

THE ARGONAUT

Friday, December 1, 2006

The Vandal Voice Since 1898

Volume 107, No. 29

Fueling the future

From small beginnings to global recognition, UI is becoming a leader in biofuel research

By Savannah Cummings
Argonaut

Twenty-seven years ago, a bottle of store-bought vegetable oil set into motion a series of events that put the University of Idaho on the map.

This innocent-looking bottle of cooking oil, purchased at Safeway, was Charles ("Chuck") Peterson's first attempt at creating biofuel, an environmentally friendly alternative fuel that can run in diesel engines. The experiment succeeded and was the launching point for years of research and development into biofuel production that has made UI a globally recognized leader in the biofuel industry.

Under Peterson's direction, UI became the only institution in the United States researching biofuels. Initially, people questioned why the university was spending so much effort on the research, said Jon Van Gerpen, the head of the biological and agricultural engineering department.

"You could say we were doing biodiesel long before the rest of the country knew about

it," Van Gerpen said.

In 1979, when the research first began, biofuel cost about \$3 a gallon, whereas diesel fuel cost around 80 cents a gallon, so it didn't make sense to some to research it, he said.

He credits Peterson for UI's success with the program.

"People looked at the price difference and said, 'You're crazy,'" Van Gerpen said. "We laid the groundwork so when the time was right, the fuel was ready. ... (Peterson) had this vision that this was something worth spending time on."

The recent boom of interest in the biofuel field is due in part to the ever increasing costs of fossil fuels, Van Gerpen said, which make biofuel much more cost-effective.

"It's become economical," he said. "Everybody wants to make it, everybody wants to sell it."

Much of UI's success with biofuel research is related to the integrated approach the university has taken, Van Gerpen said.

See **BIOFUEL**, page 3

the biofuel BASICS

What is biofuel?

Biofuel is an alternative-energy fuel created from any oilseed crop. It can be used in diesel engines with little or no engine modification. It can be used as 100 percent biofuel or blended into regular diesel fuel in any percentage to create a biodiesel blend.

How do you make it?

Biofuel is created from an oilseed crop, such as canola, rapeseed or mustard. Once the crop is grown, the seeds are pressed and the oil is extracted. An alcohol, such as ethanol (also bio-based) or methanol (fossil fuel-based), is added to the oil with a catalyst. The mixture is stirred until the

chemical reaction caused by the catalyst is complete.

A byproduct of that reaction is glycerin, a substance that can be used as a sweetener. The glycerin falls to the bottom of the mixture and is removed.

The biofuel is then put through a "washing" phase. Water is added to the fuel and absorbs any leftover contaminants from it. It then falls to the bottom where it is removed.

The cleaned biofuel can then be added to any diesel-fuel vehicle directly or blended with regular diesel fuel in any percentage to make biodiesel.

Information provided by Jon Van Gerpen



Mubita victim shares her story

Student tells about her relationship with HIV-positive Kanay Mubita

By Shanna Stalwick
Argonaut

Denice Wade says she doesn't care if she sounds like a raging feminist.

She wants her story to empower women to take control of their fate and practice safe sex.

"A night of carelessness can change your whole life," Wade says.

Her soft voice tiptoes across the graphic details about her encounter with the HIV-positive Zambian man who is now in prison.

Wade stares into her lap as she watches her hands fold and unfold while she recalls the deception and lies that unraveled last December.

Within minutes she opens up and reveals why she decided to come forward and reveal her identity almost a year after meeting Kanay Mubita, sentenced in May to 44 years in prison for 11 counts

to learn
MORE

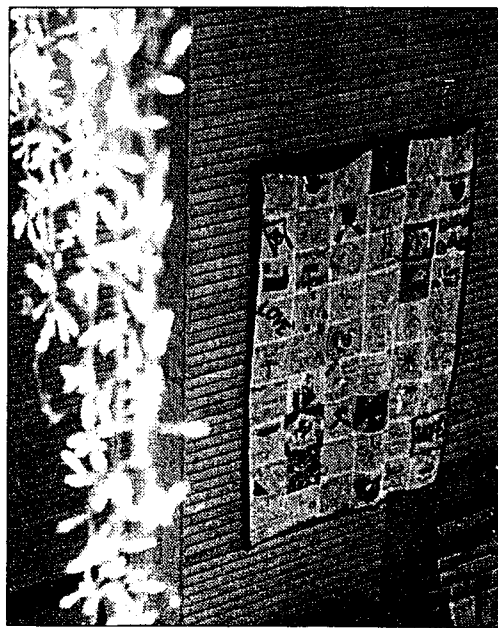
Simba Tirima from the UI International Programs Office speaks out about the AIDS epidemic at 12 p.m. in the Commons

"A Closer Walk"
3 p.m. Friday in TLC 040
This film portrays humanity's collision with the global AIDS epidemic.

of failing to tell his sexual partners he was HIV-positive before engaging in consensual sex.

Today, Mubita is behind bars, waiting to see if he'll be eligible for parole in October 2008. Wade is a senior at UI and an activist for UI World AIDS Day, an annual event that provides information about HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment that takes place from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. today in the Idaho Commons. She hopes her close encounter with the HIV virus

See **AIDS**, page 4



Melissa Davlin/Argonaut
A quilt made by UI students is displayed in the Commons Food Court to commemorate World AIDS Day.

Refund issued for tardy bus

By Jeremy Castillo
Argonaut

A communication mistake with the Portland Break Bus left its passengers stuck in the City of Roses for more than two hours Sunday.

However, riders were refunded for half their round-trip ticket, or not charged if they were on only for the return trip.

As the sun came up, University of Idaho students arrived at Portland's Greyhound station dragging suitcases, duffel bags and other luggage behind them, said Justin Swift, a UI freshman and passenger on the Break Bus that morning.

As 8 a.m., their expected departure time, approached, passengers grew more con-

cerned about whether their bus would arrive. As time passed, the problem became more apparent, causing the stranded students to be more vocal about their worries.

"I was going through all possibilities in my head," Swift said. "The bus could have been stuck in snow. There could have been miscommunication, which is what actually did happen. Or he just could have forgot."

"By the time 9 a.m. rolled around, I knew there was a problem. It was something more than just being behind schedule. It was a little scary being dropped off at the station and having no way to get back (to Moscow)."

This is when Swift took

See **BUS**, page 4

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a look INSIDE

ARTS&CULTURE

Pullman Civic Theatre presents the holiday classic "The Homecoming." Once a television special, the play is also the inspiration for "The Walters."

OPINION

The editorial board encourages readers to be charitable and Frank argues that being gay is biological.

SPORTS&REC

The UI women's basketball team beat Eastern Washington Wednesday, despite the loss of key senior Karley Felton.






ON the WEB

An update on the porn in the Commons, today's ASU election results and two brand-new blogs await you this week at

www.uiargonaut.com

WeatherFORECAST

<p>Today</p>  <p>Snow Showers Hi: 29° Lo: 20°</p>	<p>Saturday</p>  <p>Mostly Cloudy Hi: 27° Lo: 18°</p>	<p>Sunday</p>  <p>Partly Cloudy Hi: 31° Lo: 26°</p>
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Visit the Argonaut's blogs at www.uiargonaut.com/blog



Campus Recreation
www.campusrec.uidaho.edu
885-PLAY

SRC Giving Tree

The SRC has partnered with "Christmas for Kids" to sponsor 10 local children.

Please help make wishes come true for a special child this holiday season!

Please contact Campus Recreation for more information
885-PLAY

finals stressing you out...

RECHARGE

AT THE REC
Friday, December 8th

9 pm - 12 am

Meditation In The MAC

FOOD•FUN•PRIZES



Take Advantage of the Snow...

We have **NEW** Cross Country Skis and Snowshoes, and a **FREE** guide on where to go!

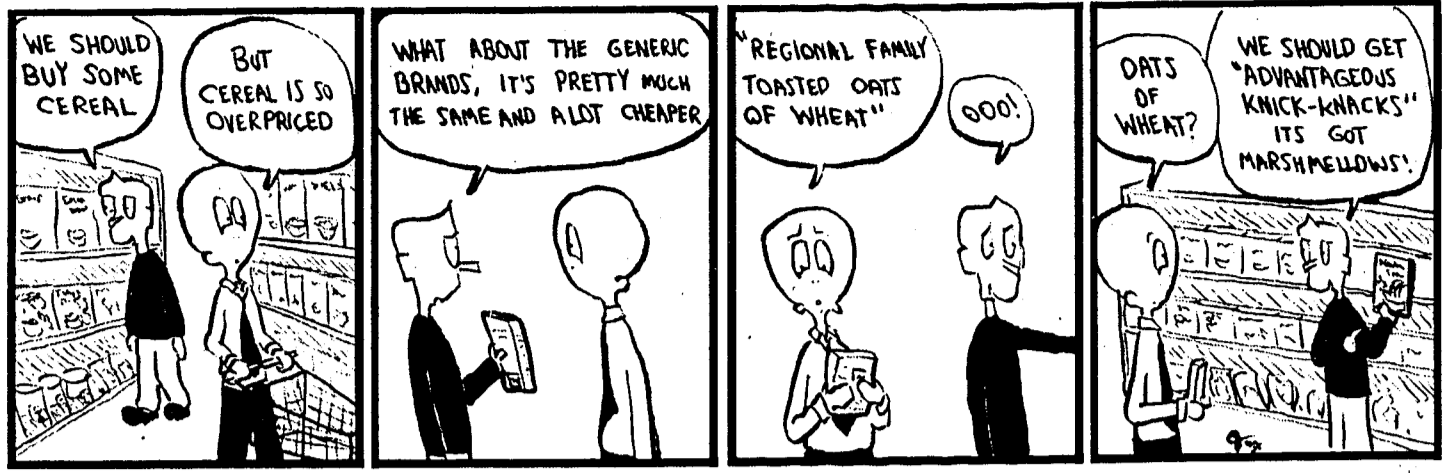
For more information call Outdoor Programs- 885-6810
www.campusrec.uidaho.edu/outdoor

SRC Winter Break Hours

December 2006						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						16 Noon-6pm
17 Noon-6pm	18 11am-8pm	19 11am-8pm	20 11am-8pm	21 11am-8pm	22 11am-8pm	23 Noon-6pm
24 Closed	25 Closed	26 Noon-6pm	27 Noon-6pm	28 Noon-6pm	29 Noon-6pm	30 Noon-6pm
January 2006						
31 Closed	1 Closed	2 11am-8pm	3 11am-8pm	4 11am-8pm	5 11am-8pm	6 Noon-6pm
7 Noon-6pm	8 Resume Normal Hours	9	10 School Starts			

Campus Recreation 1000 Paradise Creek Moscow Idaho 83844
885.1212 www.campusrec.uidaho.edu

UniversityAVE.



by Paul Tong/Argonaut

CampusCALENDAR

Today

Open seminar for library dean candidate Bradley Schaffner
Library Room 212A
9:45 a.m.

World AIDS Day movie showing
TLC 40
3 p.m.

'The Muppet Christmas Carol'
SUB Borah Theatre
7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

'Mostly Moscow'
UITV-8
7:30 p.m.

'Fuddy Meers'

Kiva Theatre
7:30 p.m.

Jazz bands and choirs
School of Music Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Student recital: Richard Corey Huddleston, piano, and Kendi Lesley, piano
School of Music Recital Hall
4 p.m.

Holiday dinner and dance
6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

'The Muppet Christmas Carol'
SUB Borah Theater
7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

'Fuddy Meers'
Kiva Theatre
7:30 p.m.

Greater Palouse Youth Orchestra
School of Music Recital Hall
7:30 p.m.

Sunday

Student recital: Tracy Winterbottom, piano
School of Music Recital Hall
Noon

'Fuddy Meers'
Kiva Theatre
2 p.m.

University Chorus and Vandaleers
Administration Building audi-

torium
4 p.m.

Student recital: David Morris
School of Music Recital Hall.
6 p.m.

Student recital: Alheli Pimienta, flute
School of Music Recital Hall
8 p.m.

Monday

Master's defense: Jeffrey Choi Robinson, computer security
Buchanan Engineering Lab 324
1 p.m.

Bellwood Panel Discussion with Sen. Alan Simpson (2006)
UITV-8.
8 p.m.

LocalBRIEFS

UI hosts Native American Recruitment Day

Undergraduate American Indian students are invited to attend the Native American Graduate Recruitment Day 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. today in the Idaho Commons Whitewater Room.

Current graduate students, faculty and advisers will present information on choosing a graduate program, the application process, financing, choosing a major professor, housing and general life as a UI graduate student.

Representatives from each department will be available for one-on-one interaction and to answer questions regarding degree programs, teaching and research opportunities.

The event is hosted by the NACSA along with the College of Graduate Studies. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Vick Trier at vtrier@uidaho.edu. For more information, contact Julian Matthews at matt7069@uidaho.edu or Ed Galindo at edg@uidaho.edu.

Christmas tree spraying underway

During Thanksgiving week, UI campus trees were sprayed with an animal scent to deter potential Christmas tree thieves. The sprayed trees will emit a strong odor if taken into a warm environment, such as a house or apartment. The repellent is difficult to smell in colder temperatures. About 200 Christmas tree-sized evergreens are sprayed before December. UI uses one or a combination of skunk scent and fox or coyote urine as the spray. The repellent will stay on the trees for about four weeks. The spray is not harmful to the environment or the trees. For more information about the process, contact Charles Zillinger or David Rauk at 885-6246.

New director of diversity and community named

UI has named Mark A. Edwards director for diversity and community. He will assume the position Jan. 15. The position reports directly to

the president and will initiate, adapt and oversee university and community programs to support enrichment of the learning environment through diversity. Edwards will facilitate and foster diversity-related curriculum and teaching, and develop and implement comprehensive strategies for recruiting a diverse workforce and student body. Edwards will work with an advisory board of internal and external members. Edwards will serve on the president's cabinet, and will work with the president, provost, deans and other university leadership to facilitate culture and climate change at the university.

Holiday Gala shows Palouse crafts

Products and art made in the Palouse will be for sale at the first annual Holiday Gala from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Dahmen Barn. There will be more than 30 artist vendors at the event. There will be live music including carolers from the Idaho Washington Concert Chorale and the Grobey family. Seasonal refreshments will also be for sale. The event is free

and is part of the second Saturday program that hosts a class or special event each month.

After the gala the Blue Ribbon Tea Company folk band will play at 7 p.m. Donations for the concert are \$5 at the door and will benefit the barn.

The Dahmen Barn is located at 419 N. Park Way, in Uniontown, on Highway 195 behind the fence of 1,000 iron wheels. Artisans at the Dahmen Barn is open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. For more information visit www.ArtisanBarn.org or call (509) 229-3414.

Alternative Spring Break info sessions held Dec. 7 and 8

A brief meeting for people interested in the upcoming spring service trip will be held at 6 p.m. Dec. 7 and Dec. 8 in the Commons Horizon Room. The meeting will include general information about the program and a question/answer session. Applications will be available as well.

SudokuPUZZLE

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

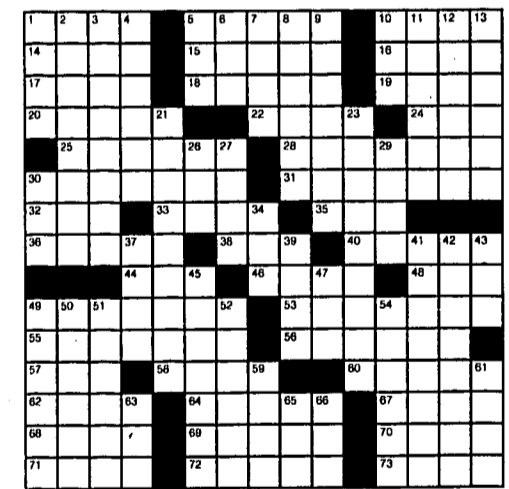
Solutions from 11/28

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

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.

CrosswordPUZZLE

- ACROSS
1 Star part
5 Moe's brother
10 Closeout caveat
14 "Jane"
15 Mister in Toledo
16 Stride
17 Seltzy stuff
18 Kill, old-style
19 Tootled
20 Mr. T's outfit
22 Harrow blade
24 French friend
25 Ford SUV
28 Signaler
30 Percussives
31 Host of 'The Twilight Zone'
32 Social follower?
33 Austrian range
35 Crossword solver?
38 In the future
39 In dead
40 Astronomical shadow
44 Keyboard key
46 Taxis
48 Long period
49 Capital river
53 Build supplies back up
55 One of O.J.'s lawyers
56 Sense of taste
57 Shril bark
58 Dear advice columnist
60 Hayward of Hollywood
62 Yachting team
64 Antilles island
67 "Lisa"
68 Heavenly instrument
69 Sped
70 Family member
71 Greek mount
72 Inquired
73 Colorado tribe members
DOWN
1 Olin of 'Alias' comic
2 Some canines
3 Patrol-car passenger
4 Vandalize
5 Sound of a leak
6 Skirt border
7 Writer Bagnold
8 Themes
9 Graceland man
10 NYPD alert
11 Deli purchase
12 "The Cometh"
13 Closing seams
21 Australian nut
23 Drunken revelries
26 Jim Bakker's former org.
27 Spot
28 Dejected
30 Meas. across
34 Part of a min.
37 Perched upon
39 Seniors' org.
41 Reaches base after a bunt
42 Single-name comic
43 Quess. response
45 Feldon of 'Get Smart'
47 Actress Arthur
54 Hitchcock classic



Solutions from 11/28

S	W	V	E	R	O	T	I	S	W	A	I	S
I	B	A	V	E	E	D	E	A	L	A	V	
S	V	E	A	H	O	E	N	I	F	E	D	E
T	M	A	V	I	S	O	F	T	A	F	I	T
			V	N	I		N	O	I			
S	I	S	E	O	N	S	K	R	A	V	J	S
X	O	E	N	I	W	E	D	E	S	W	A	I
S	E	O		S	E	R	E	X	A	L	O	V
E	H	O		O	O	R				O	I	N
O	E	T	E	V	I		B	O	A	R	H	S
			R	V	I		O	V	I			
E	N	I					O	W		I	N	E
I	N	I					O			S	N	E
E	A	V					O	S	N		O	E
S	E	A					V			O	E	R

- 50 John and Maureen
51 Comes to a point
52 Charmer's snakes
54 Kenyan national of the
55 '50s
59 That's gross!
61 Hertloff and Hiken
63 New Deal org.
65 Busy insect
66 Tack on

The Argonaut

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UI STUDENT MEDIA BOARD
The UI Student Media Board meets at 5:30 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month. Time and location will be published in the Argonaut. Classified section the Tuesday of the week before the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. Questions? Call Student Media at 885-7825 or visit the Student Media office on the SUB third floor.

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BIOFUEL

from page 1

Plant, Soil and Entomological Sciences (PSES), the biological and agricultural engineering department and the agricultural economics department are working on various aspects of biofuel — from how the plants can be genetically altered to produce a higher quality product and grow in more diverse areas, to uses for the various byproducts of the biofuel creation process, to how to make producing biofuel economical for farmers.

Biofuel's problems

In order to develop a high quality biofuel, you have to start with a high quality plant, which is what plant breeding and genetics professor Jack Brown is trying to do. UI has the only oilseed-breeding group in the United States.

