at 55 feet but won the weight throw with a mark of 51-4 1/4. Shanna Lytle finished close behind Broncheau with a throw of 49 2 1/4, giving her second place.



TRACK AND FIELD

Next meet

• Cougar Invite
2:30 p.m. Today
Pullman

"This weekend I will be more relaxed. I know what to expect of myself and I know I will perform better because the first meet is done and over with," Broncheau said.

Broncheau said she will attempt to throw at least 54 feet, which would be the second-farthest throw in UI history.

With the jitters of the first meet gone for these athletes, they will compete against four teams today and Saturday at the Indoor Practice Facility in Pullman. The four schools competing at the Cougar Invite are Idaho, Utah State, California and Washington State.

The first pentathlon event will begin

today at 2:30 p.m. The meet will continue at 9 a.m. Saturday.

The Vandals are sending more athletes to the Cougar Invite than the WSU open, said Phipps. The team will be represented in a larger variety of events, including more distance runners.

The Vandals will continue to train through this meet without any rest, as their focus is on the meets at the end of the season. The competition will be more intense at the Cougar Invite because the athletes will be competing against more schools and more people.

"With the different schools we are competing against, they bring more competition and push people harder," Souhrada said. "When you have more people you can compete hard against, then that's when our team typically excels."

U.S. federation, players end standoff but still lack deal

BY STEVE DAVIS
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

(KRT) - The danger of labor discord threatening the country's potential spot at World Cup 2006 has passed.

But it seems an uneasy peace, at best. And the final battle has merely been postponed.

The previously anonymous U.S. Soccer Players Association and the sport's domestic governing body, U.S. Soccer, have compromised in the short term but remain without a long-term collective bargaining agreement.

Both sides agreed on a no-strike, no-lockout provision through the end of 2005. With that, U.S. manager Bruce

Arena immediately called in 28 players, all based in the United States, to begin preparing for the Feb. 9 contest at Trinidad and Tobago.

The match opens a 10-game schedule in final-round qualifying. Mexico and the United States headline a group of six teams seeking three spots at Germany 2006.

But it all seemed to be unraveling for the Americans in December and January, as the players were either striking or locked out, depending on whom you believed.

Matters devolved to the point that Arena called in players from the margins of U.S. pro soccer. The highly secret roster of replacements has since been dismissed from the Home Depot Center.

Compromise was achieved

on short-term compensation; the players association agreed to accept the federation's most recent offer, a 38 percent pay increase.

The players union is seeking a significantly larger pay raise, while U.S. Soccer says its men already rank at the top of the list in international match compensation. The players' wages for internationals are separate from the (sometimes substantial) pay they receive from clubs.

Both sides claimed some degree of victory. U.S. Soccer was more magnanimous; the players association loudly trumpeted its perceived triumph.

The federation and the players association have agreed to continue negotiating toward a long-term collective bargaining

agreement.

And there's the rub: Short of more substantial compromise, both sides could be facing off across the negotiating table at this time next year - five months before the World Cup, assuming the Americans make it.

World Cup tickets up for grabs starting Tuesday

The first phase of ticket sales for Germany 2006 begins Tuesday, as FIFA releases 812,000 seats to the public through www.fifaworldcup.com.

Fans have until March 31 to apply for the tickets, which will then be distributed via an April 15 lottery. The sale is not first-come, first-served.

MasterCard is the only credit card accepted during the initial phase, according to FIFA.

SPORTSSTANDINGS

Big West men's basketball standings (through Jan. 24)

	Conference		Pct.	Overall		Pct.
	W	L		W	L	
Pacific	9	0	1.000	14	2	.875
Cal State Northridge	7	2	.778	9	8	.529
Idaho	5	2	.714	7	11	.389
Utah State	4	3	.571	13	5	.722
UC Santa Barbara	4	4	.500	7	9	.438
UC Irvine	3	4	.429	9	6	.600
Cal State Fullerton	3	4	.429	8	7	.533
UC Riverside	2	5	.286	6	10	.375
Cal Poly	1	7	.125	3	13	.188
Long Beach State	0	7	.000	2	15	.118

