

THE ARGONAUT

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The Vandal Voice Since 1898

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Retirement plan offers options to employees

By Sean Garmire
Argonaut

A new plan for retiree health benefits and life insurance coverage was unveiled last week by University of Idaho President Tim White. While the new proposals will alter the current package, the retirement benefits have ultimately been sustained.

After a comment-and-review period lasting more than two months, the new package will alter the benefits of roughly 3,000 retirees, current employees and future recruits.

The UI administration cites escalating national health care costs and a recent tightening of government accounting regulations as impetus for the changes.

The changes, White explained, "are balanced, they are fair and they are necessary."

"We are disingenuous with ourselves if we don't recognize (health care costs) are going to continue to change and they're going to change in the direction of costing more in the future," he said.

Among the changes to the benefits package will be the institution of four "tiers" of eligibility.

The tiers serve to soften the impact for current retirees and those near retirement. It also maintains the program for current employees. Recipients are placed into the tiers based on a formula of age combined with the total time they have worked for the university in addition to the amount of time they have before retirement.

Both Tier 1 and Tier 2 follow the "rule of 80," in which candidates become eligible if their age plus their years employed by the university equal 80. However, for Tier 1, a five-year minimum service requirement is imposed for eligibility, and in Tier 2, the minimum is 15 years.

In Tier 3, candidates' age plus years of service must be equal to 90, with a 20-year minimum employment. Finally, Tier 4 requires a 10-year minimum and self-payment or use of sick leave converted to cover the cost.

According to Linda Peavey, director of benefits services, Tier 4 is similar to the Idaho state benefit plan, which all other Idaho schools are subject to.

"The least generous option at the university is standard for Idaho," Peavey said.

The plan will also allow recipients a permanent choice between two benefit packages known as Plan A and Plan B. The choices must be made by July 1 for current retirees, or at the time of retirement and once made cannot be changed.

Plan A, the default plan, offers a lower

See **RETIRE**, page 4



Past festival performers include, clockwise from top left, Dee Daniels, James Moody, Curtis Calderon and Hank Jones.

Photo Illustration by Lisa Wareham

Jazz Fest celebrates 40 years

By Christina Lords
Argonaut

Students of jazz music from around the United States and Canada will have an opportunity to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival on the University of Idaho campus next week.

The four-day festival begins Wednesday and includes 21 festival sites on the UI campus and around Moscow.

The festival attracts approximately 70 professional guest performers, conducts artist workshops and allows for middle school, high school and college-aged students to interact with professional musicians. Each night, a major jazz concert is also held.

"Last year, 341 schools participated in the festival," said Margan Wilson, marketing and volunteer program coordinator for the festival.

Wilson said that some schools are traveling from as far as Canada and Texas, while many schools are from the Idaho and Washington regions.

check it
OUT

For information about volunteering for the festival call 885-0115 or e-mail jazzvolunteer@uidaho.edu.

To purchase tickets for the festival concerts visit the UI Ticket Office in the Kibbie Dome or call 885-7212.

Each school can bring multiple combos, large ensembles and soloist student performances that are critiqued by nationally renowned adjudicators. Student performances will be held at seven of the festival sites, including the Administration Building Auditorium.

Jazz artists participating in the festival also go out to schools in the North Idaho and eastern Washington regions to conduct workshops and offer educational performances to the students.

"Artists come to elementary schools as a way to reach out to kids that may never visit the festi-

val," said program adviser Dwina Howey.

A new element of this year's festival has been the involvement of the provost's office and New Student Services, Howey said. A new effort has been put in to offer campus tours and have advertisement opportunities for colleges of UI to reach new prospective students during the festival, she said.

"The university has really tried to band together by using university programs to provide a positive opportunity to see the university and try to recruit new students," Howey said.

Offering another intricate aspect of the festival is the International Jazz Collections. The collections will offer lectures, films and displays in conjunction with the festival. This year's exhibit and film and lecture series will focus on jazz in Europe. The annual Prichard Gallery exhibit displays sheet music covers.

"This is the fourth-largest jazz collection in the world," Howey said.

A small portion of the archives from the

See **JAZZ**, page 3



Melissa Davlin/Argonaut

Larry Nelson, a bus driver for Moscow Valley Transit, waits for passengers outside of the Student Union Building Thursday afternoon. Moscow Valley Transit and Wheatland Express are both in danger of being shut down because of funding problems.

Wheatland Express, Valley Transit bus riders sound off

By Carissa Wright
Argonaut

Shania Twain plays on the radio. The air smells faintly of new upholstery and disinfectant. After the Wheatland Express stops at the Student Union Building on the University of Idaho campus at 1 in the afternoon, there are only three people on the bus. As the bus shuttles away from UI and toward Washington State University, a trip it makes twice an hour between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., more get on.

The driver is Dave Snider. Though he's only driven for Wheatland for two months, he's had his commercial license for 14 years and has driven "all kinds of things." For the three years before starting his job with Wheatland, he drove a school bus.

"I just like to be behind the wheel," he says. But because UI is currently reviewing whether to cut its annual payment of \$100,000 to the bus system, Snider's job is in jeopardy. And if Wheatland goes, so does Moscow Valley Transit.

Erik Thornquist, a UI graduate student who teaches freshman English, is taking four Chinese classes a week at WSU and says

Wheatland is the only way he can get to Pullman. Thornquist and his family settled in Moscow after living in Taiwan.

"One of the reasons I came back was for the buses," he says.

He rides the Wheatland many times a week, he says, and his family rides the Moscow Valley Transit buses for travel within the city. Even his 9-year-old daughter rides the city bus to school, because the stop is more convenient than the school bus stop. Thornquist is vehement about the possibility of losing the bus.

"From what I understand, it's UI who's balked at putting up the money," he says. "(But) if they held a jar in the middle of the TLC, I would put \$3 in. I would put \$30 in."

It is part of the responsibility of the university to make life better for its students, he says, and that includes the bus services.

Holleen Mitchell, another passenger on the Wheatland Express, is returning to Pullman after a Moscow shopping trip. Mitchell, a junior at WSU, says she rides the bus maybe once a month, generally to go shopping. If the ride

See **BUS**, page 4

Use of Tasers questioned after incident at WSU

By Cynthia Reynaud
Argonaut

Questions regarding Pullman police officers' methods have arisen after a UI student was Tasered in Pullman Sunday.

Jaron Williams, 22, a senior UI football player and advertising and communications major, said he was unnecessarily Tasered with equipment the Pullman Police Department were issued at the end of January. Williams was one of two men on whom the weapons was used early Sunday morning in unrelated events.

"The police are here to protect us. I don't feel I was protected or served. I was there as an innocent bystander," Williams said.

Williams was arrested shortly before 2 a.m. on charges of assaulting an officer, but was released after an hour at the police station. Charges have not been filed and the case is still under investigation.

Williams said he did not expect the situation to rise to the level it did when he confronted Pullman Police Officer Carl Bell, who was speaking to

See **TASERS**, page 4

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ARTS&CULTURE

"Beat It" will showcase the power of the drums as part of the University Interdisciplinary Colloquium.



a look
INSIDE

OPINION

The editorial board wants you to get involved and Travis Shofner responds to Bill Sali.

SPORTS&REC

UI women's basketball's Tacey Westbrooks has been injured most of her career but hasn't lost her love of the game.

on the WEB

Comments are working again! Come tell us what you think of our content at www.uiargonaut.com

Correction

John Tracy's name was spelled incorrectly in the Feb. 9 story "Research vice president position filled." Also in that story, UI research funding was misstated. In 2006, UI research funding was \$96 million.

WeatherFORECAST

Today Partly cloudy Hi: 45° Lo: 32°
Saturday Mostly cloudy Hi: 48° Lo: 38°
Sunday Showers Hi: 40° Lo: 32°

Campus Recreation
M-TH: 6am-11:30pm Friday: 6am-9pm
Saturday: 9am-9pm Sunday: 11am-11pm

ULTIMATE CLIMBING
Friday Feb. 23
9pm to Midnight
WANDAL MASSAGE

now @ the SRC
www.gvm.neomassage.com

Join in the FUN!
National Recreational Sport & Fitness Day
February 22, 2007

Student Recreation Center
9 am to 6 pm

Free Chair Massage

SRC and wellness classes FREE to all students, Faculty & Staff

'round the REC Challenge

FREE Personal Trainer consultations

\$1 Off Any Sandwich w/ Smoothie Purchase @ Cliff's Rock Bottom Cafe

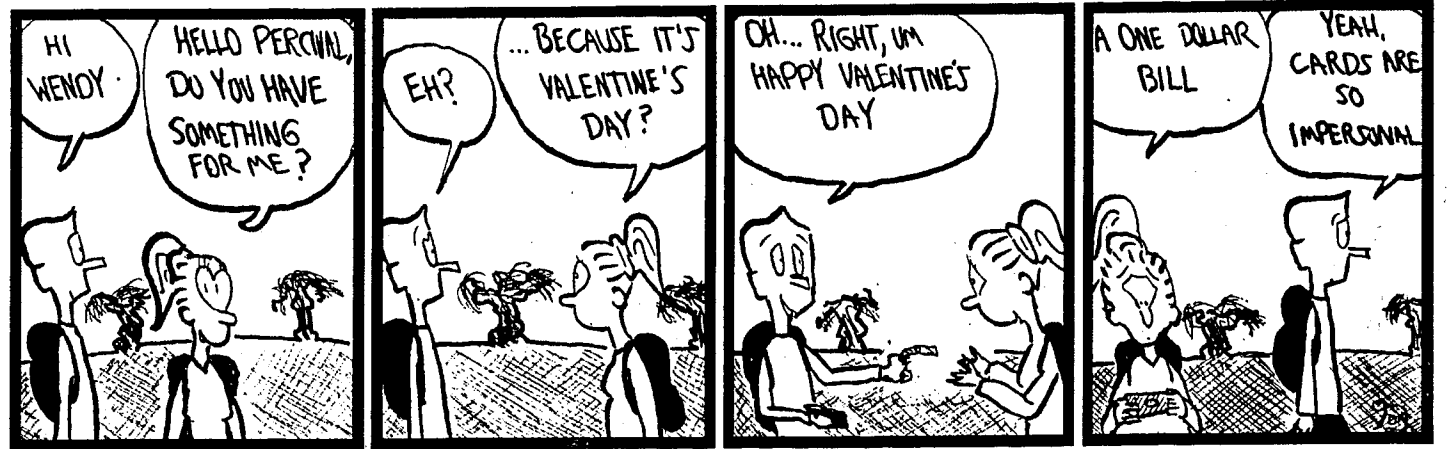
Qdoba & Red Bull on-site

Cooking 101! at the SRC
February 20th, Noon to 1 pm
Free w/ Wellness Pass or \$3

Presidents' Day
SRC Hours MONDAY FEB. 19
11 am - 11 pm

Campus Recreation Office 885-6381
Recreation Hotline 885-1212
www.campusrec.uidaho.edu
Bring your valid Vandal Card
Fitness & Wellness - Intramurals - Outdoor Program - Sportclubs - Student Recreation Center

UniversityAVE.



by Paul Tong/Argonaut

CampusCALENDAR

Today

Black Student Union presents 'Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask' Commons Food Court Noon

'Mostly Moscow' UITV8 7:30 p.m.

Festival of New Works featuring Patty Duke presents 'Billion Dollar Baby' Hartung Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Literary reading by poet Robert Wrigley College of Law Courtroom 7:30 p.m.

'ASUI Senate' UITV-8 8 p.m.

