

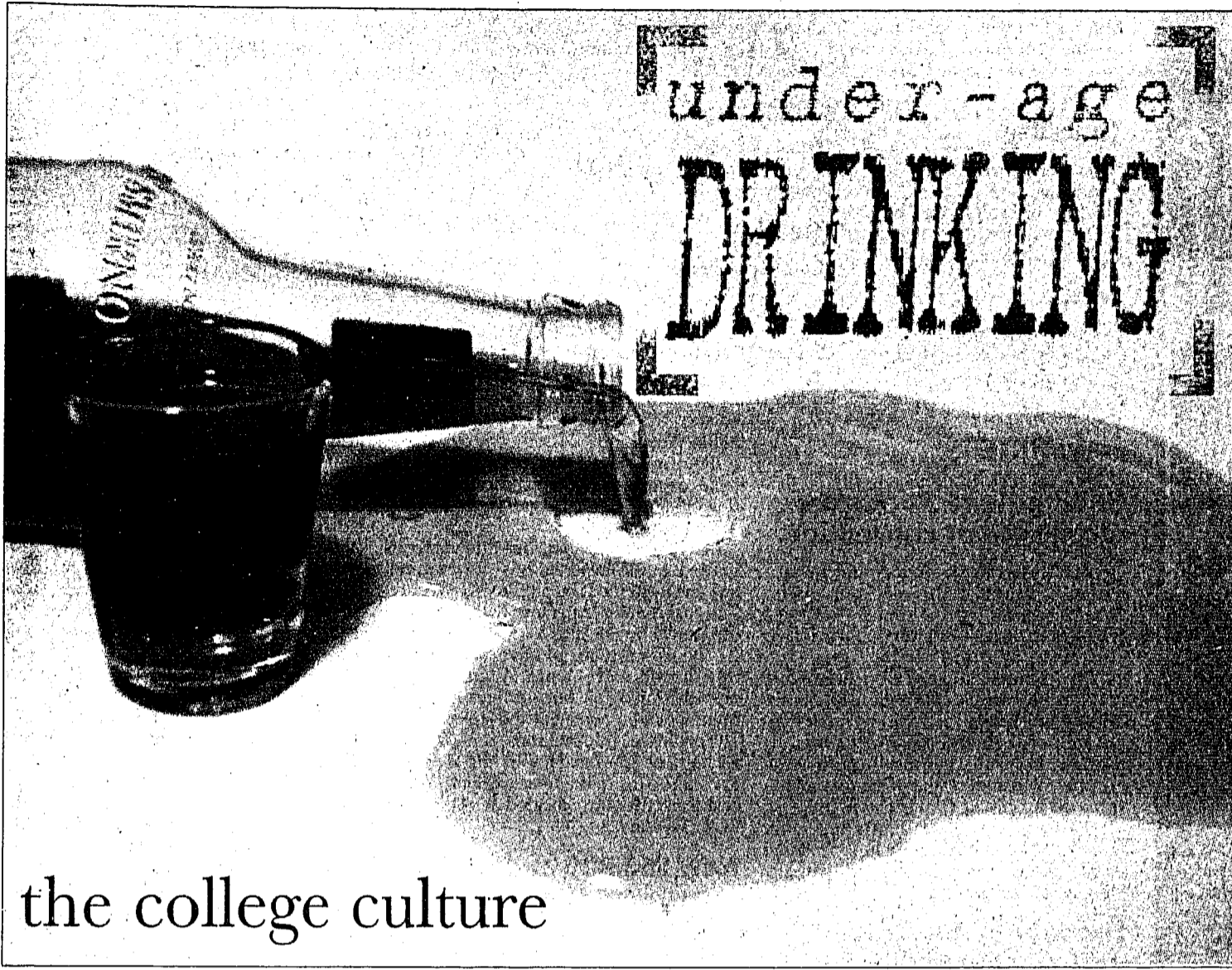
# THE ARGONAUT

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

The Vandal Voice Since 1898

Volume 1, No. 57

137 62



## the college culture

Photo illustration by Lisa Wareham/Argonaut

By Cynthia Reynaud  
Argonaut

As freshmen prepare to enter the world of college this fall, beer cans will join textbooks on the top of several back-to-school lists.

This comes as no surprise to UI staff who have witnessed the trend of excessive drinking in freshmen for decades. But in recent years, the university has decided to approach the situation with a different strategy than telling students to just say no.

"I think we recognize that we're not going to get rid of it," said Sharon Fritz, program director at the Counseling and Testing Center and lead researcher in a study done on alcohol trends in students on the UI campus. "But we want to reduce the harm and consequences that go along with it."

According to a recent national study conducted by the Harvard School of Public Health, two in three (63 percent) underage students reported drinking in the past 30 days.

The study also showed underage college students drink less frequently but drink more per occasion than older students.

UI student Holli Fackrell attested to the reality of this report.

As a freshman at UI, Fackrell said she drank more than five drinks a night, three to four times a week. And not because of peer pressure, she said, but out of the excitement of being in new place with new people.

"I had a lot of free time on my hands," she said. "Going out and drinking was the best way to meet new people. And there were always older people around in your classes, living groups or at parties that made it easy to get alcohol."

But each year after, she found she went out less and less. Now a 21-year-old senior, Fackrell said she has a drink two to three times a week and will usually go out to the bars no more than once a week.

"Classes are harder, you have more responsibilities as an upper classman and you have your set group of friends. You don't have to get belligerent anymore to be social," she said. "Also, now I can drink legally whenever I want so there's not that pressure to go out and get drunk at every opportunity that comes up."

At UI, a student survey conducted by the

Counseling and Testing Center in 2003 reported that 85 percent of students consumed alcohol in the past year; 58 percent reported they drink up to four drinks per week and 68 percent reported they drink once a week or less.

"The majority of our students are reporting that they drink at some point," Fritz said. "To me, the issue is the students who are drinking at a high risk level."

**"To me, the issue is the students who are drinking at a high risk level."**

Sharon Fritz  
UI Counseling and Testing Center

A study published this month conducted by the Pacific Institute on Research and Education estimated underage drinking results in 3,200 deaths and 2.6 million other "harmful events" each year. And although the public and government attention

is primarily focused on the use of illicit drugs, underage drinking kills four times as many youths than all illicit drugs combined.

UI witnessed its own loss of students to alcohol-related vehicle accidents in 2004 with the deaths of Jason Yearout, Jack Shannon and Nicholas Curcuru. Yearout and Shannon were

See DRINKING, page A8

## Inaccurate asbestos rumors cloud Theophilus renovation

By Kevin Wickersham  
Argonaut

University Residences director Michael Griffel would like to set the record straight. Rumors of the Theophilus Tower being offline for the summer due to asbestos problems are "absolutely inaccurate," he said.

In reality, the residence hall, which has been closed since the end of last semester, is having a state-of-the-art fire alarm system installed and receiving a completely new set of carpets. Griffel said updates also include some painting, replacing furniture and removing the unpopular padded bolsters from above the dorm's beds. The first round of renovations will be completed prior to fall semester, he said.

Griffel said rumors of asbestos problems in the Tower began in early June with an anonymous blog posting which inaccurately stated that the dorm was closed for the summer so asbestos could be removed from the building. The posting has since caused rumors to circulate about asbestos problems in the Tower and a subsequent plan to remove the potentially hazardous material.

Like most buildings its age, the Tower does have asbestos in it, Griffel said, but it is safely encapsulated.

"I want people to know the truth. There is asbestos, but it is very safe," he said, adding that the encapsulated material is only hazardous if its encapsulation is punctured and the asbestos is pulverized and released into the air. To ensure the process of renovating the hall does not somehow disturb the material, he said much care is taken not to disturb it. Additionally, he said, there is a "rigorous and conscientious" system in place to test the air quality to ensure no asbestos has been released into the air.

"People can be assured that highly rigorous (air quality) testing is being done," he said, adding this precaution is designed to "reduce risk" of exposure to the material if it were in fact released.

Fred Hutchison, director of UI Environmental Health and Safety, said despite the precautions taken during the renovations of the Tower, there were two separate occasions in which ceiling tiles were breached, causing cancer-causing asbestos particles to be released. However, on both occasions clean-up crews used "hepa-equipped vacuums and wet wiping" to remove the particles and completely decontaminate the affected areas. Air samples tested using transmission electron microscopy showed that any released asbestos particles had been removed and gave an "all clear" for renovation work to continue, he said.

"Even though we had two incidents, they were fairly small and localized, Hutchison said. We felt the risks were minimal. What we did (the cleanup and tests) was mostly precautionary because we want to protect our students and employees."

"We did a fairly extensive process of cleanup and sampling," he said, adding that even though the

See ASBESTOS, page A8

## New multicultural center to be ready for fall

### Center is the first step in creating a diversity center

By Jessica Mullins  
Argonaut

Leah Cristaldi is being rewarded for her semester of hard work.

This summer, the first steps to building a diversity center on the University of Idaho campus are being carried out.

Cristaldi, the president of the student organization UNITY, was highly involved in creating a long-term plan to build a separate-standing diversity center on the UI campus.

The number of multicultural groups at UI has increased significantly since 1999, although the percentage of minority students at UI continues to be low in comparison to the state's percentages. As a result, a center is needed to accommodate and increase minority populations at UI, Cristaldi said.

"It is rewarding to see the movement happen and see people accepting it and being excited about it," she said.

For now, a classroom in the Teaching and Learning Center is being converted into a multicultural center. The \$30,000 proposal for the short-term plan was approved in the spring. The funding requires a \$2-per-student fee

increase for the temporary center. The center is for all students, Cristaldi said.

"If (students) need resources on different cultures, they should feel free to stop by the center and the Office of Multicultural Affairs," Cristaldi said.

The center should be ready for student use in the fall. It is a temporary space to serve student needs until the diversity center can be built — a goal set for 2011. The building could potentially cost millions of dollars, Office of Multicultural Affairs Director Francisco Salinas told The Argonaut in March.

"It is important to demonstrate a vibrant community," Salinas said. "With the community of diverse students, it makes sense to invest in a place to build."

Interior design graduate Hanna Persson began working with organizers in June to create a design plan to change the classroom into a center that utilizes space and addresses student needs. She has worked on similar projects, including one for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe.

The multicultural center will include a lounge area, conference area and possibly a computer lab. There will also be space organizations can use to store their materials.

Currently, many groups don't

See CENTER, page A8

## Fire scorches University Inn Monday afternoon; investigators say cause is still unknown

By Cynthia Reynaud  
Argonaut

The normally green west wing of the University Inn-Best Western is now charred black after a fire Monday.

The exterior of the structure suffered extensive damage after a shrub fire spread to the building.

The fire began shortly after 3 p.m. in the juniper bushes on the west side of the building, said Fire Chief Don Strong. The Moscow Fire Department had the flames put out about 10 minutes after they arrived.

The cause of the fire is still unknown and is being investigated by the fire marshal, said the University Inn's general manager Bill Saylor.

The fire damaged the exterior of the hotel, leaving the walls smoke damaged and multiple room windows shattered.

Saylor was unsure how many rooms were damaged Tuesday. He said hotel staff would be allowed to begin cleaning and surveying the damage to the rooms today.

Strong said no one was reported injured in the fire.

Hotel guests were evacuated Monday soon after the fire was discovered.

Proper procedure was

used in the evacuation, Saylor said. The fire alarm went off and hotel employees knocked on room doors to personally notify guests.

Brian Crookhan checked into the hotel Sunday. He said he heard no alarm but was informed of the fire by an employee.

After investigating the situation himself and seeing smoke emitting from the building, Crookhan said he grabbed his laptop and left.

On exiting the building he saw flames emerging from the building that reached 10 to 15 feet high, he said.

"We saw flames bigger than the building," Crookhan said while he waited in the hotel's lobby after the blaze was put out. "It definitely was an event we weren't expecting."

At 5 p.m. Monday guests crowded the lobby, several on their cell phones trying to find other accommodations for the night.

Guests were allowed to return to any unaffected rooms by 6:30 p.m., although some chose to leave, Saylor said.

The hotel is still open for business and Saylor said he estimates clean-up will be completed in about six weeks.



Cynthia Reynaud/Argonaut

Moscow firefighters examine damage done to the University Inn-Best Western Monday after a fire that began in the juniper bushes spread to the building. The cause of the fire is still unknown.

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### Inside




Opinion	Arts&Culture
There's a simple rule for freshman survival: Don't be stupid. Get this and more advice about college life.	Shakespeare comes to the IRT stage with a Caribbean theme. Plus, the very best in bad films.

Sports&Rec
ConradPiper-Ruth loves climbing. Really, really loves climbing. He's skipping school to go to Australia.

### Today

	Sunny
	Hi: 87°
	Lo: 55°

**WeatherFORECAST**

Today	Saturday	Sunday
 Sunny Hi: 88° Lo: 57°	 Sunny Hi: 95° Lo: 61°	 Sunny Hi: 99° Lo: 67°

**Discover Life**  
at the Idaho Commons & Student Union

**Screen on the Green**  
U of I Outdoor Movie Series  
Tuesdays  
July 25th - "Curious George", PG  
Student Rec Center - All films begin at dusk  
**Free - Free - Free - Free - Free**

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- Expedition Quality  
Whitewater Equipment  
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**Concerts on the Lawn**  
Wednesday, July 19th  
**Megan Munroe**  
(Folk/Gospel)  
Wednesday, July 26st  
**Ian McFeron Band**  
(Alt. Country)  
Wednesday, July 26st  
**Rye Hollow**  
(Pop/Rock)  
**FREE • FREE • FREE • FREE**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Commons Lawn

**Join an Adventure this summer.....**  
-Rafting  
-Kayak Touring  
-Whitewater Kayaking  
-Canoeing  
-Climbing  
-Mountaineering  
-Climb Mt. Rainier  
Outdoor Programs Summer Schedule available at the SRC  
Or on the web @ [campusrec.uidaho.edu/outdoor](http://campusrec.uidaho.edu/outdoor)

**CampusCALENDAR**

**Today**  
UI employees and family pool party  
UI employees and their families are invited to a pool party at 8 p.m. at the Hamilton-Lowe Aquatic Center.  
**Megan Munroe concert**  
Folk-gospel singer Megan Munroe will play noon-1 p.m. on the Commons Lawn as part of the Noontime Concert Series.  
**Thursday**  
"Comedy of Errors"  
Shakespeare's farce "The Comedy of Errors" will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Hartung Outdoor Theatre.  
**Friday**  
"Comedy of Errors"  
7:30 p.m., the Hartung

Outdoor.  
"DaVinci Code" at the Kenworthy  
Blockbuster "The DaVinci Code" will show at 7 p.m. at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre.  
**Saturday**  
"DaVinci Code"  
7 p.m., the Kenworthy.  
"Comedy of Errors"  
7:30 p.m., the Hartung Outdoor.  
**Sunday**  
"DaVinci Code"  
3:45 and 7 p.m., the Kenworthy.  
**Tuesday**  
"Comedy of Errors"  
7:30 p.m., the Hartung Outdoor.  
Campus Rec barbecue and

film  
A Campus Recreation Summer Barbecue featuring salmon and more will be at 6 p.m. in the Shattuck Amphitheater. Tickets are \$7. The film "National Treasure" will follow at dusk on the Rec Center Lawn.  
**July 26**  
"Ice Age 2" at the Kenworthy  
The animated comedy "Ice Age 2: The Meltdown" will show at 1 p.m. at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre.  
**Ian McFeron concert**  
The Ian McFeron Band will play noon-1 p.m. on the Commons Lawn as part of the Noontime Concert Series.  
"Comedy of Errors"  
7:30 p.m., the Hartung Outdoor.  
**July 27**

"Ice Age 2"  
7 p.m., the Kenworthy.  
**Fresh Aire Concert**  
A Fresh Aire Concert featuring Bobie Dominguez will be 6:30-7:30 p.m. at East City Park.  
"Lend Me a Tenor"  
"Lend Me a Tenor," a farce set at the opera, will be at 7:30 p.m. in the Hartung Theatre. Presented by Idaho Repertory Theatre.  
**July 28**  
"Ice Age 2"  
7 p.m., the Kenworthy.  
"Comedy of Errors"  
7:30 p.m., the Hartung Outdoor.  
**July 29**  
"Ice Age 2"  
7 p.m., the Kenworthy.  
"Lend Me a Tenor"  
7:30 p.m., the Hartung.

**LocalBRIEFS**

**UI Beta Theta Pi chapter recognized at convention**

Beta Theta Pi's Gamma Gamma chapter at UI won its 10th Francis H. Sisson Award earlier this month at the Fraternity's 167th General Convention in Toronto.  
The Sisson Award is given to only a few chapters from around the nation. Eligibility is based on 19 areas, including scholarship, philanthropy, alumni affairs and public relations. Idaho's accomplishments include hosting the annual Wood Cut to provide firewood for families in need.  
The Beta Theta Pi fraternity has more than 120,000 members including some 6,000 collegians on 122 campuses in the United States and Canada.

**Food Co-op holds first-ever community dinner**

The Moscow Food Co-op will hold its first-ever Community Dinner Thursday. Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. The chef for July's dinner is Co-op deli supervisor

**Nikki Woodland.**

Fourteen places will be set at one big table decorated with candles and local flowers and a four-course gourmet meal served family-style.  
Anyone can attend, but attendance is limited to 14, reservations are required and the meal must be paid for in advance. The cost is \$24 per person, with wine sold separately by the glass.  
The Co-op plans to have two community dinners each month. August dinners are scheduled for Aug. 10 and Aug. 24. Menus will be posted at the store.  
For more information, contact Amy Richard or Mariah Hey at the Co-op at 882-8537. To make reservations, see a cashier at the store, located at 121 E. Fifth St. in Moscow.

**New \$50,000 endowment recognizes UI teamwork**

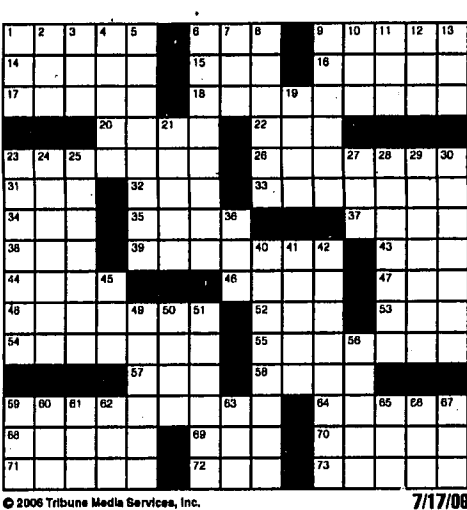
A new \$50,000 endowment administered by the University of Idaho Foundation will reward and recognize University of Idaho staff for exceptional teamwork on one-time or unique, non-routine projects.  
Conceived by Mickey Gunter, UI pro-

fessor of geological sciences, the Outstanding Team Award Endowment was created with funds generated by the 2005 Goldschmidt Conference held on the university's Moscow campus.

The endowment will fund a cash award up to \$500 per team member, depending on the number of team members and the fund's annual earnings. The endowment will continue to grow and stay in perpetuity.  
The first Outstanding Team Award was presented in May to a team of 10 individuals from several campus units who worked on the Goldschmidt Conference.  
Future Outstanding Team Awards will be selected by a Staff Affairs subcommittee based on nominations received from university administrators, faculty or staff. Teams comprised of three to 15 staff members who have displayed exceptional teamwork on a one-time or unique non-routine project are eligible for consideration. Teams will be evaluated on creativity, collegiality, commitment to excellence of the final outcome and work above and beyond normal job responsibilities.  
A request for team nominations will go out to all university units next spring.