Big West women's basketball standings (through Jan. 22)

	Conference		Pct.	Overall		Pct.
	W	L		W	L	
Long Beach State	6	1	.857	11	4	.733
UC Santa Barbara	6	1	.857	9	7	.563
Idaho	5	2	.714	10	6	.625
Utah State	4	3	.571	9	7	.563
UC Riverside	4	3	.571	8	7	.533
Cal State Northridge	4	4	.500	8	7	.533
Cal Poly	3	4	.429	9	6	.600
Pacific	2	6	.250	4	11	.267
UC Irvine	1	6	.143	2	13	.133
Cal State Fullerton	1	6	.143	2	13	.133

LEBRON

From Page 10

Advantage: Lebron. There's just something more impressive and romantic about representing your country on the world's greatest athletic stage then leeching blood from eating bad food.

Lebron: Is sixth in the NBA in scoring with 25.0 points per game.

Brennan: Refuses to disclose what his "scoring" average is because negative numbers make a person look bad when he's breaking it down at the bars.

Advantage: Lebron. His stats are going to lead to him being a starter at the All-Star game; Brennan's stats are going

to lead to him being showcased on Blind Date as the guy who utters lines like, "You smell better than my dog when she's in heat."

All right, so once again Lebron obliterated me. But, like NBA coaches say after a particularly humiliating loss, I'm going to keep putting my best foot forward. I feel like I have the tal-

ent to be something special, and if I keep working hard good things will happen. Tomorrow's another day, and I'll be ready to rebound from this defeat. Either that or I'll turn into the Atlanta Hawks and suffer losses year after year.

Whatever, at least I'll always have my self-respect and pride - if Lebron would be so kind as to return them.

COACH

From Page 10

"Things will turn around," Showler said, "but I'm not going to stand here ... and say we're going to win a conference next year. But we want to take baby steps and step in the right direction."

The first couple of months on the job will be busy ones for Showler. The recruiting season is already in full swing, and Showler hopes to find an assistant coach by July.

"The program's a little bit behind; I don't feel I am," Showler said. "Since I took the

position on Friday, I've made an awful lot of calls. I was down at the Regional Championships for ODP (Olympic Development Program) in Vegas. Spoke to a lot of coaches about players who potentially may be transferring or released. I've also worked for New Mexico ODP and that allows me to get out and see more players in an area we probably wouldn't get to normally.

"Yes we're behind, but boy I'm going to work hard to get us back where we need to be."

Showler commented on the state of soccer in Idaho as far as finding local recruits, saying it is definitely improving but that "eastern Washington,

Washington and Oregon are going to be the staple diet ... probably for players we'll bring in."

Besides bringing in recruits and new coaches, Showler will be bringing a new attitude to the program.

"I think a lot of individual and team things need to be improved," sophomore defender Megan Dunn said. "I think it became acceptable to go, 'Oh, we lost another game,' and I think with the new hiring, the new conference and the new start I think everything will be turning around, and we'll no longer be accepting the mediocrity that we have been for two years."

SPORTSBRIEFS

Vandal football recruits to be revealed at reception

The newest additions to the Idaho football squad will be announced Wednesday (national letter of intent day). The names will be announced at 6:30 p.m. at a public reception hosted by the Latah County Vandal Boosters at the Best Western University Inn in Moscow.

Coach Nick Holt will announce the list of signees and will also show videos of the recruits in action. Hors d'oeuvres will be served and a no-host bar will be available. A \$5 donation is being asked, and all Vandal fans are encouraged to be on hand to meet the coaches and discuss the prospects for the coming football season.

The reception is one of many activities planned by the Latah County Vandal Boosters. President Mike Dambra said the boosters continue to sponsor luncheons at noon every Monday at the University Inn featuring speakers from the UI athletic department. Next Monday men's basketball coach Leonard Perry and swim coach Tom Jager will be the guest speakers.