Saturday

Festival of New Works featuring Patty Duke presents 'Billion Dollar Baby' Hartung Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Tower Bar mocktail party UI Theophilus Tower 9 p.m.

Monday

UI closed in observance of President's Day

'Classical Mythology 211: Athena' UITV-8

5 p.m.

'Classical Mythology 212: Other Heroes of Troy' UITV8 6 p.m.

'Remembering Highlights of the Jazz Festival' UITV-8 8 p.m.

Tuesday

Interdisciplinary Colloquium with Dan Bukvich Administration Auditorium 12:30 p.m.

'Classical Mythology 211: Athena in Art and Religion' UITV-8 5 p.m.

Women's Center Film Series 'Their Eyes Were Watching

God' Women's Center Lounge, Memorial Gym, Room 109 5 p.m.

'Classical Mythology 212: Seven Against Thebes' UITV-8 6 p.m.

Hamp's Gala Administration Building Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

Literary reading by Buddy Levy TLC room 040 7:30 p.m.

'Remembering Highlights of the Jazz Festival' UITV-8 8 p.m.

LocalBRIEFS

'Spin into Spring' skates into Moscow Saturday

The Palouse Hills Skating Club is hosting the "Spin into Spring" figure skating competition beginning at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the Rotary Veteran's Memorial Pavilion/Ice Rink.

Jazz Festival reception honors 'Doc' Skinner

The 2007 Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival marks a milestone Wednesday through Feb. 24 as it celebrates its 40th year of bringing jazz to UI.

The "Doc" Skinner Community Appreciation Party from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday at both the Prichard Art Gallery, 414 S. Main St., and across the street at the Hoffman Building, the former Goodwill store, at 504 S. Main St.

The reception features food, refreshments and performances by students from the UI Lionel Hampton School of Music. A formal program begins at 6:15 p.m. The cost for jazz festival ticket holders is \$7 and \$10 for non-ticket holders.

For information on the 2007 Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival concerts, workshops and student performances visit www.jazz.uidaho.edu.

Parking restricted for jazz festival

Several streets and parking lots on the UI campus will experience restrictions during the Lionel Hampton

International Jazz Festival Feb. 21-24. The campus will host more than 18,000 visitors during the festival, many of whom will be transported by bus or van.

The Idaho Office of Parking and Transportation Services asks drivers to avoid traveling on Deakin Street, in front of the Student Union Building and UI Bookstore. Deakin Street will be one-way southbound from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Sixth Street to College Avenue and may be closed entirely to accommodate bus loading and unloading.

The Wheatland bus stop on Deakin Street will be temporarily relocated to the north side of Sixth Street, east of the railroad tracks. The Valley Transit stop will be moved to the bus cut out on Railroad Street, behind the LDS Institute.

Portions of the SUB parking lot will also be closed.

The blue gravel parking lot west of the Kibbie Dome will be closed for general parking.

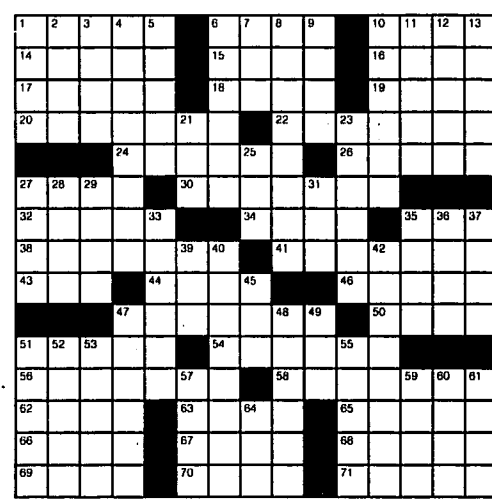
The red paved parking lot west of the Kibbie Dome will be available for general parking. The Kibbie Dome east-end parking lot will be open beginning Wednesday morning for gold permit parking. It will be closed at noon each day and all day Saturday. Lot 24, the red permit lot west of the College of Law Building, will also be closed after 5 p.m. each day.

Loading zones for buses will be set up on Railroad Street behind the LDS Center, Blake Avenue at the School of Music Building, Nez Perce Drive at the Nicolls Building, Rayburn Street at Memorial Gym and the Agricultural Science Building, Stadium Drive at the Hartung Theatre and at University and Line streets at the Idaho Commons. Additional bus loading zones will be in place on Main Street between Fifth and Sixth streets and on Third Street near the Methodist Church.

Questions regarding parking and street closures can be directed to Idaho Parking and Transportation Services at 885-6424.

CrosswordPUZZLE

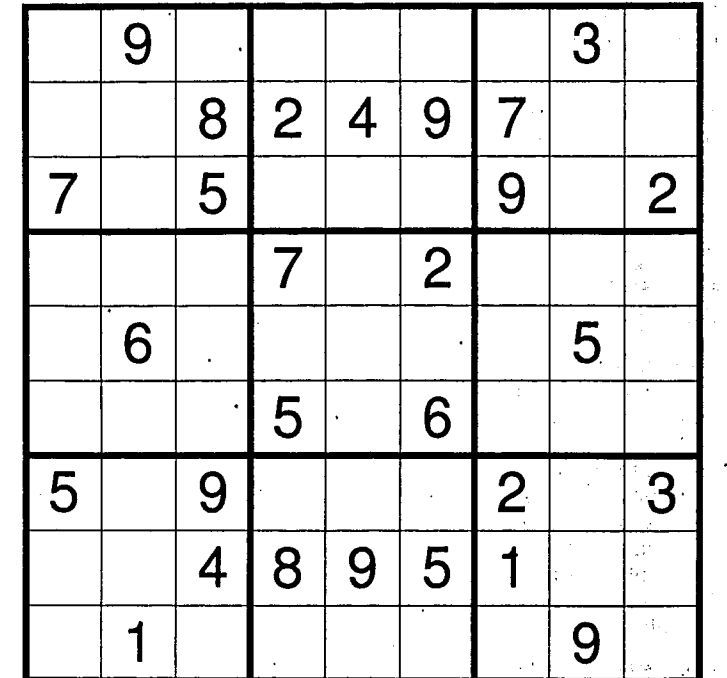
- ACROSS
1 Paddle
10 Laundry
16 Boat canvas
17 Shipboard compartment
15 One woodwind
16 Ready and willing partner?
17 Perceptive
18 Dice loss
19 Front of the calf
20 Strategic withdrawal
22 Boise boy
24 Passe
26 Overdue
27 Furnace waste
30 Joan Collins series
32 Show-biz notable
34 Faithful
35 High-fiber fruit
38 Clicks open
41 Kind of question
43 Former Chinese leader
44 Taylor and Tom
46 Statistical inclination
47 End of a romance
50 Scottish loch
51 Chicago terminal
54 Movie theater
56 Interstellar clouds
58 Sound the horn
62 Shutter strip
63 Java neighbor
65 Time off base
68 Otherwise
67 Omigod!
68 Come in!
69 Little piggies
70 Freshly moist
71 Violinist Isaac



Solutions from 2/13

7 Blood classification sys.
8 Lonely confinement
9 Maintained
10 Stroll
11 Detest
12 Trojan War epic
13 Comic Bruce
21 Tack on
23 Certify
25 Aardvark tidbit
27 Layer of impurities
28 Singer Horne
29 Furthermore
31 Take to court
33 Bear container
35 Gratis
36 Some roadhouses
37 Pluto and Uranus
39 Chart shape
40 Period since Sputnik
42 Decorative object

SudokuPUZZLE



Solutions from 2/13

Table with 9 rows and 9 columns of numbers representing the solution to the Sudoku puzzle.

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.

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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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SPIJ Mark of Excellence winner, 2005



KaBOOM! to build playground in Genesee

By **Jeremy Castillo**
Argonaut

More than 20 years after it was built, the Genesee School's playground is getting a makeover thanks to the University of Idaho.

Through the KaBOOM! program, Vandal volunteers are refurbishing and installing equipment for the elementary-age kids to use.

The non-profit organization is aiming to build a play space within walking distance of every child in the United States. Last August, KaBOOM! built a playground in Twin Falls.

Nathan Hand, ASUI's Coordinator of Volunteer Programs, is leading and spreading the word about the project on the Palouse.

He was in Genesee on Jan. 27 when the playground's construction was announced during halftime at the boys' basketball game. He also passed out flyers and gathered feedback.

"We got a lot of quality responses," Hand said. "The community built the playground itself 20 years ago. We had a few people who were on that original build come up to us and say 'Hey, we like what you're doing' and 'Let us know how we can help.'"

Hand did come across some resistance to the project because addition of new equipment and expansion of the school system could cause a tax

increase. However, overall feedback is positive, he said.

"We were excited to be approached by UI," said David Neumann, the Genesee school superintendent. "Some equipment is fairly new. Some is old and needs to be replaced. Some space has nothing and can have stuff put on it. But that's all up in the air right now. We don't have much playground space, so getting some expertise would be nice to improve what we have for the kids."

Hand may not be an expert, but he does have experience in how builds work.

In 2004, he helped construct a playground in Anacostia, a southeastern Washington D.C. neighborhood, alongside Miss America 2004 Ericka Dunlap and several of the Washington Redskins.

Last week, Hand and Robert Taylor, UI senior and the school's KaBOOM! Project team captain, traveled to Louisiana to attend workshops. That Saturday, they helped construct a new playground for Woodmere Elementary in Harvey, a town on the outskirts of New Orleans.

"They don't have the school anymore basically," Hand said. "The roof has been ripped off. The whole thing's demolished. They teach out of portable classrooms. And they have

waiting lists for the students in the area. Some are hundreds of names long. So you have kids who are on the streets through no choice of their own."

While Taylor bounced around between jobs and built swings during the Harvey build, Hand constructed planter box benches, which have pots with growing flowers instead of arms.

"We made six of those in a few hours there," he said.

In addition to the play structure and benches, Hand said there were many additional features built that day: slides, monkey bars, picnic tables, an outdoor classroom and a walking path, among others.

"It really transformed the area in the matter of a short day," he said. "It was really good for us to see a build. We literally saw 400-some volunteers build a complete play space in about six hours from the ground up. I think it's really given us a lot of momentum to go into the rest of the semester."

Last week's trip was not the first time Hand saw Hurricane Katrina's aftermath cause hardships in New Orleans.

"We had been there briefly last year on our way to Waveland, (Miss.) for Alternative Spring Break," he said. "In that drive, there was obviously still a lot of debris, demolition and stuff like that."

Hand remembers when his bus driver on last year's visit pointed out places people lived as they crossed the city in the dead of night.

"There were no lights, no street lights, no stop lights, no power, no anything," he said. "(This year) we noticed a lot of businesses had their signs up. But there is still a lot of work that needed to be done."

While in the Gulf of Mexico area last year, Hand visited Bay St. Louis, Miss., for a build.

"After the hurricane, the very first permanent structure built wasn't a business or a home, it was a playground," Hand recalled. "It was the first sign of hope. It convinced quite a few people to come back and there was something worth coming back to. It gave their children something to appreciate while they started building other things."

Hand said kids are KaBOOM!'s focus. Not only do they enjoy the result of the volunteers' efforts, but they are involved in every step of the process.

In early March, UI's branch will hold a "design day," when the children draw their dream playground with paper and crayons. From those multi-colored blueprints, the commonalities are put together and used in the final plans.

Neumann said the construction

site hasn't been determined but he is happy for both the elementary and college students.

"I think it's got benefits for both," he said. "(Our) students get new equipment. And the college students get good experience doing something away from the textbook. And it's always good to get some community service."

But Hand said there's more to the equipment than just a place to have fun at recess.