**CrosswordPUZZLE**

- ACROSS**  
1 Make sense  
6 Simple bed  
9 Mason's Street  
14 Peachy keen!  
15 Paris street  
16 Sandwich cookies  
17 Streisand film  
18 Sacred stories set to music  
20 Long, slippery swimmers  
22 Launch area  
23 Synopses  
26 Elongated rectangles  
31 Sizable  
32 Do something  
33 "The Waste Land" poet  
34 Worn cloth  
35 Musical group  
37 Art's art  
38 Writer Beatle  
39 Vanilla bean  
43 38 Special, e.g.  
44 Gang member  
46 Nap  
47 Furthermore  
48 Formula math  
52 Cut off  
53 Canape spread  
54 Spa employee  
55 Absent with permission  
57 Opening letters  
58 Shapely fruit  
59 Four twenty-threes  
64 Watts of "Le Divorce"  
68 Fully developed  
69 Charleson or Carmichael  
70 Cultural values  
71 Fragrant yellow flower  
72 Weep  
73 Apothecary units



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- DOWN**  
1 Even one  
2 Billy Williams  
3 Dapper man  
4 Absolute  
5 Skunks  
6 Transverse beam  
7 "\_\_\_ Town"  
8 \_\_\_ Dome (1921 scandal)  
9 Scribble  
10 Go wrong  
11 Hawaiian garland  
12 London lav.  
13 Blockhead  
19 File markers  
21 Money or profits  
23 Father of Isaac  
24 Mechanical instrument  
25 Yuletide quaffs  
27 Run to seed  
28 Falls for a honeymoon?  
29 Boris  
30 Spector with no seal  
36 Like Simon's couple  
40 Horse for a game  
41 Ultraviolet filter  
42 Left a bit  
45 Moines, IA  
49 Ned or Warren

**Solutions**  
ACROSS  
1. SENSE  
6. SIMPLE  
9. MASON  
14. PEACHY  
15. PARIS  
16. SANDWICH  
17. STRAIGHT  
18. SACRED  
20. LONG  
22. LAUNCH  
23. SYNOPSIS  
26. RECTANGLE  
31. SIZEABLE  
32. DO  
33. WASTE  
34. WOOL  
35. MUSICAL  
37. ART  
38. BEATLES  
39. BEAN  
43. SPECIAL  
44. GANG  
46. NAP  
47. FURTHER  
48. FORMULA  
52. CUT  
53. CANAPÉ  
54. SPA  
55. AWOL  
57. OPENING  
58. SHAPELY  
59. FOURTYTHREE  
64. WATTS  
68. DEVELOPED  
69. CHARLESON  
70. CULTURAL  
71. FRAGRANT  
72. WEEP  
73. APOTHECARY  
DOWN  
1. ONE  
2. BILLY  
3. DAPPER  
4. ABSOLUTE  
5. SKUNKS  
6. TRANSVERSE  
7. TOWN  
8. DOME  
9. SCRIBBLE  
10. GO  
11. HAWAIIAN  
12. LONDON  
13. BLOCKHEAD  
19. FILE  
21. MONEY  
23. FATHER  
24. MECHANICAL  
25. YULETIDE  
27. RUN  
28. FALLS  
29. BORIS  
30. SPECTATOR  
36. SIMON  
40. HORSE  
41. ULTRAVIOLET  
42. LEFT  
45. MOINES  
49. NED

**SudokuPUZZLE**

	8			2				9
					3	1	5	
5				1				
				2	7	9		
	3	8	9		1	2	4	
					6	4	8	
					5			4
	7	5	1					
3				2				9

**Solutions from 7/19**

1	6	5	8	7	2	4	9	3
9	2	8	4	3	1	5	7	6
4	3	2	6	9	9	2	1	8
7	1	3	9	8	4	9	6	2
8	4	2	1	9	6	8	3	7
8	9	6	7	2	3	1	9	4
3	8	4	9	1	7	6	2	5
2	5	1	3	6	8	7	4	9
6	7	9	2	4	5	8	3	1

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

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ACP Pacemaker finalist, 2003-04  
SPJ Mark of Excellence winner, 2005

# Text message

**B**en Austin feels the daunting effects of book prices every semester when he shells out cash he doesn't really have for textbooks. The University of Idaho student said he feels like he's forced to purchase overpriced books from companies that take advantage of students.

"This semester I spent over \$450 dollars on books and I didn't feel very good about that," said Austin, an environmental science major. "About half of them were used."

Austin expressed frustrations about the way big companies produce new book editions on a regular basis and render the previous editions obsolete. Once the new editions are on the shelf, the old editions can't be sold back.

"I've bought books where I couldn't sell them back because there was a new edition out, and even though the new edition wasn't that much different, the bookstore wouldn't accept them," he said. "That's not just a problem with the bookstore, it's a problem with the publishers as well."

## GAO steps in

The U.S. Government Accountability Office released a 51-page study in July 2005 detailing the trends in textbook prices since the 1987-88 academic school year. The report said college textbooks prices for the same books are higher in the United States than they are in other countries.

In the 2003-04 academic year, the average costs of books for U.S. college students at four year institutions was \$898. That figure averaged to about 26 percent of the average student budget required for tuition and fees nationwide. The report said college textbook prices have been increasing at an average rate of 6 percent per year since 1987. Tuition has increased at an average rate of 7 percent per year.

In response to students' growing concerns, last school year the ASUI Senate started an investigation into the expenses textbooks add to students' budgets. Former ASUI

Senator Ryan McNamee led the effort to try to find a solution to the expensive books. He had this to say about the schemes publishers use to increase sales:

"Textbook publishers want to come out with the new edition that looks better with glossier pages. The content rarely ever changes. When the publisher comes out with a new edition of the textbook, they will no longer offer the old edition to be sold; thus forcing the respective college and UI to buy the new edition."

## Vendors frustrated

Peg Godwin, the manager of the UI Bookstore, echoed these sentiments, saying it is hard to tell the difference between these newer editions. In her line of work, she sees new books coming out all the time.

"Let me tell you," said Godwin, "as a bookstore manager, I've got no idea what the difference is in 'Campbell Biology' Third Edition and 'Campbell Biology' Fourth Edition."

As McNamee investigated the prices of college textbooks at the University of Idaho, he came across a couple options for making the books less expensive.

The first had to do with the 5 percent Idaho sales tax students have to pay. McNamee said he believes the Idaho Legislature could reduce student expenses to some extent by eliminating the sales tax on college books. He said the idea came from Idaho Legislator Mike Burkett at a senator's breakfast in Boise in late January.

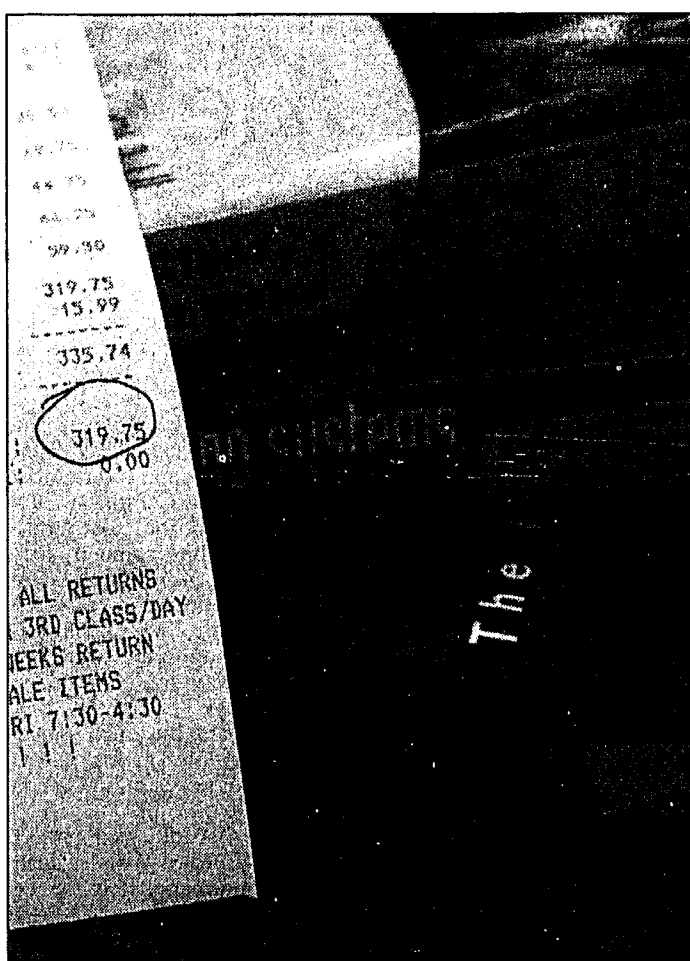
"Nine states have already passed legislation either limiting textbook prices, or making textbooks tax-deductible," McNamee said. "Six states including Washington, our neighbor, are looking into legislation that will help college students on textbook prices."

McNamee said about 33 percent of the money students spend on their college experience at UI goes toward book purchases. Only one-third of the textbooks purchased are ever reused from the previous

## College students have long complained about the cost of books. Now the government may do something about it

Story by Christopher J. Larsen  
For the Argonaut

Photo by Lisa Wareham



year. Idaho legislator Mike Burkett from Boise believes something on a massive scale should be done to stop publishers from taking advantage of college students. As students take classes, they have to purchase textbooks, and Burkett wants to see a comprehensive study to identify just how overpriced college texts really are.

Burkett said it would be a big project, but in five to seven years, a well-organized group of students could gather a lot of good research. Either they could get Congress to pass some antitrust legislation, or get the state to put a cap on the prices of textbooks in the state, he said.

"It's an established fact that these textbooks are at excep-

tionally high prices," Burkett said. "They're over what the market should charge — selling at substantially higher prices than other books."

Burkett is an attorney by profession, and said he feels that an anti-trust action might be enough to get the college book companies to charge a market price instead of the amounts they currently charge.

"The books are half as much as tuition," Burkett said. "And that seems like it's a little bit outrageous. I hear that textbooks add computer courses for study and software, and they update them every year. I think a properly designed study over the course of years would get to the bottom of it."

## A student battle

Burkett said he does not want to take on a big textbook project himself, but he does want to see student leaders get together and really work on a proposal that will reduce the prices. He said he's more than willing to help out by reviewing what student leaders do. If he were to see a well-written campaign plan put together by students, he said he would be happy to provide feedback and coach students in their efforts. Burkett said he would bring in two or three other legislators to provide the same kind of feedback on that kind of campaign plan to ensure the project would be effective.

When asked for his thoughts on the 5 percent sales tax exemption, Burkett said he would prefer doing something different.

"Why attack the government dollars if it's the businesses that are overpricing the textbooks to begin with?" Burkett said. "If you take the 5 percent off the tax, they'll just increase the price for books by 5 percent. It's more likely that we could set up a system where textbook pricing is regulated in Idaho, or at the federal level."

Burkett explained how the legislature is theoretically supposed to work: The legislature is supposed to send money from the state treasury to fund higher education. If the legislature is doing that, and the text-

book companies are turning around and making excessive profits, there's something wrong with the system, he said. If the college textbook companies have the potential to raise the prices, which Burkett thinks they do, he said there's not much to passing additional expenses on to students.

## The next step

Once a good proposal is drafted, Burkett said, he would sponsor it and help get a solution in place. Burkett stressed the importance of having an organized group of students working on the project as a long-term commitment. He said he wants to see an initial group of committed student leaders get involved in the textbook project, work on it for a few years until they graduate and pass it along to younger student leaders as they take official positions in student government. Burkett estimated it would take a longer period of time to conduct a proper study and establish a campaign than students are likely to spend getting their degrees.

Over the years, books' prices have continued to increase, putting their manufacturers in the press's spotlight every so often. The book manufacturers have even been investigated by the federal government and several of the state legislatures.

Many people believe greed is the primary factor increasing prices in the college book industry. The common industry response, however, is that publishers invest a lot of money in electronic resources, CDs, videos and DVDs that go with many of today's books. According to the Government Accountability Office report, textbook sales are the only revenue sources they have to fund the extra things that go along with the books.

It is not currently known how often the electronic resources publishers talk about are used, as publishers tend to bring up the extras in their defense whenever textbook prices become a question on people's minds.

See **BOOKS**, page A7

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## FACULTY/STAFF

# Identity theft concerns raised

By Cynthia Reynaud  
Argonaut

When Lillian Hatheway learned last month that her name had been one of almost a million saved in a computer stolen from a California-based health insurance company, her reaction was more annoyed than scared.

Hatheway, an administrative assistant at the University of Idaho, was one of more than 2,000 UI employees whose personal information was jeopardized after a camera, two laptop computers and a file server

were stolen from a regional office of the health insurance company Medical Excess, LLC in March.

"My biggest surprise was that they didn't get on it quicker," Hatheway said. "And I was annoyed with the fact that the university would even give out our information."

According to a letter Medical Excess sent affected employees at the end of June, "certain files contained individual names with accompanying Social Security numbers and birthdates. For a small percentage of the individuals, medical and disability infor-

mation was also stored on the server."

The letter also stated the three-month delay in informing those affected was due to the number of files they had to sort through, which was equal to 100 million typewritten pages, to find what had been taken and who needed to be contacted.

Lloyd Mues, UI vice president of finance and administration, said the only information about UI employees that should have been on the computer were their names and encrypted files with their age and date of birth.

The company was sent UI employee information in order to secure a bid from American International Group Inc., Mues said. No Social Security numbers were sent and other information was sent in an encrypted form as a safety measure.

An e-mail the university sent to employees June 28 stated: "... As part of the employee benefit bidding process, the University of Idaho legitimately authorized the release of required information through our health insurance broker. Medical Excess was a participant in this bidding process. We have confirmed that the

nature of the information provided indeed may potentially put you at risk for identity theft."

"But there is no reason to believe the computer was stolen to get our information," Mues said.

The company never directly informed the university about the theft, Mues said.

He only found out because he overheard a conversation two employees were having about the letters they had received.

"It's a very serious thing," Mues said. "That's why we jumped on it within 24 hours.

We feel like we've done everything correctly."

Medical Excess' investigation into the theft is still ongoing, but so far, no activity has been reported by UI employees that could be linked to the theft.

"What we're trying to do is be vigilant," Mues said.

Medical Excess will provide certain services for those who suspect identity theft, according to the letter.

The support service is available for the next 12 months, but careful monitoring of financial activity is recommended for the next two years.



Courtesy photo  
Jockey Jesse Perez brings Idaho Gem across the finish for first place during the June 3 futurity trials. Of the three mules cloned at UI, two have been involved in the races and the third shows promise of later racing potential. Gem has been the most successful to date and the mule's creators have been pleased with the overall health of all of the animals.

## 'He's a stud:' Clones fare well at the races

By Jonathan Karg  
Scripps-Howard Multicultural  
Journalism Workshop

Mules cloned at the University of Idaho have fared remarkably well in recent races in Nevada and California.

Idaho Gem, the most promising racer, has come in first place in two out of three races, and will continue to race for the next several weeks in county fairs throughout California.

Of the three mules cloned at UI, two have been involved in the races and the third shows promise of later racing potential. But for now, Idaho Gem is the star.

"He's a stud," said project lead Dr. Gordon Woods, head of the team responsible for the animals. "Gem is number one."

The first cloned animal to race competitively, Idaho Gem has been watched carefully from infancy for any sort of birth defects or illnesses. Concerns regarding the health of clones were raised when Dolly, the first cloned mammal, showed signs of health problems. But UI science writer Bill Loftus said health problems or early death in clones doesn't always come from the cloning process.

"People can live to 100 years old (though) not all of us do," he explained.

From all indications, however, all three cloned mules, including Idaho Gem, are doing well.

"He's more than healthy. He's dramatically healthy," said Woods.

The racing performance of the clones is surprising although not unexpected as all three mules are the genetic equivalent of brothers to the

"We didn't clone the slow brother."

Dr. Gordon Woods  
UI Clone Team Leader

world champion racehorse Taz. Similar genetics didn't mean that these clones would have any of his athletic ability, though Idaho Gem's performance has demonstrated that at least some of that talent has passed on.

"We didn't clone the slow brother," Woods said.

Clones they may be, yet the excitement about mules of any sort may seem unusual until one understands the implications of the research. To clone a member of the horse family was only the first of two major goals of the project.

The other goal carried with it much more serious implications, specifically for cancer research.

Woods explained that while horses do contract cancer, they die from it much less often than humans do. While cancer in humans causes death in 24 percent of cases, only 8 percent of equines who contract it die. Coupled with unsuccessful in vitro fertilization attempts for horses, researchers began to understand that cell activity was for some reason significantly lower in horses than in humans.

Breakthrough finally came in January 2001 when the UI team discovered that calcium, known for its regulation of cell growth, was three times more prevalent in horses than in human men.

"We've got the smoking gun," said Woods, recalling the moment.

After more than a hundred unsuccessful attempts and two failed mule pregnancies, the process was repeated, this time with the addition of calcium. The results were dramatic: a successful embryo creation rate of 1.5 percent surging to 10.9 percent. With the new process, 19 mule clone embryos were produced, and three embryos were progressed until birth — the three that later became Idaho Gem, Utah Pioneer and Idaho Star.

"Regulation of calcium is key to the regulation of cancer cells," Woods said.

In a study performed on men with prostate cancer, calcium levels were lower than usual inside cells but higher than usual outside the cells, the exact opposite of the levels in horses. The mission then became to track down a regulator of calcium in the body that was deficient or wasn't working properly in the men with cancer. Though the team needs further research before publishing, they think they've found it.

"We've found a regulator that's an incredibly good candidate," explained Woods. "Now we've got to prove it."

While their research progresses in the laboratory, Woods and his colleagues enjoy following the cloned mule races as icing on the cake of their work. They plan to attend at least some of the races in upcoming weeks, and said they hope that many University of Idaho faculty, staff and students will be able to come to the July 26 race in Santa Rosa, Calif.

"We want to have the cheering crew there in full force."

The research team couldn't be more excited about the mule's successes.

"We've become these cloned mule groupies," Woods said.

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# Where iPods go to live

Miami man makes his mark fixing and selling Apple's little music wonder

By Joseph Tartakoff  
McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — Since the iPod debuted in 2001, Gregg Radell has used five of the music and video players. He lost one, another broke, a third ran out of storage space, and he decided to replace the fourth. Each time, he bought a newer model.

Sensing there was a market in refurbishing rather than replacing the devices, the Miami businessman started PodSwap.com about 18 months ago. The company allows customers to credit the value of used iPods — even if they're broken — toward new or repaired ones. Customers can also trade in their iPod for its cash value. Podswap.com has already handled 5,000 iPods, Radell said.

Radell said there is such a high demand, he limits his advertising on Google. "We can get 1,500 inquiries over the weekend," he said.

In the booming online iPod repair business, PodSwap.com is a small player. At least 12 firms operate in the market. One, iPodMods.com, fixes roughly 24,000 iPods a year. Another, iPodResQ.com, repairs 250 a day — albeit on its "biggest days," according to its owner — in a 15,000-square-foot warehouse in Olathe, Kan.

Brandon Jones, owner of BrokeniPods.com in Orem, Utah, is only 21, yet a year and a half after starting his business, he fixes between 200 and 400 iPods a month. Only now is he drawing up a business plan. He said the average price of a repair is \$100.

Firms that previously fixed other computer parts have also entered the industry, and iPod repairs now make up the majority of their business.

Analysts and repair shop managers said the industry is growing because iPods are easy to break and tough to repair. It helps that iPod's maker, Apple Computer, is reluctant to repair broken players, they say.

Radell said "the single weakest link" is the iPod's hard drive. "When they're

being carried around and being tossed up and down, they go through such a variety of environments that I think the hard drive has a tendency to fail," he said.

The newest iPod, the Nano, avoids that criticism because it sports flash-based memory — similar to that of a cell phone — rather than a hard drive. It's small — about the size of a credit card — and is prone to breakage, Radell said. Then there's the battery, which is difficult for a user to replace without help.

"It's the Corvette and not the tank," said Aaron Vronko, business manager at iPodMods.com in Kalamazoo, Mich., which has grown from two to 12 employees in just over two years. "It looks sleek and works well and doesn't hold up to a lot of damage."

On Internet bulletin boards, there are a slew of complaints about the iPod. In 2003, two discontented customers started <http://ipodsdirtysecret.com>, criticizing Apple's battery replacement policy (the site is no longer online). The support discussion boards on Apple's Web site, [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com), are also filled with complaints.

An Apple spokeswoman, Natalie Kerris, said that the popularity of the iPod speaks for itself.

"With more than 50 million iPods sold worldwide, the vast majority of our customers are extremely happy with their iPods," she said, adding that an iPod is designed to last four years.

Several groups have sued Apple, alleging the device is defective. Last August, Apple settled a class-action lawsuit in which plaintiffs claimed Apple had misrepresented the durability of iPod batteries. Another class-action lawsuit is pending in Los Angeles, charging that the screen of the new iPod Nano breaks or scratches with regular use.

"Some people have scratched screens, other people have (broken screens) ... and that's just from putting it in your pocket," said Harvey Rosenfield, president of The Foundation for Taxpayer &



Tim Chapman/Miami Herald/MCT  
Gregg Radell, owner of PodSwap works on a pile of broken iPods at his shop in Miami-Dade, Florida. His company, which gets most of its business on the web, buys iPods as well as selling new and used ipods.

Consumer Rights in Santa Monica, Calif., which is suing Apple over the Nano.

"This is not a throwaway camera. ... [This is] a sophisticated piece of electronic equipment that people will assume will last a long, long time. And when [it doesn't,] that's improper."

But several analysts said the problems have more to do with the popularity of the iPod and the tendency of users to abuse them than with Apple's manufacturing policies.

Bob O'Donnell, a vice president at technology research firm IDC, said, "Any time you have that many of anything, some will not function properly."