Since coming to UI 15 years ago, Brown has worked to develop what he calls "designer" plants that will produce larger amounts of high-quality oil.

There are three main problems the biofuel industry needs to overcome, Brown said. First, producing oil is expensive, which is one of the reasons that farmers need to utilize all parts of the seed and not just the oil.

Second, different seeds produce different-quality oil, a fact that Brown said has been largely ignored. The confusion, he said, is in part because ethanol — an alcohol made from grains and an ingredient in the creation of biofuel — is always the same no matter what it's made from.

That's not true for biofuel, in which the type of seed used is very important, Brown said. Soybeans make a poorer-quality biofuel than canola or rapeseed.

Stemming from the quality problems are issues involving cold-flow, or the temperature at which the fuel will solidify, Brown said. Biofuel made from palm oil is solid at room temperature: 62 degrees. A soy biofuel will become solid at 32 degrees and a rapeseed won't solidify until 12 degrees, Brown said.

Also, the oxidation (shelf life) of the fuel can be a problem. All vegetable oils will become rancid if they are used repeatedly, Brown said. Canola and rapeseed biofuels have a longer shelf life than some other oils.

The third major problem with biofuel is that there is too little of it, Brown said. If a person could take all the vegetable oil and animal fat in the entire world and make biofuel from it, he would still be 6 billion gallons short of what would be needed just for the United States.

"We use too much oil," Brown said.

How biofuel makes a difference

This problem leads many people to wonder: If we can't replace fossil fuels, what's the point? The point, Brown said, is to make whatever difference we can. Biofuel is a renewable, environmentally friendly product that is carbon-neutral (it does not release any excess greenhouse gases into the atmosphere). It is also completely biodegradable and safe. In

fact, Brown said, you could drink it if you wanted to, or use it to cook with. All of these factors make biofuel perfect for environmentally fragile environments, such as national park systems, boats and airplanes. If the fuel is spilled on the ground or in water, it will not cause any harm to the environment, Brown said.

This theory was tested in 1994 when Peterson, along with the National Park Service and the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, introduced biofuel to Yellowstone National Park. UI provided all of the biofuel needed for Yellowstone to run a 1994 Dodge pickup on 100 percent biofuel.

The program was so successful, Jon Van Gerpen said, and gave biofuel such national visibility that it is now being used in parks across the country.

In September, Peterson received a certificate of appreciation from Yellowstone for his efforts to bring biofuel into the park. Peterson retired from UI in June after spending two years as the interim dean of engineering. He is an honored emeritus professor.

The university has its own fleet of biofuel vehicles: a '94 and a '98 Dodge pickup, a 2002 Volkswagen Beetle that run on 100 percent biofuel and the Vandal Trolley, which runs on 20 percent biodiesel.

The vehicles are in the university motor pool, Van Gerpen said, and are used regularly, except for the Vandal Trolley, which runs on campus only for special events. The vehicles required no special engine modifications, except for the addition of 100-gallon fuel tanks on the pickups so they have fuel wherever they go. The university hasn't experienced any problems using the vehicles in cold weather, but they are stored inside to combat any cold-related problems.

Developing biofuel worldwide

Earlier this month, Brown received a \$2 million, five-year grant from Eco-Energy, a European company who wants to use millions of acres worldwide to produce biofuels. The grant has allowed Brown to pay for four to five staff members, increase the number of graduate students in the program from three to six or seven and add three undergraduate students to the program.

"We're very student-oriented," Brown said.

During the last 15 years, Brown said he has received

about \$4 million in grants for the program.

"(The grant) doubled what we've had to spend over 15 years," Brown said.

For the project, Brown and his team will be working on developing oilseed plants that can survive in a variety of climates around the world. The grant is an initial investment, Brown said, and Eco-Energy is expected to continue to finance the program for years.

The deal benefits UI not only with short-term funding, but also in the long-term. Eco-Energy, as well as anyone else using UI's plants, has to pay a royalty to the university for every acre planted, which could result in a substantial amount of money.

Brown has already developed several plants specially for Idaho's climate. Most of UI's plants are already licensed and are being sold and grown commercially. Brown has created three winter canola plants — Erica and Athena are the most successful types — two spring canolas, Sunrise and Premier, and this year is releasing the first winter rapeseed ever developed.

Brown has also developed the only spring rapeseed crops in the United States, Sterling and Garnet, as well as two very successful mustards — IdaGold, a yellow mustard and currently the standard mustard

grown in the United States, and PacificGold, an oriental mustard.

Brown said UI will release the first spring rapeseed and canola plants (Gem and Clearwater, respectively) that are resistant to an herbicide used on peas and lentils, a popular crop in this area this spring. The herbicide contaminates the ground, making it impossible to grow canola and rapeseed for six years after use. Brown's plants are resistant to the chemical and can be planted in the field right away.

Brown tests his plants at the university's research farms. The Parker Farm, located near the golf course on the Troy highway, is UI's main research farm and includes most of the research buildings. However, over the past several years, houses have been built near the farm, limiting the sort of chemicals that can be used on the fields.

The second farm, Kambitsch Farm, is located on Highway 95 near Genesee and is slightly larger, but doesn't offer the same research buildings. The program also utilizes about 25 other locations in Idaho, Washington, Oregon and

Montana, Brown said. Private growers and other state universities own the fields.

It's not just about the oil

When most people think of biofuel research, Matt Morra said, they usually focus on the oil required to make the product. The problem with that thought process is that mustard seed is only about 30 percent oil, which leaves 70 percent of the product to be wasted — hardly economical for the farmers. Canola seeds have a slightly higher oil concentration, Morra said, but it is still less than half.

"You can't make money on biodiesel alone," Morra said.

Morra's work at UI centers around using and developing seed meal, a cornflakes-looking substance left over after the oil is extracted, as a biopesticide.

Mustard meal is especially effective, Morra said, because of the glucosinolates in the plant. These chemicals are basically what gives mustard its spice. There are more than 130 glucosinolates in the world, but the ones found in mustard are especially effective as a biopesticide. The same chemical that makes food spicy can also kill weeds and pests.

Because the chemical is coming from a mustard seed, it makes a great product for organic farmers, who often have to hand-weed crops. Plus, Morra said, there's a bonus: The meal is also high in nitrogen, making it an organic fertilizer. All farmers have to do is sprinkle the meal on the ground and add water.

Farmers can also use mustard as a "green manure," Brown said. The crop can be planted in the early fall and then plowed into the ground around October, releasing the glucosinolates into the earth.

Because of the concentration of chemicals, some mustards work better than others as a biopesticide. Brown's IdaGold works as an effective weed killer. PacificGold, an oriental mustard which is spicier than a yellow mustard, is a very successful export crop that is effective at killing nematodes, a pest that plagues potato farmers, Brown said.

The use of mustards as a biopesticide is important for Idaho, Brown said, because the state "grows the best mustard in the whole world."

Morra is working on a \$613,000 grant from the USDA to research biopesticides for growing organic strawberries and carrots. Biopesticides are important for organic farmers who cannot use traditional pesticides on their crops. According to Brown, farmers can spend thousands of dollars hiring people to hand-weed organic crops.

While effective, biopesticides degrade rapidly, Morra said,

which can be both a good and a bad thing. Because it leaves the soil quicker, other pesticides may need to be used, but it also reduces risks of having any unseen negative effects currently caused by pesticides that can stay in the ground for years.

"It's not a one-to-one replacement," Morra said. "This is a management tool."

Mustard as a biopesticide may be a solution to some farmers, Morra said, but nothing coming from oilseed and biofuel research is going to be a perfect solution to all problems.

"We need to take a little more care and use them as a tool instead of a silver bullet," Morra said. "We always look for one thing as an answer. ... This is a real part of the answer, but it's only a part."

One of the largest hurdles that has yet to be overcome for Morra's work is getting his research protected and registered. While there are some pending patents to protect the research, before seed meal can be used commercially as a biopesticide, it needs to be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), a process that takes at least 18 months and can cost anywhere from \$50,000 to \$300,000 to register one product.

"I have to find somebody who wants to fund it," Morra said.

All the university's biofuel and oilseed research is funded almost entirely by grant money, so it will take a private investor to pay for registering UI's biopesticides for commercial use, Morra said.

Another use for canola and rapeseed meal is as a feed meal for dairy cows, Brown said. Giving a 10 percent mix of the meal to cows results in a higher and better quality milk yield. Idaho is currently importing meal from Canada, Brown said, and with 750,000 dairy cows in the state, it makes sense to grow it ourselves.

Another byproduct of the biofuel creation process is glycerin, a product that in its purest form is used as a sweetener, in cosmetics and to make things creamy. It is created when the seed oil is mixed with ethanol to create the fuel. Van Gerpen said UI is researching ways to use the crude glycerin, which is an edible, nontoxic material that could possibly be used in animal feed or antifreeze.

Spreading the word

Another chunk of the biofuel project is educating people across the nation about growing,

developing and selling biofuel. UI is in the beginning of the fourth year of an almost \$1 million, five-year grant from the USDA for biodiesel education.

"That's been our biggest effort," Van Gerpen said.

As part of the education process, UI has sponsored various conferences and workshops across the state. Approximately 155 people attended a workshop in Coeur d'Alene last June, Van Gerpen said, and for the past two years UI has sponsored a two-day workshop in Boise, as well as three five-day conferences in the last year.

In January, a group called Harvesting Clean Energy is holding a workshop that usually draws around 600 people. Immediately following, UI will have its own one-day workshop and Van Gerpen said he hopes to see about 200 of those participants stay over for it.

The future of biofuel

With a 5 percent biodiesel now being offered at Primeland Cooperative's gas stations in Moscow and Lewiston, biofuels are moving into the mainstream. As the field further develops, Van Gerpen said he expects to see more people become interested in ethanol to create the fuel instead of using methanol, which is derived from fossil fuels.

Both Brown and Morra said they are seeing lots of universities starting biofuel programs and trying to catch up with UI.

"I see more universities trying to steal our ideas," Brown said.

"There's a lot of people interested," Morra said, but with UI's almost 30-year lead in the industry, "they all want to know what we know."

UI remains one of the only universities with such a strong, interdepartmental program, Van Gerpen said. On top of that, Morra said, UI has one of the only complete biofuel facilities, including the capability to crush the seeds to make oil.

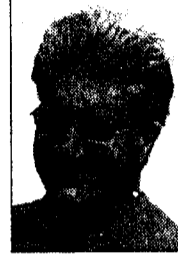
"That's what makes us stand out," Morra said, adding that he receives calls from other universities seeking oil.

Even with an increase in other universities researching biofuel, it will take years for them to catch up, Brown said. UI has one of the largest collections of oilseed cultivars (plants) in the world, and it can take 15 years to develop a cultivar, Brown said. Hopefully, in 15 years, UI will still be 15 years ahead of them, he added.

"They'd like to catch up," Brown said. "They'd like to catch up real quick."



Charles Peterson



Jack Brown

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Campus gets more parking

By Christina Lords
Argonaut

New handicap parking spaces are now available for students and faculty use in front of the Idaho Commons, Shoup Hall and near Renfrew.

Before the new parking spaces were put into place, many students were concerned about not being able to get to and from class, said Gloria Jensen, coordinator for the University of Idaho's Disability Support Services. Jensen said that significant progress has been made because of the cooperation between many groups and departments including DSS, Health and Safety and Parking Services.

"We've seen positive change because of a lot of good dialogue," Jensen said. "It seems like it has really opened up."

Jensen said one problem facing the additional disabled parking spaces was people without proper permits parking in the reserved spots.

"I think there's not a total understanding of the true meaning of access," Jensen

said. She said that if students were unable to park, it could be hazardous for the disabled student.

"Having a disability and falling down, especially with winter weather, could be very dangerous," Jensen said.

The DSS office is also working on a grant that could fund a vehicle with a lift that would transport disabled students around campus. DSS is still in the process of coordinating the plans to find the optimal system for the university.

"(The vehicle) would alleviate a lot of the problems and still allow access to the buildings," said Stuart Robb, parking service supervisor for UI. He said the plans were still a work in progress, and routes and funding for the project are still being determined.

"Money is our biggest issue," Jensen said. "If we get the information in by March, and it all goes through, we could have a bus up and running by summer or fall."

Jensen said the new parking places will be available to new students in the spring.

BUS

from page 4

the initiative to do something. He called Dean of Students Bruce Pitman on his cell phone and reported the situation. Pitman then went to his campus office to try to fix the problem.

"I got a call from Justin's family around 8:20 or 8:30 on Sunday morning," Pitman said. "His mother indicated there were a number of people waiting for the bus in Portland and it had not arrived yet. I was very glad she called. It gave me the opportunity to look into the situation and resolve part of the problem."

Pitman discovered a miscommunication between the bus company and UI — the school itinerary printed an 8 a.m. departure time. The driver thought it was 11:30 a.m.

Upon this realization, Pitman asked the dispatcher to see if the driver could come earlier than expected. Luckily for the riders, he lived in a nearby Portland suburb and made to the Greyhound station as quickly as possible.

When the bus finally arrived a little after 10 a.m., students and parents were relieved. They loaded their baggage into the cargo hold and returned to Moscow later than expected but without further incident.

Pitman also contacted students at other pickup spots, such as Pasco, and gave them the driver's cell phone number to ensure they connected properly.

Riders of the returning break bus were given apologies and refunds for their trip from Portland to Moscow.

"We want to build trust and a rider base," Pitman said. "We have to prove we can provide quality service and that we care about it. It was a very easy decision to issue the apology and give the refund."

Despite the bad experience this time around, Swift has not soured on riding the UI Break Bus in the future.

"I would go in confidence," he said. "If anything, something like that would increase their vigilance to make sure something like that didn't happen again."

SenateREPORT

Nov. 29, 2006

Open Forum

Jill Kellogg-Serna, International Programs Office program adviser, talked about the International Experience Grant, which gives \$50,000 in scholarships to students who will study abroad. She wanted the Senate to increase the money from a resolution it passed last year to increase the money given to UI students planning to study in foreign countries. She said there are somewhere from 50-80 students not getting any grants for their studies, which makes it difficult to pay for expenses in countries with higher costs of living.

Kellogg-Serna also said the office is helping these students get money by working with other colleges and talking to alumni for more financial support. Lastly, she mentioned the Lincoln Bill, which is currently going through the U.S. Senate. This legislation is trying to increase the number of American students.

Eric Everett, ASUI vice president adjutant, talked about the current ASUI election. He said that roughly only 2.5 percent of UI students have cast a ballot in this election and urged the Senate to try to generate interest within students to

vote. He said the result will be announced in a ceremony at 7 p.m. tonight at the rotunda on the second floor of the Idaho Commons.

Executive Communications

Berto Cerrillo, ASUI president, first thanked Kellogg-Serna for speaking at the meeting and spreading the word about study abroad. Next, he endorsed Brittany Mayson for the position of ASUI Vandal Entertainment Promotions Coordinator. Cerrillo said that Mayson has already set up office hours and started working on promoting Martin Luther King III's appearance on the UI campus in January. He concluded by wishing the Senate and audience good luck during finals week.

New Business

F06-42, a bill appointing Brittany Mayson to the position of ASUI Vandal Entertainment Promotions Coordinator, passed unanimously.

Voting on F06-02, a resolution in support of the University of Idaho starburst logo, was pushed back until next week because Jon Gaffney, the creator of SavetheStarburst.com and the resolution, wanted to be present at the meeting to speak on its behalf.

Jeremy Castillo

AIDS

from page 1

can serve as a warning to others to take the necessary safety precautions before having sex.

In January, Wade shared her story with The Argonaut ("Learning safe sex the hard way," Jan. 20) about her relationship with Mubita, but did not reveal her name. She wanted others to learn from her experience and hopefully act more carefully in similar situations. Now Wade is ready to shed her old skin and reveal the woman she has evolved into during the past year.

"My life has been redefined," Wade says. "When I initially found out about Kanay, it shook my world."

Last October, Wade met Mubita at a bar and stayed with him at his apartment for nearly a week before discover-

ing Mubita was not being completely truthful with her about his past and about who he was.

Wade became suspicious and cut off contact with him before ever consenting to more than oral sex, a decision that may have saved her life.

Wade testified against Mubita in the preliminary trial. She said it was difficult and uncomfortable to describe what had occurred between her and Mubita. Because they only had oral sex, Wade had to go into more detail than the other women who testified to prove there was transfer of body fluids.

Wade says she was shocked to discover during the court proceedings that nearly everything Mubita had told her about himself was a lie. And that what he failed to reveal could have put her life in jeopardy.

"I felt like I had a connection with someone that didn't even

exist," she says.

When he stood before the judge after he was sentenced, Wade says Mubita made no apologies.

"He had no remorse," she recalls. "Some might say it's a cultural difference. I think he knew."

Wade says she doesn't know if Mubita was intentionally trying to infect women with HIV, even though North Central Health District of Idaho informed him of his positive test results in December 2001.

She said the only clue that might have signaled his intentions to infect others was his refusal to use condoms and that he would claim he did not need them.

Wade has been tested four times for the HIV virus since learning of Mubita's condition. All tests have returned negative.

"I don't think of myself as a victim," she says. "I think of myself as a survivor."

Wade has thrived from this experience and says her "faith in God has been exponentially increased."

Wade says she no longer allows self-hatred to mar her with insecurities, a predominant reason why she went home with Mubita that night.

This year Wade has worked closely with Leah Cristaldi to promote UI

World AIDS Day. Cristaldi heads the planning committee and said she would like to see World AIDS Day serve as an informational tool to combat some of the common myths and stereotypes associated with HIV/AIDS and its carriers.

"Be cautious and get tested, use protection and don't feel ashamed about going

and getting tested," Cristaldi says. "That's being responsible to yourself and your partners. I think that's the key. We really need to alleviate the fears and all the negative connotations surrounding HIV and AIDS."

World AIDS Day began in 1988 and was originally organized by UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS. In 2004 the independent organization known as the World AIDS Campaign took over responsibility and developed the slogan "Stop AIDS: Keep the Promise." The 2006 theme is accountability, which is meant to inspire people to hold their government leaders, policy makers and regional health care authorities accountable for promises they have made in the past to pursue AIDS research and secure universal access to treatment and support to overcome the AIDS pandemic.

"I don't think people are as cautious as they should be because people get these ideas that AIDS only exists in certain

parts of society," Cristaldi says.

Along with ignorance, Cristaldi speculates that many young adults refrain from getting tested because they're scared of the potential results.

"Young people are out exploring sexually and having fun," she says. "Many aren't in a committed relationship. They're going through various partners and it's risky."