"A lot of people might scoff at play and say that it's not really needed," he said. "But lots of elementary teachers and principals echo that the prime learning time is when kids come back after recess. They take their coats off, they've gotten to exude their energy and they're ready to sit down and pay attention to something."

"There are lots of skills that are built on the playground: following directions, playing nice with other people, negotiation (such as) who's going down the slide first. But also, it breeds creativity if they can play with their friends. That's what we're trying to encourage and instill in these builds."

Hand encourages anyone interested to volunteer. For information or to participate, send an e-mail to kaboom@sub.uidaho.edu.

SenateREPORT

Feb. 14, 2007

Open Forum

Eric Everett, ASUI vice president adjutant, said he met with the GOA Committee and had a "wonderful interview" and hopes the Senate approves his bill to become ASUI presidential policy adviser. Then he joked about his creation of an ASUI Doomsday Clock, which marked the end of existence occurring five minutes before midnight Wednesday. He said his conclusion came from logarithms factoring in bill failures and how many times Sen. John Adkins gets into fights with people. Sen. Jimmy Fox asked Everett how many name tags he has from ASUI. Everett said he technically has three, but Vice President Travis Shofner stole one and hopefully gives it back.

Executive Communications

ASUI President Berto Cerrillo talked first about the new director of auxiliaries, Michael Jolly. Cerrillo said Jolly last worked at Idaho State University, is a great guy and is looking forward to working with students. Cerrillo then asked if Jolly and someone from Parking Services can talk to him about parking issues such as permit prices and colors, lot locations and appealing tickets. Cerrillo said any senator can work on this issue and can talk to him.

Then, Cerrillo talked about the Student Fee Committee hearing that happened last Friday. He said it outlined

expectations for the fee process and what should be expected for a fee increase. At the meeting next Tuesday, he will be discussing the next proposal. Cerrillo then announced he won't be at next week's Senate meeting. Instead he'll be in Boise for the State Board of Education meeting.

Sen. Fox asked Cerrillo the reasoning behind dissolving the position of ASUI director of health and wellness as stated in Bill S07-12. Cerrillo said the job didn't have enough work as it strictly works off policy and going to RFP meetings involving insurance. This dissolve is more efficient so jobs can be delegated between Health and Wellness and Health and Safety without more hires.

Sen. Chris Shirts asked how many people would be sent on Alternative Service Break. Cerrillo said without the shift in funds from General Reserve to the Alternative Spring Break trip, as stated in Bill S07-16, the fund would be \$50,000 short, setting about 18 or more people back from going. Cerrillo said costs will fluctuate with variable expenses, such as gas prices, which is why a solid number can't be produced.

Approval of Appointments

Sens. Fox, Adkins, Garrett Holbrook and Michael Barker were appointed to the ASUI Ad Hoc Committee for Legislative Affairs. Leah Schwisow was appointed ASUI deputy director of community relations.

Unfinished Business

S07-12, an act dissolving the position of ASUI director of

health and wellness and appointing Joseph Arthurs to the position of ASUI student recreation board health and safety coordinator, passed.

S07-13, an act appointing Kylie Groenhout to the position of ASUI Commons and Union Board chair, passed.

S07-14, an act appointing Caroline Souza to the position of ASUI Commons and Union Board vice chair, passed.

S07-15, an act appointing Bobby Smith to the position of ASUI Commons and Union Board retail coordinator, passed.

S07-16, an act transferring funds from the ASUI General Reserve to the Alternative Spring Break trip, passed.

S07-17, an act appointing Eric Everett to the position of ASUI presidential policy adviser, passed.

S07-18, an act requiring senators to publish their own personal semester project and report it to Senate, was tabled.

New Business

S07-19, an act providing for the use of the PUNCHSCAN voting system for the Spring 2007 ASUI general election, was sent to Ways and Means.

S07-20, an act appointing Megan Godwin to the position of ASUI director of communications, passed.

S07-21, an act establishing procedure for unconfirmed appointees employment, was sent to R&R.

-Jeremy Castillo

JAZZ

from page 1

collection travels, but the majority of the material is stored at the university, Wilson said.

"The archives are a very important link to the history of jazz," Wilson said. "All sorts of vocalists, instrumentalists, reporters and journalists are represented."

Artifacts and archives will be displayed in the Kibbie Dome and at the UI Library during the festival. The film and lecture sessions will be held in the Borah Theater in the SUB.

Student volunteers are also a critical aspect of the festival. Approximately 500 volunteers are needed for the festival to take place, Wilson said. Volunteers drive artists, work the 21 festival sites, work with student performers, act as greeters, check in directors and act as escorts for student groups.

"This is my first time volunteering," said Travis Abram, a senior psychology major. "I've been going to this school for four years and I've never been to a Jazz Fest. It's something I wanted to do before I graduated. I just thought it was for a good cause."

Check both editions of *The Argonaut* next week for special jazz festival coverage.

Protect yourself from the flu

Argonaut Staff

Despite rumors of a massive influenza outbreak on the UI campus, there have not been alarmingly high diagnoses of the flu at the Student Health Center.

Nicky Rader, a registered nurse at Student Health, said they have seen roughly 10 to 20 cases of the flu over the past few weeks.

"There's no way definitively to test for the flu without sending a swab to the state," Rader said. The doctor with whom Rader works has only sent one swab out for testing.

Rader said Student Health has been busy lately, but it's with ailments such as colds as well as the flu.

"February is usually one of our busiest months, from what I hear," Rader said.

February has been the peak of flu season for nine of the past 21 years, according to the Center for Disease Control.

Rader said "flu" can often be used as a misnomer, as it is an upper-respiratory ailment, not a stomach bug. She said people with the flu

often have a high fever, 102-104 degrees, that comes on quickly. Other common symptoms include headache, tiredness, cough, sore throat, body aches and a runny or stuffy nose, according to the CDC.

The flu vaccine is one way to prevent the flu. The prime time to get them is in October or November, Rader said, though Student Health is still offering them for \$25 before 11 a.m. or after 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Rader said another key to avoiding the flu is "handwashing, handwashing, handwashing."

The flu is spread in "respiratory droplets of coughs and sneezes," according to the CDC. If a person touches something that has been contaminated by a sick person's respiratory droplets and then touches his eyes, nose or mouth, it could spread the virus.

To prevent spreading the flu, Rader recommended that people who are sick stay home from work or school. The CDC also recommends covering your mouth or nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

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RETIRE

from page 1

deductible along with monthly premium payments. The cost-sharing plan pays 80 percent of medical costs after the deductible, which amounts to a \$350 deductible with \$30 monthly payments for pre-Medicare retirees, and a \$250 deductible with \$20 monthly payments for retirees covered by Medicare.

The other option, Plan B, is a high annual deductible option: \$1,500, but does not require monthly payments. It also offers 70 percent of medical costs after the deductible. Under this option, pre-Medicare retirees in Tier 4 will be eligible to apply their prescriptions to a medical deductible, and to potentially participate in a self-funded health savings account. However, once Medicare-eligible, recipients will no longer be eligible for the account and are responsible for their own pharmaceuticals.

Option B was initiated after employees requested it during the comment period, however White anticipates most people will choose option A.

Ultimately the changes will not result in a fiscally neutral position for the university. The school will continue to fund the system, with an additional \$2.8 million.

Retiree contributions will cover premium expenses for current year expenses that will result in \$1.9 million, while the university will pay

the balance of current expenses, plus an additional amount of \$2.8 million, which will fund the liability associated with expenses for the future. The university's total annual contribution may change from year to year, but will amount to \$5.8 million in their fiscal year 2008, which begins July 1, 2007.

The changes have been developed over a period of two years by a taskforce consisting of individuals from UI's Human Resources, finance, budget and other university departments, the Retirees Association, and members of both staff and faculty.

Faculty Council Chair Bill McLaughlin said he thinks the changes are being well received by the faculty, and while they will not make everyone happy, they will please the majority of retirees and current faculty.

"All in all I think most people would say this is a really bright spot on the university's page," McLaughlin said. "The way that they stood behind previous commitments and really listened before making changes."

McLaughlin said the primary concerns for the changes are posed to retirees who left on a fixed income, and for whom the \$20 monthly payment may be a major hit.

He also said he expects that some faculty may have considered the high benefits in conjunction with their salary a chief cause to stay. For those people, he said, "this might be enough to move them on."

BUS

from page 1

wasn't available anymore or wasn't free, she says she probably wouldn't come to Moscow as often. Virginia Ferent, a first-year graduate student at WSU, also comes to Moscow for the shopping once every few weeks.

If the bus system is cut, she says, "I guess I'll have to make other arrangements." Both Ferent and Mitchell say they would support a slight tuition or fee increase, if it would keep the ride free for students and teachers.

"I think it's a short-sighted solution," Snider says. "I understand the concern, but it's a short-sighted solution."

Both universities should be working with the community to promote mass transit commuting in Moscow and Pullman, he adds, especially with enrollment down at both UI and WSU. Making it easier for students to get to school is something both universities should be striving for.

"It's basically the California of Washington and Idaho," he says. All over the country, Snider adds, people drive more and sprawl is out of control. "(The universities) have an opportunity to nip it in the bud and they're not taking it."

Thornquist pipes up from the second row of seats.

"Your answer is too intelligent, Dave," he jokes. "Strike that from

the record."

The Wheatland Express bus system isn't the only one in jeopardy. Late on a recent rainy morning, a Moscow Valley Transit bus makes its way through town. A sign at the front reads "You driver today is LARRY." Wet jackets and jeans on the passengers steamed up the inside of the windows. UI graduate student Angie Sowers rides this bus two or three times a week. She attended UI as an undergrad when there was no bus system in place, and now finds the service invaluable.

"I think it's a great service for students that it's free," she says.

Because parking on campus is so difficult and traffic in Moscow has gotten increasingly worse, Sowers says, the bus is a great way to get around.

Brian Biladeau, a UI sophomore majoring in business management

and human resources, rides the bus every other day to travel between home and school. He's signed petitions urging UI to fund the buses and supports ASUI's proposal to raise student fees for bus funding.

"I think they miss out on a valuable asset," he says. "(Not having the buses) hurts the town and the school."

UI students aren't the only riders on the bus, Biladeau says. On most early mornings, especially when it's cold out, the aisles of the buses are completely crammed, with riders that include high-school and junior-high students on their way to class. Both Wheatland Express and Moscow Valley Transit improve the quality of life in Moscow and Pullman, Biladeau adds.

"I don't think they realize how important (having the buses) is to the two towns."

Forum held to discuss funding

The Moscow Civic Association will be sponsoring a public forum Feb. 26 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the 1912 Center dealing with the funding issues Wheatland Express and Valley Transit are facing for their fixed-routes.

There will be six panelists representing the various entities involved. The panelists include: Wheatland Express owner,

Valley Transit CEO, UI Director of NIATT, UI Vice-President of Finance and Administration, Moscow City Supervisor, and Chair of the Moscow Transportation Commission.

Each will give a presentation which will include the results of the soon to be completed ridership survey. The forum will end with a question and answer session.

TASERS

from page 1

William's friend, Washington State University student Martin Boston. Boston was speaking to Bell about his alleged assault by a bouncer at Mike's Bar in Pullman, he said. Boston is a columnist for the WSU student newspaper, The Daily Evergreen.

Williams said he went up to ask Boston what had happened. As Boston told the story, Williams said Bell did not seem to be paying attention and so he tapped him on the shoulder.

As he did this, Williams alleges Bell told him not to touch him and put out his arm, placing a hand on his chest, to keep him from coming any closer.