Fifteen percent of iPods will fail within one year, estimates Rob Enderle, principal analyst at the Enderle Group in San

Jose, Calif. He said that's roughly comparable to other small electronic devices, such as cell phones. Nevertheless, he said, cell phones are much easier and cheaper to repair.

Apple's Kerris said iPods have a failure rate of less than 5 percent, which she said is "fairly low" compared to other consumer electronics.

What bodes especially well for third-party repairers is Apple's warranty policy, Enderle said. All new iPods come with a one-year warranty, but the warranty does not cover damage caused by the user.

## ASUI SUSTAINABILITY

# Get green, save green

By Caitlin Rice  
Argonaut

Every dollar counts. This phrase is one often linked to the stereotypical "starving college student." But now it might be showing up in some university administration's vocabulary as well.

Currently, 5 million dollars are spent every year on University of Idaho utilities, according to the UI energy conservation Web site. Some people think this is too much.

But with a grant UI's new Sustainability Center received this summer, the center will be ready by the fall semester to spread the word on campus about how to be green to save green.

Though the center is still in the process of becoming established, plans are underway to save money and make UI a more economically friendly campus.

"Our goal is basically to promote environmental, social and fiscal responsibility on campus," said Justin Saydell, a UI student and developer of the center. "Those are the three pillars of sustainability."

People often mistakenly credit Saydell's interest in sustainability to the fact that he is a conservation biology major, he said.

"Sustainability should be multi-disciplinary, whether you are in math, engineering, social sciences or liberal arts. This should be part of your life."

"It all comes back to attitudes," Saydell said. "Our personal behaviors and attitudes toward things like global warming all contribute to it. We can all

decrease fossil fuels, and material things we don't need. ... If everyone did this it would make an impact." He said the Sustainability Center will introduce students to smart and practical ways to make a difference both on campus and in the community.

"We want to enlighten or educate people about everyday actions. Those could be big proposals like constructing energy-saving buildings or something small like bringing a canvas sack to the grocery store instead of using plastic bags."

Saydell and fellow student Mark Morage, a senior in natural resources, recently took it upon themselves to become more educated about sustainability by applying for a place at the United Nation's Sustainability Conference in New York. Both were accepted and attended the conference in May.

"Obviously, I was thrilled to have the chance to participate in the Commission on Sustainable Development," said Morage in an e-mail interview from Ecuador. "I left New York with a much more comprehensive understanding of the issues, achievements and challenges of sustainable development that face our generation."

Saydell and Morage say they anticipate their experience and the knowledge gained at the conference will aid them with their work in the Sustainability Center.

"The experience was to network with peers and get the U of I established in a national setting," Saydell

See GREEN, page A7

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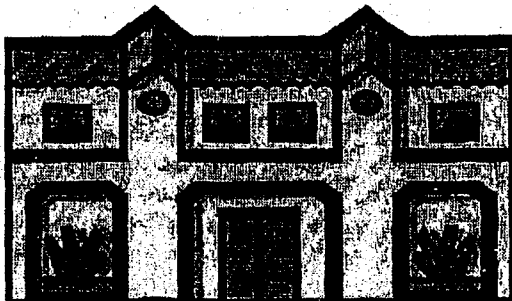
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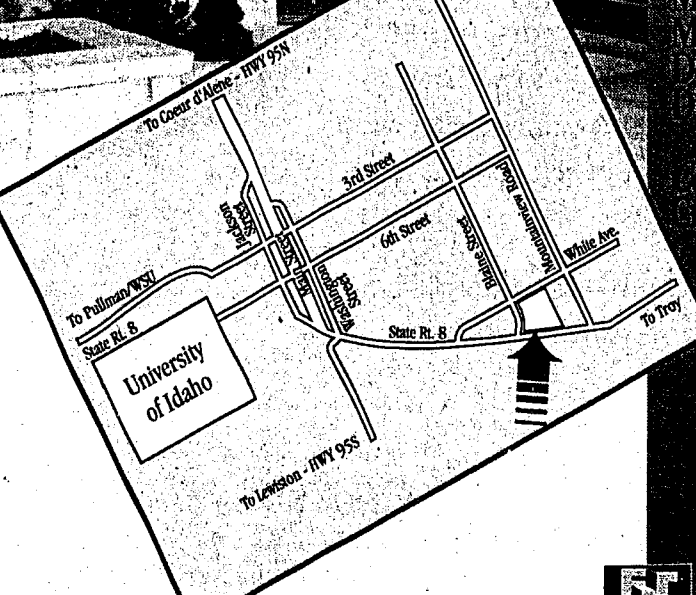
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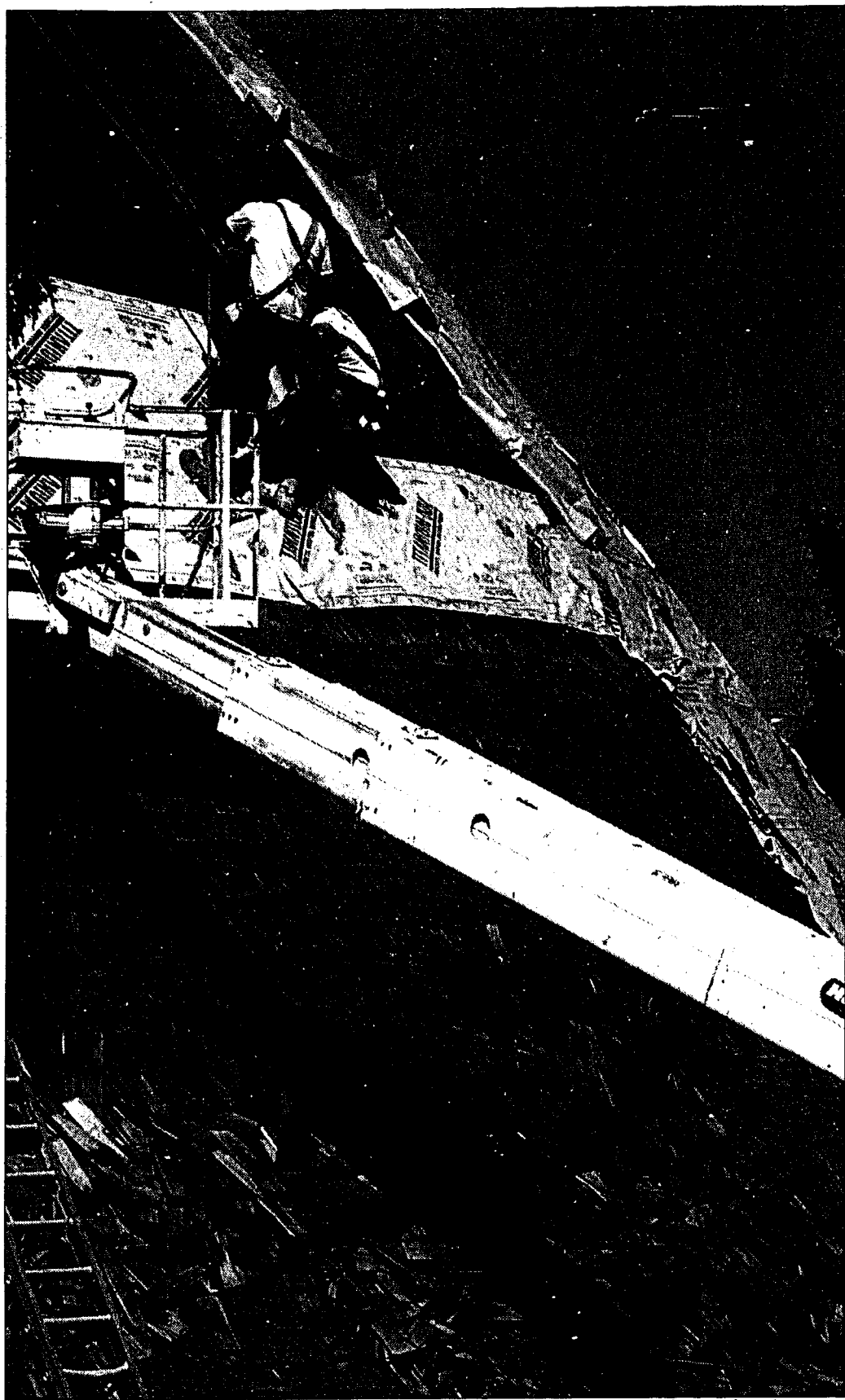
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## UP ON A ROOF



Lisa Wareham/Argonaut  
As temperatures climbed into the 90s around Moscow, workers started the first phase of the roofing project at St. Augustine's Catholic Center across the street from the Student Union Building.

# New UI general counsel appointed

By Nathan Foster  
Argonaut

The University of Idaho appointed alumnus Kent E. Nelson as general counsel earlier this month.

As general counsel, Nelson will serve as the head lawyer who provides legal and policy advice relating to all university matters. He will replace interim general counsel Sharyl Kammerzell.

Kammerzell will continue to work as senior associate general counsel.

While Nelson said it was difficult to make the decision to leave his office, he's glad to migrate to UI.

"I've grown to have a great deal of respect for President White and his management style," Nelson said.

Nelson previously worked as Senior, Deputy Attorney General for Idaho Attorney

General Lawrence Wasden. Nelson said it was there he became familiar with President White and the university legal structure, through advising the Board of Regents and other State agencies.

"We are delighted to have Kent," said White in a statement last Wednesday. "His extensive law experience, combined with his knowledge and familiarity with the university and many agencies within the state of Idaho, will serve this institution well."

Nelson grew up in Salmon and received a juris-doctorate degree and a bachelor's degree in accounting at UI. Nelson has been practicing law for over 20 years.

The general counsel office is located on the first floor of the Administration building and can be reached at 885-6125.

## WHAT'S THAT?

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- Serves in President White's Cabinet
- Serves as a member of the senior executive administration.

## Gay-rights group lauds FAU policy

By Scott Travis  
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

A gay-rights group is touting a new non-discrimination policy at Florida Atlantic University as a victory for gay and lesbian students and employees.

The policy, which updates previous anti-harassment guidelines, says the university is committed to maintaining an environment free of "unlawful discrimination and harassment" that is based "on a legally protected class."

The policy, which the Board of Trustees approved June 28, mentions race, color, religion, age, disability, sex, national origin, marital status, veteran status and "any other basis protected by law."

It's that last catch-all category, the "any other basis," that technically protects gay students and employees, said Rand Hoch, the founder of the

Palm Beach County Human Rights Council, a gay-rights group.

The reason, he said, is that six of the seven FAU campuses are in Palm Beach and Broward counties, which have ordinances that ban discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation.

So FAU is essentially agreeing to offer its employees and students on its campuses these same protections, he said.

FAU also has a campus in St. Lucie County, which does not specifically ban discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. But Hoch said he assumes FAU would consistently enforce its policies on all campuses.

The policy outlines grievance procedures for anyone who feels they have been harassed or discriminated against.

Hoch pushed for a policy change after some professors

complained to him that gay faculty had no protection from retaliation.

So he met with university officials last month in hopes of getting sexual orientation specifically added as a protected class. But he said he was told that the trustees were unlikely to approve language specifically addressing sexual orientation. The proposal that passed was a compromise, he said.

"It is as good as we are going to get from FAU at this time," he said. FAU spokeswoman Kristine McGrath sent an e-mail statement saying that the university's policies "continue to protect the entire university community from all forms of unwelcome harassment and discrimination."

The trustees' audit and finance committee proposed the changes, which received full board approval, the statement said.

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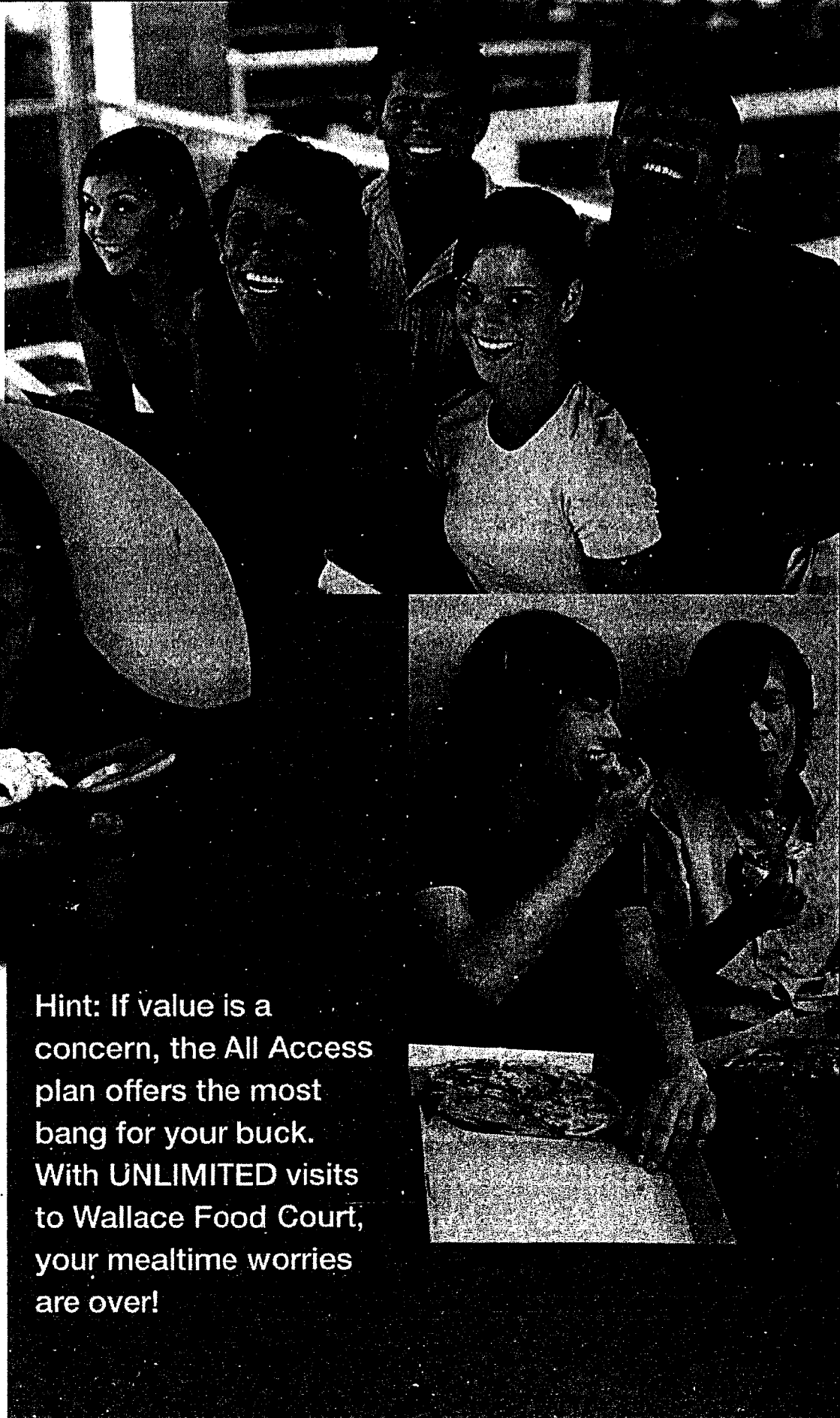
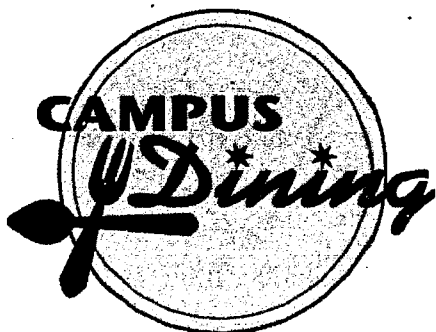
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# Real symptoms, but fake illnesses

By Edward M. Eveld  
McClatchy Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Sonny Hayes is grumpy today, and his gut hurts like hell.

But then he always is, and it always does. In a doctor's examining room, Hayes has removed his grimy T-shirt and tossed it in a heap on a corner table. He purposely set his blue pack of Pall Mall Lights on top. He tied on a hospital gown and now sits on the exam table, straddling the corner.

Enter stage left Mike Khadavi, first-year medical student, crisp white coat, khaki slacks, black shoes shined.

"Glad to meet you. I'm Mike," says the 23-year-old sincerely, pleasantly but not chirpily. "How are you today?"

"I'm not worth (a hoot)," answers Hayes, his face set under a camouflage fishing hat he doesn't have the courtesy to remove.

The confrontational tone is set. Khadavi, taken aback, has his work cut out for him.

"Just give me something for the pain," says Hayes, delivering a couple of dry coughs, "and I'll get the hell out of here."

Sonny Hayes has been coming to the University of Kansas School of Medicine with stomach pain since 1998. Today he is played by Lynn Sheek, a 57-

year-old retired postal worker who gets paid \$20 an hour to pretend he's sick.

"It's a blast watching the different expressions you get from the kids," says Sheek, who grew his scruffy beard for the part. Brown boots and unlaundered jeans completed his interpretation of the Sonny Hayes look. Sheek has played the always-cross Hayes for a couple of years.

The "kids" are KU medical students, academically accomplished, professional in manner and appearance, but not yet doctors. The patients are actors, "standardized patients." Their encounters are charades, but the make-believe is serious.

From the moment students knock on the exam room door until they shut the door behind them at the end — a set 20 minutes — no one breaks character, not the medical student as doctor, not the actor as patient.

Each exam room has two cameras. Students are being watched on monitors and videotaped so that medical school faculty can assess them, down to body language and word choices. They're expected to extract pertinent information from patients and to perform the correct exam for the malady presented.

"We want to see if they're patient-focused or doctor-focused," says Carla Aamodt,

clinical director of the standardized patient program.

The KU medical school program began in a minor way eight years ago but has grown into a little industry unto itself. It even goes on the road to the Wichita campus of the school. It has its own floor of exam rooms, completed in 2002 thanks to a benefactor. And it constantly needs actors.

Karen Turner, 51, a former hospice nurse from Kansas City, was a first-timer portraying Doris Geary. Geary's backstory: an LPN who threw her back out lifting a patient. But, of course, there's more.

"I can barely move," she says to Kavitha Dileepan, 25, a third-year medical student. "I was at work, and I heard this pop."

Turner as Geary wears no makeup and, before Dileepan enters the room, runs her fingers through her brown hair to muss it.

Dileepan wants to know about the quality and exact location of the backache. She asks about Geary's duties at work, about allergies to medicines, about her family's medical history. Her mother is diabetic, the character Geary says. Her brother is an alcoholic.

The patient recoils when Dileepan gently touches her back. It's a persuasive wince.

"I'm sorry," Dileepan says, "I

don't want to hurt you."

Dileepan begins to recommend a high dose of ibuprofen for relief when the patient makes a request: "I'd like to get Percocet."

"Why Percocet?" Dileepan says after a pause in her otherwise smooth interview. Percocet is a narcotic.

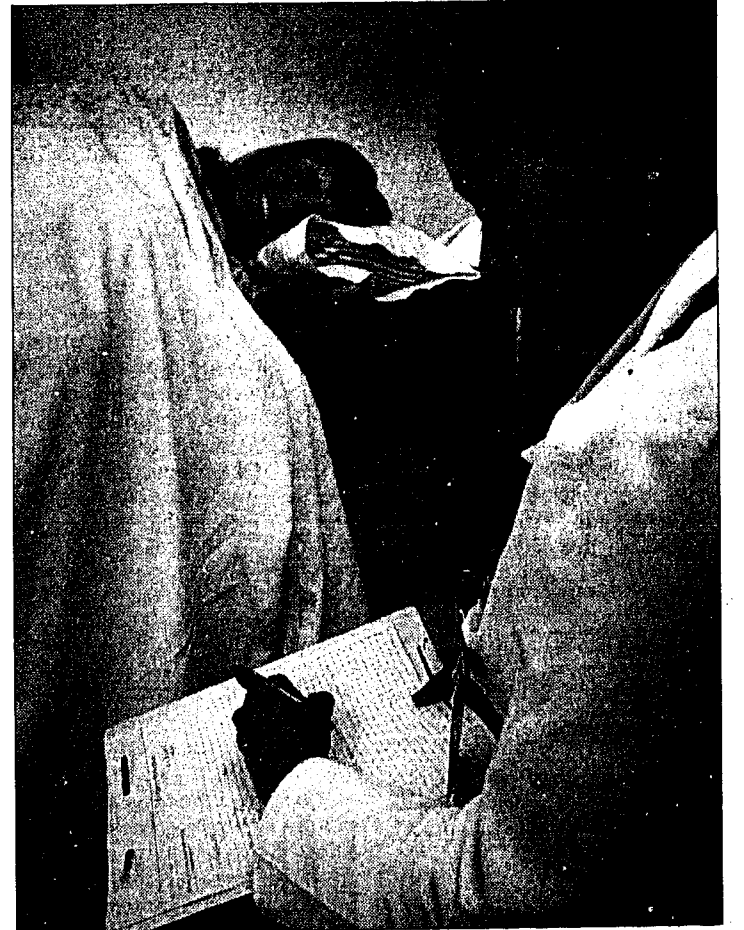
Geary tells her it had provided relief during a previous bout of back pain. Dileepan wants to know how long she took it. Off and on for about three months, Geary says.