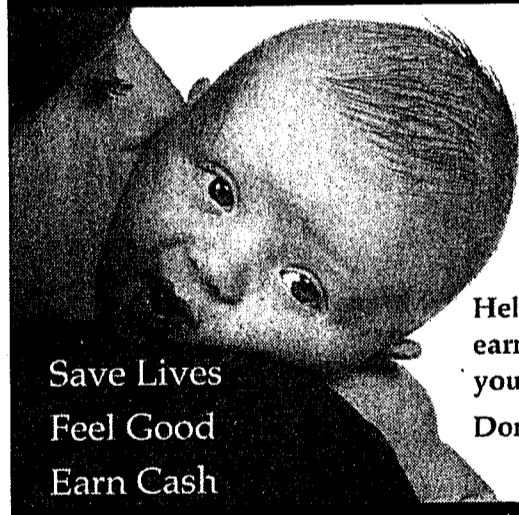
The planning committee encourages the UI community to show their support by wearing red, and will distribute red ribbons to those who visit the World AIDS Day display in the Idaho Commons Food Court Friday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Condoms and AIDS information will also be given out. Wade says she is ready to move on and hopes her willingness to speak out will invite others to do the same.

And while her story is bold, Wade knows it's not the only one.

"There's probably at least a thousand other people in this school that have as strong a story as I do," Wade says. "I think those stories can change people's lives."

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ASUI Senate candidates

Voting booths will be open from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Commons, Wallace Complex and the Student Recreation Center today. Students can also vote online at www.asui.uidaho.edu/vote. Students can vote for up to seven candidates. The results will be announced at 7 p.m. today in the Commons Rotunda room.

Questions:

1. How effective is ASUI as an organization? What areas do you believe need improvement?
2. How can you make yourself more representative of the entire student population?

3. Identify an important issue to students and how you will address the issue as a senator?

4. Excluding your answer to No. 3, if elected what personal goals will you pursue?

5. Explain why you are running for ASUI Senate and discuss your qualifications.

No photo available

Maria Magana

Hometown: Shoshone, Idaho

Year, major: freshman, justice studies major

Living group: residence halls

1. As a student at the University of Idaho, I believe ASUI is a very effective organization.

With my commitment and dedication and the resources that ASUI provides to student leaders it has the potential to create positive changes. I have had the privileges of meeting many former senators and leaders and have shared their great experience within this organization.

If elected, some areas I would improve would be the following:

Communication: Even though ASUI is a very well known organization there are many students at the University of Idaho that are not aware of what ASUI stands for and what it offers to the students on campus. There are also many propositions and bills being passed that many students would like to know about and get involved with and aren't because of the minimum information given to them. This is the area I would like to invest my time in — increasing communication on and off campus.

Safety: Another focus would be safety. I believe that having a very safe campus is essential. Many students do not feel as comfortable going to night classes or group studies around campus when there is not enough lighting, because they feel unsafe. Increasing the lighting around campus and having blue phones would make a great impact.

2. I would be representing each and every one of you, and meeting others through classes, socials and any function around campus. I will also be representing you by listening to your concerns and addressing the issues. I would utilize my resources on campus residences, since I do live in the residence halls. I am currently involved with Unity, which is an umbrella group for multicultural organizations, Unity helps support and promote cultural events on campus.

3. There are many issues that need to be addressed, but one of the major ones is safety. First of all, there is not enough lighting on campus, and I believe that there should be more lights to help see farther. In addition to lighting, blue emergency phones would be a great help, since there have been some incidents on campus. With the sound and bright blue light, it would make people see who needs help. We need to get some college's support, with this said I would ask the Criminal Justice program for help in starting a campus-security internship. We could work something out by them receiving credit while watching the campus during midnight shifts. With the help of the Criminal Justice program we could give students on and off campus a safer life at the University of Idaho.

4. I would not only assist the students at the University of Idaho, but also myself. I would be increasing my communication and leadership skills. This will help me with my future career goals and professional experiences. This would help me give back to UI and my community.

5. New leadership, new ideas, new people, this is what I am. I am a leader that accepts change. By change I mean identifying issues that need to be improved and that will help the students at the University of Idaho to grow stronger. I have been in student government during my high school career and have created new organization that has been successful for more than three years. I am also a strong woman that will pursue my goals, and will fight the obstacles in my way.



John Adkins

Hometown: Eagle, Idaho

Year, major: freshman, political science major

Living group: Sigma Chi fraternity

1. ASUI is a vast, complex organization filled with multiple departments, dedicated leaders and volunteers

and an excellent staff. On the whole, ASUI is extremely effective at representing the undergraduate students and enriching the University of Idaho campus. This organization constantly strives to meet the ever-changing needs of students by bettering themselves and ASUI.

That said, ASUI, and more specifically the Senate, has issues that must be addressed. I believe the constitutional amendment districting the Senate (an act I was proud to be a part of) is a good step toward change, but is just one many reforms to come. More and more, student voices are being requested and, even if not requested, listened to by the university faculty, staff and administration. The students need constant representation in all areas of the campus and ASUI should ensure that effective, articulate representation takes place.

2. As a student living within the Greek community, my representation of many University of Idaho students is effective and through the various committees and boards that I sit on, again I am reaching and striving to represent other students. However, there is more which I could do.

I'd like to be more connected with the many clubs and organizations on campus. It is a great thing to have so many varied clubs and I'd like to reach out to those multi-cultural, multi-religious, multi-faceted clubs which diversify and brighten this campus. But there is a greater need of student representation that has not been addressed, students who live off campus.

Off-campus students make up a majority of undergraduate students at the University of Idaho, but have very limited representation. The reasons for the lack of representation are simple and yet difficult to address; they have no common meeting place, they cover a large amount of ground, and it is difficult to track them down in order to hear their voices (just to name a few). I'd like to work with other senators to address these problems so that off-campus students can receive the representation they deserve and pay for.

3. Again, I'd like to see students receiving the representation they deserve at all the various opportunities on campus. The University of Idaho is a small city, which runs on the sweat of its citizens and within the invaluable network of committees, boards, focus groups

and meetings. Students, as never before, have the opportunity to instigate and effect real change on campus, changing the face of the university forever and making it our own. Decisions are made by those who show up.

I want to make sure that first, we have students showing up and second, the right students are showing up. Too much is at stake for students not to receive proper representation and it is my goal to ensure it. As I have said, ASUI is already working hard to make sure proper representation is taking place, but as a senator I could just make those efforts all the more effective.

4. There are many issues that face the university right now, issues which greatly affect all of us. Student enrollment and retention is down which has monetary affects on everyone, the university's advertising campaign is a reflection of who are and must therefore be addressed with the utmost scrutiny, textbook prices and resale values are a common complaint and must be addressed more fully, parking is also a constant problem facing most students and must be regulated; from the most mundane to the most controversial, students must have a voice in the issues facing our campus. This is my goal, to ensure they do.

5. We have the most beautiful, the most prosperous campus in the state; we are the University of Idaho. As such, I want to serve the students and the university and I have the skills to do so.

My involvement with student government dates back to middle school and high school. Throughout high school I served in many leadership positions including freshman representative, sophomore president, prom committee chair, drum major, ASB president, and president of the Eagle Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. The latter office I held afforded me an honorary seat on the Eagle City Council, an experience which has aided me greatly. I have attended many leadership conferences and taught a few as well and it is my goal to bring all the experience I have with me to better ASUI and the Senate.

See CANDIDATES, page 6

Winter has hit the Pacific



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CANDIDATES

from page 5

Questions:

1. How effective is ASUI as an organization? What areas do you believe need improvement?
2. How can you make yourself more representative of the entire student population?
3. Identify an important issue to students and how you will address the issue as a senator.
4. Excluding your answer to No. 3, if elected, what personal goals will you pursue?
5. Explain why you are running for ASUI Senate and discuss your qualifications.



Alison Buswell

Hometown: Salem, Ore.
Year, major: junior, math major
Living group: off-campus

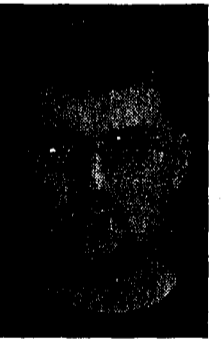
1. The main goals of a student government should be both representation and communication. ASUI as an organization should represent as much of the student body as is possible. This includes not only clubs and social organizations, but also the general student body. I believe there needs to be an improvement in visibility and approachability of the student government to increase participation. Also, ASUI should always be working to increase awareness of activities, issues, and other opportunities that are presented to students. I am sure that the ASUI is dealing with these issues now, but they are important issues that can afford to be reiterated.

2. In order to represent the entire student body, I would first understand what the students care about, and what the students want from their government. This can be accomplished through different forms of communication between ASUI and students, and offering a better understanding to students about what they can do to impact the decisions that are influencing them.

3. An important issue that I have heard many students talk about lately is campus safety. It is truly unfortunate that there is no longer such a thing as a truly safe campus. As a senator, I would like to provide a safe environment both on campus and in surrounding areas. To achieve this there would need to be more availability of security resources, as well as an understanding of how to use those resources. ASUI could also facilitate campus wide awareness of safety issues, as well as guidelines for students to ensure their own safety.

4. If elected, my main goals as a senator would be to bring about the changes in policies, and implementation of the ideas most advocated for by the students. I specifically wish to continue advancing communication between organizations and ASUI as well as the university community.

5. I am running for the ASUI Senate because I want to be a representative to the issues that we all face. I want to have a part in making sure that the student government is working for the students. My biggest qualification is that I am a student, just like you, dealing with the same issues. I have some student government experience, a lot of experience if middle school counts haha, and if given the opportunity I think I could do an excellent job representing your concerns effectively.



Garrett Holbrook

Hometown: Chimacum, Wash.
Year, major: junior, political science and public relations major
Living group: Gem Hall

1. As it stands today, I do not believe ASUI is as effective as it could be. What ASUI lacks is a true representation of students' voices. I believe that ASUI could most greatly benefit from a wider range of representatives from more diverse backgrounds. Not to say that the current representation is not effective or truly representative, but something is lost without students with different viewpoints. It is my belief that with a wider-reaching voice, ASUI can gain further legitimacy and recognition with students from all walks of life.

2. To most effectively represent the whole student body you have to care about what every side has to say. To that end I would work diligently to understand and engage myself in the issues facing all groups within our school. Simply meeting with and talking to people you have never met is a great way to open up your mind to new ideas and ways of thinking, and I will make it my goal to meet with any student or group that wants its voice heard. While I may not agree with every opinion on this campus, it would be an injustice not to take them into account.

3. One issue that I believe requires attention from the student government is parking. It has been talked about every year I have gone to UI and I have yet to see any real change. From the appeals process to the lack of spaces, parking needs to be looked at from the user's point of view, and many of the users are students. I believe more involvement from students is needed in the decision-making process that can impact many of us.

4. My personal goals as a senator would include increased student-led scrutiny of Auxiliary Services, further development of 'Round The Clock, and more outreach to underrepresented segments of our student population. Auxiliary Services is responsible for a great deal of the establishments that students frequent on campus, but most people

don't even know it exists. I would work to ensure that student concerns over campus dining, the bookstore and university residences have a student-run outlet to voice their opinions. 'Round The Clock has the potential to bring ASUI into the hands of students, and so far it has made progress in bridging the information gap. I believe that in time it can have a great impact on students. Involvement is also a concern when I think about ASUI, and finding more avenues for students outside of the ASUI circle to express their opinions is a key issue.

5. I am running for the ASUI Senate because I believe that I can help change one of the most important bodies that represents the students. I have served in many leadership roles beginning with my time as a member of the ASUI Facilities and Operations Board in 2004 and 2005 when it was dismantled. I have also held leadership positions in the residence halls — I have been a hall treasurer, hall president, Residence Hall Association Events Coordinator and I am currently an assistant chair for the IACURH Conference, which represents residence halls across the Mountain West. I am not running for senate to gain personal recognition, I am running because I think that there is great room for improvement and advancement in ASUI and I want to help make it happen.



Ashley Cochran

Hometown: Twin Falls, Idaho
Year, major: freshman, pre-vet major
Living group: Delta Gamma sorority

1. I believe that ASUI is a semi-effective organization. There are areas that could use some improvement

such as more interaction with the student body. By posting information on the Web site and in The Argonaut I believe is effective for informing students of upcoming events.

2. I would make myself more representative of the entire student body as a whole. I would dedicate my time to reach out and inform students in the residents halls, Greek, and off-campus. By presenting myself as a UI student rather than a certain living group, it would allow me to connect to all students.

3. I feel that one of the biggest problems on campus as of now would be student advising. Being a freshman on campus I was confused and found it hard to figure out how to register for classes for next semester. By working on bettering the program of student advising I believe that it would better the University of Idaho and help the students, especially new students or students that are not sure what they want to major in.

4. My personal goals are to help ASUI get more students active within the organization. I would visit the residence halls, fraternities, and sororities to inform them of the current activities and issues that are being focused on by ASUI. By doing this it would help to promote ASUI's interests.

5. I am running for ASUI Senate because I feel that it is important to reach out and take part in my school. I feel that if I begin as a freshman, that by the time I am a senior I will be able to see my ideas and goals implemented and in effect. I have participated in many activities throughout high school and my life that have helped to develop and shape me into a leader. I have played basketball, volleyball and track, while working on bettering my high school and community through being vice president of Business Professionals of America, Key Club, National Honors Society, Natural Helpers, competitive debate, speech, mock trial and Hoby Leadership Conference. I have volunteered many hours to helping the local elementary school and the retirement home. I am currently volunteering with the UI's ALCP group as a conversation partner. I have had a lot of volunteer experience and hope to be able to improve the University of Idaho.



Michael Ross Barker

Hometown: Buhl, Idaho
Year, major: junior, business economics major
Living group: off-Campus

1. I believe that ASUI is an effective organization in doing what it absolutely needs to do,

namely deliberating the budget, discussing different ideas for student events and entertainment, and making sure that student views are heard and acted upon. There is however, one major area that needs improvement, and that is improving communication between the ASUI governance and the general student body. I have spoken to many students who either don't think ASUI is really important or simply don't know what ASUI does. This issue has been addressed before and is getting better, I believe though there is always room for improvement in this area.

2. To make oneself more representative to the student population, one would need to experience the benefits and challenges of different living situations, be involved in a variety of academic and extracurricular activities, and most importantly have an open mind and a willingness to learn. I have lived in two types of living arrangements, both Greek and off-campus, both of which have been great in their own ways. Also I try to involve myself in campus life, going to various lectures, movies and sports while also being a member of the Honors Program. And most importantly I am willing to listen and learn from others; hear what other students' concerns are and how we can go about solving them.

3. There are many important issues that affect students at this time including fees, living choices, and adjustment to a university life. One of the most important issues that I see,

however, is the ability to commute and travel on campus. As an off-campus student I know how hard it is to get to school when the temperature is below freezing and the sun isn't up. Thankfully there is a bus program that runs, free of charge, for everyone at this time. However, this program's funding is due to expire within the next year and without it many students will have a hard time getting to school on time without driving. I would address this issue by determining if there was a way to continue the program's funding or if another program could take its place.

4. I will be honest and say that my biggest personal goal would be to learn as much as possible as quickly as possible. I could have all the ideas in the world and without the knowledge of how to go about implementing them, they would be worthless. Basically my first goal after becoming senator will be to learn as much as possible from my peers, during which I will be contacting various student groups to determine what their concerns are, and after my learning stage has been completed I would begin to find and implement solutions with the rest of the Senate.

5. I am running for ASUI because I have a great desire to become more involved and part of the decision-making process within the University of Idaho. I am very excited to learn and help in the operations of student government and will strive to accomplish throughout my term. My qualifications include prior leadership experience and training, including holding positions in a Greek chapter and a leadership camp attended over a summer. Also I am qualified in that I have experienced two different living groups, letting me see the concerns of each, and have worked part-time while also taking 17 credits, which helped me to realize how challenging that truly is.

No photo available

Chris Shirts

Hometown: Weiser, Idaho
Year, major: sophomore, environmental science/pre-law major
Living group: Delta Chi fraternity

1. ASUI as an organization is very effective in focusing on the greater success of the University of Idaho and fostering positive relationships through proactive leadership. ASUI strives for the wellbeing and education of the University of Idaho students. However, as with all organizations, there is always some room for improvement. The area in need of the most improvement is the communication between ASUI and the students they represent.

2. The best thing I can do to make myself more representative of the entire student population is to hold myself accountable. This includes everything from visiting living groups to attending committee and board meetings. I will make an honest effort to obtain opinions from students in the resident halls, Greek system and students who reside off campus. This will help me make the best decision which will benefit the campus as a whole.

3. One of the most important issues for the students at the University of Idaho is student enrollment. Student enrollment affects many things which include student fees, the university access to federal grants, and the students overall quality of education. It's important for ASUI to do everything in its power to increase student enrollment which will improve the University of Idaho.

4. My personal goals as an ASUI senator would be to create better communication between ASUI and the University of Idaho students. Doing this would produce more student awareness and hold the ASUI senators more accountable for their actions. Another goal which I would achieve while in office is to represent the student body fairly and equally. Doing this will make the decision which I make in the senate those of the whole student body.

5. I am running for ASUI senator because I want to be a part of the decisions that are made at the University of Idaho. Everything that ASUI does affects the student body in one way or another, and I want to be able to represent what the students think. I realize that this time of significant change at the university through the new ad campaign and changes in the senate election process. This makes me want to get involved to represent the student body fairly and be able to make a change. My qualifications for ASUI Senate include that I am very open-minded and responsible. I have a strong work ethic and my dedication helps me to pay great attention to detail.



Tricia Crump

Hometown: Pocatello, Idaho
Year, major: freshman, agriculture economics major
Living group: Delta Gamma sorority

1. ASUI works as an effective organization because each member has an obligation to function as an ambassador for the University of Idaho and its students. I think the ASUI could improve in the promotion of the organization. As a student it was hard to find information about the organization. Posters and different forms of publicity displayed throughout the campus and housing systems would greatly increase the participation.

2. Being only one person and trying to represent an entire student population can pose a difficult task. By becoming more active in my classes and events around campus I not only get to know more people but I also learn more about my surroundings. Knowing those I would be representing gives me the advantage to expressing their wants and needs. We are working inside of a small community and as a representative of ASUI it would be my job to

know the community and be able to represent it to the best of my ability.

3. As I walked around campus this week I was continuously asking myself one question: What can I fix on campus? I asked many students and two topics caught my immediate attention: student advising and safety on campus. Both of these issues I feel strongly about because I feel like it affects a good part of our community as a university campus.

Right now I feel that student advising is a process we go through as students to get a "hold" taken off our registration procedure. Advisers often persuade you to follow the four-year plan without exceptions and frequently advisers find it hard to counsel on the courses themselves. My direction on this project would be to insert a series of peer and professor advising. Now touching on the subject of safety, many situations have happened recently that lead me to believe that we are treading in the direction of an unsafe campus. A much needed promotion is campus safety and awareness. Most of us students watch some form of campus safety video at the first of the school year, but is that enough? Another goal of mine would be to subject students to campus safety in everyday curriculum.

4. My personal goals, like many, are to act as a voice for our student body. Our opinions count and we determine the future of this university. The University of Idaho holds a lot of individuality among its campus and as a student government organization it is ones duty to make sure all individuals are represented. A personal goal of mine is to support individuality by listening to different groups and voicing their specific interests.