"So I said, 'Don't touch me,'" Williams said.

He alleged he then placed his

own hand on the officers and brushed it off his chest.

According to Pullman Police Cmdr. Chris Tennant, Williams received a warning after he "slapped (Bell's) hand away" after Bell put his hand out to keep Williams from interjecting between Bell and Boston.

Williams was told that touching an officer is grounds for an assault charge, Tennant said.

Williams alleged that after he received the warning, he was careful not to touch Bell, but spoke to him using his hands animatedly. Again, he said, Bell pushed him back with his hands and told him not to touch him.

"After that, I went totally blank," Williams said, adding that the shock of the situation left him with little recollection of what happened next.

Williams alleged that after the officer warned him again, a woman Williams was with told

him she wanted to leave. As he turned to walk away, Williams alleges that Bell told him he was under arrest and moments later, he was Tasered.

"There wasn't a warning. Where was the warning? I should have been warned about being Tasered," Williams said.

Officer Andy Rohrbaugh Tasered Williams after he was warned twice for using physical contact and attempted to leave the scene after being placed under arrest for assaulting an officer, Tennant said.

After he was Tasered, Williams was handcuffed and taken to the police station. Several witnesses of the event followed him back to the police station to complain about the use of the Taser.

Tennant said that although he was not certain, he didn't think that Williams had been given a warning before being Tasered. In

Pullman, it is not required officers give warning before using a Taser, although it is "advised if at all possible," Tennant said.

Tasers are used in situations in which officers believe the next step would be physical contact, he said. In this case, he said he believed use of the Taser was justified.

"Anytime police use force, we have to be justified in the force we use," Tennant said.

If physical force had been used, both parties could have been injured, he added. The Taser itself doesn't cause injuries except for a "couple of pricks," Tennant said.

Williams said the Taser knocked him to the ground.

"I felt like they want to use this Taser gun, like, 'I got a reason to Taser him,'" Williams said. "What is the reason to Taser me? I wasn't posing a threat to anybody."

Tennant said he expects the Tasers to be used often in Pullman.

"(An officer) can go hands-on or he can Taser him ... From our point of view, a Taser is a nicer way," Tennant said.

According to Moscow Police Lt. Paul Kwiatkowski, police usually use a force continuum to decide what actions to use in a situation. Taser falls in the middle, he said.

Kwiatkowski said Tasers have only been used three or four times in Moscow during the two years the department has had access to them. Also in Moscow, it is required that an officer warn people before they use a Taser on them.

Williams, who is black, said he doesn't think the situation was racial, but an injustice to everyone.

"I don't know if it was a racial thing, but I don't think so ... It

was about the situation, not the race," Williams said.

Tennant also said that race had no play in the matter, adding that two men had been Tasered that night and the other was a Caucasian.

The case is still under investigation, although Tennant said he expects it to be sent to the Whitman County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and charges to be filed. If charges are brought against Williams, he could face one to three months in prison for third-degree assault, said Bill Druffel, a deputy prosecuting attorney in Whitman County.

Williams said Bell told him if he wrote a letter of apology to him, charges could be dropped.

Tennant confirmed that Bell agreed to include the letter in the packet sent to the prosecuting attorney.

CLASSIFIEDS

Large classifieds section with columns for POLICIES, EMPLOYMENT, FOR RENT, ANNOUNCEMENTS, and various job listings. Includes University of Idaho logo and contact information.



C. Scott Aguilar/Argonaut

Congress can, should raise wage

Do not be fooled by Congressman Bill Sali, fellow students. Congress has all the authority it requires to propose, increase and mandate a national minimum wage for workers in the United States, and it's the duty of Congress to act — Sali just doesn't want to.

Last Tuesday, Sali commandeered a section of The Argonaut to spout his opinion, not fact. As a University of Idaho College of Law graduate, I would expect that the congressman remembers lectures on the Commerce Clause of the Constitution and West Coast Hotel v. Parrish, a Supreme Court decision almost 70 years old that held minimum wage laws constitutional. To claim that federal minimum wage laws are unconstitutional would be tossing out judicial precedent, over half a decade of interpretations of the Commerce Clause, maybe even the judicial branch of the United States. Somehow, that seems slightly less conducive to American well-being than a base wage for all workers.

Increasing the federal minimum wage to \$7.25 by 2008 is not as outrageous as Sali tried to portray. According to the Economic Policy Institute, at that rate combined with the Earned Income Tax Credit, a single parent with two children would have an income of \$18,326, 14 percent above the poverty thresholds established in 2005. Compare that to the current wage of \$5.25 com-

combined with the EITC, which results in \$14,177, or 10 percent below the poverty threshold. Some might think that \$4,000 a year is insignificant, but that supposedly arbitrary number is the difference between supporting a family on a single salary and falling short of the necessary food, shelter and warmth all human beings require. The minimum wage increase isn't random, it's deliberate. If Sali truly wanted to see the lowest wage earners earn more, as he



Travis Shofner
Guest columnist
arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

states in his column, he would vote for this measure.

Sali's argument that jobs will be lost as small businesses struggle to pay higher salaries isn't supported by evidence. Studies from the Economic Policy Institute and the Fiscal Policy Institute aren't finding overall significant job loss since the last minimum wage increase in 1991. The congressman simply has to have more faith that the small business community can find ways to cut costs. Small business owners have a lot more to worry about than the mediocre wages of their employees — such as increasing energy and insurance costs.

Despite Sali's objection to a proposed increase, Congress should pass legislation raising the federal minimum wage, but not without understanding the whole economic picture. Travis Galloway, former ASUI lobbyist, wrote me explaining the impact a higher

minimum wage would have in Idaho, specifically on the agriculture industry. He argued that raising the wage for Idaho agriculture workers would have a more negative impact here than in larger, urban states. I agree and support business tax credits for family farm operations, not large corporations. Protecting the small business owners and farmers protects low wage earners, which is a key component to increasing the minimum wage.

Fortunately, the House passed the minimum wage hike, and so has the Senate, with amendments. I can't speak on behalf of the congressman and I can't say what his true motivations are for voting against the bill. I find it hard to believe that the congressman truly doesn't believe in Congress' authority to regulate commerce, since it's written into the Constitution. If he disputes Congress' authority to regulate the minimum wage through the Commerce Clause, does he also believe that Congress cannot regulate workplace conditions through the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970? It's also hard to understand why he wouldn't work to protect Idaho business owners while helping millions of Americans and thousands of Idahoans work toward a better life. The House and Senate need to reconcile the differences between their two bills and produce legislation that helps Americans.

Travis Shofner is the vice president of the Associated Students of the University of Idaho

Children trapped in the bubbles

The educational system has been under attack for as long as can be remembered. What is right for children to learn and whether they're learning or not doesn't seem to be as great a debate as prayer in school anymore, which raises the question: Do adults need a refresher course in education?

In the State of the Union address, President Bush said that No Child Left Behind was working. Anyone with a child in the public school system should be enlightened enough to disagree. All this act does is teach children how to regurgitate standardized information.

Schools should be where children realize their career aspirations and can make decisions based off of their career goals. No Child Left Behind puts restrictions on what teachers can teach. Teachers become teachers because they want to make a difference, not be the same.

No Child Left Behind is set to expire in less than a year and revision proposals were made Tuesday. One revision to the dying act would be to put a greater emphasis on teaching students science. Not every child will need to master the basics of chemistry, biology, geology, etc., to make it in the outside world. Then again, Bush needs someone to get him to Mars.

History is another subject in school that needs to be given an educational overhaul. All societies learn from the past mistakes marked in history, but we can't be expected to focus on dates prior to 1500 B.C. There is so much history, much of our own, that is never covered in high schools.

There should first come a strong attention to national history and the way our own democracy shaped the course of our progression as a civilization. We can stop to appreciate the Greeks afterward. Major issues affecting us today revolve around the last century, including two world wars, the Vietnam War, civil rights cases around every corner and a slew more either not mentioned or still left unlearned.

No Child Left Behind puts an emphasis on tests to mark a student's level of achievement. Using tests to evaluate students makes for a new level of insecurity. Shouldn't knowledge be the greatest reward, regardless of what a test is supposed to prove?

One proposal is to give schools credit for students who demonstrate they will reach proficiency in 3 years. Now, educators will be using students as academic currency for improving their schools.

Not every student can be expected to do this at the cur-

rent rate schools teach. Educators can, however, suggest that their lesser No Child livestock simply move to another flock. In particular, alternative schools. They might not make it when everyone else does, but they will get there eventually.

The sad truth for all the patriotically jaded is the government shouldn't have such a strong say in education. Politicians rarely communicate with children regularly enough to understand how their minds work, and some have proven to be bad parents. Think of the Bush Twins.

If we expect the job of teaching the generation of tomorrow to be administered by teachers, they should be the ones deciding the prescribed criteria for learning. It's the same with any occupation. Would people trust a politician over a farmer when it comes to growing crops? No. Then why can't we allow teachers to find the methods that work best for their students?

When thought about it accurately, teachers likely spend more time with their students than their parents. That is a matter of choice, usually. Adults have been spared No Child Left Behind and are taking advantage of it by working more fulfilling jobs than some may in the future. Some may have to put their ambitions on hold until they can figure out the sequence of multiple choice bubbles that averages success.



Brandon Macz
Staff writer
arg_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

Think the Argonaut's too liberal?

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MAILBOX

from page 7

person's knowledge of hip-hop culture probably extends about as far as whatever MTV shows them. Those music videos, along with shows like "Yo Mamma" and "Pimp My Ride," aren't exactly the best cultural education tools, so it really presents a one-sided face to the public.

I will probably be blown off as just another product of "cultural hegemony," a sad product of white society and incapable of my own independent thought, but I think there is more important news to be concerned with. They're drunken college kids with poor taste. "Best and brightest" isn't exactly what I would use to describe what I sometimes see on weekends anyways...

Dylan Ford
senior, virtual
technology and design

Mues not accurate about bus riders

The Daily News article on

the UI Fireside Chat (2/14) quotes Vice President Lloyd Mues saying "he couldn't justify using funds from the UI's general budget to pay for something that had UI students among the lowest percentage of riders."

That statement is patently false. Mues continues to make it in the face of data collected as riders board that shows UI students are the SINGLE LARGEST group of riders: Oct 06- UI students 34 percent; Nov 06- 32 percent; Dec 06- only 25 percent (WSU staff 32 percent) and Jan 07- 29 percent (tied with WSU staff) (<http://groups.google.com/group/SaveTheBus/files>).

Mues has repeatedly made statements like "The groups that use the service, like students, faculty and area residents, need to find an alternative funding stream," to suggest that somehow area residents are major riders of the service and are freeloading. Again the data are consistent; per-ride accounts for 2-3 percent of Wheatland rides. The UI registrar's office

provided a list of courses in the UI catalog described as "WSU CO-OP" that UI students could register for during the 06-07 academic year. There are 172 courses, 194 offerings. 45 percent of these courses are 500-level, 26 percent are 400-level. Courses taught by WSU for UI include: Food Science and Toxicology (FST), 24 courses; Plant Science (PLSC) 15; Chinese (CHIN) 10; Philosophy (PHIL) 10; Statistics (STAT) 10; Civil Engineering (CE) 9; Russian (RUSS) 9; Geology (GEOL) 8.

The questions your reporter should be asking are: Can UI sustain the loss of current students if access to these courses becomes impractical? How would the cost of teaching these 194 courses at UI compare to the \$100K for the bus? How much indirect costs from grant activities can be attributed to these close collaborations between UI and WSU?

Nils Peterson
Moscow



AD. & JE.