As the actor's face goes from pain to pout, the student has marshaled her thoughts. Percocet, she says, might not be the appropriate medication depending on the cause of the pain, still to be determined.

Geary, her bottom lip drooping, tries once more as Dileepan exits: "If you could see about the Percocet, I'd appreciate it."

After the door shuts, the actor said that one of the perks of the job is meeting the students, who she has found to be remarkable people. But they understandably need practice with patients, she says.

"There are a few who are really fearful," says Turner. "They don't want to touch you. They don't communicate well. I think this is such an important part of their education before they get thrown out



Jim Barcus/Kansas City Star/MCT  
Medical student Quanita Crable, right, diagnoses Johnna Green, playing Erin Russell, who may possibly have a sexually transmitted disease, July 3, 2006, at the University of Kansas School of Medicine in Kansas City, Kansas. Medical students practice on actors faking illness.

## BOOKS from page A3

The fact that textbook publishers come out with multiple editions of the original is a cause for concern among students and university professionals. Textbooks are updated rapidly. Since publishing companies don't offer the older editions once they are updated, more students are forced to purchase new books, which add more expenses to the college budget.

Textbook companies have other schemes in play as well, Godwin said. Publishers are putting educational materials together in packages and bundles. "Students often find they have to buy multiple items shrink-wrapped together and the labeling on the packages says the items cannot be refunded once the packaging seal is broken. Often, the students who have to buy the bundles don't use all the items in the package. If students

wanted only a portion of the bundle, they would be out of luck because they cannot get the materials separately, she said.

In order to combat these trends in high textbook prices, UI Bookstore employees have come up with a variety of ways to help students save money.

Larry Martin, the book department manager, said students can save 5 percent on textbook purchases if they use their Vandal cards to purchase their books. He said the use of the Vandal card was highly encouraged by the university when it first came out. The university wanted students to use the cards for everything including meals, access to the dorms and book purchases. Use of the cards makes sense economically too, he said.

Martin has been trying to create other ways for students to save money, including an Internet-based buyback system that is scheduled to be ready by this fall.

"I've been working on it since last year," Martin said. "It's just another way to make

things more convenient for the students. Now you can go to our Web site and look at the buyback prices. You can also leave your e-mail and we'll send you a buyback alert."

Martin discussed Textbook Express too, which is an Internet-based tracking system for books students need. Textbook Express is linked to UI's electronic enrollment system and managed through the bookstore. Students can use the online program to find exactly what books they need as they enroll for their classes.

"You click out with our course information on Textbook Express and it matches term and academic department to what we have for book orders on our Web site. And it brings them up in price format. Students use that a lot when they're looking for their books."

But in order to break even, the bookstore has to look at a variety of things, Godwin said.

"If we buy 100 books, we have to sell 80 books just to pay for those books and then we have to sell another four or five

books to pay for the freight on them. And then we have to pay all our salaries, and salaries run around 12 to 13 percent, so we have to sell those last three books."

Godwin said the markup on textbooks is only 21 percent if students use Vandal cards, although the other items in the bookstore are marked up 35 percent or more. She said it's hard to ensure the correct number of books will be sold to cover expenses because it's getting more difficult to predict how many books students will purchase.

The number of books students used to purchase from the bookstore was a lot higher than it is now, she said. The rise of the Internet and book-buying Web sites has led to an increased number of sales outside the book store.

"What's going to happen in the next five years is that right now we do about \$4 million in textbooks. I'll bet you that in four or five years we'll be lucky to do \$2.5 million if everything else stays the same."

## GREEN from page A5

said. It was mostly a learning experience, he said.

Although he and Moroge went to present some of their own ideas, they found plenty more knowledge to bring back.

The four topics discussed at the conference were climate change, air pollution and atmosphere, industrial development and energy, said Moroge. Various sub-points were presented by youth at the conference, including renewable energy,

ending preserve subsidies for fossil fuels and relying on multi-stakeholder processes to design and support renewable energy resources instead of relying solely on the private sector.

With the launch of the Sustainability Center this semester, students will be given the chance to make a difference in their campus and community, Saydell said. And after attending the conference and learning what a difference he can make as well, Saydell said he too is putting his knowledge into action.

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## DORMBUYS.COM

# Mail thief to do community service

By Kevin Wickersham  
Argonaut

Former University of Idaho employee Douglas Stephens pleaded guilty to misdemeanor mail theft on Tuesday at a federal hearing in Coeur d'Alene, said assistant U.S. attorney Joshua Taylor.

Stephens, who worked as a temporary mail-sorter in the Living Learning Community, was sentenced by United States Magistrate Court Judge Mikel H. Williams to 30 hours of community service, to be completed in the next six months, as well as a year of probation.

In addition to community

service, Taylor said Stephens must also pay restitution in the amount of \$575 to be divided amongst the "multiple" victims affected by the mail thefts he committed while working in the LLC mailroom.

Stephens was fired from his position as a temporary mail-sorter in the UI's LLC mailroom last February after he was identified as the prime suspect in a series of mail thefts which affected mail delivery in the community. Stephens was identified in an investigation by the UI Residence Life office, the Moscow Police Department and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

# ASBESTOS from page A1

release was probably too small and localized to be harmful, EHS wanted to ensure that all necessary precautions were taken.

Despite these setbacks, the dorm renovations are proceeding as planned and the Tower will be ready to accommodate incoming students

this fall. Griffel said before students can move back into the dorm in August, another round of tests will be conducted to ensure the residence hall is safe.

"When all the tests are done, people can move back in," he said.

"We are incredibly fortunate to have the Environmental Health & Safety staff we have," he said, adding they have done a great job ensuring the renovations proceed safely.

# DRINKING from page A1

both underage.

The deaths of the students prompted the formation of the UI Alcohol Task Force, a group formed to educate students about responsible drinking.

The task force, led by senior Heather Pearson, offers money to groups on campus so they can hold alcohol education events.

"Drinking alcohol isn't the problem, it's being responsible," Pearson said.

Similarly, the university has also adopted educational approaches to deal with students caught drinking underage.

According to the Student Code of Conduct, "the sale or illegal possession or illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in facilities owned, leased, or operated by UI and on campus grounds. ... UI's primary role in handling matters involving the use or potential use of drugs or alcohol by its students is that of counseling. However, in appropriate situations, the full range of sanctions may be applied."

Elizabeth Higgins, coordinator of judicial affairs, described the disciplinary actions the university uses in instances where the code is broken as "educational-based opportunities for intervention."

First infractions of the code result in, at the minimum, a referral to the Counseling and Testing Center's Choices program, where counselors work with students to evaluate their use of alcohol and help them develop strategies to reduce their consumption and its negative consequences. A violation could also include a period of probation and fee payments for the program and administrative costs:

"One of the most effective strategies is to take the students' drinking habits and break them down for the students to see," Fritz said. "We don't make the assumption that students who are having problems need to stop drinking."

For second infractions, students, as a minimum, are referred to an additional educational program, are put on disciplinary probation, pay fees and could have community service.

"We want to be able to provide students with an opportunity to learn from their actions, but still hold students accountable for their actions. ... We need to uphold the law," Higgins said.

The "three strikes and you're out" rule applies to students who violate the code more than twice. Third infractions can lead to the student's suspension for a period of time, which at a minimum means one semester, but depending on the severity of the violation, could result in expulsion.

Last school year, 168 alcohol-related violations of student code of conduct were reported, Higgins said. But in the four years she's worked at UI, only a few students have been suspended for the use of alcohol.

And students seem to be having a positive response to the educational approach, Fritz said, noting she has seen a drastic change in students' responsibility when it comes to safe drinking.

According to her study, 82 percent reported using a designated driver, 80 percent reported eating before and/or during drinking and 62 percent reported keeping track of how many drinks they consumed.

"Students are doing things to protect themselves from destructive drinking," she said. "It's a positive change in the drinking culture on college campuses."

# STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING RISKS

These strategies were provided by Sharon Fritz at the UI Counseling and Testing Center.

- Stop drinking one or two hours before going home
- Alternate alcoholic drinks with non alcoholic drinks
- Determine ahead of time the number of drinks you will consume
- Pace yourself to one or two drinks per hour
- Eat before and/or during drinking
- Appoint a designated driver
- Limit the amount of money you bring with you or that you will spend on drinking
- Avoid drinking games as well as drinking too much too fast before an event
- Ask a friend to let you know when you have had enough to drink
- Choose not to drink
- Space your drinks over time
- Spend more time with friends who drink less than you do
- Experiment with drinking less and with refusing drinks
- Monitor carefully your consumption of beverages that cover up their alcohol content with sweet flavor
- If you chose to drink, drink slowly
- Be prepared with effective coping strategies in situations where you think excessive drinking is likely
- Use the "buddy system" while at parties with friends and watch out for each other
- Practice ways to be more comfortable in social settings without using alcohol
- Experiment with enjoyable activities that do not include alcohol consumption
- Find healthy ways to reduce stress

# CENTER from page A1

have set places to meet and have to store their materials at their personal homes. Campus organizations can also use the space for their events.

There will be programs and film showings in the center for all students, Cristaldi said.

In June, organizers held a barbecue and gathered input about what students wanted to see in the center. Persson introduced her ideas and got feedback from the eight to nine students who attended.

It is important that it is a place that is comfortable, friendly and secure for the students, Persson said.

"It will be a place where (students) can say their words," said Evelina Arevalos, an OMA staff member who has been involved in

the development of the multicultural center.

Some of the key themes for the center include unity and growing, since the multicultural center is not the end product and will eventually evolve into the diversity center, Cristaldi said.

"I want (the center) to really represent that it is part of this evolution," Persson said.

Time constraints and short funding prevented the organizers from being able to do physical construction to the classroom. The main goal is getting the area furnished and functional by the fall semester.

"It is a short time frame so we are hoping to get as much done as possible," Persson said.

It will continue to be worked on gradually, Cristaldi said. Construction on the center may be carried out during Thanksgiving or Christmas vacation, she said.

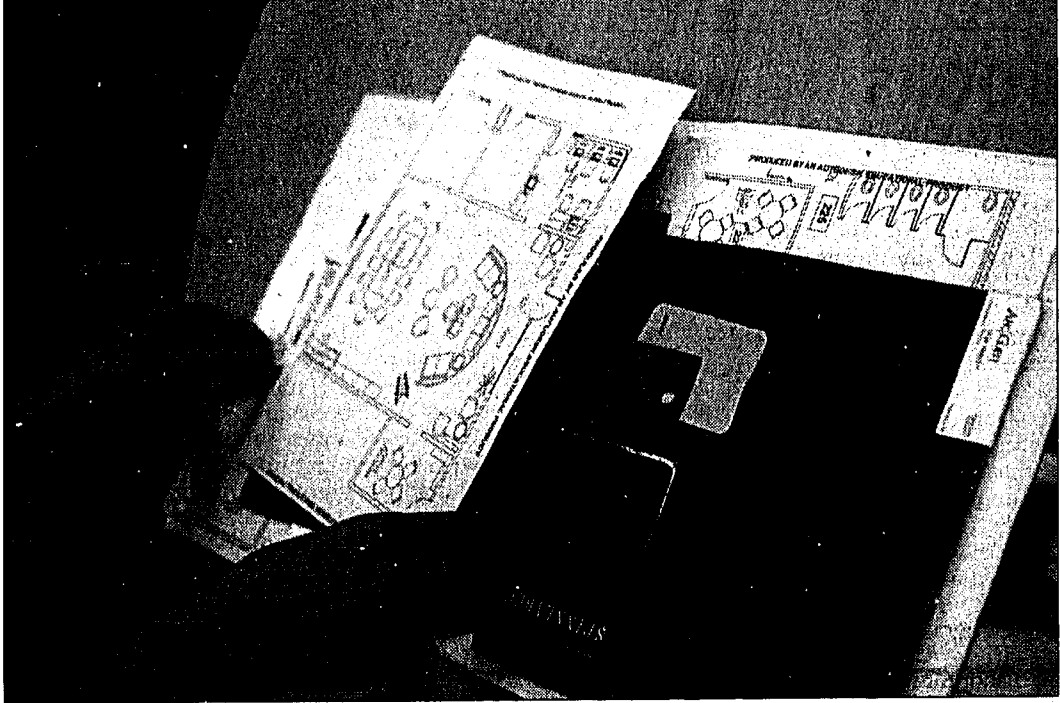
# VISIT THE CENTER

The new multicultural center is located in Room 228 in the Teaching and Learning Center.

The center is next to the OMA offices, a space with three offices that serves administrative and student needs.

UI student Melissa Olivas told The Argonaut in March that OMA provides support for many students, but the university still needs more than the OMA.

"People don't know OMA is there. One little office doesn't show (UI) is for diverse people," Olivas said. "People need to be more informed and aware of the presence of the groups at UI."



Kylie Pfeifer/Argonaut

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## EMPLOYMENT

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## EMPLOYMENT

when it comes to cleanliness, willingness to work underneath and assist a cook is necessary. \$700/month for 10 month contract. 20+ hrs/wk including occasional weekends. Start August 1, 2006-May 31, 2007. Located in Moscow.

**Job #92 Cook/Chef**  
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ARGONAUT

## EMPLOYMENT

and willingness to work with 70 women is a must. DOE, Min. \$1500/mo w/ paid school breaks/10 mo contract. 35+ hrs/wk. August 1, 2006-May 31-2007. Located in Moscow.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Job #99 Academy Accountant**  
Accounting duties including AR, facilitating rules, regulations and policies with employees and clients, visit satellite locations to ensure good service, creating monthly reports for director, keeping updated records, attend meetings, assist with direct mailings, excellent bookkeeping skills. Qualifications: Excellent references, demonstrated ability to understand basic accounting principles if not actual accounting experience and courses, ability to communicate with clients and good interpersonal relationships skills, knowledge of computer software, excellent organizational and record keeping skills, superior communication skills, ability to multi-task, self starter and ability to work unsupervised. Desired qualifications include a bachelor's degree in accounting, experience in managing and maintaining financial records and creating financial reports, computer

## EMPLOYMENT

maintenance and trouble-shooting skills, supervisory skills, willingness to work odd hours and weekends. \$12/hr 15 hrs/wk Start August 14, 2006.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Job #106 General Construction Laborer**  
Perform general labor with construction/deconstruction work, provide assistance with the construction yard, welding, concrete work, demolition, construction & driving construction equipment, unloader, 2 ton truck, front end loader, backhoe, etc. Also assist with material sales. Must be friendly, organized, possess customer service skills, ability to lift up to 50#, non-smoker, dependable, and good driver's license record. \$8/hr starting DOE FT for summer. Located in Moscow.

## EMPLOYMENT

**Job #107 Yard Work**  
A local community member is in need of a hard working individual to help with yard work. Must have a general knowledge of yard work. Flexible hours, start immediately. Approx. \$8.00/hr Located in Moscow.



## EMPLOYMENT

**Job #105 Group Coordinator 1, Group Coordinator 2 & Survey Participant**  
Review the work of up-and-coming authors for three of the top publishers in the world. Panel participants obtains a specific "Book of the Month", read it and submit a short review. Each month for 12 months, a new book will be selected. Payment received at the end of the 12 month period plus reimbursement of the books purchased. Must have ability to commit to one year of providing survey results on-line. Participant can move etc., as long as they have contact through a valid email address. Group coordinators are responsible for identifying 20 additional panel participants who receive \$4500 reimbursements and bonus and each of these 20 are required to identify 20 participants who earn \$3500 plus reimbursement and bonus. Participants can include family, friends, co-workers, etc. who reside in Idaho, Wyoming, and Utah. It may be possible to receive additional assistance in recruiting your 20 members through current recruiting efforts. Earn up to \$6500 plus add'l bonuses.

## EMPLOYMENT

Approximately 10 hours or fewer per month. Work from home.

**Job #103 Retail Clerk**  
Perform retail sales duties, operate the cash register, computer, stock and clean shelves, provide customer services, vacuum the store following closing. No requirements. Must work most of the holidays but there is some flexibility. Hours/Week: M, T & Thurs evenings each week from 5:30-9:00 pm & Sunday 12:00 noon to 6:00 pm. These hours are specific and applicant needs to be available to work these hours. \$6.00/hr Start ASAP. Located in Moscow.

**Job #102 Live-In Personal Chef**  
Primary responsibility is to shop for and prepare the evening meal Monday through Friday evenings for a family of three. Must have culinary training or food service experience with emphasis on low-fat, high nutrition gourmet quality food. 15-20 hrs/wk Pay includes private furnished room with private bath and board. Start date flexible. Located in Moscow.



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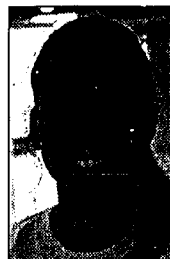
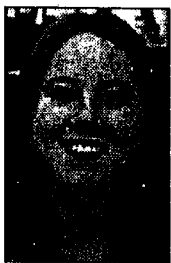


## SpeakOUT

**What advice do you have for this year's crop of incoming freshman?**

Organization is the key! You need to have time for work and play. If you keep organized you will be able to get good grades and get that special phone number.

**Keleey Schultz**  
sophomore,  
elementary education



Don't take 20 credits your first semester. You'll get burned out. Have fun, meet new people and take a lot of required classes to get them out of the way.

**Laura Hannum**  
junior,  
elementary education



When you receive your billing statement, always be sure to complete it and return it to the Student Accounts Office. If you have questions regarding your bill, call our office. We're always here to help.

**Tammy Greenwalt**  
cashier at  
Student Accounts

Books are expensive and we all have to buy them, so instead of getting mad about it work them into your budget. Also save your receipts.

**Katie Budd**  
junior, psychology  
and communications



## OurVIEW

# Rule No. 1: Don't be stupid

Welcome, freshmen, to your University of Idaho career.

Here, you'll have the chance to make new friends, advance your education and experience life on your own. You'll also have many, many opportunities to be stupid.

There will be wild parties, roommates who want to play Frisbee every day instead of going to class and chances for unprotected or irresponsible sex. You might see that list right now think, "Oh, come on, I'm not going to do that." But the shock of college sometimes rocks freshmen's foundations, and it doesn't hurt to think things through ahead of time.

For some, the strain of being away from old friends and familiar places throws off normal judgment. A kid from a small town (and in Idaho, we know how to do small towns) might find himself in unfamiliar surroundings populated by people with different backgrounds and not know exactly how to han-

dle it all. For other newbies, the urge to cut loose comes simply from not being under the parents' roof anymore. Either way, many freshmen come to UI and find themselves doing stupid things they never would have dreamed of doing before.

No matter where you're coming from, please resist the temptation to be a stupid freshman. "But I'm young, and young people do stupid things" is not an excuse, it's a stereotype. No one forces that beer bong into your mouth or makes you sleep through every biology class until the day of the final. No new situation can freak you out enough to make you abandon everything you believe and aspire to.

Thankfully, college is also a chance to re-invent yourself in a good way. The label you lived under during high school means nothing here — you have the chance to start fresh. The thing to

consider is who you want to be now. The college experience offers more good opportunities than bad. For every freshmen sneaking booze into the dorms and sleeping around, there are several more who get involved in their living groups, volunteer or work for campus organizations and meet the goals they've set for themselves.

Consider college as a time to have fun without putting your health, sanity and future at risk. Talk to friends and family members in college and find out what sort of pressures they've felt, what they regret and what they're proud of. Evaluate your own weaknesses and prepare to say no when necessary. If you find yourself in an uncomfortable situation, ask for help. But mostly, don't be scared. Come to college with an open but sound mind. This is your chance to assert yourself as an adult — do it wisely.

T.R.



# Dreaming of Prague

"The time of my life" doesn't even begin to describe the journey I had this past semester studying abroad in Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic. Known for its beautiful medieval-style buildings as well as its modern ones, Prague — or Praha as the locals call it — offers visitors all the charms of any European city at half the price.