Freshmen charge to Big West Swimmer of the Week Awards

UC Irvine freshman Randall Tom broke a 15-year-old UC Irvine record in the 100-yard butterfly (48.87) on his way to a total of three event victories against UC San Diego. Tom secured his second Big West Male Swimmer of the Week award with two more records - a pool record in the 200 butterfly (1:48.97) and another Anteaer record in the 200 medley relay (1:31.55), having blazed to a 22.01 in his butterfly leg of the race. The previous relay record had stood for 13 years.

Pacific freshman Ja-Nell Bragg earned her first Big West Female Swimmer of the Week honor after helping her Pacific squad tack up two dual-meet wins. Against UC Santa Barbara, Bragg won three events and hit an NCAA consideration time in the 200 IM (2:04.19). She went 1:52.40 in the 200 freestyle and hit her fastest 500 freestyle mark of the season at 4:59.65. Against Cal State Northridge, Bragg won the 200 breaststroke (2:24.69) in her first race in that event this season.

SPORTSCALENDAR

Today

UI swimming vs. Oregon State and WSU Corvallis, Ore.

UI track and field at Cougar Invite Pullman

UI women's tennis at LCSC TBA, Lewiston

Saturday

UI women's tennis at WSU 9 a.m., Lewiston

UI track and field at Cougar Invite Pullman

UI women's basketball vs. UC Irvine 7 p.m., Cowan Spectrum

UI men's basketball at UC Irvine 7:05 p.m., Irvine, Calif.

Outdoor Program Silver Mountain day trip 6:30 a.m. Women's snowshoeing trip Flat Creek Cabin

Sunday

Outdoor Program Women's snowshoeing trip Flat Creek Cabin

Intramurals Racquetball (D) play begins 3-point shootout play begins

Monday

Intramurals Dodgeball play begins

Wednesday

UI football national letter of intent day 6:30 p.m., Best Western University Inn

Thursday

UI women's basketball vs. UC Santa Barbara 7 p.m., Cowan Spectrum

UI men's basketball at UC Santa Barbara 7:05 p.m., Santa Barbara, Calif.

Note: Intramurals - Entries for team sports will be 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.

Sports calendar items must be submitted in writing or e-mailed to arg_sports@uidaho.edu by Sunday or Wednesday before publication.

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SLURP & BURP

New rules tone down recruiting excesses

BY TEDDY GREENSTEIN
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

(KRT) — D.J. Hord's recruiting trips to Notre Dame, Wisconsin and Kansas State featured quality time with coaches and players — not strippers.

A midnight curfew at all three schools kept the focus on football and academics.

Hord, a wide receiver from Kansas City rated as Missouri's top prospect, said older players told him the culture around campus visits had changed since their days as recruits. Fun has been redefined.

"Yeah," Hord says. "A lot of players told me that."

The first recruiting season since the NCAA passed emergency legislation in August that called for an end to "the culture of entitlement and celebrity" concludes Wednesday with national signing day.

NCAA officials, horrified by stories about drunken orgies, strip-club visits, private jets and lobster-tail feasts,

enacted rules requiring schools to ban alcohol-fueled parties and to house recruits in "standard" facilities, preferably dorm rooms rather than lavish hotel suites. Schools were encouraged, but not required, to set curfews.

Colorado went several steps further after allegations of sexual assaults and reports that escorts had been provided for recruits. The school adopted an 11 p.m. curfew and called for campus visits to be supervised by a parent or assistant coach.

Anecdotal evidence around the country suggests the new rules have taken the life out of the party, but ESPN.com recruiting analyst Tom Lemming isn't so sure.

Lemming, who spent significant time with 80 of the nation's top recruits before the U.S. Army All-American Bowl on Jan. 15 in San Antonio, said he heard players talk about going to parties replete with drinking and marijuana use.

"People have already forgotten about last year," he said. "Colorado is

the only school paying the price right now.

"The partying is still going on, especially in the South. Coaches play dumb, and the players know what to say in front of the media. They don't want to get any schools in trouble."

What cannot be denied, however, is that schools no longer can use private planes to transport recruits to and from campus.