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Percussion 101: Intro to a jazzy beat

By Michael Howell
Argonaut

With the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival coming up next week, the University of Idaho campus is preparing for the visit to Moscow by some of the world's premiere jazz musicians.

But how many people truly know how to appreciate jazz?

As part of the University Interdisciplinary Colloquium series, UI percussion and musical theory professor Dan Bukvich will be letting people experience the role that drums and percussion play in "Beat It."

"What we want to do is to make sure that people are able to understand the role that drummers and percussionists play in jazz music," Bukvich said.

This isn't the first time that a colloquium like this has been given. In fact, it is a traditional event around the festival.

Michael O'Rourke, professor of philosophy and organizer of the colloquium series, said that Bukvich enjoys presenting around this time in order to make the festival audience members more knowledgeable.

"In the past, he has done series about what a person

should listen for during jazz concerts," he said. "It's always been on the more instrumental side."

O'Rourke said the University Interdisciplinary Colloquium has always been based on the passions of the professors giving the lecture.

"There are about twelve different colloquiums a semester," he said. "The point of these series has always been to allow the experts to give lectures on their passions. Dan's passion has always been percussion."

Things are going to be a little different this time for people attending this year's colloquium.

"This year," Bukvich said, "we are going to take the audience from the Administration Building, bus them out to where the drum sets are being set up for Jazz Fest and let them get a feel for the importance of drums."

Along with discussing the different parts and types of drums, audience members will also be allowed to use the drums.

"We're hoping to let people use the drums," he said.

"There might be people in the audience who haven't had the chance to beat on a drum. I think if they get a chance to feel the way a drummer feels, they might find a new appreciation for a drummer."

The idea came to Bukvich thanks to

past lectures.

"It rose from audience members at previous lectures," he said. "They always seemed to ask questions about the workings of drums. That's what made me realize that this year we could take it outside the box."

Bukvich said that the festival is the best time to give his talks for many different reasons. This year, with his lecture being a completely different format, the timing is even better.

"Jazz Fest is the best time of the

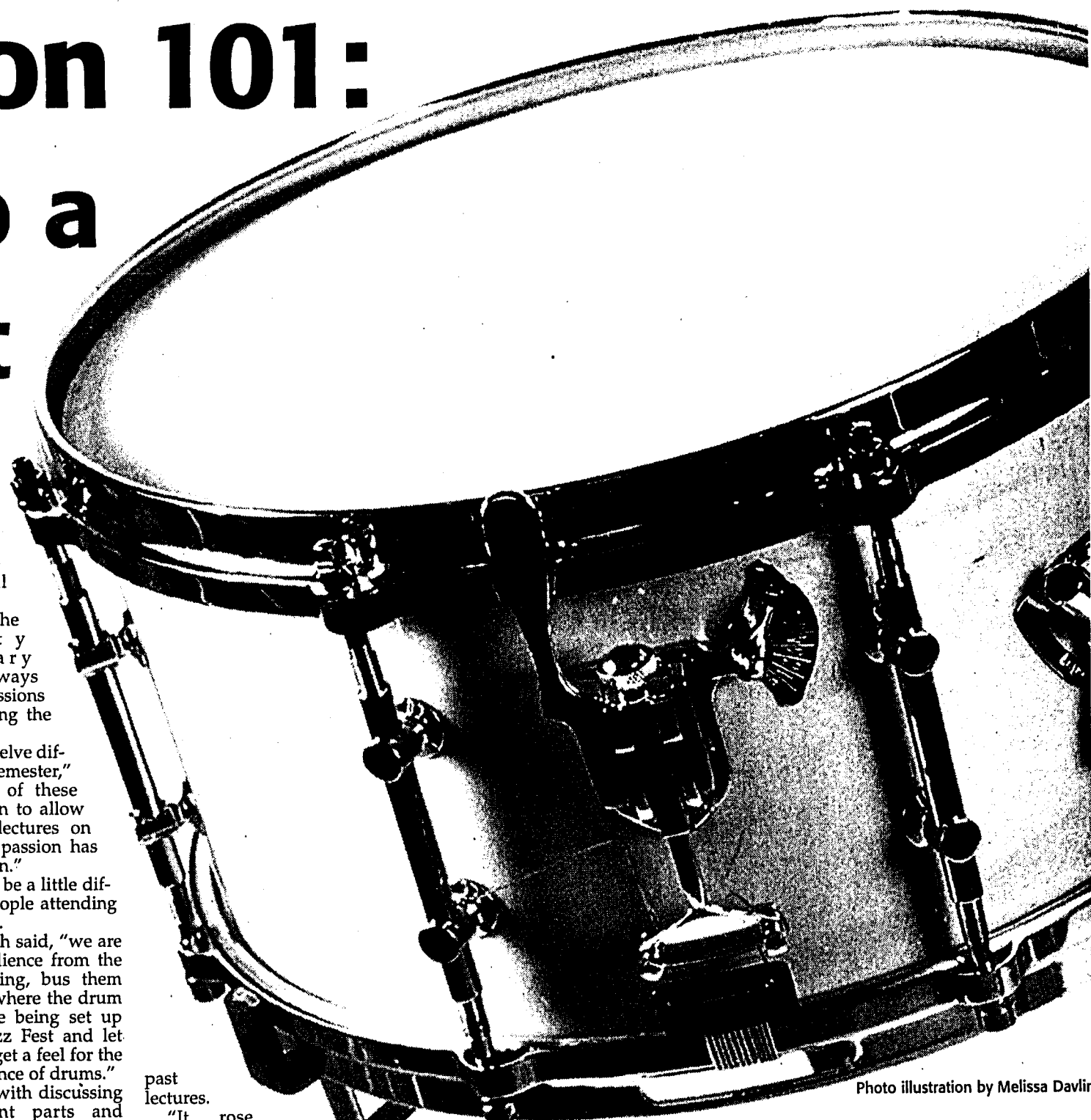


Photo illustration by Melissa Davlin

get the BEAT

The University Interdisciplinary Colloquium is a series of lectures by University of Idaho faculty and staff. "Beat It" is an innovative look at rhythm, percussion and the nature of music. It takes place at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday in the University Auditorium.

Horror's new King

By T.J. Tranchell
Argonaut

There is a tradition of literary ghost stories going back to the early days of the novel. Books by Henry James, Thomas Hardy and Daphne Du Maurier have all reached out beyond the pale of the gothic horror to become classics. Even "Wuthering Heights" is, at its core, a ghost story.

"Heart-Shaped Box," the first novel by Joe Hill doesn't quite reach that level but it is very close.

The novel follows Jude Coyne, a 54-year-old heavy metal singer and his young goth girlfriend, Georgia, as they drive from upstate New York to Florida in an attempt to escape a ghost that Jude bought.

How does one buy a ghost, you ask? As Jude's assistant Danny says early in the book, "You can find anything on eBay."

Jude, in his eccentricity, has other weird items even before his new purchase takes place: a trepanned skull that he uses for a pencil holder, occultist Aleister Crowley's childhood chess set and a snuff film given to him by a police officer. So how could he resist buying a ghost? More precisely, he purchases the suit the deceased man wanted to be buried in from the man's stepdaughter.

Early on it is revealed that the sale was a set-up and no one else was meant to even have a chance to buy the haunted suit.

Hill is very adept at the business of a ghost story, making it seem completely possible for this to happen. The ghost is one of the most well-written in recent horror, without any of the Hollywood trappings that have infected horror literature since Koji Suzuki's "The Ring." Hill's ghost is not a dark-haired, pale woman-girl with a grudge. The grudge, the whole reason ghosts are

said to exist anyway, is there and the twists Hill uses to explain his ghosts are among the most believable and realistic since the old Victorian tales of things going bump in the night.

Hill's living characters — Jude, Georgia and the people behind the ghost — are equally fleshed out.

They are flawed people, with moments of heart-breaking humanity and gut-wrenching animalism. Their flaws make you sympathize with them in a way that "perfect" people just can't do.

There are other flaws, but this is a debut novel. Describing Jude's eyebrows as "arching like Jack Nicholson's," while giving a clear picture, sounds like something someone still learning his craft would write. This is Hill's main weakness: trying to find the quickest way to a character's physical description

by comparing them to other people. It is fun once, like with the Nicholson line, but Hill uses this shortcut a few too many times, and it gets old quick.

When Hill lets the characters speak and act of their own accord, without him having to tell us what they look like doing it, the prose shines.

It also gets as bloody and disturbing as one would expect from a young writer who has already won a couple Bram Stoker Awards for his short fiction. The first award came last year for his novella "Best New Horror." One of the writers he beat in that category was Stephen King.

It is one thing to beat the man almost single-handedly responsible for the popularity of one's chosen genre. It is another thing to beat your dad.

Yes, Joe Hill's full name is Joe Hill King, son of Stephen King.

If Hill keeps writing books like "Heart-Shaped Box," Daddy won't be the No. 1 boogeyman in that family for very much longer.



"Heart-Shaped Box"

★★★★ (of 5)
Joe Hill
Available now

Slowing down with New York rockers Speed of Life

see the SHOW

The show is at 8 p.m. today at John's Alley. There is a \$4 cover at the door. For more on Speed of Life, go to www.speedoflife.com or www.myspace.com/speedoflife

By Brandon Macz
Argonaut

Students running through the tedium of school, jobs and responsibility are getting a chance to slow down with Speed of Life.

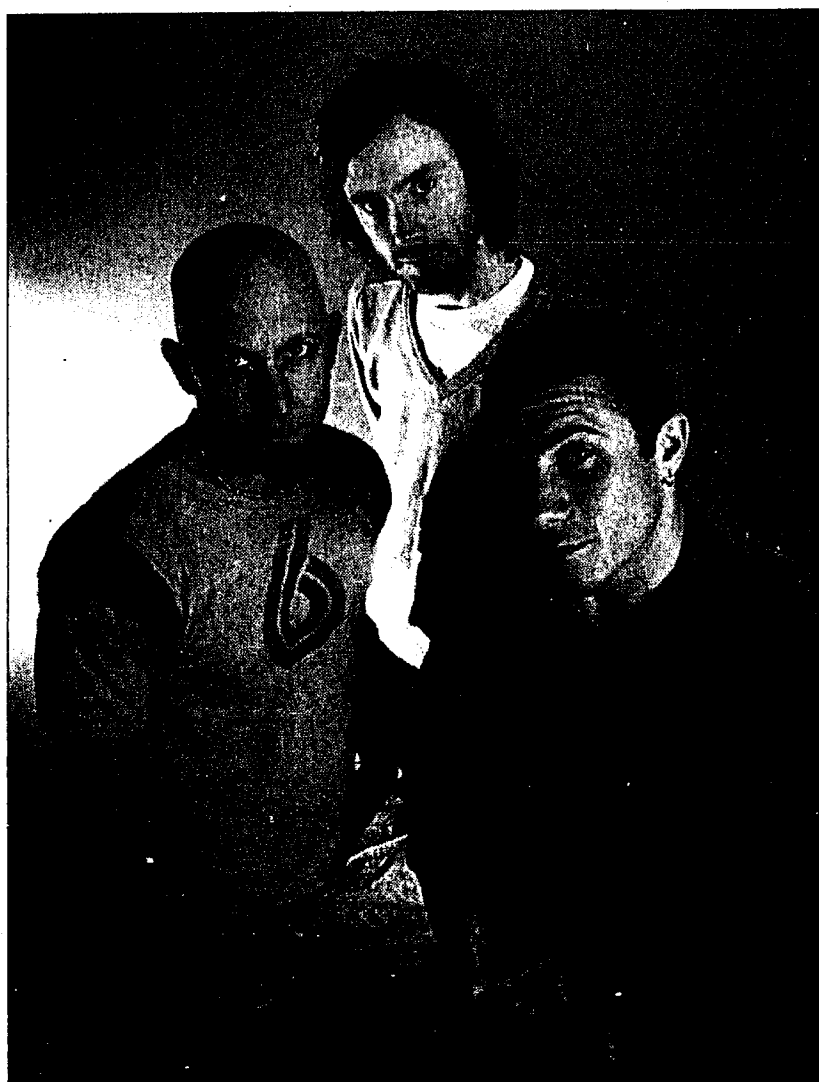
The Brooklyn-based quartet blends genres from rock to reggae to make a musical style that is both personal and spiritually enlightening for lead singer and songwriter John Zay, who will join his band at 8 p.m. today at John's Alley.