I chose to study abroad in Prague primarily because of the bargain it offers. Filet mignon for \$8, a half-liter of beer for less than a buck — can it get any better? Speaking of beers, the Czech Republic has some of the best beers anywhere in the world: Pilsner Urquell, Gambrinus, Staropramen, Budvar and Krusovice, to name a few. The Czechs are passionate about their beer; it's a part of their culture. It is sold just about anywhere: at a stand on the streets, at KFC (there's a KFC around almost every corner here), even at the cafeteria at the famous Charles University, the oldest university in Central Europe. And the legal drinking age is only 18, which seems to be the case in almost every European country I visited. The night life is awesome. It never ends. Prague is home to the largest club in Central Europe, Karlovy Lazne, a five-story behemoth right near the famous Charles Bridge, a pedestrian-only bridge nearly 1,000 years old. But if you want to stay away from all the touristy clubs, check out those in the Zizkov area near the T.V. Tower.

While in Prague, don't miss the National Museum, Prague Castle (home to former kings and now the seat of the presidency), Dancing House, Wincelas Square, Old Town Square, Letna Hill (a beautiful hill overlooking the city, it once was the site of a massive Stalin statue that was blown apart in the 1960s), Rozhledna (Prague's version of the Eiffel Tower), the old Jewish Quarter, the Communist Museum at Wincelas Square, and of course the many cathedrals and churches. Prague has so much to offer, even a whole semester wasn't enough time for me to see it all. If you do find the time, visit some other sites in the Czech Republic. It is a beautiful country that awaits your discovery. Visit Kutna Hora, a town with a church decorated with human-bone chandeliers and other creepy décor made of human bones. It is somewhat eerie, but cool. The town of Ceske Krumlov is a gorgeous medieval town worth staying in a night or two. If you like beer, visit Pilsen (birthplace of the pilsner and home to the best-selling Czech beer, Pilsner Urquell), and Ceske Budejovice (home of the original Budweiser, or Budvar, beer). Go for a hike in Ceske Raj or Czech Paradise and visit Hluboka Castle near Ceske Budejovice, the former Nazi concentration camp at Terezin or the famous spa town of Karlovy Vary. There is so much the Czech Republic has to offer its visitors. You must go now!

How do you finance all this? First, apply for all the financial aid you can get. The university automatically gives a \$500 grant for studying abroad. Then there are tons of other scholarships and grants available, like the Gilman Scholarship. Funded by the U.S. State Department, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Institute of International Education, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship offers students who wish to study abroad \$5,000. It is a very competitive scholarship, so you must apply quickly and you must convince them that you deserve this wonderful opportunity to study abroad and that you will make their money worth it. I was awarded this scholarship and I owe them a great deal of gratitude for helping me achieve my dream of living and studying in Europe.

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## WANT TO WRITE?

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**Chris Concepcion**  
Guest columnist  
[arg\\_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu](mailto:arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu)

# Tough issues: Israel and the War on Terror

The idea of declaring a "war on terror" is fallacious for a number of reasons. For starters, declaring war on concepts is downright problematic. It doesn't work well. Look at the war on drugs. (Yes, this has been mentioned before, but nothing seems to have been done). It's working just about as well at prohibition — bang-up job there. However un-winnable a war on drugs may be, at least there is a tangible enemy present that one can see: drugs (unless one is on drugs, in which case they appear all fuzzy).

Terror, though, is an emotion. Admittedly, the war on terror is (hopefully) focused on eradicating the terror caused by terrorists. I'm trusting I wouldn't get shot for running from a wild animal. It seems that it would have made more sense to declare a war on terrorists.

Unfortunately, this is equally awkward as attempting to define who is a terrorist and who isn't has and will always be an entirely arbitrary exercise, even if one feels God blesses their country with more gusto than He does others. For example, our country was founded through terrorism. The Boston Tea Party, the signing of the Declaration of Independence, our initial clashes at Lexington and Concord — these were terrorist acts. Were this to happen today, some angry wag at Fox News would insist these Deist upstarts be referred to as "Homicide Musketeers" rather than the wussily euphemistic "revolutionaries."

Another problem with our war on terror (beyond attacking Iraq for no apparent reason) is that it wasn't ours to declare. Terrorism has been used to stir the political pot since governments have been around to be stirred. More so, since we initially employed it to exist, America has, in relation to much of

the rest of the world, been blessedly free of terror campaigns. In the Middle East, for example, a war on and of terrorism has been raging since circa 1948.

1948 was the year of the establishment of the state of Israel. The Jewish people have been having a pretty rough time of it since back in the day. For centuries they had nowhere to go. As people throughout history have been inclined to stupidly declare un-winnable wars on things they fear and/or don't understand, the Jews were, more often than not, unwelcome where they did end up.

Because of this historical shafting, I support an Israeli homeland. As possibly the most abused religious/ethnic collective in the history of the planet it would be nice if all the world's Judaic peeps could find somewhere to call their own and live there in peace. Since May 14, 1948, Israel has had that home, though peace has eluded them. To name and date the clashes with neighboring states since Israel's inception would be an undertaking loftier than the column space allows. The predominate contemporary antagonist, though, has been another group of people with major homeland problems, the Palestinians.

Like our own war on terrorism, Israel's engagement is the source of much international distress. Unlike our own war on terrorism, the difference is that Israel was (and has since been) attacked by the enemy with whom they are engaged. In the American press, Israel is largely considered a protagonist set upon by zealous, mindless, self-immolation prone Palestinian antagonists. While there is certainly some truth to this characterization (it is hard to negotiate with a population who are committed to the absolute anni-

hilation of your people), the situation is nowhere near that simple.

Two academics, John Mearsheimer and John Walt, a professor of political science at the University of Chicago and a professor of International Affairs at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, respectively, recently published a paper in the London Review of Books entitled "The Israeli Lobby." Despite some rather

common-sense assertions, (namely, that there is a powerfully pro-Israeli lobby in the United States and our political friendship with Israel is detrimental to our war on terror as it inflames Muslim fundamentalists) the paper has become enormously controversial.

One of the facets of this controversy was Mearsheimer and Walt's suggestion, one not without precedent, that academics who publicly address America's lopsided financial support of Israel are accused of anti-Semitism. This has certainly been the case in the past. Noam Chomsky (himself Jewish) possibly the most populist, fair, egalitarian and certainly the most important social critic alive, has been tagged an anti-Semite for criticisms of Israel.

Alan Dershowitz, right-winger and Harvard prof, wrote a patronizing response to the paper denying that charges of anti-Semitism are ever leveled for critique of US/Israeli policy before stating that the authors had "destroyed their professional reputations" with an article that would undoubtedly

appeal to neo-Nazis. The Anti-Defamation League, a pro-Israeli lobbying group, labeled "The Israeli Lobby" "a classical conspiratorial anti-Semitic analysis invoking the canards of Jewish power and Jewish control," and likened the essay to the infamous Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

These responses are absolutely counterproductive. "The Israeli Lobby" never suggests that there is

**The problem with the world, particularly when it's at war, is that nothing is black and white. The Israelis are beset by enemies and need help (as do their enemies).**

one massive, conspiratorial Jewish lobby pulling the strings of foreign policy. The authors suggest that there is a powerful lobby, comprised of many different groups with a similar goal: U.S. support of Israel. And this is the case.

Israel, for its size, receives an enormously inequitable chunk of American aid. The resultant disparity manifests itself as rockets smashing into residential buildings in Haifa. One Hezbollah terrorist killed along with a dozen or more civilians.

These are not easy issues. The problem with the world, particularly when it's at war, is that nothing is black and white. The Israelis are beset by enemies and need help (as do their enemies). A Palestinian baby has no less right to live or eat or go to school than an Israeli one does. God doesn't bless America any more enthusiastically than he blesses Iraq. And criticism of wrongdoing is not only the inalienable right of every American (and Israeli), it's our duty. To color the censure of political and social iniquity as prejudice, subversion or sedition is not only un-American, it's cowardly and a slap in the face to democracy everywhere.

## Editorial Policy

The opinion page is reserved as a forum of open thought, debate and expression of free speech regarding topics relevant to the University of Idaho community. Editorials are signed by the initials of the author.

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- Letters should be less than 300 words typed.

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

- If your letter is in response to a particular article, please list the title and date of the article.
- Send all letters to: 301 SUB, Moscow, ID, 83844-4271 or [arg\\_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu](mailto:arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu).

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## In life and art with musician Hugh Moffat

By Sean M. Aguilar  
Argonaut

In 2003, three days after hearing that Johnny Cash would record his song "Rose of My Heart," Hugh Moffat woke up to the news that Cash had died.

"I hope it wasn't my song that killed him," Moffat says.

It was nearly two and a half years later Moffat learned through the grapevine that "Rose of My Heart" would be on Cash's final album, "American V: A Hundred Highways."

"It was the typical whiplash of the music business, up and then down," Moffat says.

Moffat had forgotten about Cash recording it and started receiving congratulations on his answering machine before he even knew the song had made it onto the album.

"It was totally out of the blue," he says.

Moffat says he has great respect for Cash. He talks about how fulfill-

ing it was to have his song recorded by him.

"He is one of the great song interpreters," Moffat says. "It's validating (and) it says that the stuff I believe in matters."

"Rose of My Heart" was written in 1981 or 82, for Pebe Sebert, Moffat's first wife. He said he still relates to the song, but in some ways its meaning has changed for him.

"Songs have a life of their own. You don't have to have written a song to hear a song that is about you. That song that was written for a different person, but it can now be for another person in my mind."

Moffat said that Cash changed his song in expected and unexpected ways. Cash did things like change the word "cold" to "cool." Moffat used these kinds of words to add contrast to his music.

"The fact is Cash has all of that in his voice, and even if he changes the word it's still there," Moffat says.

Moffat's goal is to write something people love to listen to, but

also bring something spiritual and artistic to the table. He believes artists need to be honest, and acknowledge that their art is also about making a living.

"If Shakespeare were alive today he'd be writing sitcoms. He'd be going where the money is," Moffat says.

About 20 of the 25 years Moffat was an artist he was able to make a living out of it. While touring he spent about four months every year away from home, sometimes with Mary Moffat, his wife of nearly 20 years.

"I liked that lifestyle more than anything. Consolidating your life into a couple suitcases, it's an idyllic way of living," Mary said.

Even when Mary wasn't able to tour with Moffat things weren't so bad.

"My father was in the Merchant Marines, so even when Hugh was gone it was very normal," Mary says.

Settling down in Pullman was

different.

"It was harder to move to Pullman and get used to Hugh being in the corporate world than the lifestyle of an artist. It was hard for both of us," Mary says.

Even after leaving Nashville, Moffat still hasn't left music behind. He recently put out "Songs from the Back of the Church," an album about those who stand in the back pews. The album can be purchased from [www.hughmoffat.com](http://www.hughmoffat.com). He will be performing the set Aug. 6 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse.

Moffat is also a librettist, and along with composer Michael Ching penned "King of the Clouds," "Out of the Rain" and "Corps of Discovery, A Musical Journey," which was performed at the University of Idaho last year.

"The University of Idaho and IRT (Idaho Repertory Theater) is one of the most seriously talented theater

See **MOFFAT**, page B4



Lisa Wareham/Argonaut  
Songwriter Hugh Moffat plays guitar and sings at his home in Pullman Monday night. The painting above him is a reprint of a painting of his great great great great grandfather.

## Caribbean theme brings fun to 'Comedy'

By Tara Roberts  
Argonaut

In Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors," two sets of identical twins, separated at birth, end up in a mess of mistaken identity, slapstick and farce.

When Idaho Repertory Theatre artistic director Jere Hodgkin decided to direct "Comedy" as the final show of this IRT season, he wanted to take the play to new levels.

"We were looking for something that would make it a little bit more contemporary, and also something that would accent the fun of the piece," Hodgkin says.

The result: "Comedy" and its heroes — Antipholus of Ephesus, Antipholus of Syracuse, Dromio of Ephesus and Dromio of Syracuse — are transported to a vaguely modern-day Caribbean island.

Hodgkin says the setting complements Shakespeare's imagery of a place where mystery and magic are possible. Plus, since the original is set at a Roman port, there are references to the sea, ships, travel and barter.

The actors agree — creating a Caribbean world for the chaos of "Comedy" makes the play fun to be in and to see.

"It really, really lends well just to the spirit of the piece," Mary Bliss Mather, who plays Luciana, says. "I couldn't imagine doing this play in traditional Elizabethan garb. It wouldn't look right. ... It wouldn't be fun."

To transform the Hartung Outdoor Theatre stage into a Caribbean island, scenic designer Stephanie Miller consulted pictures of Cuba.

"We decided that this was a city, that we were looking for a Caribbean island look that was colorful," Miller

### SEE 'COMEDY'

Performances of "The Comedy of Errors" will be Thursday through Sunday and July 28 and 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hartung Outdoor Theatre. For tickets or more information, call 882-7212.

says. "The architecture (in Cuba) is stunningly beautiful and aged. It has a patina to it that I tried to capture here."

The pink and blue set features textured walls marked with graffiti, a big fountain and plenty of windows and doors, allowing the characters to pop on and off stage quickly.

"(The set) has lots of wonderful opportunities for passing," Miller says. "It's like a crossroads, I guess."

For costuming, designer Cheri Vasek put the actors in shorts, wide-brimmed hats, sunglasses and bright colored shirts. While the costumes address the characters' social stations, they're mostly about fun, Hodgkin says.

The outdoor stage also lends to the spirit of the play. Traditionally, IRT's final show is done outside. Shakespeare's plays are a perfect fit, Hodgkin says, because they were originally performed this way and include many outdoor scenes.

There are some challenges to the outdoor stage, but the cast members say they enjoy performing "Comedy" outside, particularly because it opens up opportunities for the slapstick to shine.

"It's hard to project," says Macah Coates, who plays a courtesan. "But it's nice to have it so open. You just have room to really play."

See **'COMEDY'**, page B4



Kylie Pfeifer/Argonaut  
Adam Critchlow rehearses as Dromio of Syracuse for a monologue for Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors" Friday outside the Hartung Theater.

## 'Dead Man's Chest' is all looks, short on charm

By Ryli Hennessey  
Argonaut

OK, so it's funny when people fall down. Most of the time when people hurt themselves it's worthy of a good laugh. On the other hand, two hours and 30 minutes of Johnny Depp hitting his head, falling down and getting sprayed with goo gets tiresome pretty quickly.

In "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" the bad slapstick act becomes exhausting after the first 15 minutes and the only actor who could save the film doesn't show up until the last 15 seconds.

"Dead Man's Chest" is decent as far as summer blockbusters go, but loses most of the charm of the first film. Especially disappointing is Captain Jack Sparrow (Depp). Once a clumsy-yet-sexy pirate he has become a bumbling fool. He isn't even a respectable pirate anymore, he's just an annoyance. A combination of a bad story and Depp's remarkably played-out performance makes him into the worst character in the movie. In fact, is it too much to ask that he doesn't come back for the third "Pirates" movie?

Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley) and Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) have also become very sad since their last adventure. They are like two ugly girls who haven't forgotten that really cool guy who once got drunk and made out with them, and Jack, being that cool guy, has completely forgotten his embarrassing one-night stand. The whole Elizabeth/Will/Jack love triangle is so stale that it is hard to care who any of them end up with. The only thing that could spice up their passionless love lives would be for Jack and Will to get together. That might turn up some intensity.

Will and Elizabeth are far from cool in this film and have degenerated into being nothing but two spectacular pieces of eye candy. But being hot isn't always enough to make an audience care about a film. There are a lot of hotties in "Pirates," but a serious lack of competent acting.

The special effects are pretty incredible, but it's hard not to notice how hard the filmmakers are trying to outdo themselves. Skeleton pirates were awesome so they had to go over the top to beat it. That being said, the deformed sea creatures who make up Davy Jones' (Bill Nighy) crew are



"Pirates: Dead Man's Chest"

★1/2 (of 5)  
Johnny Depp,  
Keira Knightley,  
Orlando Bloom  
Now playing

## Camp Counselors: A guide to the best of the bad

Filmmaker John Waters once said there is a difference between good bad taste and bad bad taste. Here are a few of our favorite campy films that share some of our flawless bad taste.

### "Pink Flamingos" (1972)

Being campy wouldn't quite be the same without the ultimate camp film, John Waters' "Pink Flamingos." The film stars the late Divine, a very large drag queen, as Babs Johnson, aka the filthiest person alive. She lives in a trailer with her son Crackers, his voyeuristic lady Cotton, and her mother Edie The Egg Lady. She is living a quiet life of filthiness when Connie and Raymond Marble try to steal her title by selling heroin to school children and kidnapping young women, having their fertile butler, Channing, impregnate them then selling their babies to lesbian couples. This film's tag line, "An exercise in poor taste," is as true today as when it was released in 1972. To even try to out-filth this camp master-



piece would be offensive. The film and others that followed earned Waters the nicknames Pope of Trash and Prince of Puke. I have used this film as a test of friendship for years now. Anyone who is cool enough to actually laugh at "Pink Flamingos" will be my friend forever. The film's best life lesson is if you don't like someone, curse them by licking their furniture. If you do it will reject them. Yes, I have tried it.

-Ryli Hennessey

### "Women in Revolt" (1971)

This Andy Warhol-produced, Paul Morrissey-directed film satires the women's liberation movement in the campiest of ways. The film's lead characters, Candy, Jackie and Holly, are militant semi-lesbian feminists who start an organization called PIGS, or Politically Involved Girls. The only thing is the actresses aren't even female. They are three awesome female impersonators. I'm not sure how to describe this film. It would take pages to give anyone an accurate outline of the plot, so I won't even try. Candy Darling is my favorite "actress" in the film. She plays a rich girl who is hit up for money by Jackie

and sex-crazed Holly for PIGS. She doesn't want to join their group, but has been burned by plenty of men, including her own brother. She ends up sleeping with directors in order to become famous. In the film's final scene she is beat up by a journalist who is interviewing her. I'm not quite sure why, but it is seriously funny. Everything in the film is so outrageously artificial that the characters become somehow believable. I don't know how it happens, but I love it.

-Ryli Hennessey

### "Evil Dead" (1981) "Evil Dead II" (1987) "Army of Darkness" (1992)

No horror movie has ever beaten the "Evil Dead" trilogy, directed by now-famous Sam Raimi ("Spiderman", duh) in pure campiness. It's the classic story of boy meets girl, boy takes girl to haunted cabin, girl becomes possessed, girl is killed by boy, boy's hand becomes possessed, boy chops off hand, boy replaces hand with



chainsaw and begins fighting a resurrected army of the undead. Phew. Oh, I forgot the boomstick.

Bruce Campbell plays that boy, Ash. In the first movie, Ash, then called Ashlee, is the shy, quiet type. He doesn't strike you as the badass killing machine, with cool catch phrases to boot, that he becomes in the later two movies. But wait, just wait.

The amount of blood and gore in the movies was only recently rivaled by movies such as "Kill Bill" and "Ichi the Killer," so if you don't like fire hoses spraying blood on sets, you're a wuss and shouldn't watch this movie.

The movie is made campy-complete with a masterful plot containing ancient demonic books of unspeakable power, hysterical furniture (literally), time travel, the eventual possession and then dismemberment of every girl Ash gets some sugar from, and oh so much more. It's good to be king.

-Sean M. Aguilar

### "Ernest Goes to Camp" (1987)

Feeling in the mood for a campy film? Try a campy camp film: 1987's "Ernest Goes to Camp." I remember

See **CAMP**, page B3

See **PIRATES**, page B3

# Rendezvous in the Park back for another year

By Carissa Wright  
Argonaut

Since 1983, Rendezvous in the Park has been entertaining Moscow residents with a host of musical performers, from local artists to nationally known groups. The tradition continues with this year's festival, which runs nightly Thursday-Sunday at East City Park.

"It's part of what makes Moscow the Heart of the Arts," said Dianne Laursen, executive director of Rendezvous in Moscow, Inc.

Laursen said the annual festival was founded as a direct response to requests from the citizens of Moscow for an outdoor summer music festival. In 1990, the festival had grown too big to continue under the auspices of the City of Moscow, and Rendezvous in Moscow became an independently controlled non-profit organization.

The festival is put together entirely by some 200 volunteers, Laursen said, who do everything from securing bands to organizing food and beverage service. Rendezvous is truly a community effort, as more than 85 percent of the festival's funds come from local businesses and donors.

Rendezvous in the Park is four evenings of music, each focusing on a different genre. Sunday afternoon is always classical, Laursen said. This year, there will be a world beat

night, a blues night and a Latin rock night in addition to Sunday's classical performance.

"We have a history of getting national acts who are on the verge of becoming well-known," Laursen said, citing the numerous Rendezvous performers who have gone on to win recognition and industry awards.

This year is the second that local bands have opened the nightly performances. An open talent competition in the spring provides the six finalists, Laursen said. Audiences at an early-summer showcase concert chose the three local bands that will open each night at 5:30 p.m.