Two other new rules made recruiting trips more about business and less about pleasure. The NCAA put an end to female hostess groups, such as Georgia Tech's Solid Gold Girls. Now student-hosts must be athletes or campus tour guides who sign a form acknowledging the rules.

And the NCAA no longer allows schools to give recruits personalized jerseys or let them run out onto the field with their name on the stadium scoreboard.

In April the NCAA will consider more changes, including a proposal to allow a school to pay for transportation

for a parent or guardian to accompany a recruit to campus.

Colorado, meanwhile, managed to attract a solid recruiting class less than a year after coach Gary Barnett was suspended and nearly lost his job in the midst of a sex scandal that made national headlines.

After reinstating Barnett in May, the university announced tough new rules. Recruiting visits would be limited to 36 hours, would occur primarily in the off-season and would be supervised by a parent or coach. Recruits had to return to their rooms at 11 p.m.

Barnett, the former Northwestern coach, said this week that the policies didn't hamper recruiting.

"The biggest impact was the public flogging we took," he said. "We could have arrived at many of the things without being humiliated. All the public flogging did was cost us (recruits) because it occurred in May, when kids narrow down their list to five to eight schools. I wasn't in place then, and we got eliminated by a lot of kids."

Still, Barnett landed a respectable class that rivals.com ranks 41st of 117. Division I-A teams. It didn't hurt that Colorado, picked to finish as low as fifth in the six-team Big 12 North, reached the conference title game before getting pummeled by Oklahoma. The Buffaloes finished 8-5 after beating UTEP in the Houston Bowl.

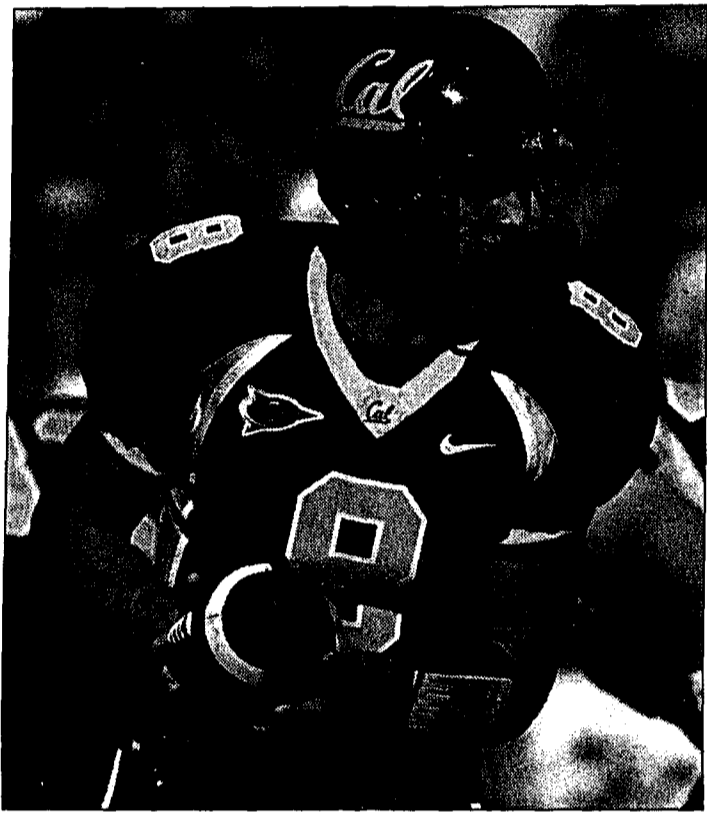
"We'll have a really good class, one of those under-the-radar classes," Barnett said. "We didn't get many four-star guys, but we usually don't anyway."

Colorado also softened its rules in two instances. The school allowed Barnett to play host to three recruits on a home football weekend because of a potential scheduling conflict with other schools.

During one recruiting weekend in January, recruits were allowed to spend three to four unsupervised hours with current players.

"Before that they were chaperoned 24/7," Barnett said.

After Smith and Rodgers, quarterbacks up for grabs in NFL draft



Cal quarterback Aaron Rodgers had 275-yards passing and threw three touchdowns in Cal's 28-27 victory over Oregon this fall.