5. As a freshman at the University of Idaho, I have been constantly trying to find ways to become active on a campus level. Participating in blood drives, going to events and working on different campus projects such as reorganizing the Vietnam remembrance plaque, has made me want to strive for the best at the University of Idaho. It has made me realize the importance of becoming active and supporting my school. In the past I have directed events and meetings as President of the Highland FFA Chapter. I have represented the sport of rodeo and worked as a spokesperson and role model as a rodeo queen of numerous rodeos, including placing in international contests in public speaking, pose and personality, and appearance. I also planned community service events, fundraising events, and lead meetings as a Past Honored Queen of Job's Daughters. Job's Daughters is a youth organization for young girls to work on community skills as well as parliamentary procedure skills. As one can see, I like to stay active in my community. University of Idaho is now my community and I aspire to fill a position in the ASUI organization.



Pedro Garcia

Hometown: Twin Falls, Idaho
Year, major: senior, architecture and spanish major
Living group: off-campus

1. I truly believe that the ASUI is a great organization and its effectiveness in providing activities and sup-

port for the student body is positive. I have been at the University of Idaho for three years, and every year ASUI reaches out more and more to students' organizations. I believe that our underrepresented groups are rapidly growing and we need to provide more support to those groups more to keep this campus diversified.

2. I am the youngest in my family of 11 and I have learned that every step I take in my life will represent my family. As a student here at that University of Idaho I embrace the student body in the same way. Being a leader here on campus and reaching out to the diverse groups in the community is a personal goal. I want to be able to give different groups a voice and security of knowing they will be heard.

3. Issue: Support for women's activities and issues. I believe in full equality for women and will advocate for support of activities and events that address women's issue.

4. If elected, I will pursue to reach out to minority groups as well as group who are under-represented to let them know that they now have a voice in the ASUI Senate.

5. The main reason I am running for senate is because I believe that if you want change you have to be the one to take the first step to implement change and by doing so, I can help others to become allies in that change. I also feel that my strong character could be a positive addition to the ASUI in helping to achieve the next level of excellence.

Qualifications: In high school I was on the honor roll both my junior and senior year. I was team captain in soccer, football, and wrestling. My senior year I was nominated Prom king, the most inspirational award for our football team, and was selected for the all-star football team in southern Idaho. Here at the University of Idaho I am one of the founding members of Men of Vision and currently the secretary/historian. I was the first president of the organization during 2005 and 2006 spring, and recently served as the group's nominated representative. I do and have done volunteer work for: Organization of Multicultural Affairs. I do any type of advertising and some of their designing of posters and flyers. The Women's Center is an organization I help in designing and hosting events with Men of Vision. The biggest hosting that we do for the Women's Center is the Jazz Festival, in which we help throughout the whole time. Whenever M.E.C.H.A. is putting on an event here on campus I help them out putting up decorations, and also host the events along with other members. A.L.L., Lambda Theta Alpha, Sabor de la Raza and Gamma Alpha Omega are other organizations that we help when they are in need of our help. Beyond our campus I reach out to Moscow Community and Omega Delta Phi of Pullman. —"helping others, helps to diversify your inter-self to becoming a better person."

Voting booths will be open from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. at the Commons, Wallace Complex and the SRC today. Students can vote online at www.asui.uidaho.edu/vote. The results will be announced at 7 p.m. today in the Commons Rotunda room.

Off the Cuff

Quick takes on current events from our editors

Praying for warmth

Umm, it's officially December and it's cold, if you haven't noticed. I'm freezing my tush off, and I might have to break down and turn on the heat in my apartment. My roommate and I have made a pact, and I'm on the verge of breaking it. We have a solid friendship and all, and I don't want to break the trust, but it's getting to the point where I can't come out from under the covers. I hope it warms up soon.

-Mackenzie

Show some enthusiasm

Today, I have a piece of friendly advice for the ASUI election planners. I have walked by the voting table several times before, and never been acknowledged by the people sitting there. While it is completely the choice of the individual students whether to vote or not, it just feels like there should be a little more enthusiasm shown by those manning the voting stations. Call out to students and force them to know that their vote is needed and important. Maybe it could help voting numbers a little for the next election.

-Miranda

Respect baseball logo

The Spokane Indians baseball team revealed a groundbreaking new logo this week, according to an article in Thursday's Spokesman-Review. The logo, which features eagle feathers and, in one version, the words "Spokane Indians Baseball Club" written in the native Spokane language, Salish, was developed with the help and support of the Spokane Tribe. In fact, it was approved unanimously by the tribe's culture committee.

So what's with the outcry from national organizations who think the Spokane tribe shouldn't allow the logo to happen? The team and the tribe have set an excellent example of cooperation to create a team image that both sides find respectful. This decision also needs to be respected.

-Tara

Screw you, Peter Jackson

So, it has been announced that Peter Jackson will not be directing "The Hobbit" movie and though fans are up in arms, I say thank God. The "Lord of the Rings" movies were long, boring and, except for a few moments, just terrible. They may have been halfway entertaining the first time I watched them but they have no re-watch value. Not to mention the disaster that was "King Kong," which was basically three hours of filmmaking masturbation. Seriously, I can only watch dinosaurs fight for so long. So, getting back to "The Hobbit" business, personally, I say "screw you" Peter Jackson, let a competent director do the job.

-Ryli

That's it, I quit

I really enjoy going to school, so much in fact I'm considering grad school. Then I saw this presentation done by a grad student. She has spent months researching for her dissertation and her brief explanation of her research to our class absolutely wowed me. She has put so much time and effort into this project, it was fascinating and in-depth. I was astounded. And then, I was terrified. I don't think I have the gumption to do that much research on any one topic. So that's it, I'm not going to go to grad school anymore. Thanks, Shannon, you saved me a fortune in student loans.

-Savannah

Death via Internet

Some media outlets are reporting that the radioactive chemical used to poison ex-KGB agent Alexander Litvinenko, polonium-210, is available for sale in the U.S. through UnitedNuclear.com, among other sources. What they're not reporting, the site says, is that it would take 15,000 orders costing about \$1 million to have enough to poison someone. So don't worry — unless you live next to a movie star, you can keep your speakers pointed at your neighbor's place without fear of reprisal.

-Nate

Feeling dead

Why is it that every "Dead Week" feels like a "Dead because I'm writing two papers, preparing a presentation and finishing up the last chapters of the textbook week"?

Every year I start thinking about how misguided we are about what "Dead Week" is. Coming into college, we are told this week is a time specifically designated so students can prepare for their finals. Did our professors not receive the memo about this no test, no new material time of year?

-Cynthia

OurVIEW

Earn your Christmas dinner

Today marks the first day of December. That's right — the holiday season is under way.

Soon school will be out and you'll be at home, gorging on ham and comparing how much more expensive your presents are than your siblings'.

But before that begins, sit back for a moment and think about all the bounties you are about to receive. Even if you're not Christian, it's likely that over the break you'll have some sort of special meal, spend time with your family and purchase a nifty gadget or two.

Not everyone is so fortunate, which might be why the Christmas season is traditionally known as a time for charity and volunteer work. It's a little harder for a college student to drop \$500 million on a charity than, say, Bill Gates, but that doesn't mean you can't get involved.

The easiest way is through the ASUI Center for Volunteerism and Social Action. Located on the third floor of the Idaho Commons right next to the main ASUI office, the center maintains an extensive direc-

tory of local volunteer opportunities — everything from being a Meals on Wheels driver to helping lead a Girl Scout troop. On Dec. 9, Palouse Cares 2006 will see crowds of Moscow residents roaming the town for three hours to collect food for the needy. As you read this, Giving Trees are set up in the Commons Bookstore and the Student Recreation Center so students can donate gifts for Christmas for Kids.

If all you have is a couple of hours free on a Thursday afternoon, consider helping out at the Humane Society of the Palouse. Located on White Avenue on the east side of town, the no-kill animal shelter currently houses to nearly 140 cats and 34 dogs. Students can volunteer to do everything from cleaning kennels to walking dogs, but what shelter pets really need right now are donations of laundry soap, bleach,

Volunteering opportunities

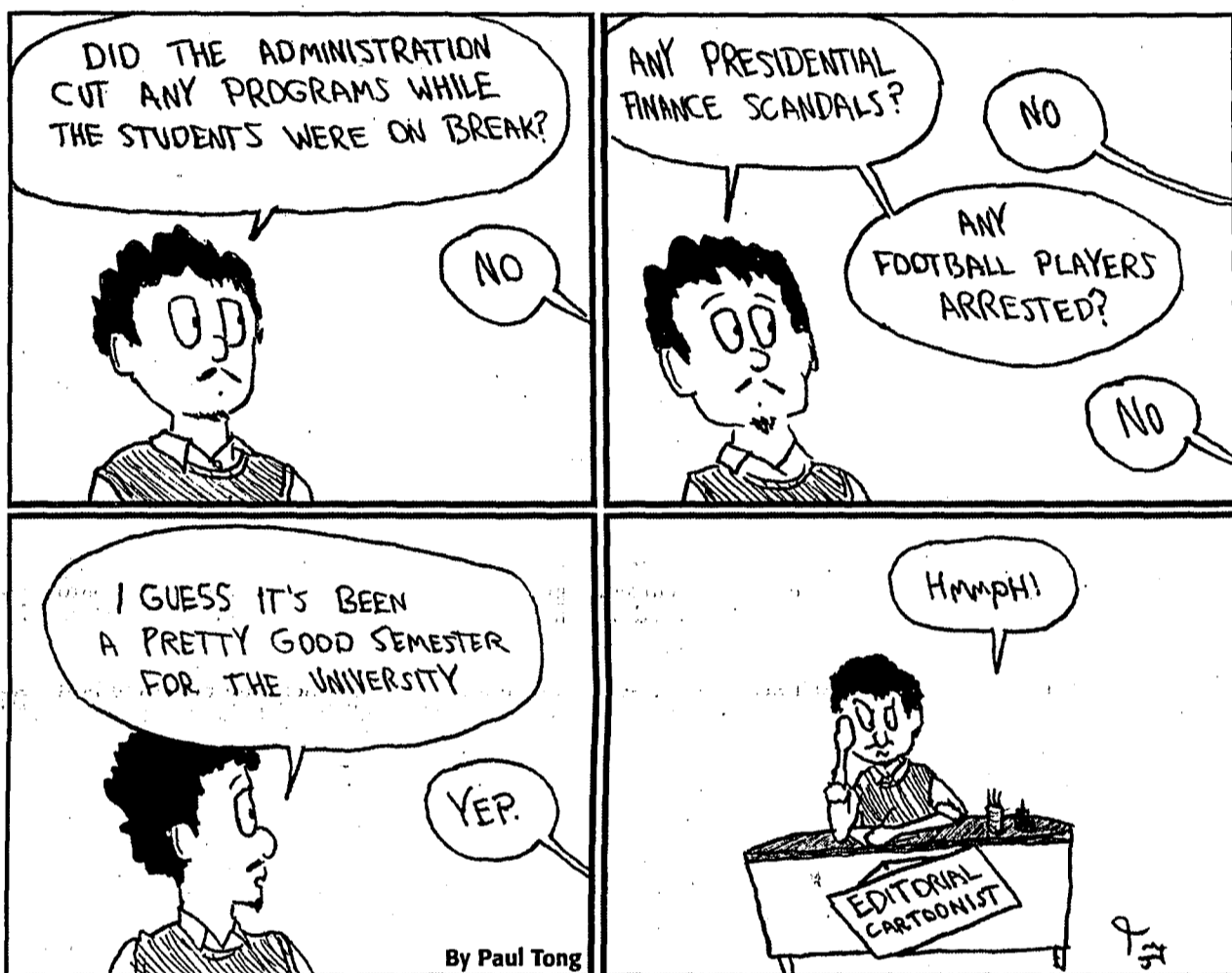
Check out these Web sites to find volunteer opportunities near you:
<http://service.sub.uidaho.edu>
www.humanesociety-offthepalouse.org
www.1800volunteer.org
www.servenet.org

garbage bags and toys. Can't pay for that? Stop by and play with the pets — it'll do wonders for them!

Volunteerism doesn't have to stop in Moscow. Nathan Hand, coordinator of the volunteer center, said students can check the Web sites at left to find service opportunities while at home for the holi-

days. The best part is, you don't have to stop after New Year's. Volunteering shouldn't exist solely to soothe the guilt of the holidays, and these opportunities don't go away for 10 months of the year. Making it a goal to help out the less fortunate, even only once a month, is an admirable decision and students should make it a habit now. That ensures you'll be more likely to keep it up in the future.

N.P.



By Paul Tong

Men of the rainbow-colored cloth

I met a guy one time, a gay guy (we'll call him Ted) at the house of a friend (the friend will be known as Mike). I knew Ted was gay immediately. He was effeminate, well-dressed and, I'm serious, talking about his love of both musicals and dancing to Abba. You think I'm making that up but I'm not. My immediate presumption was that Ted was there at Mike's invitation. The two of them were seated with Mike's devoutly Mormon parents. As the parents had recently found out (to their vociferously conveyed horror) what virtually everyone who met Mike knew already — that Mike was gay — I was surprised and impressed at that a ... I would say "ballsy" move it was, but that would be inappropriate, I think.

I soon found out that Ted wasn't there at Mike's behest at all, but his parents'. Ted was a representative of "Evergreen," an oddly named LDS-run gay-conversion troupe. I'm not sure why it's called "Evergreen," if you're going to try to turn gay dudes straight, at least give the organization's name some balls (so to speak), like "The De-Gayitizers," or "The Straighteners." "Choose Sports, not Dudes in Undersized Shorts," that one rhymes at least. What about "No More Mormon Guys Having Sex with Other Guys (or Girls with Girls)." The last one's a little long, but at least it's straightforward.

Anyway, I was asked to leave in short order and Ted, I assume, was all over Mike in no time; trying to turn him straight, that is. If I didn't work out beyond contributing to Mike's already ample homosexual-in-a-Mormon-household neuroses. I actually tried to stay in touch with Ted to do a story on Evergreen, but shortly after our first and last meet-

ing, Ted fled, bleeping off the Evergreen radar with a male flight attendant.

Ted's inability to remain straight is not a statistical aberration. The reported "recidivism" rates for these sadly quixotic farce-groups are consistently around 70 to 80 percent, and realistically hover somewhere in the nineties.

Newspaper opinion pages — college papers especially, and certainly this one — I would guess typically sport a mean of two or three pro-gay rights columns a semester. So I'll avoid warnings that "gay rights" is the new "civil rights" (oh my God, gay rights arguments are SO in right now) now that all that pesky racism is gone for good. Appeals to the compassion and common sense of the anti-gays will be similarly neglected. They obviously haven't worked. (I won't ever be able to buy that "hate the sin, love the sinner" crap-storm. I find it hard to believe that people can summon that much love for a group of people they consider a lifespan away from eternal torture in a horrific pit of fire).

Evidence that homosexuals are born homosexual and will forever be gay is increasing. An old study of identical twins found that both twins were either gay or straight 100 percent of the time. Newer studies suggest the percentages around 50 or 60 percent; still pretty high and pretty indicative of a genetic and/or hereditary basis for the gay. Variations in brain structures based on sexuality have also been reported. Studies have cited disparities in the size, structure and makeup of the suprachiasmatic nucleus, the anterior commissure and neuron groupings in the hypothalamus between gay and straight men.

I understand all of that perfectly, but for you poor souls who don't, the fact that there are differences in the sexual-orientation parts of the brain

between straights and gays suggests that people do not choose their orientation. It's hard to believe that somebody could change the shape of their anterior commissure upon deciding to be gay, even if they concentrated really hard. If this sort of neurological manipulation were possible, I'd be releasing dopamine and serotonin constantly, and I'm not.

Look at Rev. Ted Haggard. Look at him, damnit. He's head of the National Association of Evangelicals, which has 30 million members, he's buddies with President Bush and, as you probably know by now, he's gay as a Floridian Republican congressman. (How close he and Bush are is anyone's guess, but I'd put money on Cheney wearing the pants in any White House-based gaying out). Haggard, emotionally devastated by his depressingly skewed moral code as he was, once compared a gay rights parade to a parade of "murders." It turns out that Haggard was, indeed, quite the man-killer. He hooked up with Mike Jones, a gay prostitute, whenever he had the hankerin' for some gay sex and/or a quick blast of methamphetamine.

Does anyone honestly think that Haggard chose to be gay? Assuming you're not gay, could you make that choice, and if so, to what end? That's right; it's both contrary to one's natural disposition and absurd as a "life choice," if one is so disinclined. Let's not bear any false witness here, even to ourselves. Homosexuality is as natural as heterosexuality and just as inborn. They represent a non-breeding population segment that, knee-jerk, doth-protest-too-much legislation notwithstanding, can raise children. Once the obviousness of homosexuality's hard-wired status is accepted (by people other than those who consider the question rationally) the only excuse left is intolerance, which is much easier to argue against than ignorance.

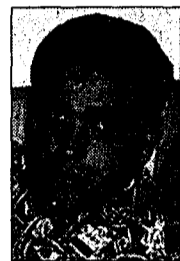
GuestCOLUMN

HJR-2: The new racism

First, I must apologize for my own lack of attention to current events. It wasn't until I glanced at The Argonaut on Tuesday that I became aware of HJR-2. Somehow, I naively believed that something like this would never actually happen, that the people of the United States had learned from its lurid past and were finally working toward some semblance of respect for the basic rights of human beings. I find myself sadly mistaken with the passing of the amendment. There is nothing moral about denying people their right to life,

liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

I will focus specifically on the current discrimination against the homosexual population of our state and country. And yes, it is nothing more than discrimination. By denying them



Morgan Douglas
 Guest Columnist
 arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

the right to take part in civil unions, even MARRIAGE, we deny them the basic right to live their lives as they see fit. Though I am far from religious in any spectrum, a pagan concept comes to mind: "And it harm none, do as you will."

Those who voted yes to this amendment fail to comprehend what it is they've done.

I would go so far as to claim that we are repeating the mistakes of our past, revisiting actions and beliefs that we are recovering from even to this day. How many minority groups must we abuse before we finally realize that, to quote Depeche Mode, "people are people."

And I question, what is the next step, now that we've allowed ourselves to wander down the slippery slope? Excuse my hyperbole, but are we headed to a future of segregated gay communities, gay-only fountains and no gays at the front of the bus for fear that they may "contaminate" our children? If, someday, a homosexual were accused of some terrible crime, will we intern them in concentration camps to keep them from affecting our population?

Seriously, it is time for our 200+ year-old country to grow up and start letting people live in peace.

The homosexual community is no different than you and me, and their rights should be no different than ours. Let us rise above our past and allow the 21st century to be an enlightened one rather than backslide into a dirty past. Let's correct these mistakes now, before they become entrenched, and worse, give permission for fools and bigots to continue making them. Unless someone of your gender is proposing to you, mind your own business, they aren't treading on your shoes.

And a personal favorite, whether a valid statement or not: if you're really worried about the sanctity of marriage, OUTLAW DIVORCE. If you take that 100 percent literally, you have other problems.

Got something to say?

Say it!

Submit your letter to the editor or guest column to
arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

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.

Editorials may not necessarily reflect the views of the university or its identities. Members of the Argonaut Editorial Board are Tara Roberts, editor in chief; Nate Poppino, managing editor; and Savannah Cummings, opinion editor.

Letters Policy

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

MailBOX

Do away with free rides for students

Regarding "Shuttle bus may leave its route," (Nov. 7) I am a retired resident of Moscow who uses the Wheatland Commuter Bus frequently to travel to Pullman.