San Francisco-based New Monsoon, a Latin/Indian rock band with influences ranging from Jimi Hendrix to Tito Puente, will play at 8 p.m. on Thursday. Rock/funk group The Scott Law Band will play at 6:30 p.m. and local bluegrass band Steptoe will open.

Friday's blues night will feature Alvin Jett and the Phat noiZ Band, a group that combines R&B, blues and rock into an energetic mix. Seattle-based rock and blues band Electric Shades of Blue will play at 6:30 p.m. and local band Bare Wires will open with a mix of blues, folk and country.

California band Los Mocosos will perform its distinctive mix of merengue, salsa, funk, R&B, Latin jazz and reggae at 8 p.m. Saturday for

## RENDEZVOUS LINE-UP

All concerts take place at East City Park.

**Thursday:** Steptoe at 5:30 p.m.; The Scott Law Band at 6:30 p.m.; New Monsoon at 8 p.m.

**Friday:** Bare Wires at 5:30 p.m.; Electric Shades of Blue at 6:30 p.m.; Alvin Jett and the Phat noiZ Band at 8 p.m.

**Saturday:** Eric Anderson at 5:30 p.m.; The Douglas Cameron Band at 6:30 p.m.; Los Mocosos at 8 p.m.

**Sunday:** The Rendezvous Chamber Orchestra at 4 p.m.

Latin rock night. The Douglas Cameron Band will play at 6:30 p.m. and Moscow native Eric Anderson, an acoustic rock guitarist, will open.

Sunday afternoon's classical concert will begin at 4 p.m., and will feature the Rendezvous Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Yaacov Bergman, which includes local and nationally known artists from as far away as New York City.

At each concert, food and beverages from a variety of local vendors will be available for purchase, and on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, a beer and wine garden sponsored by King's



Lisa Wareham/Argonaut

Bluegrass group Steptoe performs at the Rendezvous People's Choice in May. They were one of three local groups to win the People's Choice and will open for New Monsoon July 20 at 8 p.m. at the Rendezvous in the Park in East City Park.

Beverages will be open. ID will be required for entry, Laursen said, whether concert-goers are 21 or 81 years old.

Tickets for Thursday-Saturday are \$15 and available at BookPeople, local US Bank locations and online at the Rendezvous Web site. Tickets for

Sunday's concert are \$10 and available at the same locations, and tickets for Thursday are \$12 at US Bank locations only. Children 12 and younger are free with a paying adult.

For more information, visit the Rendezvous Web site at [www.moscowmusic.com](http://www.moscowmusic.com) or call 882-1178.

# Say Anything tries hard to be different, but falls short

By Michael Howell  
Argonaut

The album "...Is a real boy," is the mainstream label debut of the band Say Anything. To start, let it be known that the album is, in most respects, a gem of deliciously wicked originality.

The album itself is suburban-sounding to the core, almost comparable to the best qualities of The Bloodhound Gang with just a tinge of self-honesty.

Musically, the disc reflects painstakingly crafted pop production with scintillating rhythms and hooks which are accentuated to the point of dark irony by Say Anything's lead singer, Max Bemis. In fact, the lyrics

are what separate Say Anything from the hordes of the pop-punk outfits of today. This is because most often, they reflect fiery rage unmatched by a good number of much more hardcore bands.

The fact that the album is like nothing else on the market is also what causes problems for it. While Bemis deserves credit for recognizing the state of contemporary punk-pop, he also seems to suffer because he tries to go against the grain. "...Is a real boy" doesn't add up to all that much. The record opens with a bang, quickly setting the mood with the

song "Belt." The verses and pre-choruses of this first song are catchy, filled with guitars that claw and crawl their way through complex changes.

However, the chorus is where Bemis falters. The part of the lyrics that is supposed to be the catchiest also ends up becoming the most clichéd. This becomes an ominous vision of the rest of the album. Each song ends up being great at first and then suddenly losing itself toward the end.

The album's biggest problem is its inability to go beyond that which it tries to be better than. Examples include the acoustic

ballad "I Want to Know Your Plans." In addition to blowing a great setup, Bemis resorts to a woefully weak chorus with: "You're what keeps me believing the world's not gone dead." "Every Man Has a Molly" serves as the standard break-up song. It displays Ben Folds' tongue-in-cheekiness, while lacking his resonant emotional depth. "Woe" attempts to find an out from pop's omnipresent trends, but is instead memorable for joking lines that don't land as they should. "The Futile" makes an obvious mockery of Say Anything's narcissistic peers, but becomes ironic when the listener realizes the mainstream guitar pop that Bemis references is obviously how he writes as well.

Overall, the album "...Is a real boy!" sets out to do what every music lover wishes somebody could do, but comes out being just like all the others. The lyrics are amazing, despite being clichéd in many different parts. The guitars are amazing in themselves and the music is certainly easy to listen to.

Anybody that wants to listen to an album that at least tries to be different from what the music industry keeps putting out should pick this up. Anybody that likes what plays on MTV (for the hour or so that MTV plays music) should pass this up. Finally, anybody that hates everything the music industry stands for today should pick up two copies.



Say Anything  
"...Is a real boy"  
★★★ (of 5)  
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# Allende's 'Zorro' an enjoyable summer read

By Tara Roberts  
Argonaut

With her re-envisioning of Johnston McCulley's Zorro character, (titled, plainly, "Zorro"), Isabel Allende will charm adventure-loving readers effortlessly.

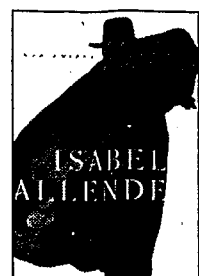
The book is filled with exotic locales and characters — there are pompous nobles and clever Indians, Gypsies and sailors, bandits, swordsmen, prisoners of war and a voodoo priestess. And there are pirates. Lots of pirates.

Chilean-born Allende was commissioned by Zorro Productions, the company that owns the copyright for Zorro,

to write a novel giving the character new life. The result is a sort of prequel, in which readers learn how the legendary hero found his calling.

Readers first meet Don Diego de la Vega long before he dons his black mask and cape. He is introduced on the day he is born. Allende gives him ties to both America and Spain — his father is the critical caballero Don Alejandro de la Vega, his mother a fierce, intelligent Shoshone woman forced into

the ways of Spanish nobility. Diego's mother falls ill after giving birth, so he is nursed along side a Shoshone boy, Bernardo, who becomes his brother in education and adventure.



"Zorro"  
★★★★ (of 5)  
Isabel Allende  
Now available

Diego and Bernardo's unbreakable bond builds the backbone to the first half of the novel. Readers watch as the boys grow up, learning the ways of both the Indians and Spanish in America, then traveling Barcelona as teenagers. Throughout the

narrative, Allende cleverly weaves in origin stories for many of Zorro's most iconic attributes — how he got his horse Tornado, why he chose the fox to represent him and why his black mask always covers up his ears.

In the last third of the book, Allende truly cuts loose with her story. After indulging in the tempestuous landscapes of Spain and America in the early 19th century, she brings readers to the lushest and most fascinating place yet: the Caribbean, circa 1815. On a pirate's island, Diego must face adult responsibilities that conflict with his selfish boyhood desires. He is, however,

essentially peripheral in these scenes as Allende explores minor characters that have been present through most of the novel.

Allende has obviously done her homework, texturing each scene with careful details. Without being overwhelming, she works in notes about the customs, fashions, foods and more from the places Diego and Bernardo visit. She wastes no space in her novel, carrying readers through a fast-paced narrative written in clear, simple language that allows the reader to enjoy the story, no strings attached.

The book's major flaw is in Allende (or her editor's) lay-

out. The story is made for bite-sized chapters, but is instead broken up into five exhaustive sections. She also uses an irritating "Who is the narrator?" trick, but those annoyed by such devices need only flip to the first line of the epilogue.

Above all, readers must remember that Zorro comes from a fine tradition of pulp novels and blockbuster movies. Allende keeps this in mind, creating a fun, fascinating story that doesn't take itself too seriously. "Zorro" is an ideal read for a day at the beach, park or curled up in bed, sailing away on imaginary ships with imaginary heroes. (And pirates.)

## PIRATES from page B1

pretty wicked and probably the best part of the movie. They are violent, scary and exciting. Nighy as Davy Jones is great — he's a scary kind of guy and pulls off a good performance despite being barely recognizable behind all of the special effects and makeup.

Even if you actually have a good story and good actors, sequels are usually bad enough without making them completely devoted to everything about the first film. It is as if the entire movie is one big nod to "The Curse of the Black Pearl." Every few minutes something pops up as a tired reminder of the first film. It's one thing to acknowledge what was loved about the original and to use it to make the audience happy. It is another to make a film that's main function is paying homage to the original.

"Dead Man's Chest" is an embarrassing attempt at a sequel. The only thing that might save the reputation of the franchise is the return of Geoffrey Rush in the third film, but the magic may already be gone.

## CAMP from page B1

watching this little gem on cable with my grandpa, and still find it kinda funny. The first and best of the Ernest movies (followed by, to name a few, "Ernest Goes to Splash Mountain," "Ernest Goes to Jail" and "Ernest Goes to Africa") features the late Jim Varney as doozy, loveable Ernest P. Worrel. Ernest gets a summer job as camp counselor to a bunch of juvenile delinquents with (of course) hearts of gold, and they band together to save Camp Kikakee from a bunch of corporate baddies who want to turn it into a mine. The best moment comes when Ernest, feeling hopeless and rejected, sings the song "Gee I'm Glad It's Rainin'" to his turtle.

Another campy camp film not to miss: "Heavy Weights" (1995) is a Disney comedy that follows the exploits of a bunch of mis-



fit kids at fat camp. When the beloved camp owner retires, fitness guru Tony Perkis (Ben Stiller at his psychopathic best) takes over. He rules with humiliation and punishment until the kids decide to overthrow him.

And for some extra flavor, a campy camp TV show: "Salute Your Shorts," which aired on Nickelodeon from 1991-92 and totally needs to be released on DVD. With character names like Ug, Donkeylips and Sponge, it has to be so bad it's awesome.

-Tara Roberts

## Clash of the Titans (1981)

Put together one heroic Greek myth, special effects master Ray Harryhausen, legendary Shakespearean actor Laurence Olivier and the Dame Maggie Smith, and you've got "Clash of the Titans." The story follows Perseus (the noble and incredibly confused Harry Hamlin) on his quest to battle both Medusa and the Kraken in order to save the beautiful Andromeda, his bride to be. The movie takes itself just as seriously as one might hope, and never fails to veer off into



the ridiculous. The action sequences are where Harryhausen's stop-motion animation techniques shine. He creates giant scorpions, a winged horse, talking statues, the infamous Medusa and the monstrous Kraken — none of these effects are particularly realistic, especially by today's standards. Does that really matter, though? How high are the expectations for a movie made 25 years ago, honestly? Besides, Harryhausen's stop-motion animation feels far more satisfying than some of today's sub-par CGI.

One of my favorite characters in "Clash of the Titans" has always been Bubo, the little mechanical owl whose clicks and whistles were eerily similar to those of R2D2. He always seemed to me like he knew very well how silly the whole thing was, and was refraining from laughing because he felt it wouldn't be polite.

-Carissa Wright

## A QUICK GAME OF CHESS



Kylie Pfeifer/Argonaut Passersby in the Commons get a surprise looking up onto the ceiling above the Reflections Gallery Friday.



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*But, I'll be the one who goes on ice cream runs with you at 3 a.m.*

*I'll be the one who comforts you when the goldfish you bought for your room dies.*

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**ArtsBRIEFS**

**Indian photography exhibit continues**

"Faces from the Land: A Photographic Journey Through Native America" will continue at the Third Street Gallery through Aug. 11. The exhibit features work from Seattle photographer Ben Marra and his wife Linda Marra.

**ARTWALK exhibits continue in town**

Moscow ARTWALK continues with more than 30 area businesses participating. The event will continue through September 9. For a full calendar and more information, see the June 21 issue of the Summer Arg or visit [www.moscow-arts.org](http://www.moscow-arts.org) and follow the calendar link.

**More IRT shows throughout July**

Idaho Repertory Theatre summer season is winding down with two more shows. "Lend Me A Tenor," a farce set at the opera, will show at 7:30 p.m. July 27 and July 29 and 2 p.m. July 23 and 30.

The final production will be Shakespeare's "A Comedy of Errors." The show will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Sunday and July 25, 26, 28 and 30 at the Hartung Outdoor Theatre.

For tickets to any of these shows, call 885-7212.

**Farmers' Market runs through October**

The Moscow Farmers' Market will continue to be open every Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon at Friendship Square. From 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sidhe will play a free concert at the market. Canned Music will play July 29.

**Comic books enrich their character mix**

By Jim Beckerman  
The Record (Hackensack N.J.)

POW! Take that, racism. And — WHACK! — take that, homophobia. And — THOOM! KER-THWACK! KRUMMMMM! — take that, gender stereotyping, cultural bias and religious intolerance.

Identity — and not just the secret kind — has become the increasing focus of the masked heroes, mutants and super beings of the comic book world.

Batwoman will reemerge from the DC Comics drawing board in July as a lesbian. Blue Beetle has been reinvented by DC as a Mexican teenager. The Great Ten, a Chinese superhero team, is being unleashed this month as part of DC's magazine 52.

But that's just the tip of the multicultural iceberg.

Arana, a half-Mexican girl with Spider-Man's super powers, is slinging her web through the Marvel Comics universe. Freedom Ring, a gay character, is part of "Marvel Team-Up." An X-Men character, Dust (she can whip up sandstorms), is a Sunni Muslim in a burqa.

Then there's the Marvel superhero team the Santerians, based on the Caribbean religion of Santeria.

Luke Cage and Black Panther, two African-American stalwarts, are getting lots of attention from Marvel these days: Cage as a leader of the Avengers, and Black Panther as the groom-to-be of X-Men's Storm.

"This is our version of the wedding of Charles and Diana," says Joe Quesada, Marvel's editor in chief.

Overseas, capitalizing on the international success of the "Spider-Man" movies, Marvel has teamed with Gotham Entertainment Group to release Spider-Man India, in which Spider-Man Peter Parker is rechristened Pavitr Prabhakar for a South Asian audience.

It's a far cry from the old days, when comic book heroes came in two varieties: blond hair and dark hair (which usually came out blue in the comic books).

The only character with a specific national or ethnic origin was Superman. He was from Krypton.

Today's superheroes, in contrast, aren't shy about group identification: "X-Men" readers know that Wolverine is Canadian, Storm is African, Nightcrawler is German and Colossus is Russian. And did you know that "Fantastic Four's" Ben Grimm, aka The Thing, is Jewish?

"We're very multicultural and international," Quesada says.

The fact that Quesada, originally from Sparta, is Marvel's first Hispanic top gun is not the only reason he champions multiculturalism, Marvel style.

Comic book fantasy is believable, he says, to the extent that it's grounded in the real world. And the real world is not exclusively white, Anglo-Saxon, male or heterosexual.

"To use the real world and not reflect (the diversity) is almost callous in a sense," says Quesada, who is of Cuban descent. "If you're going to play in the sandbox, let's play in the sandbox."

If comic book characters come in all colors, so do fans.

At the recent Big Apple Conventions Super Show (Steven Seagal, Robert Vaughn, Captain Lou Albano and a host of comic book cre-

ators were slated among the special guests), an estimated 5,000 people bought, traded, collected and talked comic books.

Among them: Hispanic fans, black fans, Indian fans, Asian fans, gay fans and women fans, says Bill Foster III, who will have a booth there.

"I've noticed an increase of people of color at comic shows, and an increase in women," says Foster, an English professor at Naugatuck Community College in Connecticut.

His book, "Looking for a Face Like Mine" (Fine Tooth Press), is a study of superheroes of color — something that was in short supply when he was a kid growing up in Philadelphia in the early 1960s.

**1966 breakthrough**

Back then, there was Lothar, Mandrake the Magician's loinclothed assistant. And there was Sam Harlem the detective — if you were lucky enough to own a frayed copy of All-Negro Comics, a 1947 attempt to launch a black comic book line (it lasted one issue). When Foster was a child, to see a dark face in even a walk-on part was exciting.

"When I was reading 'Spider-Man,' I was thrilled to see a black student talking to Peter Parker," Foster says.

In 1966, Marvel's breakthrough character Black Panther (no relation to the political party) was like water in the desert to Foster and many other fans.

"He wasn't just a background character," Foster says. "He was introduced in Marvel's premier comic, 'Fantastic Four.' And he was an African king."

**Crossover appeal**

The trickle of "ethnic" characters became a steady stream in the 1970s, '80s and '90s: not just Black Lightning, Black Goliath, Luke Cage, Nubia (Wonder Woman's black sister) and Blade, the black vampire slayer, but also heroes like Arak, a Native American warrior. In 1992, Marvel's Northstar was the first major superhero to come out of the closet.

Such characters not only gave minority readers of color a hero — or heroine — of their own, they also had crossover appeal. One well-known example: A white actor named Nicholas Coppola was such a Luke Cage fan that he changed his name to Nicolas Cage.

"I think you are going to see that (diversity) trend accelerate and broaden," says Paul Levitz, president and publisher of DC. "It's a more interesting story line when everybody isn't the same."

Comic books, by their nature, will always have a special appeal to people on society's margins — partly because they're about people on society's margins.

Think of Clark Kent, the wimp who can't get a date with Lois Lane (if she only knew!). Or the "mutant" X-Men, superhero outcasts whose story lines have often been viewed as code for racial or sexual minorities (in the new movie "X-Men: The Last Stand," the authorities try to "cure" mutants). Comic books have always, in a sense, been about people on the outside.

"In comic books, you have people who fight for justice," Foster says. "That's going to attract a certain number of people who feel they have been disenfranchised."



"Batwoman"



"Luke Cage"



"Arana"

**'COMEDY' from page B1**

An outdoor stage makes the audience feel like they're part of the play's world, Coates says.

In addition to emphasizing the "playfulness and frivolity" of the show, performing outside has another perk for Nellie Anna Doelman, who plays Adriana.

"You get a tan during rehearsals."

**Trouble with twins**

There are two sets of identical twins in "The Comedy of Errors," but the actors playing them aren't twins at all.

Director Jere Hodgkin cast Daniel L. Haley and Luke Daigle as the twins Antipholus of Ephesus and Antipholus of Syracuse and Trevor Hill and Adam T. Critchlow as the Dromios.

"What's more important to me is ... to find people whose energy is similar," he says. "Their rhythm and

their energy."

Hodgkin says there is no record of Shakespeare ever actually casting twins, either. While the characters onstage get confused about who is who, "I don't think Shakespeare intended to fool the audience," he says.

What's most important is for the audience to be drawn in just enough that they buy into the characters being fooled.

"It's asking the audience to suspend their disbelief," Hodgkin says.

**MOFFAT from page B1**

organizations anywhere in the world," Moffat said.

"Corps of Discovery" was performed by three separate companies, which he said is very successful for an opera.

Moffat is working on a new opera, but said it's too early to release details.

Although Moffat has enjoyed being an artist, he said the most fulfilling thing in his life is more personal.

"Mary and I building our relationship and happiness for 20 years is about as fulfilling as it gets."

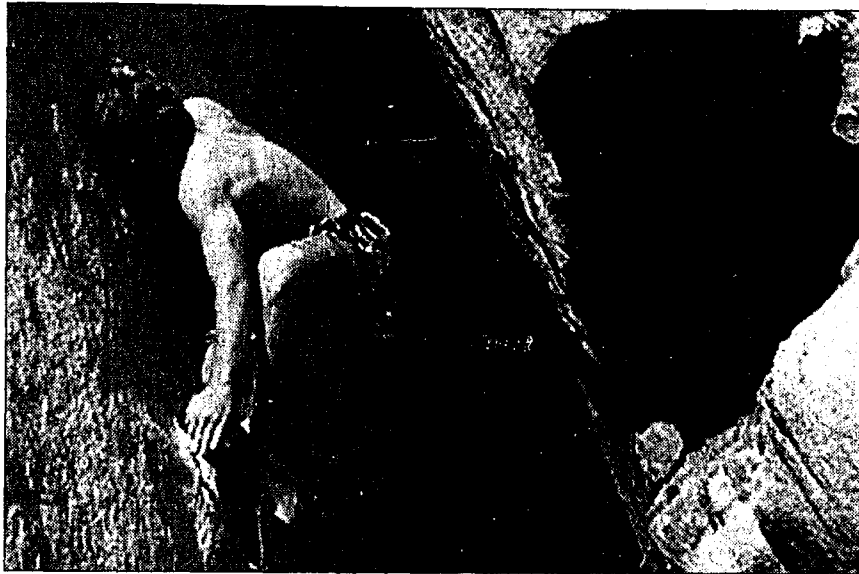
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## A climbing obsession



This UI student is taking the semester off to scale mountains in Australia

By Jessica Mullins  
Argonaut

Conrad Piper-Ruth, a junior at University of Idaho, lives a life of climbing and traveling that is merely punctuated with work and school.