Zay started Speed of Life in 2001 during a vibrant drum and bass scene in New York, he said. At the start, he was aiming for a merger of electronic drums and bass with a rock beat accompaniment. After six years, the band's second album, "Catalyst," has expanded its musical borders, Zay said.

"Almost every song has a different feel," he said. "The genre-fiction has gotten broader."

The band's newest album title comes with a two-fold meaning in a personal and global sense. When Zay was at a wedding in Mujeres, Mexico, he met an Argentinian wedding photographer and fell in love. Their careers and distance led to an eventual break-up, but Jay said it was a catalyst for change in his life.

"It really opened up my heart to everything," Zay said. "The record was halfway done, the group was at a standstill."



Courtesy photo

Speed of Life will play at 8 p.m. today at John's Alley. Dan Policar is not pictured.

Zay returned to Brooklyn with an ambition to combine personal experience with a global message to put Speed of Life on the music world map, Zay said.

"My lyrics are generally a reflection of my life. I feel like this is a very spiritual time in our world,"

he said. Lyrical topics include Zay's journey as a musician, friendships and sometimes political fervor. The song "Separation of Church and State," he said, is a reflection on the

See SPEED, page 8

ArtsBRIEFS

Culture Shock dance to aid disaster relief

Culture Shock, a campus event featuring music from around the world will be held from 7-9 p.m. Feb. 26 in the SUB Ballroom. The event is hosted by Students for Humanitarian Aid. All proceeds from the event will be used to help make 1,000 hygiene kits to be distributed internationally. Kits will contain items such as toothpaste, soap, towels and other basic necessities. Culture Shock is open to everyone and tickets can be purchased at the door for \$2. For more information, contact Students for Humanitarian Aid at humanaid@stuorgs.uidaho.edu.

Folklore society sponsors community arts

Ever wanted to learn how to play the penny whistle? Saturday is your chance. The Palouse Folklore Society is holding a community arts workshop, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Russell School. The event will feature free music, dance and art workshops. In addition to penny whistle lessons, there will be Irish fiddle and bluegrass workshops, plus plenty of music jams and dancing. Children must be accompanied by an adult. If that isn't enough for you, join the society at 8 p.m. in the 1912 Building for contra dancing. Instruction begins at 7:30 p.m. Music will be provided by Potatohead.

Check out the Palouse Folklore Society at www.palousefolklore.org.

Book your booth for the Moscow Renaissance Fair

Applications for booths at this year's Moscow Renaissance Fair are now available. Space is limited to 20 food booths and 135 artisan vendor booths. The fair will be held May 5-6 at the East City Park. The Renaissance Fair maintains a high standard for booths, so each application goes through a juried screening process. Only original work designed and crafted by the artisan may be sold and there are special distinctions made for crafts and services. Food vendors must be non-commercial and non-profit and only the most creative and distinct booths will be chosen for the limited spots. For booth guidelines and applications, visit www.moscowrenfair.org.

Get jazzed up for volunteering at Jazz Fest

Volunteers are needed for the 2007 Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival February 21-24. The festival is looking for students and community members to get involved in the biggest event of the year. Volunteers greet guests, announce groups, host student performances and drive VIPs, all while earning concert tickets and prizes. This year's line up includes Jane Monheit, John Pizzarelli, Roy Hargrove and Roberta Gambarini among others. This year's festival will thank Dr. Lynn "Doc" Skinner for his

31 years of direction, and welcome new Artistic Director, John Clayton. For more information or to sign-up to volunteer, please visit www.jazz.uidaho.edu, call 885-0115, or visit the Jazz Festival office in the Student Union Building.

Weekend music at Bucer's and John's Alley

Dance hall reggae, R&B, rock, blues and jazz all come together in the music of Rising Lion, playing at 10 p.m. tonight at John's Alley. The performance is part of Rising Lion's Conscious Harmony Music Tour, which has included stops throughout the country. The tour is in support of the newly-released "American Dread" EP, to be followed by Rising Lion's third full-length album due out in July. Rising Lion has previously toured with Santana, Ziggy Marley, Lauren Hill and Burning Spear. A \$4 cover will be charged at the door. Meanwhile, Bucer's Coffeehouse and Pub has a weekend full of music. From 8:30-11 p.m. tonight, saxophone-based jazz group More In Jazz will perform. For those looking to extend their Valentine's Day over the weekend, Brian Gill takes the Bucer's stage for his second performance of the week from 8-11 p.m. Saturday. According to Paula Greenfield, Gill is "likely to know your favorites as he sings and plays more songs that most anyone we've had here at Bucer's!"

SPEED from page 7

last election and Republicans jumping on the Christian Right soapbox. Another political stance Zay takes is the environmental crisis around the world. An avid surfer, Zay frequents the waves in Costa Rica and noticed litter had become a problem there, as well. "It's a shame that we are doing this stuff, destroying our habitat," he said. Zay also had an opportunity to be a production assistant for "An Inconvenient Truth" while Al Gore was filming in New York and was able to meet the former vice president. "He was very laid back," Zay said. "He was reading The Onion when I met him and laughing about it." Zay was born and raised in New York. Drummer Andrew Frawley is from Boston, keyboardist Dan Polcar is from Seattle and bassist Taylor BC is from Venice Beach where The Doors got their start. "He's the laid back one of the group," Zay said.

He said while the other members of the band have projects of their own, this is the only one where they don't have to get paid all the time because they make a contribution and have creative freedom. The other reason is they're good friends who love music, Zay said. "We know each other's girlfriends, when we have them. We've met their families on occasion," Zay said. For their Conscious Harmony Tour, Speed of Life will share the bill with the Reggae band "Rising Lion." The benefit of a long tour, according to Zay, who has been on tour since early January, is that it gives them a chance to play frequently. "Speed of Life" got its name from the David Bowie song "Low," which Zay said he was a big fan of for a long time. The name implies that sometimes life goes really fast and people sometimes lose control, and then it can be slow and go nowhere for a while. "It's kind of hinting at the allusion that time doesn't exist," he said. "I think sometimes when you slow yourself down, you're really going faster."

Hispanic beauty queens rival soccer stars

By Tal Abbady South Florida Sun-Sentinel

With her stiff wave and glittery crown, Miss America is, for many women, a relic of bygone times. But in parts of Latin America, beauty pageants present rare opportunities for fame and fortune. In countries such as Venezuela and the Dominican Republic, they draw television viewers with the same national fervor as the World Cup. Wearing leopard-print pumps, black shorts and a black halter top, Andreina Elias-Ellington wants a piece of that glory. The 6-foot Boca Raton, Fla., resident hopes her looks, long-legged strut and choreographed femininity will win her a spot in a new televised beauty pageant for Hispanic-American women to be directed by Osmel Sousa, director of Miss Venezuela and Latin America's most revered beauty coach. The event will recruit women nationally and be broadcast from Miami as a reality TV show. Elias-Ellington, born in Venezuela, is among a group of pre-selected contestants working with Weston, Fla., talent agent Katty Pulido. True to Sousa's reputation in the pageant world, the women will undergo grueling training and be required to reach plastic-surgery perfection. Just to meet with Sousa, who will determine the final list of contestants, Elias-Ellington plans to undergo surgery to narrow the tip of her nose. "Mr. Sousa is very recognized in my country, so I have some anxiety. But it's also an honor. From the time I was little, my whole family gathered around the TV set to watch Miss Venezuela," said Elias-Ellington, 21, before a training session with Pulido. She studies biomedical engineering at Florida International University in Miami and lives with her family in Boca Raton, Fla. Sousa's event is still in its planning phase, Pulido and

others said. He has partnered with the Univision television network in Miami to broadcast the contestants' months-long preparation in successive episodes, but a start date has not yet been set. The contestants must be United States residents between 16 and 26 years old and of Hispanic origin, including Latin American-born women who live in the United States. Talent agents like Pulido are trolling restaurants, malls or any other place where an unsuspecting Sousa-worthy beauty queen might be passing through. Pulido discovered Elias-Ellington while the young woman accompanied her mother to get a haircut. "These girls come to me disheveled, wearing flip-flops," Pulido said, of her Pygmalion-like effect. "I prepare them before they get to Osmel. I teach them how to dress, how to make themselves up. I also teach them how to be confident." The pageant, she said, "is a springboard for a career in television or entertainment, and a chance to meet with a sage." A number of Latin America's television personalities, including Chile's Cecilia Bolocco and Venezuela's Alicia Machado, are former Miss Universes whose crowns won them pop-icon devotion and lucrative careers back home. Sousa, under whose direction Venezuela has won four Miss Universe and five Miss World titles, has godfather-like status in the pageant industry. Pulido and others say this event will bear his signature. That means the women will live in a confined space, similar to Casa Miss Venezuela, the Caracas training academy that churns out Venezuela's beauty queens. They'll undergo long hours of daily training, including modeling and dance classes, and follow strict diets. As he does with his beauty contestants in Venezuela, where pageants are a kind of national blood sport, Sousa will have the right to prescribe surgical retoques, or touchups, for contestants if they want to

make the final cut. "We call it the glaze and the oven," joked Pulido. "If it's necessary, you do it — you get your eyebrows lifted, you shave the end of your nose. If you're not OK with that, then you're not OK with cutting or dyeing your hair." Once local, high-society events similar to debutante balls and meant to introduce beautiful women to prospective husbands, Latin American beauty pageants have become televised blockbusters in the past 25 years. In some countries, they rake in millions in advertising spots and top the ratings chart. They also stir controversy. Pageant directors frown on Rubenesque physiques, once prized in Latino culture. Some national pageants have drawn criticism for excluding indigenous and black women from their shortlists, reflecting Latin America's own troubled racial history, and sending primarily white or light-skinned contestants to compete for the Miss Universe title. Once they win, the women become political pawns, critics add. "The 'Misses' in Latin America are used as tools for governments to sell a certain image to the world," said Muu Blanco, a Caracas-based artist. "In Venezuela, people have become obsessed with the aesthetics of their supposedly perfect Miss." Blanco submitted a series of hammers, meant to represent the way pageant contestants are melded together and then used as propaganda tools, for a 2000 art exhibition on beauty pageants called "90-60-90." The exhibit, named for the metric measurements of the so-called ideal female body, was held at the Jacobo Borges Museum in Caracas. With the growing influence of Latino pop-traditions, pageants have found a safe niche in the United States. "I can't believe pageants are still around, but the Latin American market is strong. Latinas look up to their beauty queens as role models and celebrities," said Acirema



Andreina Elias-Ellington gets ready for some hair spray from stylist Juan Calcano in Weston, Florida, on January 30, 2007, as Elias-Ellington preps for a pageant in Venezuela.