I purchase bus tickets (10 trips for \$30 = \$3 round trip) at the Moscow Coop. There always seems to be some confusion as to how to ring up this sale. The cashier calls over the manager who tells her not to ring it up and put it in the safe.

I take the 5 p.m. bus from Pullman to return to Moscow. This bus is "packed full." Most passengers get on at the WSU stops. They seem somewhat older than the average student, do not carry backpacks and a few carry lunch buckets. None pay, but all flash the bus driver an ID card. They don't seem to fit Mr. Mues' definition of "educational riders."

Half the bus empties at the first parking lot by Kibbie Dome in Moscow. I would abandon the "educational rider" theory and charge everyone \$1 one-way except the 30 students who are cross-registered. These students should be issued a bright orange pass to show the bus drivers. The cost of their transportation should be picked up by the University of Idaho and WSU.

Also, I would establish Saturday hourly bus service from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and add Saturday-only stops at the Palouse Mall and Rosauers in Moscow plus the Wheatland Mall and the movie theaters on Bishop Avenue in Pullman. Everyone pays \$1 one-way.

I would also ask riders to pay 50 cents a ride for Valley Transit service in Moscow.
*Barbara Bensing
Moscow*

Recycling could always be better

In response to the letter to the editor submitted by Hil Priest on Tuesday regarding the article about campus recycling, I would like to clarify some of my comments that were taken out of context in the article.

I do know that there are recycling bins in many of the buildings around campus, and that facilities works hard to take care of them. In fact, the recycling bins pictured with the article were borrowed from Morrill Hall for the recycling day event.

A careful review of the article in question will reveal that I was never directly quoted by the Argonaut reporter. I regret that Ms. Priest's letter shows the Environmental Club in a bad light, and it upsets me that the summary of my comments appeared to reflect negatively upon UI facilities. The point that I was trying to make was that there are not enough bins in buildings and

the recycling program at UI could be better if the facilities department had more funding for recycling and additional staff to take care of it.

The Environmental Club appreciates all that the facilities department is able to do, and hopes that they continue to keep up the good work. Currently, we are working on a grant proposal that would help increase staff and resources to expand recycling options within university buildings. We look forward to working cooperatively with facilities on this project.

*James Blakely
Environmental Club president*

Support marriage, not cohabitation

I was disappointed to read in the Argonaut article "Tying the knot post-HJR-2" that people who voted to pass the amendment didn't know what they were voting for. Not everyone who voted yes was just trying to prevent same-sex marriage — many people do not want to support cohabitation.

Cohabitation increases the chance for a divorce — the couples tend to be less committed to each other and may even fear the commitment that marriage would entail, and most cohabitation relationships tend to be shorter than marriage relationships of similar people. And in the case of a break-up, they are generally not any easier than a divorce would be, financially or emotionally.

Marriage, on the other hand, encourages fidelity because the people are more secure in their relationship, and children of married parents are better emotionally developed than children with parents who simply live together, due to the increased risk of cohabitants breaking up.

I don't think that having the "anti-same-sex/cohabitation" marriage amendment as a state policy is wrong. State policies are supposed to be made according to the majority of the people who voted, and that's what happened in this case — the majority of voters in Idaho share my opinion and would rather support marriage.

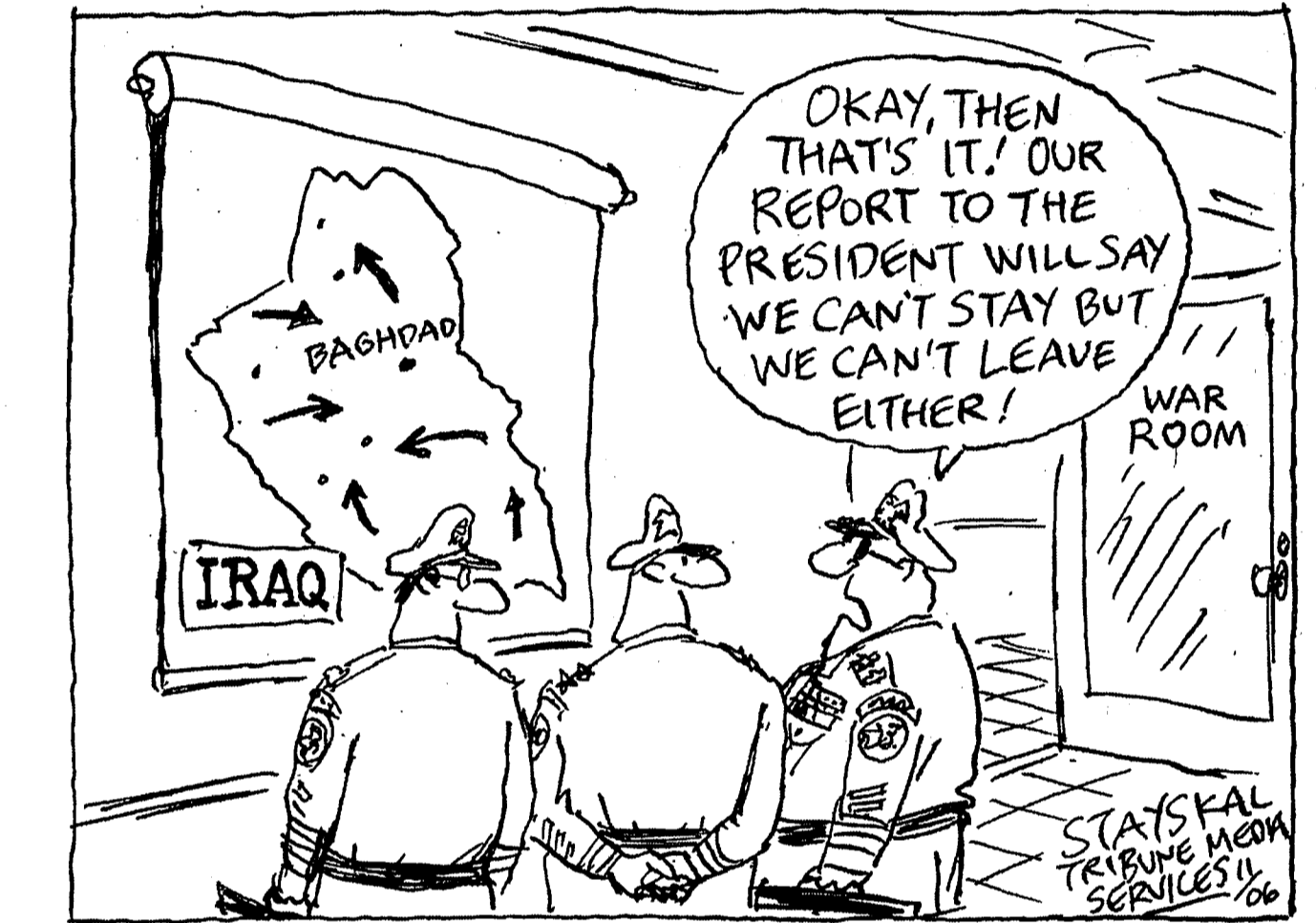
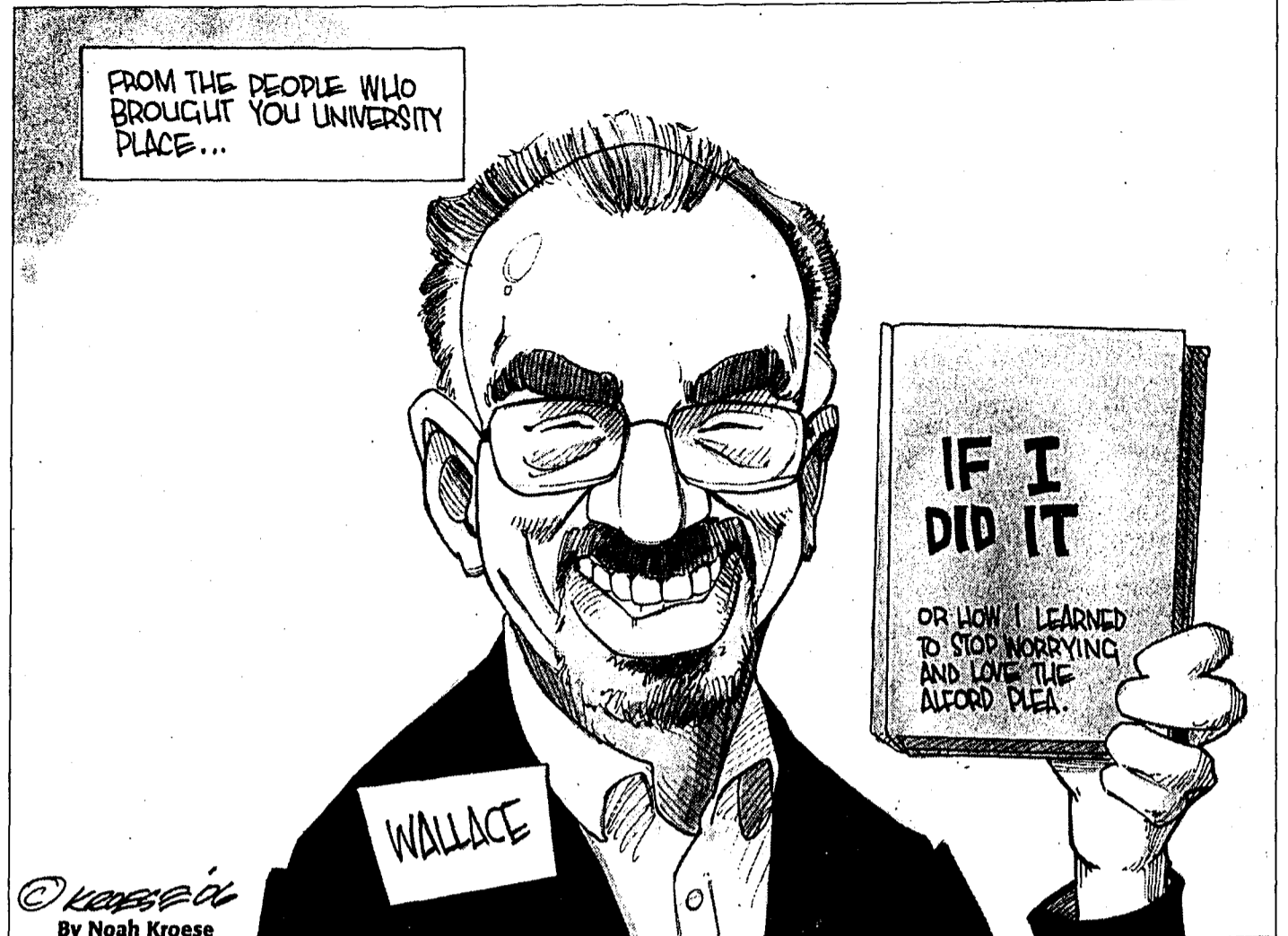
*Melissa Grossman,
health, physical ed, recreation
and dance, graduate student*

Banning smoking denial of reality

In reference to "Off the Cuff" on Nov. 10 by Melissa:

Smoke, like farting, is a natural occurrence. Attempting to ban it all is an arrogant denial of reality. These are products of our world. Sights, sounds, smells, textures pleasant to some, offensive to others. Blissful ignorance swings both ways — denial of the inevitable or really enjoying a good fart. I am a non-smoker but I am inevitable.

*Camille Hatstrup
Troy*



AIDS isn't simple, neither are solutions

By Christopher Ott
Progressive Media Project

The simplest thing to understand on World AIDS Day this Dec. 1 is a single grim statistic: In the 25 years since the first reported cases of AIDS, 25 million people have died of the disease.

Unfortunately, it's getting worse. Although rates of growth have slowed, HIV infections are still spreading. A just-released report from the United Nations and the World Health Organization shows 4.3 million people became infected in 2006 alone.

Nearly half the world's 40 million people with HIV are women, and 2.3 million are children. Most infections today occur in Africa, but rates have skyrocketed in places like Eastern Europe as well.

For a problem this vast and complex, there are no simple solutions. The disease is taking a terrible toll, despite what is being done right. That makes the things that are being done wrong inexcusable.

One of them is the Bush administra-

tion's broad, misguided emphasis on abstinence-till-marriage education. This approach omits and, in some cases, blocks information about other options.

Domestically, the federal government announced in October it would expand support for abstinence programs for teenagers to include 20-year-olds to 29-year-olds.

Abstinence can certainly work, but the problem is that people don't always abstain, despite the best of intentions. They never have. And we have to acknowledge that fact when a deadly virus is in circulation.

Unless abstinence is combined with information on other prevention options, people are left uneducated about how to protect themselves.

This is bad enough at home, but it's even worse abroad.

Billions of dollars in American spending on AIDS — approved in 2003 — are weighed down by a requirement that at least 33 percent be spent on programs that promote abstinence-till-marriage as the only way to stop the spread of the disease.

But a simplistic abstinence-till-marriage approach is not enough.

Women who lack educational opportunities and financial independence can find themselves unable to say no to husbands who are already infected. As a result, rates of HIV infection among married women are climbing in some countries, such as Thailand and India.

The United States also denies funding to proven programs, such as efforts to educate commercial sex workers about prevention. Similarly, our government blocks funds to family planning programs that mention abortion as an option, even if no American dollars are used. These programs could provide vital HIV education, if only we let them.

On World AIDS Day 2006, let's recognize that the AIDS pandemic is a complicated, fast-moving, worldwide problem. Imposing narrow ideological views is not a solution.

And let's hope that our new leaders in Congress stop wasting money, time and, ultimately, lives on moralistic wishful thinking.



Underprivileged students shortchanged by colleges

Kansas City Star Editorial Board

It's not just the Harvards and Stanfords of the higher-education galaxy that look like stars out of reach for low-income and minority students.

Flagship public universities — the institutions that should be leading the crusade for equal opportunity — are pursuing admissions and financial aid policies that increasingly favor students from more privileged families.

"... At just the same moment when more low-income and minority youngsters are turning toward college, many colleges are turning away from them," The Education Trust, a group that promotes high academic achievement, said in a new report.

Declining state aid to colleges and universities has resulted in the schools raising tuition. Universities in turn have increased grant money to help students pay for college.

But as the report points out, wealthier students attending top public universities have benefited more from grant aid than have poorer students. In 2003, these universities gave \$171 million to help students from families earning less than \$20,000 a year. But they gave \$257 million to families with incomes exceeding \$100,000 a year.

The report correctly faults the eagerness of colleges to look good in various rankings. Lists such as those in U.S. News & World Report place a heavy emphasis on standardized test scores, which favor privileged students.

The University of Missouri-Columbia and the University of Kansas can point to gains in minority enrollment over the last few years. But the Education Trust report gave both universities a "D" in promoting opportunities for the neediest students.

Reveal colleges' quality rankings

San Jose Mercury News Editorial Board

Americans who know every detail about college football rivals would have trouble finding information to assess the quality of education at those universities.

Average yards rushing per game? Sure. Average gain in writing or analytical skills in four years? Five-year graduation rate? Students' access to faculty? Probable cost of a diploma? Don't look for it on the Web site.

It's time for colleges and universities to enter the Information Age, making data on student progress and performance easily available to parents and students. Information on educational value should be a prerequisite to asking families for a hefty tuition. It's clear not everyone is getting a higher education in college.

In a report released in September, U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings' Commission on the Future of Higher Education called for creating a national higher-education database that would help families compare colleges by showing which are the most effective in helping students earn a degree.

That's important to know: Half of students who go to college don't earn a degree in six years. Graduation rates

tend to be highest at selective colleges and lowest at colleges that admit students with minimal grades and test scores, but there are significant differences at every level.

In addition, Spellings wants to offer matching funds to colleges that collect and publicize data from the Collegiate Learning Assessment, the National Survey of Student Engagement and other tools to measure students' learning experiences.

A growing number of institutions use these assessments for internal use but shy away from sharing the data publicly. They should make it available.

Regional accrediting bodies also are getting into the act, pushing colleges to show how they measure students' learning.

Tuition rose 51 percent at public four-year institutions and 36 percent at private colleges from 1995 to 2005, the commission found. In the same decade, the percentage of college graduates who can read and understand a complex text declined from 40 to 31, according to the National Assessment of Adult Literacy. Other studies find college graduates who have trouble with basic mathematical reasoning.

In a Sept. 26 speech to the National

Press Club, Spellings said parents and students need to understand their choices.

"If you want to buy a new car, you go online and compare a full range of models, makes and pricing options," Spellings said. "And when you're done you'll know everything from how well each car holds its value down to wheel size and number of cup-holders. The same transparency and ease should be the case when students and families shop for colleges, especially when one year of college can cost a lot more than a car."

Spellings will hold a higher education summit in 2007 that will try to build consensus on these issues, as well as other ideas in the commission report.

Despite the fears of higher education leaders, this is not "No Undergrad Left Behind." There are no proposals to require colleges to use a standard test, no federal schemes to rate or rank colleges. The higher education sector is far too diverse to be judged by any one measure.

But, as college costs soar and young people feel increasing pressure to earn a degree, families need to know more than the average SAT of admitted students or what percentage of applicants were turned away. Knowledge is power.

Pullman theater has holiday 'Homecoming'

Pullman Civic Theater's Christmas play warms the heart

By Michael Howell
Argonaut

It used to be a staple of American television programming and for many involved in the play, "The Homecoming" is associated with fond memories of past holidays.

The Christmas special "The Homecoming" originally aired in 1971, and from it, the hit series "The Waltons" was spawned.

Now, the Pullman Civic Theatre will be putting on a three-weekend performance of "The Homecoming" for the holiday season.

Tracie Brelsford, the director of the play, said that she remembers what made the original special great.

"It was a story of a family during the depression told from the point of view of their aspiring writer son John-Boy," she said. "It was just a great coming-of-age story that everyone could get into."

The fact that a large percentage of the population has a distinct idea of what "The Homecoming" should look like stylistically was a problem that Brelsford had to

account for.

"We've spent a lot of time working to recreate the feel of the TV series," she said. "Things like sets and costumes are reminiscent."

Mike Long, who serves as stage manager as well as playing Sheriff Bridges, said that the actors are ready to perform their best.

"Thanks to the great planning of the director," Long said, "the actors are more prepared than I have seen in any of the numerous plays I've been involved with."

Brelsford has also been noticing the readiness of the cast.

"Thanks to the director, the actors are more prepared than I have seen in any of the numerous plays I've been involved with."

Mike Long
actor, stage manager

She agrees with Long in the fact that the cast is one of the most prepared in her experience.

"They are just waiting to explode," Brelsford said. "They're anxious to get in front of a live audience instead of just their families."

The near-sellout first weekend has also added to the anticipation of everyone involved.

"They know that the first weekend is going to be packed," Brelsford said. "It just makes them want to give more than their all so they can keep bringing in more people."

Aside from the quality of the cast and crew, Brelsford and Long also said that the public's knowledge and fond memories of the original will help the success of the pro-



Kylie Pfeifer/Argonaut

Five of the many children in "The Homecoming's" family gape at a deformed doll from a charitable organization during a dress rehearsal Wednesday evening at the Nye Street Theatre.

duction. They said they know this because both Brelsford and Long remember the Christmas special when it was on television and what it meant to them.