"Climbing is more of an addiction than anything else. I'm really dependent on it," Piper-Ruth says.

This fall, Piper-Ruth will take a seven-month hiatus from UI to do what he loves most. Alaska and then Australia will quench his thirst for the traveling and seemingly limitless climbing he had missed during his first two years at UI.

Whether he is climbing outdoors on a 4,000-foot route, or inside the UI Student Recreation Center on the 55-foot tower with a broken hand, Piper-Ruth maintains a strong climbing mentality.

"It feels really good to just continue to push yourself," he says. "I will be up 20 or 30 feet on a hold that at one point I didn't think was possible to hold onto."

Piper-Ruth played soccer and baseball when he was younger, but started climbing in high school. Climbing is harder than other sports, he says.

"I found it a lot more challenging, both physically and mentally," Piper-Ruth says.

Climbing is mentally challenging because a climber has to work through each move, especially on harder routes, he says.

"Even a slight movement is going to push you further," Piper-Ruth says.

He is also attracted to the sport because it isn't mainstream.

"There really isn't too much competition and ego in it," he says. "It is all self-motivated and a lot of fun."

In high school, Piper-Ruth joined a climbing team and competed around the Northwest. Despite placing top in the region, he stopped climbing in the competitions because he wanted to spend more time climbing outside.

"I competed a lot but was never serious about it," Piper-Ruth says. "It was more about having fun and being with the other competitors."

One of his most challenging climbs was the 4,000-foot El Capitan in

Yosemite, Calif.

Piper-Ruth spent two months at Yosemite during his first solo climbing trip across the West. It was a climbing trip that began in Yosemite and lasted throughout the year after he graduated from Boise High School. The trip was inspired by passionate climbers, known as "dirt bags," he had met. Dirt bags

spend hardly any money and climb as much as they can.

"Climbing was all I thought about, so I wanted to travel and spend time climbing," he says. "(The trip) turned out to be amazing."

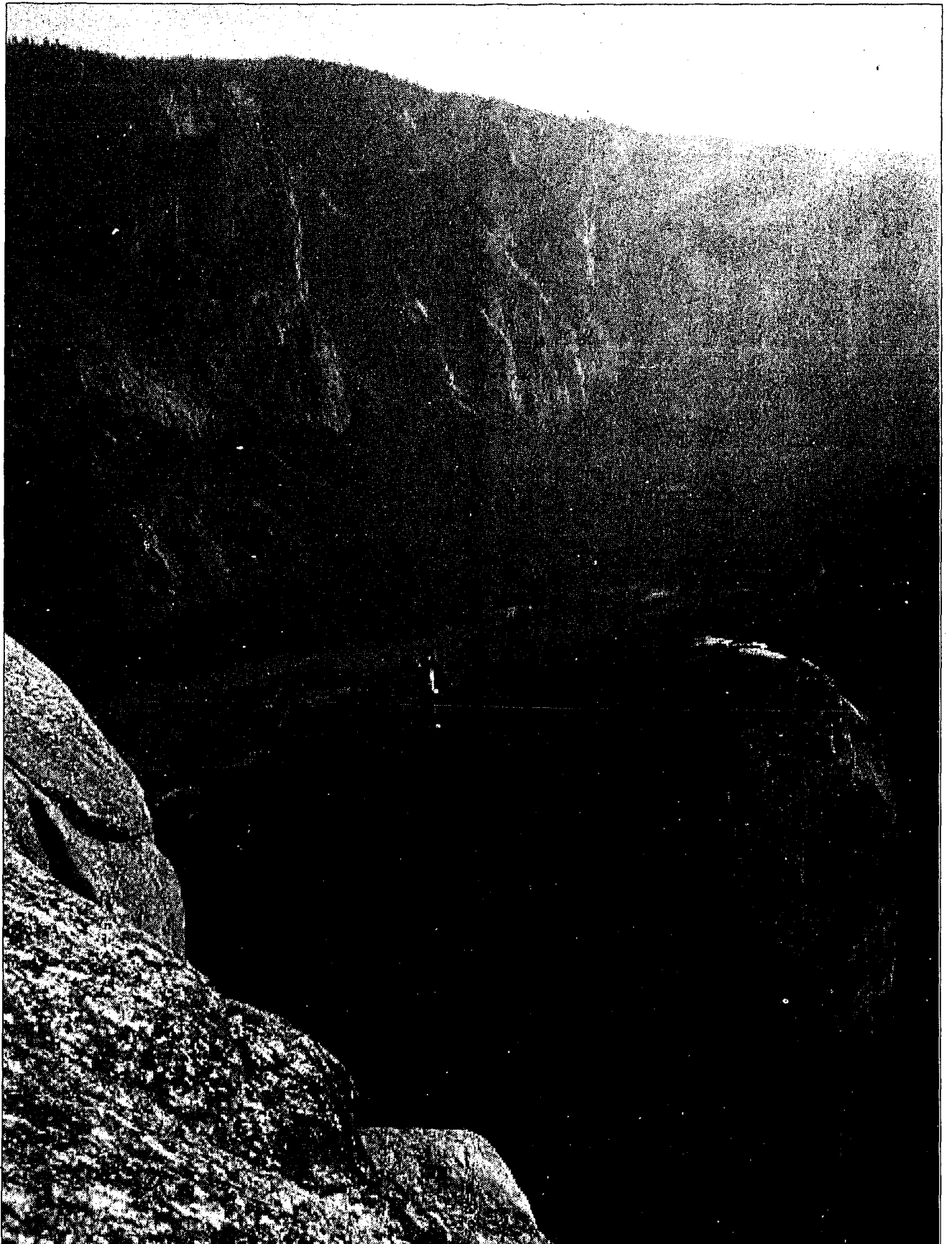
He climbed El Capitan in four days, resting only during the dark while suspended thousands of feet above the ground. He was constantly dehydrated and could hardly eat food during the four days.

"It was the hardest thing I've ever done," Piper-Ruth says. "A lot of it was a mental attitude of just telling myself 'I'm going to climb this' and 'I can't go down, I'm just going to keep going.'"

Piper-Ruth climbs frequently at the

**"Climbing really helped me get through school. When I would get frustrated or mad I would go climb for a while and come back relaxed."**

Conrad Piper-Ruth  
Junior



Courtesy photos

Rec Center and also uses stone buildings around campus as climbing spots. Unpredictable weather and school-work make it difficult to take outdoor excursions that tend to be at least an hour away from Moscow. He admires the outdoor climber mentality, he says.

"People who climb all the time outside are not too concerned with making themselves look good," Piper-Ruth says. "They are concerned with climbing everything. The lack of ego is really refreshing."

He was further separated from climbing last spring semester when he sustained a hand injury that required surgery and several months of recovery. He visited the Rec Center climbing wall as much as he could, despite his cast and painful injury, until the doctors ordered him to stop.

"I couldn't climb for the second half of the semester. I pretty much went crazy and had a difficult time studying

and getting my school work done," he says. "Climbing really helped me get through school. When I would get frustrated or mad I would go climb for a while and come back relaxed."

While injured he was still involved with events at the climbing center. He set routes and judged for the spring climbing competition.

Traveling overseas is the next step for Piper-Ruth, whose hand was almost healed by the end of the spring semester. He chose Australia because he wants to go to friendly, first-world places. He departs for Australia in October. When he travels, he packs light and camps at various climbing locations. In Australia he will spend a month at Mount Arapiles State Park, where he can stay for \$2 a night.

"I solely focus on climbing when I travel," Piper-Ruth says.

At Mount Arapiles he will climb among climbers from all over the

world. He is excited to be re-immersed in the climbing culture, he says. He also plans to travel to Tasmania and New Zealand where he will camp, climb and backpack during the hottest months of the year.

It takes him a couple of weeks to get into traveling alone, he says. After that time he is comfortable doing it.

"I find it relaxing. It is really my element," he says. "I'm very attracted to the freedom and lack of responsibility while traveling."

Until Australia, Piper-Ruth will work odd jobs in Alaska to raise money for his Australia trip. Some of his planned jobs include construction work, working for a float plane company and working for more than three months at the Neets Bay fish hatchery.

He will return from Australia to Boise in time for Christmas and will make his way back to Moscow for the 2007 spring semester.

## Outdoor orientation programs added to freshmen curriculum

By Mackenzie Stone  
Summer Arg

Coffee shops, dorm get-togethers and the cafeteria are the traditional hot spots for freshmen networking.

Yet, the University of Idaho is starting a new program this fall to spice up and keep up the freshman experience for new Vandals.

UI New Student Orientation is offering four weekend trips Aug. 25-27 for incoming freshmen only. The trips are designed to help students transition to college life and establish a connection with other students early in the year.

"Research on similar programs across the country have shown that building a community of other students and relationships with staff and faculty helps in developing a foundation in the early weeks of one's college career," said Outdoor Program coordinator Mike Beiser.

"Tribulation of an early college career can be lessened by recognizing from where you came, so you can map out where you are headed, and knowing that you are not alone in this endeavor," Beiser said. "The outdoor experience provides a good metaphor for this process to take place."

The program offers three outdoor trips and one service-learning trip. Students can earn one conservation social science credit by rafting, hiking,

biking or volunteering.

Course requirements include participating in the trip, readings, discussion and a reflection paper.

A professor guides each trip and there are a limited number of spots for students. Outdoor Program staff members assist with trip leadership and logistics. The students also join a follow-up class that is facilitated by the professor.

"The trips are designed as a freshmen orientation program, with a transition curriculum built into it," Beiser said. "It is about people, place and perspective of entering the college experience at the U of I."

Freshmen can sign up for the trips under CSS 204 on the online registration just like other classes. Students pay a class fee of \$176, which covers most expenses except some personal items.

Beiser said the trips are designed for all students with no special skills or equipment necessary.

The four trips are as follows:

**Bike the trail of the Coeur d'Alenes:** Students ride bicycles along the 72-mile path through Heyburn State Park, which is in the southern end of Coeur d'Alene. They camp at Chacoleet campground in the park with views of Coeur d'Alene Lake. Space is limited to 15 students.

**Rafting on the Salmon River:** Students will float the Salmon River and camp on secluded sandy beaches. They will travel in paddle rafts

### TAKE A TRIP

All orientation trips are Aug. 25-27 and are for incoming freshman only. Freshman can register at [www.uidaho.edu/registration](http://www.uidaho.edu/registration). All trips have an associated fee of \$176.

through the canyon for 15 miles in class III whitewater rapids. Space is limited to 21 students.

**Volunteer on a service trip:** Students will volunteer for Habitat for Humanity in Spokane or Coeur d'Alene and participate in a restoration project at Ross Point in Post Falls. Students will also camp at Ross Point. Space is limited to 21 students.

**Backpack in the Selway-Bitterroots:** Students hike six miles through the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness, which is a glacier-carved border between Idaho and Montana. Students should have wilderness setting experience before registering for this trip because they will be camping outdoors and carrying their own equipment. Space is limited to 10 students.

For more information about these trips, visit [www.students.uidaho.edu/dos/nso](http://www.students.uidaho.edu/dos/nso).

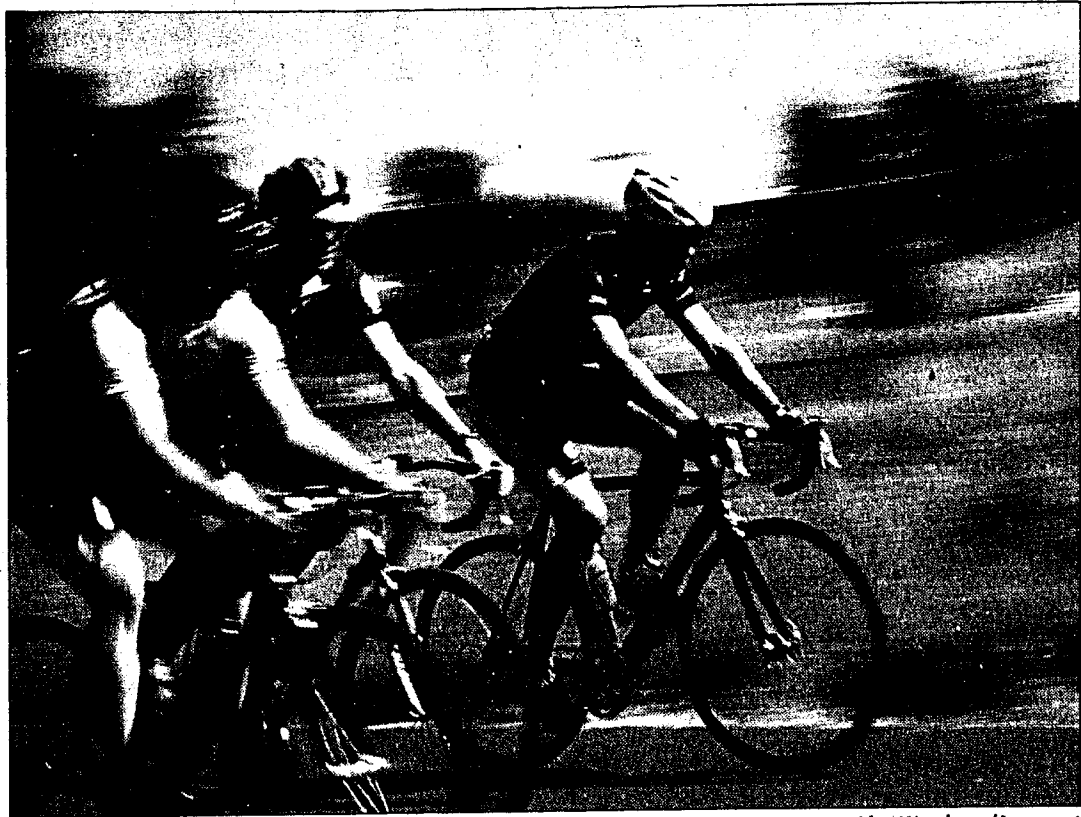
To register for a trip, visit [www.uidaho.edu/registration](http://www.uidaho.edu/registration).



Kylie Pfeifer/Argonaut

UI Outdoor Program Coordinator Mike Beiser checks up on life vests for a Vandal Adventures trip Friday in the SRC.

## CYCLE MADNESS



Lisa Wareham/Argonaut

Cycling club members Justin Lange (right) Jeff Brown (center) and Travis Ulrich (left) train at Chipman Trail on Tuesday afternoon for the 65-mile Rock Lake Classic in Rosalia, Wash. on Saturday. Information about the club can be found at <http://stuorgs.uidaho.edu/~uicycling>.

## Americans' international events get no response in U.S.

By Ethan J. Skolnick  
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

Oh, say can you see . . . sporting hopes bursting in air?

This has hardly been a banner year for the United States in international competition.

No man or woman reached the Wimbledon quarterfinals. The soccer team flamed out during World Cup group play. Brash skier Bode Miller and the bungling hockey team were among the American failures at the Winter Olympics, where the U.S. contingent excelled almost exclusively in X-Games inventions like snowboarding. Perhaps most distressing, the inaugural World Baseball Classic entry fell short of the semifinals.

That is our national pastime, isn't it? Abner Doubleday wasn't born in Seoul.

"We've been exporting the games, and our expertise, for a long time," said Peter Roby,

director of the Center for the Study of Sport in Society. "It's a natural evolution of sport. No longer can the United States take the court, or track, or field and assume that because it has U.S. across its chest, it will automatically win."

Especially now that in some of these sports, competing for a national squad is considered less an honor than an inconvenience.

When was the last time American athletes had good reason to puff out their chests in international competition?

The United States won 31 Davis Cup tennis titles, but none since 1995. It has lost the past two Ryder Cup golf showdowns with the Europeans. Twelve years after dominating with the Dream Team at the Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, the men's basketball squad placed third in Athens, Greece, in 2004.

America's lone international

bright spot, Lance Armstrong, dominated the Tour de France for years before retiring in 2005, leaving Floyd Landis as the great hope to carry the flag.

Roby acknowledged that America has "taken a step back" in some international sports, attributing that regression to youth athletes' fixation on more domestically lucrative and celebrated sports. If there was a World Football Classic, we would still be favorites.

Still, should Americans be concerned about what these poor results, in total, suggest?

It's not just one country, or even continent, beating us.

Ghana in the World Cup? Korea in the World Baseball Classic? Belgians, again and again, in women's tennis? With our riches and resources?

"Whether it's valid or not, we have a history of viewing our strength through international

See **RESPONSE**, page B8

## SportsBRIEFS

### UI volleyball fourth in WAC coaches preseason poll

In a poll by the Western Athletic Conference coaches, the UI volleyball team has been selected to finish fourth in its second season with the conference. Defending WAC champion Hawai'i is favored to defend its crown in 2006 and take home its 11th-straight regular-season title.

"When you look at the numbers we are really not that far behind and I feel fourth is a good place for us to be. I like the idea of being an underdog heading into the season and it fits us really well," Idaho coach Debbie Buchanan said.

Idaho finished with a 16-14 overall record last season and placed fifth in the WAC with an 8-8 record.

Hawai'i received eight of the nine first-place votes with New Mexico State earning the other first-place vote. Hawai'i earned 64 total points followed by New Mexico State with 57. Nevada finished third with 48 points, followed by the Vandals with 43 points. San Jose State was picked fifth with 34, while Fresno State was picked sixth with 26. Boise State finished seventh place with 22 points, Utah State ranked eighth with 20 points and Louisiana Tech rounded out the list in ninth with 10 points.

The 2006 WAC season begins Aug. 25 with all nine teams in action.

### Winger second, Kennelly third at international meet

UI track athletes had admirable outings last weekend with Russ Winger earning a silver medal at the North American, Central America and Caribbean (NACAC) Athletics Championships and Bevin Kennelly capturing a bronze.

Winger's effort of 63 feet, 6 inches in the shot put earned him the silver medal.

Kennelly finished third in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

On another continent, Driss Yousfi finished second in the 800 meters at the B section of the IAAF Golden League Meet at Paris. He was timed in one minute, 50 seconds.

In a meet earlier this month, Yousfi broke the school record in the 800 meters when he was timed in one minute, 47.11 seconds to break Leroy Robinson's 24-year-old time of 1:47.16.

### Swim Center to be closed Friday through Aug. 21

The campus Swim Center will be closed for a month starting at 1:30 p.m. Friday for annual maintenance. It will re-open Aug. 21 in time for the beginning of the fall semester.

### Events tickets will only be available at Kibbie Dome

Tickets to UI sporting events and other events will no longer be sold at North Campus Center. Tickets are available instead at the Kibbie Dome ticket office. Tickets are also available online or by calling 1-888-UIDAHO.

### Two volleyball camps come to campus this month

The Idaho Volleyball Team Camp will be today through Saturday. High school volleyball teams will come to campus to build teamwork skills and prepare for the coming season. The camp will focus on both individual and team skill building. The entire UI volleyball coaching staff will attend and teach.

The Idaho Volleyball Youth Camp will follow Monday through July 26. Students in the third to sixth grades can learn basic volleyball skills. Each participant will receive a T-shirt and youth-sized volleyball.

For more information, contact Sarah McFarland at 885-0263 or [smcfarla@uidaho.edu](mailto:smcfarla@uidaho.edu).



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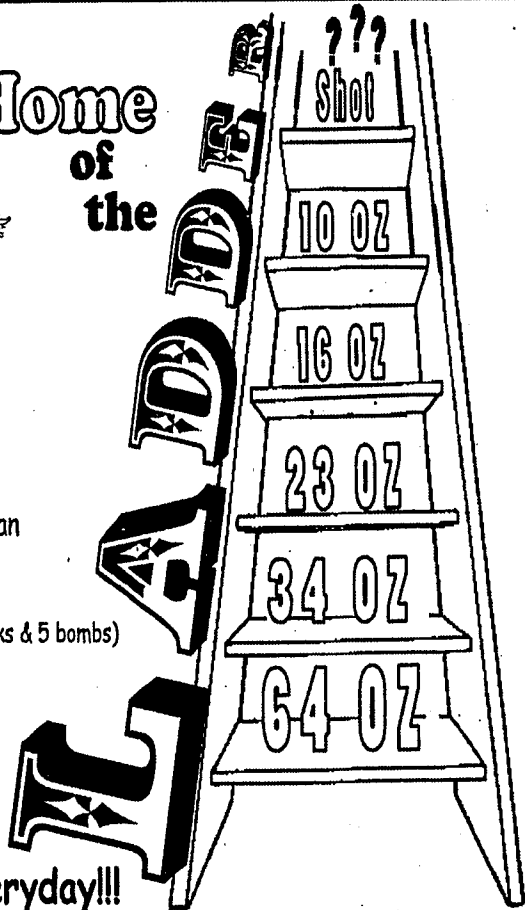
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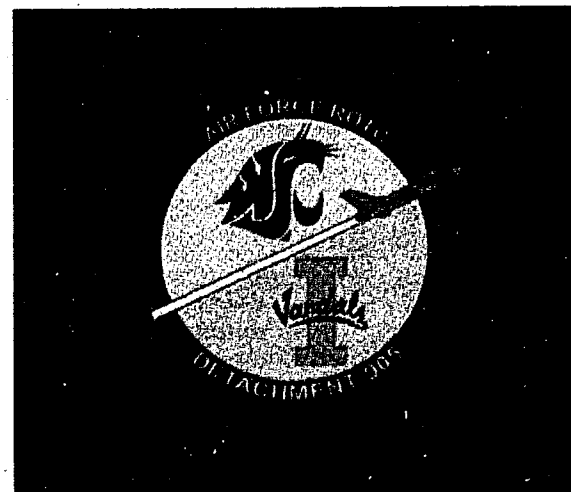
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# In the heat of the moment, outbursts are all the rage in sports world

By Ethan J. Skolnick  
South Florida Sun-Sentinel

Surprised to witness rage on the sporting stage?