BY MARLA RIDENOUR
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

(KRT) — Akron's Charlie Frye can be the third quarterback selected in the 2005 draft with a strong performance at this week's Senior Bowl.

At least that's what ESPN analyst Mel Kiper Jr. believes is at stake for Frye during four days of practice and Saturday's North vs. South showdown at Ladd-Peebles Stadium.

Except for the order, there's no dispute over the top two — juniors Alex Smith of Utah and Aaron Rodgers of California. But Kiper said Tuesday that the No. 3 spot is up for grabs between four players competing in Mobile, Ala. — the North's Frye, Kyle Orton of Purdue and Dan Orlovsky of Connecticut, and the South's Jason Campbell of Auburn.

"This is a big week for (Frye), but I don't think it's any more of a big week than it is for Jason Campbell or Kyle Orton or Dan Orlovsky," Kiper said. "Whoever's the third quarterback is a second-rounder. The fourth and fifth quarterbacks could be third-, fourth- or fifth-rounders."

Slipping that far wouldn't just be a blow to the ego; it would mean a loss of thousands of dollars.

But Kiper expects good things out of Frye here. In his Dec. 1 rankings before juniors declared, Kiper listed Frye as his top quarterback, with Campbell, Orlovsky and Orton two through four. Kiper remains a Frye fan.

"I like the way he played against some of the big-time teams on their schedule, Virginia and Penn State," Kiper said. "He hung in there, he threw a lot of short passes. He didn't have an offensive line, he didn't have skill people around him and he still put up numbers. He's got a good, quick release. He moves to the left or right. He put on weight in his career; he went from 175 to 225. I like his demeanor. I like his awareness on the field. I thought he had the skill level to play in the NFL."

"I thought if he came down here and did well, he had a chance to solidify a spot in round two. I don't know about first round; I think that's debatable."

The biggest thing Kiper said Frye must prove this week is that he can throw deep, which he start-

ed to demonstrate Tuesday morning with top-notch targets like Purdue's Taylor Stubblefield and Oklahoma's Mark Clayton.

"You can't go wrong throwing to those guys," Frye said afterward.

Frye had every reason to be nervous when he stepped onto the FieldTurf at 9:30 a.m. One side of the stadium was filled with coaches, scouts and general managers, with a scattered crowd on the other side. But Frye said he didn't see them.

"I didn't even look up there during practice," he said.

Splitting time with Orton and Orlovsky, Frye wasn't sweating much when the hour-and-a-half session ended. During one drill, he threw a pass to each side of the field, then stepped aside.

"It went a lot smoother today," Frye said. "I worked out some of the wrinkles, got a better understanding of what's going on as far as the plays. I felt a lot more comfortable out here."

There is a difference of opinion on how much one week will mean to Frye. One AFC assistant said, "If you draft players off all-star games, you're losing." But others say the Senior Bowl is more

important for Frye, because he didn't play in a conference like the Big Ten or Pac-10.

"The Mid-American is a nice conference now. I don't view him the same as I would a I-AA player," Kiper said. "(North Carolina State's) Philip Rivers came down here last year and made himself a high first-round pick when it looked like he would be a late first, early second going in. Patrick Ramsey became a late first-round pick. You have had some instances where quarterbacks have helped themselves dramatically."

What Kiper looks at primarily with Frye is "how he throws and how he moves and how he makes decisions and how he reacts to these types of practices when he's thrown in there with a bunch of new guys."

"You can't overreact to this for a quarterback because his timing is going to be off," Kiper said. "But he has the skill level to play."

That was also the pronouncement of one NFC quarterbacks coach who has seen Frye for two days.

"I thought he came around today, was more consistent," the coach said. "He belongs."

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Job #131 Personal Assistant. Assist disabled individual with shopping, cleaning, cooking, and recreational activities. Qualifications: Will be required to take CPR, first aid, and pass a background check with state of Idaho if hired, employer will pay for all. 40hrs/wk/could be PT. Pay-\$7/hr. Job located in Moscow.

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