"When I was growing up, my mother absolutely loved the Christmas special," Long said. "We watched it every

year. When I see it performed at rehearsals, I get choked up from all the memories."

Brelsford said the show should appeal to everyone even if they have never seen it before.

"It's got quirky characters and a heartwarming story," she said. "It should be fun for anyone."

see the SHOW

The play will run for three weekends starting this Thursday — Saturday, December 7 — 9 and December 15 — 16.

All shows will be at 7:30 p.m. at the Nye Street Theatre in Pullman.
Web site: www.pullmancivictheatre.org
Tickets: 509-332-8406

WSU artists cross the border

Students display their art in non-traditional locales.

by T.J. Tranchell
Argonaut

A dozen art students from Washington State University have crossed the state line for an exhibit at the Eastside Marketplace in Moscow. The exhibit, titled "Border Crossings," will run from noon — 8 p.m. through Tuesday, with the opening reception from 5 — 8 p.m. today.

The 12 students are part of WSU's FA 498 Contemporary Issues seminar. The seminar was dedicated to teaching the business aspects of being a professional artist.

"For 'Border Crossings,' students sought out an alternative, non-professional gallery, space among available businesses in the region," said Stephen Chalmers, a professor of photography and digital media at WSU.

The students contacted local businesses in Pullman and Moscow in order to find the optimal location for the exhibit. After deciding on the Eastside Marketplace, they came up with the title.

"The title was chosen by the students to express not only the idea that students from Washington are exhibiting their work in Idaho," Chalmers said, "but also that it represents that these students are preparing to graduate and cross over into the professional world."

The importance of the students contacting businesses, making flyers, and distributing information was a vital aspect of the class. The artists will be on a rotating schedule throughout the show to answer questions and get a feel for being present while their work is on display.

Also important is the multi-disciplinary artwork being shown. Works range from paintings and photography to sculptures and printmaking.

Senior Shelly Stewart focuses on printmaking and digital media. "My work examines the interrelationship between humans and their



Lisa Wareham/Argonaut

WSU student Nick Inman is one artist featured in the Border Crossings art exhibition through Tuesday at the Eastside Marketplace.

"The two pieces on display are, in theory, self portraits," Inman said. "Especially within the context of 'cause and effect' and explores political issues, environmental concerns and spiritual concepts."

Nick Inman, on the other hand, is showcasing his acrylic paintings.

"The two pieces on display are, in theory, self portraits," Inman said.

He said his piece "IN-MAN-TIS" is a humorous portrayal of the male praying mantis and its role as food for the female of the species.

"One might suggest it acts as an exaggerated icon for frustrating relationships," he said.

Continuing the spirit of trying new forms and ideas is Alex Gibson, an experimental artist.

"When I am making a piece it is more fulfilling to me when I am learning something new during its creation," Gibson said. For his contributions to "Border Crossings," Gibson is displaying three framed, etched embossments as well as another print.

"When I am making a piece it is more fulfilling to me when I am learning something new during its creation."

Alex Gibson
WSU art student

see the SHOW

The show is on display at the Eastside Marketplace, and will be open from noon — 8 p.m. through Dec. 5. The opening reception is from 5 — 8 p.m. today.

Artists: Alric Balka, Juli Bertucci, Matt Boland, Rina Gang, John Mason, Elizabeth Hawbaker, Matt Hamlin, Amanda Lyon and Sara Shinkle, Nick Inman and Shelly Stewart.

Bond gets a sexy new makeover

By Ryli Hennessey
Argonaut

In "Casino Royale," Daniel Craig brings respect back to the James Bond character after Pierce Brosnan all but ruined the Bond image in the '90s.

Not only does the movie do away with poor actors with hairy chests, it also reworks all the "Bond moments" which, after 20 movies, have become more cliché than cheesy pickup lines in a singles' bar.

The movie begins with James Bond's first two kills, the two kills that will earn him status as a 00. The film's beginning sequence is shot in grainy black-and-white, from the MGM Lion to the classic-yet-updated Bond intro. This helps set the mood of the movie, and introduces how much darker the new Bond truly is.

Not afraid to get his perfectly pressed tux dirty, Craig is manlier and more athletic than any Bond that came before him. Not to mention the fact that he is a cocky, cold-blooded killer.

Forget the Aston Martin, the best chase scene in "Casino Royale" takes place on foot, a visually impressive and athletically amazing parkour-style chase. Parkour, or free running, is a sport where people jump between buildings, off walls and on anything else they can find in an urban landscape. Videos are available on youtube.com as well as tons of other places on the Web, and they are way cooler than car chases.

The action, violence and smart Bond moments con-

tinue through the film without falling into too many cliché traps that would surely turn off modern audiences. Even as audiences are expecting the famous "shaken not stirred" line they have been trained to hear, the tired line is revamped, giving a sassy drink order instead and even adding a joke about the line later in the film.

The film's flaws have nothing to do with the action, but instead with the horrible love story and an even worse Bond girl, Vesper Lynd (Eva Green).

The love story was totally cheesy, and though it does serve a purpose, it easily could have been better. Green's terrible performance oozes ice rather than sex appeal and her faux British accent is hardly bearable. She all but castrates Bond during the second half of the film instead of adding depth to his character.

When the love story overtakes the film, the sweetness of it all is nauseating and it is not until the action picks up that the film becomes interesting again. "Casino Royale" has attracted some female attention since Craig emerged from the ocean in a tight pair of swim shorts in the trailer, but this was just too soft of a storyline for the main audience.

The film is a good start, a launching pad that will lead to some great Bond movies starring Craig. "Casino Royale" is a much needed breath of life for the Bond franchise, and though it had its flaws, it is still a hell of a lot better than anything starring Pierce Brosnan.



"Casino Royale" ★★ (of 5) Daniel Craig In theatres now

In the Nuthouse

By Brandon Macz
Argonaut

Snickers bars taste like crap. No, they taste like magical sunshine from heaven. More like magical crap from hell. Snickers bars are the equivalent of crack to Willy Wonka. Objection.

These are just a few sentences that might float around when Washington State's improvisational theater group, Nuthouse, plays a game called 'Objection' for its Cold Cut Trio weekend 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The troupe will have its first battle royale of improv with surrounding teams from Gonzaga University and Whitman College this weekend. As is customary with the Nuthouse, they will play "Whose Line" style games, this time with two other teams and compete with score cards given to audience judges.

"It's a gladiators to the death sort of thing," said Nuthouse director John Hanus, 21. "We've never done a three-team event."

This is Hanus' first year as director but his fourth year playing with the team. He said it's a great way to develop communication skills and have fun. The Nuthouse is a part of the Student Theater Association but Hanus said not many improv actors are theater majors, his major is civil engineering.

"I'm a closet enthusiast of theater performances," he

said. "I also love math and science."

Because the Cold Cut Trio weekend is the first of its kind, the event will be free and using a larger venue, the Jones Theatre in WSU's Daggy Hall, which seats 450.

Just like the show, "Whose Line is it Anyway," The Nuthouse likes to include the audience as much as possible, Hanus said, and will ask members to participate in their games as characters and for suggestions for games played.

"The first thing that comes to mind is always the best thing," he said.

Hanus said they have been selling out most of their shows with audience favorites like Survivor, Dream Sequence and Objection. Shows start by

warming up the audience and then the team, he said.

Both shows are expected to last an hour and a half, and another weekend of improv is scheduled to follow at the normal time and place, 8

p.m. at the Beasley Coliseum. Next Friday night will be the Battle of the Sexes where the male improv actors will play the females to see which gender reigns supreme.

Improv fans are invited to come, take a seat and laugh. Though, due to the spontaneity of the performance, some may not be sitting for long.

"It's a gladiators to the death sort of thing. We've never done a three team event."

John Hanus
Nuthouse director

Ending a semester of music

By Christina Navarro
Argonaut

Along with dealing with the stress of final tests and projects, music students are gearing up for their final performances of the semester.

The concert is a bridge for musicians, as they prepare to end the semester on a good note with next week's juries and recitals.

While the concert can be enjoyed by audiences as a cultural event, for these musicians, it is a product of their hard work and dedication as they prepare for their busiest time of the semester.

Director of Jazz Choir and professor of percussion and theory at the Lionel Hampton School of Music, Dan Bukvich said this is one of many concerts for the ensembles.

"For example, a percussion student can have up to about 30 a semester," Bukvich said. "It's kind of nonstop."

He said as this week's juries and recitals test ability, it can be a pretty high pressure situation. "We're just getting ready for our busy part of the semester," Bukvich said.

Music student Christian Litten said he has been keeping busy with classes and participating in many ensembles.

"Preparing for a Friday night jazz concert is one more thing to do," Litten said.

Other students are scrambling with the end of the semester drawing near, preparing for exams and final papers.

For students at the LHSM, their big exams are monthly concerts and ensemble work.



Kentaro Murai / Argonaut

Assistant professor Vern Sielert directs Jazz Band I during practice for the Dec. 1 jazz concert Wednesday at the Music Building. "We're excited about the tunes," Sielert said.

Litten said while other students can experience the full advantages of Dead Week, next week is final week for the students at the LHSM.

"It's supposed to be Dead Week — but it doesn't work out that way for music students," Litten said.

For senior music student Zac Fawcett, time runs thin between his responsibilities at the LHSM and other courses at the university.

"It has been extremely stressful," Fawcett said.

Fawcett said with musicians taking other classes and exams on the side, some leeway is allowed, and today's performance can be a good way to let go of the stress.

"It will be a good release," he said. "Professors are

demanding less of us with this concert."

Litten said after the break, students have had less time to prepare in comparison to previous concerts.

"We don't do nearly as much music at this concert as the other concerts," Litten said. "There is less stress with having music to learn."

Unlike the group's previous concerts, today's event will feature UI's Jazz Choir II ensemble, instead of Jazz Choir I.

Performing three pieces with the jazz band and three others with Jazz Choir II, the event will be much smaller with 20 voices compared to Jazz Choir I's 200.

"It will be pretty short for me, since I'm involved in two of the ensembles,"

see the SHOW

UI Jazz Bands and Choirs will perform at 7:30 p.m. today in the Lionel Hampton School of Music Recital Hall.

Tickets cost \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens.

Fawcett said.

Aside from rehearsing in classes three days a week and building on their experience from previous concerts, the Jazz Bands and Choirs have recently performed at a Jazz Festival at Eastern Washington University.

Director of the Jazz Band II, Vanessa Sielert said the ensemble will present a piece they performed at the festival.

"I think doing concerts outside help students prepare for the university events," she said. "Performing more often helps keep students on their toes."

Her husband, Vern Sielert, directs the Jazz Band I ensemble, and said receiving feedback at the event was beneficial for the whole group.

"Things have really gelled together," he said.

Vern hopes the concert will be a good experience for the musicians, as well as for the audience as they showcase their talents and the product of their hard work.

"It's a great way to wrap up the semester," he said. "Hopefully next semester we can build on that."

ArtsBRIEFS

Winter Market at 1912 Center

From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the 1912 Center, holiday shoppers will be able to attend The Heart of the Arts, Inc.'s second Winter Market of the season. The market will showcase a variety of gifts and delicacies for the season. For more information about the market, contact Mary Jo Hamilton at mhamilt@vetmed.wsu.edu.

Auditions start for 'OKLAHOMA!'

Auditions for Rogers & Hammerstein's "OKLAHOMA!" will take place Dec. 8 in Shoup Hall, room 100. Participants must sign up in advance and will be required to sing one song of choice, preferably music theatre. To sign up, go to www.uitheatre.com.

Produced by the Lionel Hampton School of Music and the Department of Theatre & Film, auditions for "OKLAHOMA!" are open to the general public, however, priority will be given to UI students.

An audition for the dream ballet will be held by the UI Center for Dance and will take place from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Dec. 9 at the UI Physical Education Bldg, room 212. Dancers wanting to audition should also link to www.uitheatre.com to sign up for an audition time.

For more information email stage managers Cyndil Markert at mark0199@uidaho.edu or Heather Willey at will8259@uidaho.edu.

Dark comedy at Kiva

UI Department of Theater and Film presents "Fuddy Meers" at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday at the KIVA Theatre. Tickets are available through TicketsWest outlets including the UI Ticket office at

(208) 885-7212.

Prichard exhibits faculty art

The Prichard Art Gallery presents the UI College of Art & Architecture Faculty Exhibition and Honoring Charles Hummel, from Dec. 8 through Jan. 27. A public reception will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Friday Dec. 8. Featured faculty and artists include David Bogus, Bill

Bowler, Matthew T. Brehm, David Drake, David Giese, Lynne Haagensen, Mark LaMoreaux, John Larkin, Sally Graves Machlis, Randy Teal, Todd Volz and George Wray.

The gallery will feature a display of nine projects by Charles Hummel. An architect for numerous important buildings in the state of Idaho, Hummel will be honored a Doctorate of Humane Letters. Additional information is available at www.uidaho.edu/galleries.

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SHINY TOY GUNS	WED	12-6
RE-MIX WED	WED	12-6
CLUB U	THU	12-7
GOSLING/STRATA	FRI	12-8
SEBASTIAN BACH	SAT	12-9
DANCE FACTORY	SAT	12-9
ROCK THE BELLS	MON	12-11
PUBLIC ENEMY	MON	12-18
PAJAMA PARTY	FRI	12-22
DECK THE HALLS BALL	SAT	12-23
CLUMSY LOVERS	SAT	12-30
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December 2006

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26 ethics paper due Blue Monday!	27 BPC MIXER! Commons Clearwater Rm 5:30 p.m.	28 Poly Sci Reading womens b ball vs. EWU	29 STATS 150 exam PLANT NIGHT!	30 chem quiz AIDS DAY!

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High style books for vacation reading

By Jackie White
McClatchy Newspapers

Maybe it's because television has pumped up the fashion focus.

Who hasn't been lured into "Project Runway" or suffered an anxiety attack from watching "What Not to Wear"?

Or perhaps it's all the new shopping magazines or the success of "The Devil Wears Prada."

In any event, a flood of fashion and beauty books has about drowned us this year. We've seen everything from the psychology of shoes and memoirs of a beauty magazine editor to the story of two famous designers' rivalry.

The variety alone makes books strong candidates for holiday gifts. If you cannot find something for everyone, you can certainly come up with a stack of options — including dozens of knitting books, which seem to make up the most popular category.

Here are some of our favorites (excluding knitting books) either because of the interesting subject matter, the colorful visuals, clever gimmicks or the silliness.

—**"Shoe-ology"** (Conari Press, \$14.95) by Kam Knutson: Wear Ugg boots and you're seen, on one hand, as pragmatic and easygoing or, on the other hand, as someone with no taste. Opt for four-inch heels with ankle straps and you're a threat to other women. It's all laid out in a little whimsical illustrated book good for the women who love love love shoes. And about those low-heeled Mary Janes? Be cautious. They send the message that you're tired.

—**"It's in the Bag: What Purses Reveal — and Conceal"** (Harper Collins) by Winifred Gallagher: How did handbags travel from the don't-leave-home-without-basics in a go-everywhere color to the most telling

coveted accessory on the planet?

Gallagher, a lifestyle author, credits the nylon Prada bag that arrived in the late '80s for the broadened appeal of hot high-priced bags. It was not just for celebrities any more. Then came the must-have Fendi baguette, Tom Ford's Mombasa, Kate Spade's nylon tote, Marc Jacobs and, of course, the knock-offs. It's for any wannabe bag lady.

—**"How to Walk in High Heels: The Girl's Guide to Everything"** (Hyperion, \$24.95) by Camilla Morton: And they do mean everything. It's a great gift for women trying to get their footing figuratively and literally (which includes most of us).

Manolo Blahnik tells you how to buy a shoe: Follow your soul, he says. It tells you when and how to wear a high heel. You also find a recipe for risotto and guides to polka, chess and eating soup.

—**"The Beautiful Fall: Lagerfeld, Saint Laurent, and Glorious Excess in 1970s Paris"** (Little Brown, \$24.99) by Alicia Drake. Yves Saint Laurent was the rising young fashion star. He was shy and fragile and heavily controlled by Pierre Berge, his lover. But surrounded by a cult of wealthy, artistic and hedonistic friends, he led a lively life damaged ultimately by drugs. But there was also Karl Lagerfeld, the German upstart, who later took over Chanel. This story looks at their rivalry, rise to glory and the tentative nature of such fashion heights.

—**"InStyle Instant Style: Your Season-by-Season Guide for Work and Weekend"** (InStyle Books \$29.95) by editors of InStyle. Here is a handy keep-by-your-closet advice book on everything from organizing the closet (use baskets for scarves, hats and gloves) to finding your personal style and shopping for a winter wardrobe.

The magazine popular for its celebrity coverage glamorizes the pages with star pictures to illustrate its points.

But it also offers straightforward information you may not have considered: Basic wool pants should show your shape, for instance. And on matchmaking: Consider one blouse that may be worn four ways. It's a gift for any fashion devotee.

—**"This Little Piggy Went to Prada: Nursery Rhymes for the Blahnik Brigade"** (Harper Entertainment, \$19.95) by Amy Allen. The good news is this whimsical book may give you a giggle.

But it has little redeeming social value beyond another excuse to name drop. It simply infuses beloved old children's rhymes with the status-seeking celebrity craze mentality. It's the perfect gift for anyone who would stand on their head for a Gucci label.

It's all on the wrist: Reminder ends personal complaining

By Helen T. Gray
McClatchy Newspapers

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — It was a pastor's simple idea: Just stop complaining.

And to help his congregation remember, the Rev. Will Bowen gave each one a purple bracelet stamped with the word spirit.

The challenge was to go 21 days straight without mumbling a complaining word and no gossiping and criticizing either. If a person slipped, the bracelet was to be switched to the other wrist, and the 21-day time period started over.

But what began in July as a simple idea has become a national movement, a "complaint-free movement." And Christ Church Unity in Kansas City is becoming known throughout the country as the complaint-free church.

Look at what has been happening. The article that appeared on the front page of The Kansas City Star last month has been picked up by newspapers in states including California, Utah, Texas, Florida, Ohio, Connecticut, Indiana and Illinois.

The church has received more than 100 calls, e-mails and letters, many requesting bracelets that the church is offering for free.

"So far we have sent out more than 9,000," Bowen said. "And this is with none of the newspapers listing our contact information. People are just hungry for this and finding us."

The effort is the subject of a magazine sent to all Unity ministers, board members and church staff around the world. It was featured on local television, and Bowen said he has found it on at least half a dozen Web sites and blogs.

Requests for bracelets have come from individuals, families, churches of various denominations, businesses, schools, civic groups, scouts and sports teams. Bowen said he received an e-mail from a woman in Florida who wanted to send them to friends outside the United States.

But then there was a church that returned the bracelets, saying that they didn't like the quality. "I thought to myself, 'They're going to have a tough row to hoe because they're starting off complaining about the bracelets,'" Bowen said with a laugh.

Christ Church has set up the Web site www.AComplaintFreeWorld.org. Among the links is one to Oprah Winfrey, with a request that people write about their experiences and encourage Oprah's staff to do a story.