As tennis brat John McEnroe would scream, "You cannot be serious!"

Seriously. By now, nothing should stun us. Not even a world-class athlete risking disqualification, defeat and scorn in his final international appearance, all because he felt compelled to physically retaliate to an opponent's taunt.

Sticks and stones break bones, but words proved capable of breaking Zinedine Zidane's focus. Earlier this month, France's star midfielder lost his temper in overtime of the World Cup final in response to persistent trash talking by Italian defender Marco Materazzi. France lost the championship in penalty kicks after Zidane's ejection by referee red card. Zidane now may also lose the Golden Ball he received as the tournament's top player. That's a lot to lose.

Zidane did win something: Points for creativity.

A head butt to the chest? Now, that's a novel approach to expressing displeasure. That assault will join a Hall of Shame of inappropriate actions taken by angry athletes on the field or court of play:

## SCREAMING

Countless others have pouted, whined and yelled, but no one has multi-tasked like McEnroe. All other sporting brats are "the Pits of the World!" If any other man deserves mention, however, it must be George Brett, the Kansas City Royals star whose face was the perfect picture of rage after his "pine tar" home run was disallowed on July 24, 1983.

## SUCKER PUNCHING

It's not easy being red, black, blue and purple. That's what Houston Rockets forward Rudy Tomjanovich was after rushing up behind Lakers forward Kermit Washington dur-

ing an NBA game on Dec. 9, 1977. Tomjanovich's face was shattered. (The two men have since become friends.) Cubs catcher Michael Barrett recently executed a powerful "Kermit" against White Sox catcher A.J. Pierzynski after their home-plate collision.

## SUCKER PUNCHING ON A SLIPPERY SURFACE

Vancouver Canucks forward Todd Bertuzzi (now a Panther) hit Colorado Avalanche forward Steve Moore from behind on March 8, 2004, driving him headfirst onto the ice, breaking two vertebrae in his neck, giving him a concussion and ending his season. All allegedly because of Moore's hit on Canucks captain Markus Naslund.

## SHOVING

Most unprovoked? Probably Texas Rangers pitcher Kenny Rogers' push of a cameraman before a 2005 game. Rarely,

however, has there been such a physical disparity as on Dec. 19, 1999. That's when 6-foot-7, 350-pound Cleveland Browns tackle Orlando Brown flattened official Jeff Triplett for inadvertently hitting him in the eye with a weighted penalty flag. Brown's father had lost his sight to glaucoma, and Brown's subsequent struggle with eye problems would sideline him until 2003. The greatest age disparity? Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez throwing down charging Yankees bench coach Don Zimmer on Oct. 11, 2003.

## SPITTING (EFFECTIVE)

Athletes must have an endless well of saliva. Broncos linebacker Bill Romanowski famously spit on 49ers receiver J.J. Stokes in 1997. Roberto Alomar, arguably the greatest second baseman of his era, will be remembered most for expectorating on the face of umpire John Hirschbeck after a called third strike on Sept. 27, 1996. Alomar claimed Hirschbeck slurred him. Alomar later donated \$252,000 toward research for the disease Adrenoleukodystrophy in honor of Hirschbeck's late son.

## SPITTING (ERRANT)

Charles Barkley, who missed an abusive Nets fan on March 26, 1999, instead showering an 8-year-old girl. Such mistakes are inevitable during a fit of anger. Ask Ron Artest, who stormed into the stands to yank down the wrong person, after getting hit with a cup in Detroit.

## CHAIR TOSSING

Texas Rangers reliever Frank Francisco offered some Oakland fans some additional furniture during a skirmish in 2004. Too bad he didn't emulate tennis hothead Ilie Nastase, who performed a tasty trick in 1982 after a linesman's call incensed him. Leaving the chairs alone, Nastase grabbed a vendor's ice cream cones and hurled them into the crowd.

## GROIN KICKING

England's Wayne Rooney got the boot from the World Cup quarterfinals for stomping



Courtesy photo Referee Horacio Marcelo Elizondo shows a red card to France's Zinedine Zidane at the end of the game as Italy beat France 5-3 in a shootout after a 1-1 draw in the World Cup 2006 final in Berlin, Germany July 9.

the sensitive area of Portugal's Ricardo Carvalho. Popularizing the activity? NBA oddity Dennis Rodman, on an unsuspecting cameraman on Jan. 15, 1997. The groin was a frequent site of attack during the NBA playoffs. Dallas Mavericks guard Jason Terry punched San Antonio Spurs guard Michael Finley there. And Denver Nuggets forward Reggie Evans grabbed Los Angeles Clippers center Chris Kaman.

## BAT THROWING

Can't get to the ball? Grab some wood. Slick-fielding Oakland A's shortstop Bert Campaneris sent his bat in the direction of Detroit Tigers pitcher Lerrin LaGroy after taking a fastball to the ankle during the 1973 American League Championship Series. Roger Clemens was even more, um, resourceful. During the 2000 World Series, the Yankees ace slung the shard of Mike Piazza's broken bat back at the Mets hitter. Most saw this as the next stage in their feud; Clemens claimed he mistook the bat for a ball. Devil Rays prospect Delmon Young had a "Campy" moment in April, flipping his bat into the

replacement umpire's arm.

## BAT SWINGING

Why fling a bat when you can swing one? Tensions had escalated on Aug. 22, 1965, between the Giants and Dodgers, when Johnny Roseboro's return toss (to Sandy Koufax) came too close to Juan Marichal's head. Roseboro ripped off his mask. Bad move. The Dominican Dandy rapped him on the head.

## MOUTHPIECE TOSSING

Heat forward Udonis Haslem started a new trend, toward referee Joey Crawford during the 2006 first-round series against Chicago. If only Mike Tyson had kept his in against Evander Holyfield. . . .

## BITING

At least Tyson didn't eat Holyfield's kids, which was his threat to Lennox Lewis, who had no offspring. Instead, a June 28, 1997, heavyweight fight saw Tyson sink his teeth into Holyfield's ear. Tyson called it retaliation for a head butt. In that sense, for all that he lost, Zidane got off easy, too.

"I never let my schooling get in the way of my education"

-Mark Twain

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# KITNA

from page B7

regularly. But when he got to fourth grade, his parents couldn't afford private school anymore, and the family stopped going to church.

"Basically from the fourth grade on, I didn't know anything," Kitna said. "I had no idea what it meant to be a Christian. I didn't know anything about Jesus or anything like that."

Kitna was a good kid in high school — a student leader with a 3.5 grade point average and star of the football, basketball and baseball teams. When he and his best friend, E.J. Henderson, left for college, they made a pact — no drinking, no drugs, straight and narrow.

"Well," Kitna said, "that lasted, for me, about two weeks."

Within the first couple of months at Central Washington, Kitna was drinking three, four, five nights a week. There were days when he would call friends and have them piece together the night before. They would tell him he had driven home drunk and blacked out.

Henderson said it seemed like every party they went to ended in a fight. They stole things — books, bikes, bread, whatever.

"Just doing dumb stuff," Kitna said.

"At that time, our whole mentality was, get away with what you can get away with," Henderson said. "It got to the point where we just kept trying to push that envelope. If we wanted something, we went into the store and just took it and left."

"We wanted to be the coolest guys on campus, have as many girls as we wanted, have the best parties."

Things started catching up with Kitna.

Some mornings — or afternoons, maybe — were rougher than others.

"I remember times waking up going, 'You know, I'm never going to drink again. I'm done drinking,'" Kitna said. "And I'd stop for like a week or two. But then the next time I'd drink, I'd drink even more. I kept trying to stop on my own, and I couldn't."

One day, Kitna got caught stealing at Albertsons, a grocery store. He was swiping food, he said, "with a whole bunch of money in my pocket." He had to go to court and pay a \$500 fine.

His parents were embarrassed. One weekend when he went home and stayed out late partying, his mother told him not to come home anymore if he was going to do that.

"We were a pretty tight-knit family, and that was pretty hard to hear," Kitna said. "My parents didn't raise me that way, to just live recklessly and have no direction."

Early in his third year of college, in October 1993, Kitna was on and off again with his girlfriend.

"One month, you want to be with her every day," Kitna said. "The next month, 'Oh, I need my space.' I was playing that little game."

"I remember telling her one night, 'Hey, we need to take a break from each other.' She left, and she came back later — and caught me in bed with another girl."

"It was that night that I was just like, 'Man, what am I doing?' ... She was everything I was ever looking for, and I'm just messing that up, just like I'm messing everything else up."

That night, Kitna told his girlfriend that he didn't know what it meant for their relationship, but he had to go back to church.

"I don't even know where that came from," Kitna said. "I hadn't been to church in years."

Kitna needed a change. He knew of one person who was a Christian, his friend Boles, who was with the New York Jets at the time. He called Boles, and Boles told him he needed to be saved.

For about two weeks, Kitna wavered. Then he talked to Boles again. Boles asked him if he had said the "Prayer of Faith" and accepted Jesus as his savior. Kitna said he hadn't.

"I was in my room all by myself, watching Sunday night football, of all things," Kitna said. "My life was basically a wreck. I just hit mute on the TV, got down and started praying."

"I was down for about 30 minutes, just kind of pondering what I was brought up to be and where I was now. I didn't know exactly what I was doing. I just knew that I needed help and I needed something greater than myself."

"After I prayed, I got up, and that guilt and that burden was lifted."

Kitna started calling Boles a lot afterward, asking him

questions. He started staying out of trouble. When Boles returned to campus in January to finish his degree, he started a Bible study with Kitna, Kitna's girlfriend, Henderson and another person.

Kitna's then-girlfriend is now his wife. He and Jennifer got engaged that February and married that August. Several of their friends and family members have been saved since.

"The worst thing I could do to her, for her to catch me in bed with another girl, turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to either one of us," Kitna said.

Kitna reads the Bible closely and interprets it literally.

When he was taught to give 10 percent of his income, he gave 10 percent — even though he was still in college and the Kitnas were living on

Jennifer's teacher salary at the time.

"Me, being the one that does the checkbook and stuff, I'm like, 'Um, you must not know how much we have left at the end of the month,'" Jennifer said. "He was just like, 'If that's what we're supposed to do, that's what we do.'"

Kitna upped his tithe to 20 percent in 2001. Now he doesn't put a percentage on it. The Kitnas fund their own foundation, the Eternal Blessings Foundation, and help ministries that have touched them.

Kitna is also devoted to his family.

He and Jennifer took in two of his teenage cousins. Chris Kjos, 19, is working. Casey Kjos, 18, is going to Oregon State to play football.

They have four kids of their own — Jordan, 8, Jada, 7, Jalen, 3, and Jamison, 5 months.

As the Lions were wrapping up their offseason program in May, Kitna left their Allen Park, Mich., headquarters one Thursday afternoon to get back home to the northern Cincinnati suburbs. He wanted to watch Casey in an all-star football game that night.

He left at 3 a.m. to get back to Allen Park for a 7:30 a.m. meeting. He practiced, then turned around and drove back home. He was in the front yard, playing with the kids, by 4 p.m.

Kitna's cross cap was just one of several reminders of his faith. In his kitchen was a sign: "This is God's house." The Ohio license plate on Kitna's sport utility vehicle: "FRGVN."

How will all this be received in the Lions' locker room?

Kitna isn't the only Lion who is a strong Christian. Kicker Jason Hanson is, too, for instance. But Kitna isn't a kicker. He's a quarterback, and scrutiny of everything from his performance to his personality comes with the position.

Just ask Joey Harrington, the good Catholic boy who didn't curse and stayed true to himself, but didn't connect with many of his teammates and got traded to Miami.

Some of the Lions might embrace Kitna simply because they think he gives them a better chance to win. But Kitna's family and friends think the Lions will like and respect him because of his background and leadership.

"I think guys can relate to him," Jennifer said. "People think if you love the Lord, you're stiff. He has baggy pants. He laughs and gets loud."

He also has sweet rims on his SUV and wears a lot of Air

Jordan apparel. He grew up in a diverse, urban neighborhood.

"I think he feels he can walk up to somebody who's African-American or another race because that's all he knew," said Henderson, who grew up about three blocks from Kitna and is now the receivers and special teams coach at Wayne State in Detroit. "He doesn't see any color, but just sees people for who they are."

Kitna will challenge teammates' spirituality at times. Jennifer joked he did some of his best ministry in the shower, asking guys if they had been living right. But Kitna said he usually waited until he was asked.

"I never try to take the position of holier than thou," Kitna said. "I don't look down on anybody. In the locker room, the one thing that I know is, if I am always consistent, then people will respect that. They may not always like that, but they'll respect it. But if I begin to become inconsistent, that's when people have problems with you."

So far, so good. Kitna, who originally got his cross caps from a Christian bookstore in his hometown, started getting them specially made for him a few years ago.

In Cincinnati, only one or two of Kitna's teammates asked him for a cross cap.

In Detroit, about 20 have asked him for one already. Kitna's teammates seem to respect his convictions.

"Sometimes, when we're breaking the huddle and somebody says, 'We're going to f...,' he won't say nothing," tailback Kevin Jones said, smiling. "He'll just keep his hand up there. It's kind of funny. He's a good guy. I like him. I think everybody's taking well to him so far."

Boles says he thinks Kitna will get along just fine with those who don't necessarily share his beliefs and lifestyle.

"What's really amazing is, when guys have issues on the team, don't worry, they don't go to the same guys they hang out and party with," said Boles, who now owns a consulting business in Tacoma. "They end up with Jon, talking to Jon."

In fact, Boles thinks Kitna is just the kind of quarterback the Lions need as they try to turn themselves around.

"This character stuff is so good for the guys as you go from the transition from having some tough years to having better years," Boles said. "You've got to have guys with character who can handle that. He's one of them, man. He really is."

# RESPONSE

from page B6

athletic competition," said Penn State sociology professor Mark Dyreson, author of Making the American Team: Sport, Culture and the Olympic Experience. "There's this history in the U.S. of believing results say something about the basic nature and health of our society. That's a real trap if you don't win."

Dyreson said losing inspires two basic reactions.

Some examine each event individually, and argue many are simply not as intrinsic to our culture (World Cup or Winter Olympics) or cite some strange circumstance (the odd timing of the World

Baseball Classic, during spring training). Others view the events in a macro sense, and engage in self-analysis, particularly when some of the struggles have occurred in our traditional sports.

"You can twist this any way you want," Roby said.

Although Dyreson doesn't sense widespread panic yet, he envisions some Americans searching for "a villain" if a year or two of collective international futility became a "decade of a bad run."

Some possibilities? "Maybe obesity, maybe affluence, maybe what's wrong with schools," Dyreson said.

What does it say about our society that many American sports fans aren't concerned?

To Colorado State sociology professor Stanley Eitzen, it simply says international sports don't stimulate us as much as the NFL, Major League Baseball or the NBA. Rooting interests are localized. Red Sox supporters are as passionate as German soccer fans, but their enemies lie within domestic borders.

"Other nations, their patriotism and their culture is wrapped up in what happens internationally," said Eitzen, author of Sociology of North American Sport. "I don't sense that here. What happens in our

country, we call the world's championship, the World Series. The Super Bowl is the ultimate. It is a very narrow view."

So Eitzen does see some sociological factors at play in Americans' comparatively relaxed attitude toward assembling and cheering national teams. He characterized Americans as more isolationist and individualistic than foreign counterparts, with a "little less willingness to sacrifice for the good of the totality." But he disputed the notion that American athletes are softer now, because of parenting methods.

**"What happens in our country, we call the world's championship. ... It is a very narrow view."**

**Stanley Eitzen**  
Colorado State University

Andrei Markovits of the University of Michigan served as a visiting sports studies professor at the University of Dortmund during the World Cup, and he repeatedly shot down any suggestion that results correlated with the health of respective nations.

The recent American defeats? "The only thing they have in common is we didn't do well," Markovits said. "I will never draw any conclusions from this, in terms of our 'decline.'"

So if the basketball team lost, it was because Larry Brown prepared poorly and the selection process ignored outside shooters, he said. And if Americans aren't in an uproar about that result, or any other, it's because they care more about the Pistons or Lakers, Yankees or Steelers.

They care so much that many are edgy, rather than overjoyed, when local favorites risk injury to compete for a national squad. Markovits called it "absolutely unthinkable" that Dortmund club fans would stress about three players injuring themselves while playing for Germany.

Does that make foreigners superior? No, Markovits argued. Just different.

"What was so interesting at the World Cup now, is it's become another reason Americans are disliked," Markovits said. "What really irked (Europeans) was not just that the Americans didn't play well, but that Americans didn't care that we didn't play well."

**"I never try to take the position of holier than thou... I don't look down on anybody."**

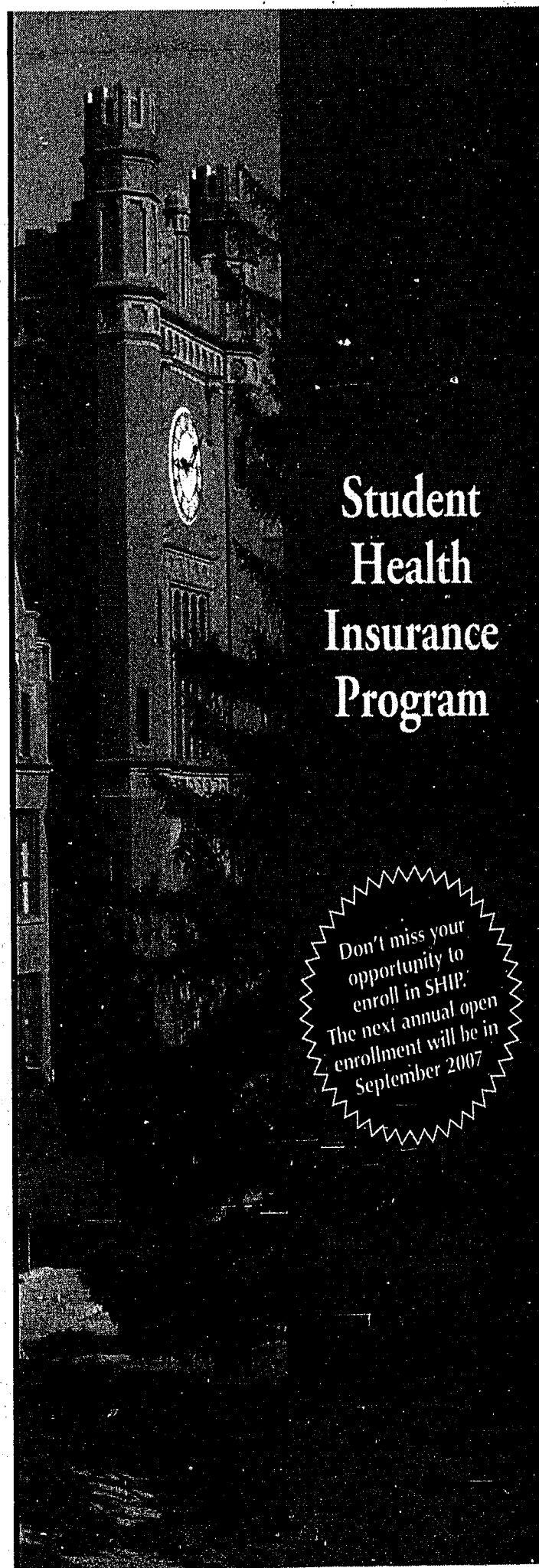
**Jon Kitna**  
Detroit Lions

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