Alayeto, president of the Miami-based Miss Latin America Organization, which sponsors scholarship pageants for Hispanic women. Univision producers approached Alayeto to see if she would refer candidates for Sousa's new venture, but she refused, objecting to the "Barbie image" she said the project promoted. Despite the naysayers, the show goes on for aspiring Latina beauty queens. Plantation, Fla., teen Veronica Montes, who is also training with Pulido to be in Sousa's pageant, taped every Miss Universe contest when she was

growing up in Peru. She says she's ready to do what it takes for a spot in the pageant show. "I'm always weighing myself, measuring myself, trying to stand a little straighter. I

go to the mall in my high heels and I practice," said Montes, 18, a marketing student at Broward Community College. "This is a chance to use your beauty to get ahead."

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Track gets last chance before WAC

By Ryan Atkins
Argonaut

University of Idaho track and field coach Wayne Phipps is ready for the team's final weekend of action before the conference championships in Boise, but his major concern is the health of the team.

"We will probably end up with a couple of personal bests here and there, but we have done what we need to do so far this year," Phipps said. "So even though this is our big home meet, we're not taking any chances. We just want to come out of here healthy and feeling good for conference."

The University of Idaho track and field team has two home meets this weekend at the Kibbie Dome. The Vandal Indoor starts at 11 a.m. today, and the McDonald's Open begins at 9 a.m. Saturday. These are the Vandals' last meets, before the Western Athletic Conference Indoor Championships Feb. 23-24 in Boise.

"You know, we don't really need to do a whole lot this weekend, so hopefully we will just get out of this meet healthy," Phipps said. "We are trying a couple different people in a couple different events just to make sure we are going to enter them in the correct events for conference."

As for this weekend, hurdler Heather Bergland said she is excited to be at home with the opportunity to run in front of people she knows.

"This weekend, I really want to run well. I didn't really run well last weekend. I like running here a lot," Bergland said. "There is always people you know so that makes you run faster."

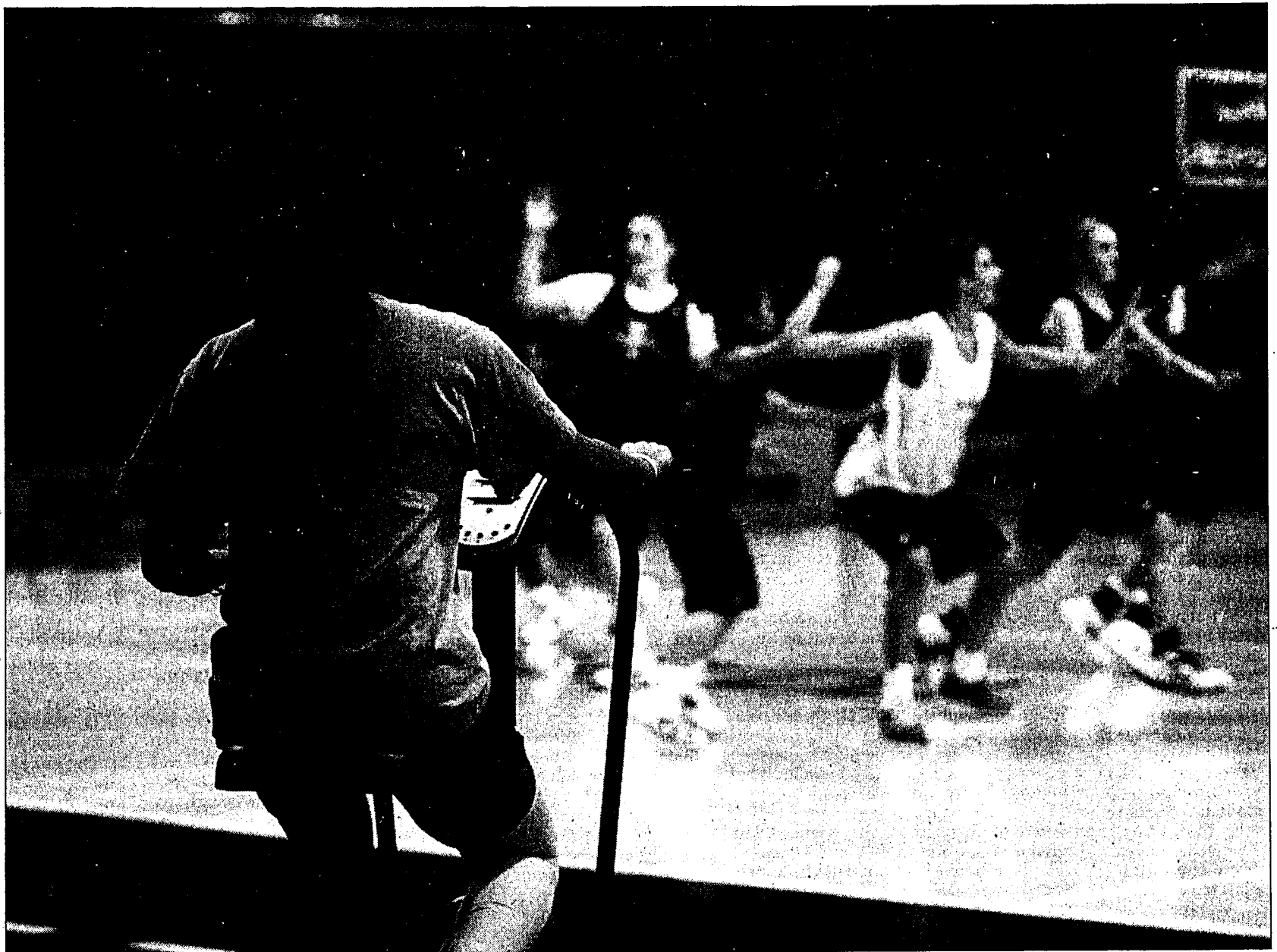
The Vandal men's team will enter the meets ranked 15th in the nation after moving up in the latest Trackwire.com rankings, released Tuesday.

UI's Russ Winger jumped to the top of the men's national shot put rankings and he moved into 10th in the weight throw. Junior Matt Wauters slipped one spot to sixth in the weight throw rankings.

On the women's side, Melinda Owen moved into seventh in the pole vault rankings.

"I'm always excited when we are nationally ranked," Phipps said. "To move up to the landmark of being in the top 15 is pretty exciting. It has increased recognition for our program, especially for Russ and Matt, and it's nice to see experts in track and field recognizing their performances, their accomplishments and their abilities."

Determined but plagued



Clifford Murphy/Argonaut

Tacey Westbrook exercises on a biking machine during a Tuesday Vandal women's basketball team practice. A senior on the basketball team, Westbrooks sits out due to a knee injury from the Jan. 24 basketball game against New Mexico State.

Tacey Westbrooks, a determined athlete, has suffered multiple injuries on the UI women's basketball team

By J.R. Conrow
Argonaut

From a young age, Tacey Westbrooks, a 5-foot-8 guard for the University of Idaho women's basketball team, has had one passion in life — to play basketball.

On Jan. 24, the Vandals played New Mexico State at the Cowan Spectrum and the women snapped a 10-game losing streak with an 83-74 win. The win was overshadowed by Westbrooks leaving the game as a result of injury.

"After I found out what the injury was I decided that this would be it to my playing days in Division I basket-

ball," Westbrooks says. "I tore my left ACL again and I realized, while I love basketball, I am looking to the future where I want to be able to enjoy my life."

Westbrooks says she still loves the game and wants to play, but the fear of more injury and surgery was not worth the risk.

"Hopefully if I can just find a way to stay active in my life, I'll be happy," Westbrooks says.

In her three years at UI, Westbrooks has been plagued by injuries. In her freshman year in 2003, in the first game of the season against Portland State she went for a layup, got fouled

and crashed to the floor.

"This was new to me because I had never been hurt before this," Westbrooks says. "I actually was not in a lot of pain, but something just didn't feel right. I was able to walk off the floor with help."

She says she did not know it was an ACL injury until visiting a doctor. Once she knew the injury, it was a "challenge to overcome."

Westbrooks says she worked hard to come back because it was her main focus. She was still part of the team but she missed stepping onto the court on game day.

When she returned her

sophomore year in 2004, she was considered a redshirt freshman due to the injury. Westbrooks says she played but in a limited fashion.

"As an athlete you want to be out there and when you return from an injury you feel like new," Westbrooks says. "Coach (Mike) Divilbiss probably was not comfortable with me out there, so my play was limited."

In the 2004 season, she played in 27 of Idaho's 30 games, started in five and averaged 13.6 minutes per game. As a defensive specialist, Westbrooks recorded 1.7 points and 0.9 rebounds per game. She was tied in second in the conference for highest assists in a game that season, with six versus Long Beach State in March 2005.

She also had a breakout game at the Big West Conference Championships tournament, scoring 11 points, including 3-of-4 from beyond the 3-point line. Westbrooks said that around the Big West Tournament time in 2005 Jessica Summers went down with an ACL injury and she was asked to go and fill in. She played in each game of the tournament.

At the beginning of her junior year, in 2005, Westbrooks suffered a torn meniscus in her left knee and was done for the season. "This injury was more painful and more difficult because I could not move much," Westbrooks says. "On top of that, the option I

See **TICEY**, page 12

Women's ice hockey stays strong at UI

By Andrea Miller
Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's hockey club was created five years ago and Rosanne Anderson has been a part of it since the beginning. She accumulated more than a decade of hockey experience while growing up in Minnesota, and had an immediate effect on the first-year team with her skills and talent.

"I had more experience playing hockey than the rest of the team combined," says Anderson, a WSU graduate student. Anderson says she shared her knowledge and experience with the club for five years as captain of the team and has now taken the reins as coach of the club.

"It's refreshing," Anderson says about her new position as coach. "It's nice to just show up and help build the team."

And that's exactly what she has done. The 11-member team has started this season 10-0-1. They have played teams throughout the area from Boise,

Missoula and Bozeman, Mont., and Wenatchee and Tri-Cities, Wash.

"They have been competitive games," junior Julie Edwards says. "We have the benefit of youth when we play."

Edwards, the club's vice-president and a 15-year veteran of the sport, says sometimes in tournaments the girls play league teams made up of women in an older age group. Edwards, a UI junior advertising major, says Portland has a talented team, which the club will face later this month.

Not all members have Edward's experience, but everyone works together on the team.

"About half on the team have experience and half don't," Edwards said. "Some we taught how to skate."

Strong skating is one advantage of this year's team, Anderson says. Skating is thought to be the toughest part of learning the game of hockey. Edwards says once a player can learn how to skate effectively, learning the positioning of the players in game isn't too difficult. Edwards relates hockey to

soccer in the positioning and line-ups. There are fewer people on the rink than on a soccer field, but Edwards, as well as a few others, have soccer experience and have found similarities in the two.

Gen Armstrong, the team's goalie, is one Edwards and the team had to help from day one. She walked onto the team not knowing how to skate or the position of goalie. Armstrong, a UI junior in family and consumer sciences, has now found her gift for the game and has contributed a lot to the team.

"She's really good," Edwards says. "She's done better in each game."

The team makes good use of its limited practice time on Moscow's ice rink, which is affected by the demands by numerous groups for time on the ice.

During practice, the team members run lines across the ice, practicing shooting, passing, power play drills and several different scrimmage exercises.

Anderson says she is pleased by the work ethic of the girls on her team.

"Everyone does really well," Anderson says. "I have fun helping strengthen the team."

Anderson mentioned Jo Scholkowsky, a UI freshman in chemical engineering, as an "unsung hero" on the team.