The church also offers yard signs and bumper stickers that say "A Complaint Free World.org," and it is selling "complaint-free church" T-shirts. The quote on the front is from Maya Angelou: "If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude. Don't complain."

And if imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, Christ Church Unity has experienced that as well, with a Greenwood, Mo., church distributing black "no whining bands" to its members.

In addition, Christ Church's own complaint-free club is growing as people reach their 21 straight days without complaining. Of the 250 members, the club now numbers 12 and includes Bowen and his 10-year-old daughter, Lia, with many getting close, he said.

Patricia Platt recently succeeded, with a push from her fourth-grade class. Several students had told her their parents had seen her name in the

paper and asked what it was about. She read the article to them, and many wanted the class to try the challenge.

Careful not to offend parents by getting the bracelets from her church that had the word spirit on them, Platt bought bracelets that displayed such words as hope, be strong and dream. All of her 25 students wanted bracelets, and they regularly shared in the class how they were doing.

They also wanted updates on how their teacher was doing and applauded when she announced her success earlier this month. Fourteen students also have made it and received "positive attitude" certificates.

"This was an incentive for me because I knew they were looking up to me," Platt said. "One girl said she needed to learn how to handle her little sister because she always has to change her bracelet because of her. And sometimes a student will come up and start to say something, then stop and say, 'Never mind. That would be complaining.'"

Bowen is surprised by how quickly his idea ignited.

"Obviously a chord has been struck that is just vibrating," he said. "And it is continuing to build momentum. More and more people are finding out about it. I'm just flabbergasted."

A Utah mother of four young children thanked Bowen and lamented the "negativity that is so predominant" in today's society.

Mignon Bullington of Camarillo, Calif., who ordered bracelets for her family, said the complaint-free challenge "struck strong emotions" in her.

"I noticed that when my husband and I were being negative about any such subject, our kids

(ages 19, 17 and 11) would chime in," she said. "How horrible that is to see and realize how our children are being taught to act, react and live."

For her the challenge offered hope for a more peaceful and kind society.

The Rev. Howard Self, interim pastor at Congregational Church in Algonquin, Ill., said the church's administrative assistant brought The Star article to him. She had been visiting in Kansas City when it appeared in the newspaper.

"When I read it, I said, 'I have to figure out a way to use this.'"

The congregation had been through a rough time.

"I saw this as the first step in moving from a complaint-filled congregation to a complaint-free congregation," Self said.

Dec. 3 the bracelets will be given out at the end of the worship service.

"This will be the symbolic closing of the door on complaining," Self said.

Bowen now is dreaming big.

"What I think we will see in the future, we will turn on our television, and there will be characters and people wearing the bracelets, and it will be a non-surprise to us."

"And we may turn on 'Oprah' and say, 'Oops, it is back on the right arm!' Or Regis will be telling Kelly, 'I can't go 21 days! Is he nuts? It's baseball season!'"

Linda LeMieux of Christ Church, who recently made her 21 days, said, "We want world peace, but the question is always what can one person do. This is it."

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Multi-layered

Athletic trainer Christy Hopkins proves to be as complex as the layers of winter

By Joel Slocum
Argonaut

Life is as unrelentingly fast-paced as ever for graduate student Christy Hopkins, who has been the athletic trainer for the Vandal women's volleyball team since the beginning of the semester. Her Thanksgiving schedule alone allotted her little time to partake in the festivities of the season. Instead of gathering around a table of food with family and friends, she was traveling with the volleyball team in Reno until Friday and then worked the football game on Saturday. Her only break was Sunday, when she had a build-up of schoolwork to do.

"While it's fun, it's really hard to get used to all the traveling," Hopkins says. "Some weeks we leave on a Tuesday and don't get back until Sunday."

With such a busy schedule it is hard to believe that she has time to even think about school. Nevertheless, she is focused and dedicated to both her job and education. Support and wisdom from her two mentors keeps her driven. Professionally she looks to her curriculum director from the University of Wyoming, Bill Lyons.

"He was just there a lot in tough times," Hopkins says, "and he convinced me that even though it was tough at times, (athletic training) is what I was meant to do."

As for her personal inspiration, she looks to her mother.

"My mom has been my greatest inspiration in life. She has always taught me that if you work hard in life that you can go anywhere," Hopkins says. "She dropped out of college when she married my dad and then completed her bachelor's when I was a senior in high school. It was tough and now she is getting her MBA while I am here."

With all this support and direction, Hopkins has finally started her thesis as a graduate student, specializing in exercise physiology. She plans to explore the physiology and effects of altitude on concussion injuries, a concept that arose while attending the University of Wyoming, set at around 7,000 ft. above sea level.

Hopkins chose her topic due to a personal interest in the recuperation of injuries. She experienced a serious injury in high school involving her ankles.

"I was a cross-country runner in high school and then got injured. The doctor told me not to run on it but I didn't want to listen," Hopkins says. "I decided to keep on running against the doctor's advice and as a result will not be able to run again."

Ever since then, she has been intrigued by the idea of sports therapy.

"I always wanted to do something like physical therapy but athletic training seemed a little more interesting," Hopkins says.

As a result, Hopkins got her undergraduate at the University of Wyoming with a bachelor's of athletic training. From there she took her National Certification Exam and was licensed within the state of Idaho.

The journey thus far has been arduous and she is almost to the end. With one year left at Idaho, she has chosen to focus until time frees up and allows her to partake in her leisurely pursuits.

Her interests include theater, drama and singing, an unexpected surprise behind the sports enthusiast.

"I used to act and sing in high school and I really enjoyed it," Hopkins says. "I was in choir and did all the musicals and plays."

Her most memorable performance was a piece for a community theater.

"I got to be the heroine in a melodrama. It was really fun because I got to act completely differently than how I act," Hopkins says. "It was a summertime melodrama, so we did it for like three months. I can't even remember what it was called. I worked with professional actors though and got the lead female role."

As for her interest in music, it stems from her love of "The Phantom of the Opera."

"I saw it in Denver," Hopkins says. "It was so cool to see it live and in such a huge theater."

The opera led her to singing in her high school choir, which as of now has become a murky memory.

"I used to sing second soprano," Hopkins says, "but it's been so long that I don't even know what I would sing now."

Even though she can't find the time to sing competitively, she can't resist the occasional belting in the shower or car. It is then that she is reminded of why she chose a career in sports over drama.

See **TRAINER**, page 13

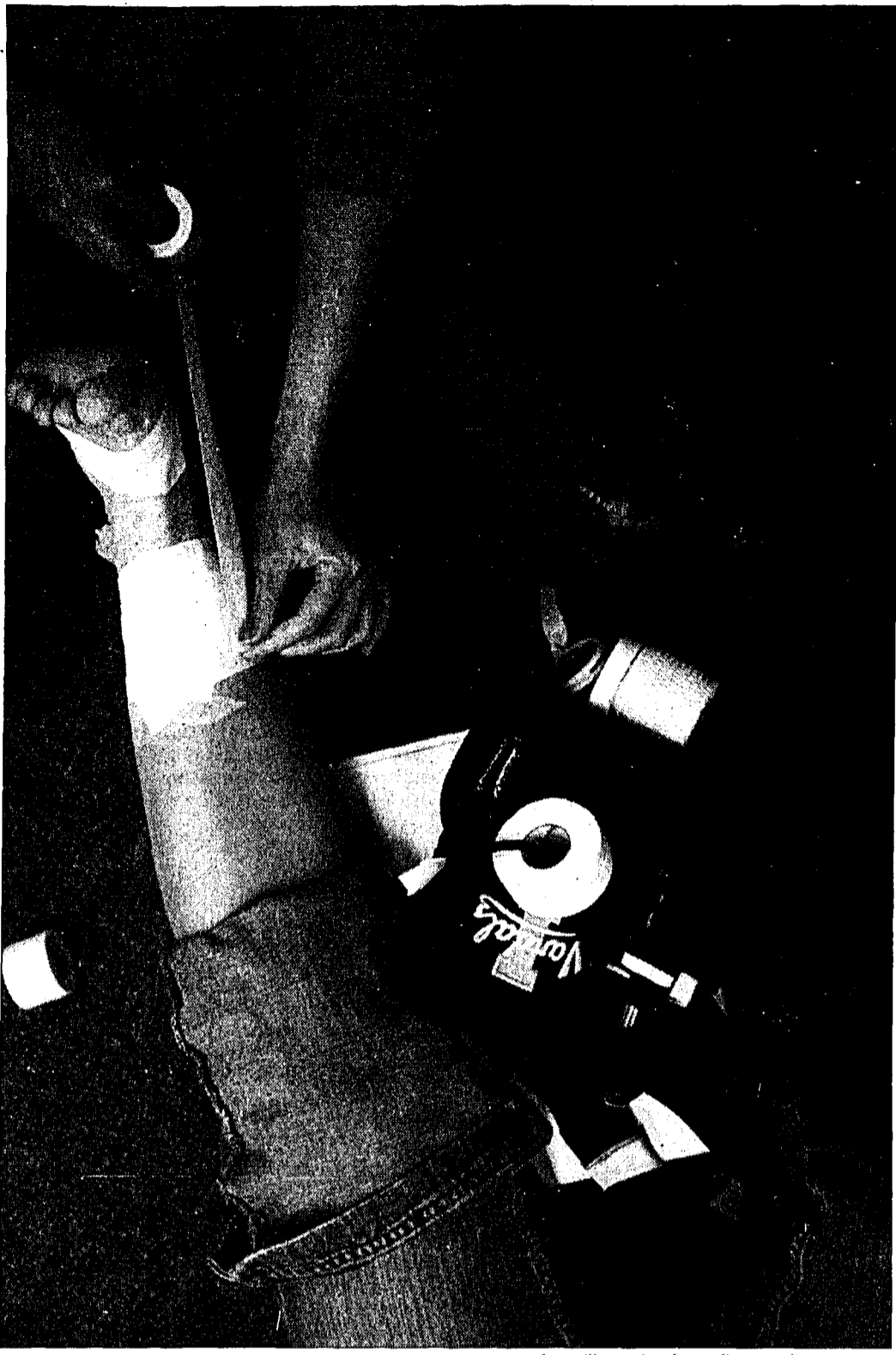


Photo illustration by Melissa Davlin/Argonaut

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Madison makes her mark with Vandal win

By Shanna Stalwick
Argonaut

No one would expect a freshman in her fourth collegiate basketball game to compensate for the absence of one of the team's best players.

But Wednesday night, Katie Madison did just that for the Idaho women's basketball team, leading them to a 73-60 victory over Eastern Washington at the Cowan Spectrum.

Madison's career-high 35 points and 15 rebounds made for the performance the Vandals needed to secure the win without the help of injured senior Karly Felton.

"Eastern Washington in the last two years, with Joanna Chadd and her great mentality, they have kicked the snot out of us physically," Idaho coach Mike Divilbiss said of the senior guard who led Eastern with 21 points. "Both games were two-point losses but they were physical beatings, and that didn't happen to us tonight."

Felton went down with a knee injury last Friday when Idaho faced Colorado State in the Coors Rocky Mountain Invitational. MRI results revealed a torn ACL will have Felton sidelined for the

remainder of her senior year. Felton has played in less than seven games this season, which allows her to opt for a medical redshirt if she chooses. Although Divilbiss would like to see Felton back next year, he said he won't pressure her to return to the court.

Instead, Divilbiss said he wants his athletes to be self-motivated and a part of the team because they want to be there.

"I hope she plays because she's a great addition to our team," Divilbiss said. "It's a fun thing to be a part of a team and you only get to do that for so long, so I hope she does it again."

Jessica Summers had a career-high scoring night with 19 points. Summers also had 14 rebounds and eight assists.

Idaho was ahead at the half by just 1 point (33-32), but turned it on in the first four minutes of the second half, scoring 14 to Eastern's five for a 47-37 lead. Idaho remained out in front for the remainder of the game, with Eastern

only as close as five.

Divilbiss said he was proud of the team's defensive effort, but felt the Vandals, with 37 percent shooting from the field, did not shoot the ball as well as they could have.

"We could win no games this year and be way more together than we have in the past five years."

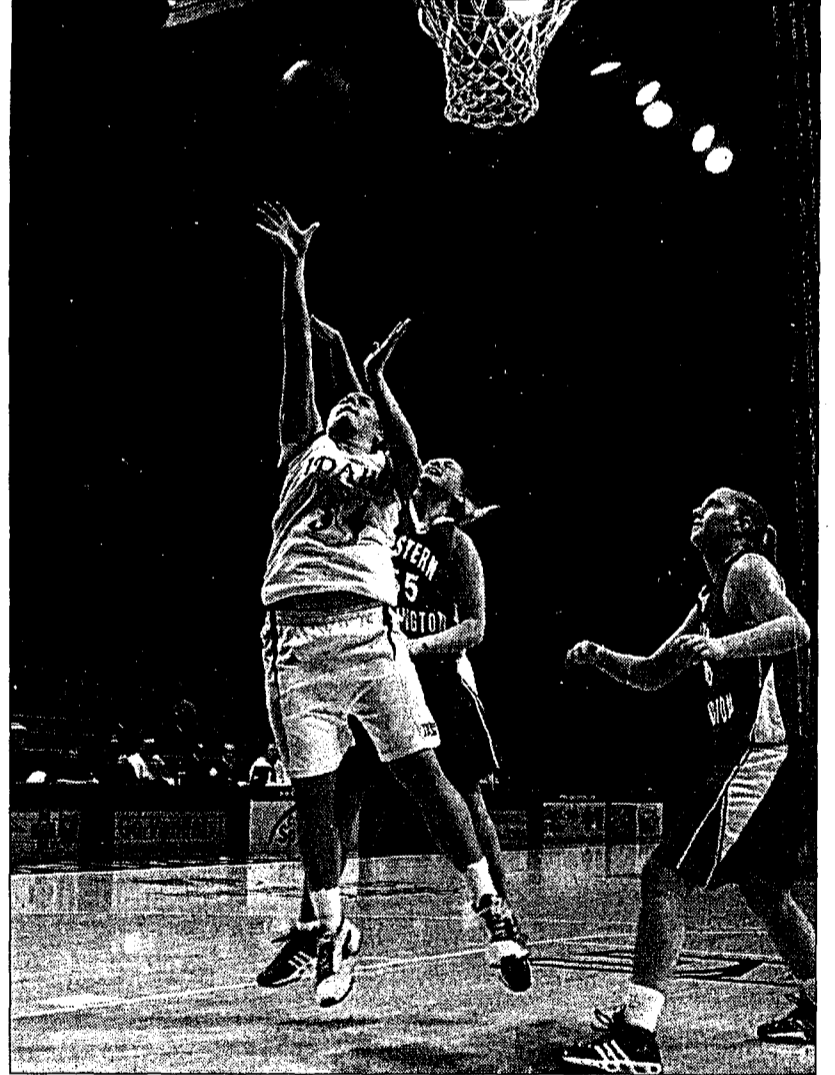
Mike Divilbiss
Coach

"I thought Tacey Westbrook did a tremendous job defensively guarding Joanna (Chadd)," Divilbiss said. "She was a big catalyst for us."

The Vandals head to Manhattan, Kan., today to compete in the 12th annual Commerce Bank Wildcat Classic hosted by Kansas State.

Idaho returns home to play Montana at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9 at Memorial Gym.

"I think we'll get a little more fluid as we go and I think our shooting will come around," Divilbiss said. "I'm not concerned about it. What I'm concerned about is playing hard and playing smart. ... We could win no games this year and be way more together than we have in the past five years."



Kentaro Murai/Argonaut

Freshman Katie Madison goes for a layup during the basketball game against Eastern Washington University Wednesday at the Cowan Spectrum. Madison tallied 35 points and 15 rebounds.

VOLLEYBALL

Vandals crash out of WAC in second round of tournament

By Ryan Atkins
Argonaut

University of Idaho seniors Stacy Sode, Saxony Brown, Amanda Bowman and Erin Curtis spilled sweat and blood for Vandal volleyball, and for these players, it's not going to be easy leaving behind four years of memories.

"It is definitely mixed emotions for us," Sode said. "I have been playing for so long. I mean, I am excited about trying something new, but I am going to be sad missing all these girls and not playing volleyball anymore."

Sode amassed 587 digs this year, smashing the previous UI record of 519, which was held by former Vandal Meghan Brown.

The UI volleyball team (12-18) posted a strong showing in the opening round of the Western Athletic Conference tournament in Reno over Thanksgiving break,

defeating Utah State 3-1, but lost in the second round to No. 21 New Mexico State.

Idaho rolled early and hung on to beat Utah State 30-20, 30-16, 28-30 and 31-29. The victory set up a showdown with second-seed New Mexico State, who defeated the Vandals twice during the regular season.

In the second round of the tournament, Idaho was simply never able to get on track, falling in straight games, 30-19, 30-19 and 30-13.

"I think we won the match we knew we had to against Utah State. In the second round did we play our best against NMS? I don't think so," Idaho coach Debbie Buchanan said following the season-ending tournament.

But for the four Vandal seniors, the team's loss at the conference tournament wasn't just the end of a season — it was the end of volleyball careers.

All four seniors have been instrumental

in Idaho's success within the WAC this year, with each player contributing major minutes for Buchanan's squad.

Brown started all 30 matches for Idaho and her multi-faceted game put her fourth on the team in kills, second in assists and first in service aces.

Bowman was also solid for Idaho placing second on the team in digs and kills. Curtis was a blocking machine for the Vandals, leading the team in the category while also placing third in kills and fourth in service aces.

The departure from the ranks of college athletics won't just be difficult for the athletes, as Buchanan talked about letting go of her players.

"It is never easy. These kids are family and you get attached to them, and I think it's almost as hard for me to let them go as it is for them to leave," Buchanan said.



Kentaro Murai/Argonaut

Sophomore Kelsey Yonker and senior Erin Curtis prepare to pass the ball during the volleyball game against Nevada Nov. 15 at Memorial Gym.

See **V-BALL**, page 13

TRAINER

from page 12

"I was better at it. I feel like it is more of my passion and drama is something I can do on the side when I get a job," Hopkins says.

While all this is still a year away, Hopkins is looking forward to the upcoming break, as she will finally be able to spend time with her family.

"My parents are actually going to come up here and we are going to go to Seattle," Hopkins says. "We have never really been to Seattle, or Washington for that matter. It is a much needed break that I am really looking forward to."

V-BALL

from page 12

"But this team has learned some good lessons from them and we will be better for that, but they will be missed. They will definitely be missed."

Prior to their departure, three of the seniors were recognized by conference coaches as all-WAC performers.

Curtis was selected to the all-WAC first team while Brown and Sode joined sophomore Haley Larsen on the all-WAC second team. Redshirt freshman Debbie Pederson was also chosen to the all-WAC freshman team.

Buchanan said the player's selection to the all-conference team shows what other coaches think of the Idaho program.

"When the all-WAC teams came out, those were voted on by other coaches so I think that

shows a lot about how the other conference coaches feel about this team and the things we were doing," Buchanan said.

And while the losses of such major role players will make next season a challenging one for Buchanan and the Vandals, a talented young core of players and an impressive recruiting class has Idaho's future looking bright.

Buchanan has already signed two standout west-coast recruits to join the exciting young team, and she said the bar is set high for next season.

"Well, as a coach you always set the bar high, but I think we have a lot of great talent," Buchanan said. "I don't want to be sitting here in November next year. I want to be playing, so we have to take all the experience from this year, add a few new kids and turn it into success."

SportsCALENDAR

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7 p.m.

UI women's basketball vs. Kansas State Tournament
Manhattan, Kan.

UI swimming at Husky Invite
Seattle

Sunday

UI swimming at Husky Invite
Seattle

Wednesday

UI men's basketball at Idaho State
Pocatello
6 p.m.

MENS BASKETBALL

Men fall to No. 13 UW

Nick Heidelberger
Argonaut

The Vandals' tough three-game road trip ended Wednesday with an 87-66 loss at No. 13 University of Washington (6-0).

The men's basketball team played a ranked opponent for the second straight game, and held the Huskies' score close to Idaho's throughout the first half.

Idaho coach George Pfeifer said his team played hard, but made too many mistakes against a tough opponent.

"We didn't back down," Pfeifer said. "We played hard all the way until the end. We have done that now on multiple occasions, but we haven't always played smart. We had some unfortunate lapses. When you play the 13th-ranked team in the country, every time you have a lapse it becomes a glaring moment."

Idaho took the lead four times in the first 20 minutes, the last being 27-24, before going scoreless for over seven minutes, while UW went on a 12-0 run.

"It's a mentally tough thing when playing these teams that everyone expects us to beat," said UW's Jon Brockman, who had 14 rebounds.

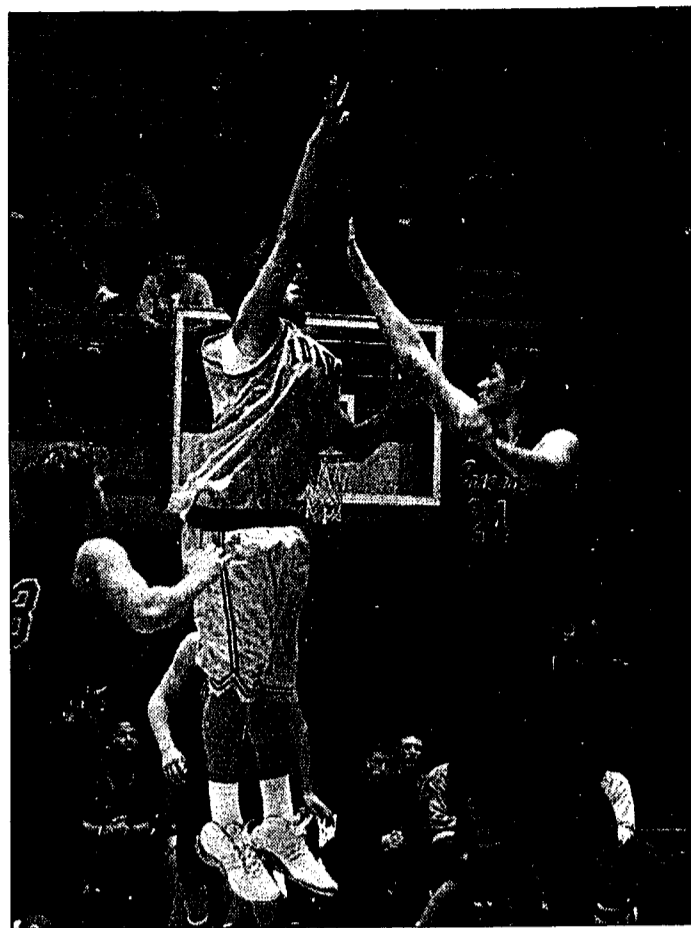
Still, at halftime the Vandals (1-5) trailed by nine, but gave up the first five points of the second half, and with just over 10 minutes remaining, trailed by 19.

Idaho knocked down its first four three-point attempts of the game, and finished 9-20 from beyond the arc and 23-55 overall. Keoni Watson led the Vandals with 19 points, and Mario Mackey added 15.

"It takes time to find that chemistry," Watson said. "Once we find it, everything is going to fall into place."

Due to injury, Idaho dressed just eight players.

"I'm really proud of the effort we displayed in what we knew coming in was going to be a really tough game," Pfeifer said. "We felt we really had to answer the bell in the first five minutes, and we got after it defensively right from



Bruce Mann/Argonaut

Forward Andrew Madsen (45) puts up a shot over the outstretched arms of Cascade College freshman Nate Rheaume (24) on Friday in Memorial Gym.

the start."

The good news for the Vandals is their three-game road trip against Southern Utah, Gonzaga and Washington, whose combined record is 16-3, is now over. The bad news is they have to play Southern Utah (4-2) again on Saturday.

"It doesn't do us any good to play these types of teams," Pfeifer said. "Right now I'm not certain we are ready for this type of hail storm. It's not that we're afraid of it, but you're asking if I like it and that's a no."

The Vandals will play at the Cowan Spectrum for the first time this season at 7 p.m. on Saturday in a rematch against Southern Utah. Idaho lost to the Thunderbirds 67-50 the first time around.

In that game, the Vandals

were outrebounded 38-25 and turned the ball over 15 times, while only recording four assists. Despite those stats, Pfeifer believes Idaho's 16-44 shooting cost the Vandals as much as anything else.

"We did not shoot the ball well," Pfeifer said after the first meeting with the Thunderbirds. "We had some shots that were open and just didn't go down, so that hurt us."

This will be the first of three non-conference rematches for the Vandals this season. Before Western Athletic Conference play begins on Jan. 4, Idaho will face North Dakota State and South Dakota State for the second time.

"These games are great measuring sticks and a real true way to measure," Pfeifer said.

SportsBRIEFS

Vandal swimming inks four

The Idaho swim team announced Wednesday the signings of four future Vandal athletes. UI coach Tom Jager is bringing in Alyson Hamilton (Lake Oswego, Ore.), Anna Humphrey (Portland), Elizabeth Jagusch (Ketchikan, Alaska) and Mary Skidmore (Memphis, Tenn.) to join the team for the 2007-08 season.

"This is our best recruiting class since we started here," Jager said. "They all have potential to make it to the finals at the WAC Championships immediately."

Jager feels that all four of the athletes have great things in common — they all have very strong personalities and lots of confidence. That is a key component to making this the best recruiting class in its three-year tenure.

"We believe these kids will be able to represent our team on the national and even international level," Jager said. "We are fortunate to have this group coming to the University of Idaho."

Vandal tennis to host community event

The UI tennis team will host a community event 3-5 p.m. on Sunday at the Kibbie Dome. The event is open to students, faculty, staff and community members and is free of charge.

Participants will be able to learn new skills from Vandal tennis players and coaches.

The event can accommodate 35 people and reservations must be made through Scott Stanko at stan7958@uidaho.edu or at 814-598-0577.

UI tight end Smith-Anderson declares for NFL draft

UI tight end Luke Smith-Anderson announced on Tuesday his decision to pursue a professional football career with the NFL.

"It's a hard decision in the fact that I know this program is on the rise," Smith-Anderson said. "We have a lot better chance to go to a bowl next year. That's what I've been wanting to do all this time — leave here with a ring."

"Sometimes you have to take the next step. That's what I feel like I need to do," Smith-Anderson said.

UI coach Dennis Erickson said he understood Smith-Anderson's decision.

"He has to do what is right for him and his family," Erickson said.

Smith-Anderson's decision to declare for the draft ends a six-year odyssey that began with him playing in 2001 as a true freshman. He missed the next two seasons with knee injuries — one ACL then the other. He managed a full season in 2004 before rupturing his spleen during fall camp 2005. He had a scare in 2006 but damage to his PCL was minor and he was able to play in all but two games.

NationalBRIEFS

USC on path to national title game

Thanks to Michigan's loss against Ohio State two weeks ago, and USC's win against Notre Dame last weekend, the Trojans are now the No. 2 team in the BCS standings, and are in line to go to the BCS championship game.

The only roadblock remaining for USC is a matchup against cross-town rival UCLA scheduled for this weekend.

USC has won the past seven meetings between the teams, but the 6-5 Bruins will look to play spoiler against their nearby neighbors.

If the Trojans were to lose, Michigan would once again be in line for a shot at the national championship and a rematch against Big 10 rival Ohio State.

The Florida Gators are currently No. 4 in the BCS standings and would need help from voters to move ahead of idle Michigan.

The BCS Bowl Selection show is scheduled for Sunday when the national championship matchup will be announced.

Mavericks win 11th straight game

After starting the season 0-4, the Dallas Mavericks won their 11th straight game with a 117-98 victory over the Toronto Raptors on Wednesday.

The Mavericks secured the victory despite losing star forward Dirk Nowitzki, who left the game in the first quarter due to blurred vision.

It is not believed the situation is serious and Nowitzki could return to action this weekend.

Dallas, who sits at 11-4, trails only the Utah Jazz in the Western Conference thanks to their recent winning ways.

The Jazz continued their surprising play with an 83-75 win over the San Antonio Spurs on Wednesday to move to 13-3 on the season.

In the Eastern Conference, the Orlando Magic won their fifth straight game, defeating the Seattle Sonics 94-84 to move to 12-4.

The Magic sit atop the weak Eastern Conference that features just four teams with records above .500.

Monson out as Minnesota coach

Minnesota coach Dan Monson accepted a buyout package worth more than \$1.3 million, ending his tenure as the Gophers' coach. The Gophers have a 2-5 record, including five consecutive losses. Assistant coach Jim Molinari will serve as interim coach the rest of the season.

After an era in which games drew near-capacity crowds to Williams Arena, attendance has slipped under Monson, especially in recent years. The Gophers' home average in 2005-06 was 11,536, one of their lowest totals since 1970.

Men's basketball has long been a crucial money-maker for the University of Minnesota athletic department, with profits used to help the school's non-revenue programs.

Athletic director Joel Maturi would not say what impact attendance played in the decision, saying only, "It's a situation where I do believe the program is not in the position that we want it to be."

"I didn't accomplish what I wanted to (on) the court, but I came here to restore respect in other areas," Monson said at Thursday's news conference. "I feel like I did what I was asked to come here to do, and with that I have no apologies for where the program is. I think it is a program with great respect off the court. It's time for somebody else to make the next step

and that's to have more success on the court."

Monson said he "absolutely" wants to coach again, although accepting what happened on the court was difficult Thursday.

MLB teams in signing frenzy

Major League teams continued to sign free agents as the off-season marches on and several deals were agreed to this week.

The Philadelphia Phillies signed starting pitcher Adam Eaton to a three-year, \$24.5 million contract.

The 29-year-old Eaton posted just a 5.12 ERA for the Rangers last season, but was able to cash in thanks to an off-season that has seen team owners open up their wallets.

The Boston Red Sox also signed a pitcher, but the team went much farther to find their target.

The team finalized a two-year, \$2.5 million contract with Japanese pitcher Hideki Okajima in the midst of their negotiations with potential ace Daisuke Matsuzaka, another Japanese product.

Starting pitcher Jeff Francis was also rewarded with a contract, signing a \$13 million, four-year contract extension with the Colorado Rockies.

The pitcher was a key component of a surprising Rockies rotation last year when he went 13-11 with a 4.16 ERA.

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Listen to the secrets of French women

By Lisa Gutierrez
McClatchy Newspapers

I already knew that you can't be too thin or too rich. Now, I guess you can't be too French, either.

Last year Frenchwoman Mireille Guiliano made a worldwide splash with her "diet" book, "French Women Don't Get Fat." Though her female compatriots gave her a hard time for spilling their secrets, her recipe for healthy living was simple enough.

Eat three meals a day. Move. Eat smaller portions. Eat lots of seasonal fruits and vegetables. Eat real yogurt. Drink lots of water. Enjoy the occasional treat. Move.

Nothing new there, the Champagne company executive will tell you herself.

Perhaps the charm was that the advice came from a fashionable French woman?

Ouï!

In any case, Guiliano has followed up her best-seller with "French Women for All Seasons: A Year of Secrets, Recipes & Pleasures." She's still advocating healthy living, but she's thrown in recipes and more than a couple of lessons on how to tie a scarf the way French women do.

Here's a quick Q&A:
Q: Why do you think "French Women Don't Get Fat" struck such a chord with so many women?

A: "Because it was done with a French touch. Because diet books tell you ... they make it like a one-size-fits-all and they can't help you because they are diet books from the perspective of 'don't do that.' Of course, if you're not going to eat bread and potatoes, you're going to lose weight. But what happens when you go back?"

"I warn my readers, this is not that type of book. I'm giv-

ing you hundreds of tips. Start with two or three.

"I think my book came at the right time. Women all over the world ... I had no idea how many frustrated women there were out there. For me it was a revelation because for me, I never go on a scale."

Q: So how are your books different from what's already out there?

A: "The big, big thing about diets is that they're stressful. They're all about torture. They rob you of pleasure. If you don't have pleasure for all this, your mind is going to get you and take revenge, and you're going to binge and be unhappy. So take two or three things, the water, the walk, the yogurt, which is my secret weapon."

Q: I hate yogurt.

A: "Have you had real yogurt? If you eat real yogurt, I don't mean all this poison yogurt out there with corn syrup and jam ... do what I tell

people to do with kids. Have some fresh fruit in it or have some drops of honey in it. I've had people tell me now they love yogurt and they want it every morning.

"Some people tell me they don't eat breakfast. Wrong. You are a dead car in the morning, and a car to run in the morning needs fuel.

"All these diet books say you have to have six meals a day, eight meals a day. I'm sorry, who has the time? The French woman doesn't snack. Why? Because she has a good breakfast that takes her to lunch. Then she sits down and takes lunch. And then she has dinner."

Q: Talk to me about drinking water.

A: "You are like a dry sponge in the morning when you wake up because you have been totally dehydrated overnight.

"Begin each day with a glass

of water. Eight ounces of water. A lot of people tell me they don't like regular water. I tell them to put a squeeze of lemon in it. Don't do ice water. Have it lukewarm. In Asia, women drink lukewarm water. That will sort of wake your body up."

Q: How do French women reach what you call "equilibrium" in their lives and how can we do the same, especially during the hectic holidays?

A: "French women regulate their metabolisms by frequently walking and doing stairs. The French woman doesn't agonize that she eats one day and the next day she's seven ounces more. She doesn't even look at the scale.

"For us, we have such a strong connection with food because we have 300 years of gastro economical history. We don't obsess with it. We'll have dinner. We'll have a glass of red wine, we eat some bread,

we eat some cheese. We all know the next morning it's no croissants.

"When you go to parties during the holidays, be smart, because half the food isn't that good. Before you go, have a little apple, a piece of cheese. When you get there, look at all the food and say to yourself, 'Is there something I really, really want to have?' If it's pie, then have it.

"The key to eating a proper amount is really enjoying what you do eat. Gluttony is a desperate bid to satisfy our head, not our stomach. You know you are really eating for pleasure when you surprise yourself by having less than you expected.

"A basic French woman's rule of weight management: She asks herself how much she wants to eat what she is about to eat. And you don't have to bore your guests at the table (by talking about it)."

Never have the Giants been so vulnerable as now

By Jean-Jacques Taylor
The Dallas Morning News

IRVING, Texas — The New York Giants are ready to implode. They're sick of the scrutiny, sick of their coach and sick of each other.

All you have to do is listen to them. The star running back wants to retire. The star quarterback has six interceptions in the last three games. The star tight end complains constantly, and the injured star defensive end criticized the enigmatic star receiver for quitting last week.

Never have the Giants been more vulnerable. Never have the Cowboys been more poised to deliver a butt-kicking.

Bill Parcells knows this, though he's trying not to talk about it.

Doesn't want to give the Giants any added incentive. Doesn't want to knock his former assistant, Tom Coughlin. Also knows these Cowboys still haven't arrived, so Parcells continues to praise New York. Uses their 36-22 win over the Cowboys last month as evidence.

Whatever. That was before the players lost faith in Eli Manning, the quarterback who was supposed to be their savior but is now a liability. That was before injuries robbed them of nearly a third of their starting lineup, though Osi Umenyiora, Brandon Short and, maybe, Michael Strahan will play this week. And that was before Tony Romo became a pop culture figure.

So Parcells ignores all the Giants' bickering and infighting, at least publicly, and continues to praise them. In fact, Parcells said he isn't even sure the Giants have any internal issues.

"I'm not speaking about the Giants, but have I ever seen something of that nature cause problems in the history of sports? Yes," Parcells said. "All I have to go on is what is reported going on, and there's a 50-50 chance that's accu-

rate. "... I do think, having been in New York, there are some things that get on the back page of the tabloids up there that are exaggerated sometimes. I don't pay a lot of attention to yesterday's news."

All this talk about the Giants falling apart, and we haven't even discussed their curmudgeon of a coach.

The players don't like him. Sometimes, you wonder if they even respect him, the way Tiki Barber and Jeremy Shockey have criticized the offensive approach at various times this season. This much is clear: The Giants won't play for Coughlin.

The players might rally around each other — they did have a players-only team meeting this week — and play for themselves in Sunday's winner-take-all battle for the NFC East title, but

they're not going to storm the field and play as hard as they can to win one for Tom.

Can you blame them? Absolutely, positively not. Coughlin is potty-mouthed micromanager with the people skills of a 2-year-old. He's a former Parcells assistant who seemingly took all of Parcells' annoying traits and none of the good ones.

His dour demeanor wears on his players during good times and becomes unbearable during bad times. For the record, this qualifies as the worst of times for the Giants. They've lost three consecutive games and blew a 21-point fourth-quarter lead against hapless Tennessee last week. In the process, New York lost its two-game lead over Dallas in the division.

The players-only meeting was simply one more indication Coughlin has lost the team. They know he can't inspire them, so they've turned to each other.

"The players asked if they could have it, and my only stipulation was that it be team-oriented, very positive," Coughlin said. "You know, I don't

know exactly what went on in the meeting. I'm hoping that it's a positive response."

Eli Manning is the Giants' other major problem.

With 34 career starts, it's really no longer accurate to call him an inexperienced quarterback. He has a career completion percentage of 53.8 percent (58.3 this season); the best quarterbacks complete about 62 percent of their passes. Romo has completed nearly 70 percent of his passes in his first five starts.

He tends to make poor decisions and has 47 career touchdowns and 41 interceptions. A thought gathering validity is that Manning is just a guy — not the difference-maker the Giants thought he would become.

"He's a mentally tough young man, and he doesn't deny anything. He's very honest and open about the need to play better," Coughlin said of his quarterback. "He's dealing with it the best he can."

That's not good enough, which is why Dallas will end the Giants' misery Sunday.

"You know, I don't know exactly what went on in the meeting. I'm hoping that it's a positive response."

Tom Coughlin

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EMPLOYMENT

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Rate of Pay: \$8-9.25/hr
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EMPLOYMENT

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seeking a bright, caring, energetic person for a part-time position, approximately 21 hrs/wk, assisting the doctor by recording chart notes, assisting with patient care and with practice promotion - possible advancement for the right person. This is an upbeat, health-oriented, non-smoking office. Must be a team player with legible handwriting who wants a long-term position; CNA training is beneficial. Pay is DOE. Approximately 21 hrs/wk. Job Located in Moscow.

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