"She always works hard and well with the team and



Bruce Mann/Argonaut

First-year goalie Gen Armstrong blocks a shot from Holly Carlier at the Palouse Ice Rink on Monday evening as part of the University of Idaho women's hockey club.

gives her full effort," Anderson says of the forward.

Edwards says her favorite memory of hockey at UI so far was the rivalry game against WSU in December. She says they had a huge crowd that really got into the game.

"It pumps me up and my

adrenaline gets going," Edwards says. "It's fun having fans come and cheer us on."

The women's hockey club has several tournaments coming up. They are trying to set up a tournament in Moscow today through Sunday. Then the team will travel to McCall

to defend its title at the Chicks with Sticks tournament in early March. And in April the club will travel to Canada to play several experienced teams. Anderson says the Canadian teams are talented but UI hopes to give them a good run.

UW's troubles mount as odds dwindle

By Jerry Brewer
The Seattle Times

Lorenzo Romar sprinted the sideline, screaming, protesting. You could feel the importance. You could sense the desperation, too.

The Washington Huskies needed this one badly, needed it almost as much as Britney Spears needs guidance. Their runaway season has arrived at its most important week, and in the final minute Wednesday night, the Huskies stood one play from victory.

Romar thought he had it with 37.1 seconds remaining. He thought guard Justin Dentmon was fouled as he drove the lane and missed a layup. There was no call. The Washington coach roared.

It might have been the Huskies' best chance to steal this game. Instead, it was just

a frustrating moment in a 65-61 men's basketball loss to Washington State.

But here's the worst part: Now Washington has no more wiggle room.

Before this game, Romar acknowledged a loss basically would put his team in a vault with little air. Here they are now, trapped.

Despite playing good basketball for most of the game, the Huskies fell to 6-8 in the Pac-10. They have five games remaining, four against Top 25 foes. If they want to make the NCAA tournament for a third consecutive season, they probably need to win four of those games and maybe all five.

They'll be swimming with piranhas, hoping not to be snacked on for the remainder of the season. The next carnivorous creature: No. 7 Pittsburgh, a physical, disciplin-

ed and defensive-minded foe that figures to be a terrible matchup, especially on the road.

For all the Huskies have done to get back in the hunt, they are realizing how hard this climb is. They began conference games 1-6, but had won five of six entering Wednesday night.

Nevertheless, they still had an RPI rating of No. 75, according to college hoops guru Ken Pomeroy. That's about 35 spots from being able to feel good about your NCAA tournament chances.

Furthermore, Washington still lacks a signature victory. The Oregon win was nice, but it came with an asterisk because of Aaron Brooks' suspension. The Stanford win was solid, but not attention-grabbing. And that impressive December victory over Louisiana State doesn't

look good anymore because LSU fell apart.

The Huskies are only 2-5 versus top-50 RPI teams, and three of those five defeats (at UCLA, at Washington State and at Arizona) were flat-out embarrassing blowouts.

They must make up for those somehow. They must either win at Pittsburgh on Saturday or at Oregon the following Saturday. They have no choice. A true tournament team must beat somebody recognizable on the road.

The game came packed with the fresh oddity that the Huskies needed the Cougars. This week turned into a landmark moment for WSU after it received its highest ever national ranking (No. 10). UW should've been celebrating the achievement, too. The game gave the Huskies a chance to beat a top-10 team,

a shot at their elusive statement win.

It had all the elements of a great game. The road team played up to its reputation. The home team, up and down all season, played up to the level of its competition.

The game had flair (how about Cougars forward Ivory Clark's dunk over Jon Brockman?). It had a back-and-forth struggle, as nine lead changes showcased. It had unlikely heroes such as Cougars guard Taylor Rochestie, who scored 16 points, well above his 2.4 points a game.

It only lacked a good ending. The Huskies didn't score in the final 3:31 and missed several opportunities to tie or take the lead. The Cougars flirted with danger by committing turnovers late.

You kept waiting for the

dramatic play that would define the closing seconds of this game. It never happened.

So you were left with a coach, baffled. He wanted that call, that one call, so badly. It was the difference between bliss and disappointment, between breathing and suffocating.

The pressure is on the Huskies now. UW doesn't even have time to worry about how the Washington State fans turned Edmundson Pavilion into their house as the game ended. They changed their Cougar chants and revealed after completing a series sweep.

That's the least of the Huskies' problems, of course. And now, in the tightest of spots, they're about to experience the full force of danger.

Washington loses to Washington State at home

By Bob Condotta
The Seattle Times

They wore red — OK, crimson — a fitting color on Valentine's Day.

But the Washington State Cougars came bearing only daggers for the host University of Washington Huskies in the form of Ivory Clark dunks, Taylor Rochestie drives, Kyle Weaver dishes and Derrick Low darts.

And when it was over, the Cougars had not only broken UW's heart with a 65-61 win — their fourth straight over their archrivals — but might have stolen any chance the Huskies had of achieving their last real goal of the season — making the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

Washington's road to the NAAs now seems longer than a walk from Seattle to Pullman in mid-winter.

Instead, the 10th-ranked Cougars (22-4 overall, 11-3 Pac-10) passed yet another test in their improbable march to the Pac-10 title, moving closer to first-place UCLA (10-2 with games this week at Arizona State and Arizona).

The Cougars got the win by flashing some of their trademark defense, holding the Huskies scoreless for the last 3:31 of the game after Washington had cut the lead to 62-61. Washington missed seven shots in that span.

On three separate possessions, the Huskies missed chances to take the lead, the last one coming with 28.8 seconds left when Justin Dentmon drove and UW couldn't control the rebound.

Two free throws by Low with 16.7 seconds left put the Cougars ahead 64-61. Dentmon then missed a three-point attempt, and a Robbie Cowgill free throw provided the final margin with 7.3 seconds left.

Rochestie came off the bench to score a season-high 16 points for the Cougars, off-setting 22 points by UW center Spencer Hawes, who missed the first game between the teams on Jan. 20. Hawes' return made this one more competitive than that 75-47 rout.

But in the end, the Huskies were left with their second home loss of the season against 15 wins, a 16-9

overall record and a 6-8 Pac-10 mark that now seems to add up to the NIT.

Washington State led 40-32 at halftime, controlling the final 15 minutes of the half after the Huskies rode a wave of emotion to take an early 11-6 lead.

But after that wore off, the Cougars asserted their control in some of their usual ways (they had three blocked shots and six steals) and one unusual (they outrebounded the Huskies, 15-13). Washington had been outrebounded just twice previously all season, while WSU's style of play leaves the Cougars with fewer boards. They came in ranked ninth in the conference in rebounding margin.

Washington State, however, got to the loose balls and into better position and scored nine second-chance points on five offensive rebounds.

Washington led for the last time in the first half at 27-26 with 6:35 left. The Cougars then went on a 14-3 run to take command, Clark scoring eight points.

Washington State's biggest lead was 40-30 with 1:21 left in the half.

Clark and Rochestie led the Cougars with 10 points each in the first 20 minutes, the latter coming off the bench after Daven Harmeling picked up two fouls four minutes into the game. Rochestie's previous high as a Cougar was nine.

Hawes had 12 points in the first half, hitting 3 of 6 shots and 6 of 7 free throws, but also managed just one rebound.

The Huskies regained control of the boards to begin the second half, allowing them to creep closer. They cut the lead to three on three occasions midway through, then to one on a turnaround jumper by Hawes

with 8:10 left.

The Huskies outrebounded WSU 23-11 in the second half and 36-26 for the game.

They finally took their first lead since the 6:11 mark of the second half when Hawes backed down Clark for a layin with 5:32 left. But the Cougars immediately grabbed it back on a jumper by Harmeling 20 seconds later.

A Low three-pointer put WSU ahead 62-61 with 4:02 left, and Dentmon came right back with one of his own at the 3:31 mark.

The Huskies never scored again, however.

Washington State now holds its longest winning streak against Washington since a similar four-gamer from 1993 to 1995.

As the game ended, an unusually loud contingent of WSU fans chanted, "This is our state."

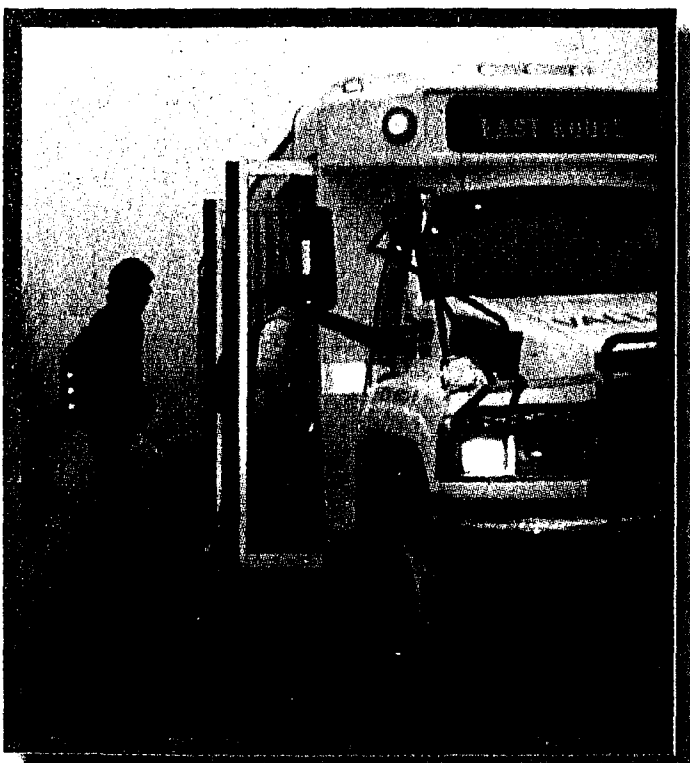
Just as was the case in the final 3:21, the Huskies had no reply.

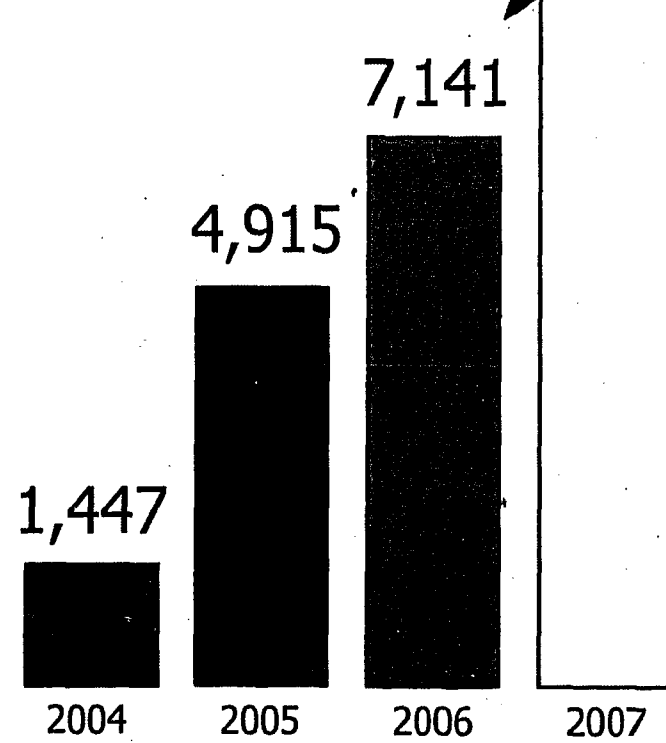
Next up, the Washington State Cougars play at 8 p.m. on Thursday at the University of Oregon. The Huskies play Pittsburgh at 8 p.m. on the road.

As the game ended, an unusually loud contingent of WSU fans chanted, "This is our state."


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