

SUMMER
ARG

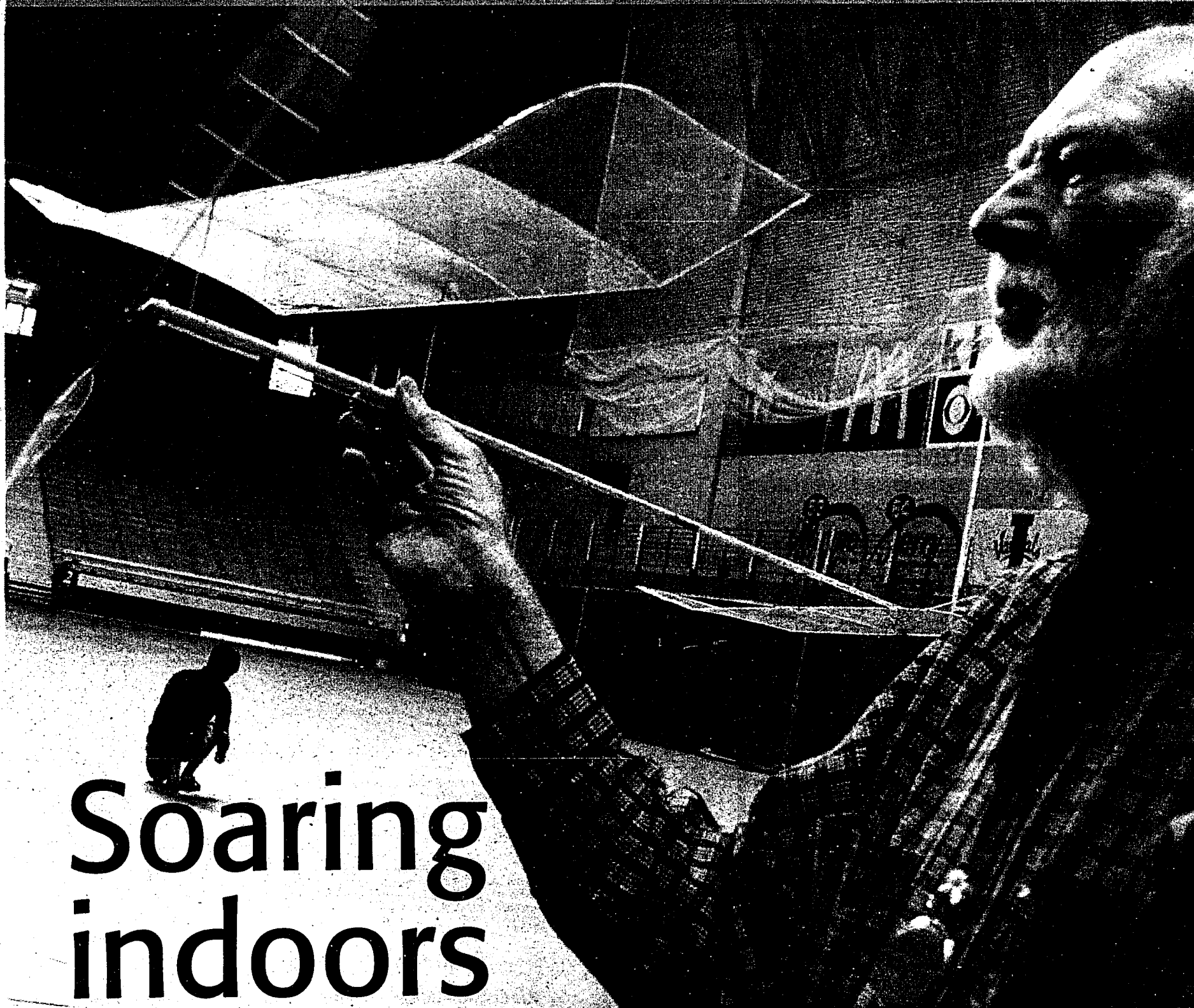
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**\$14,000 spent to say goodbye
to former UI president**

**Get bent into shape
with polymer clay**

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

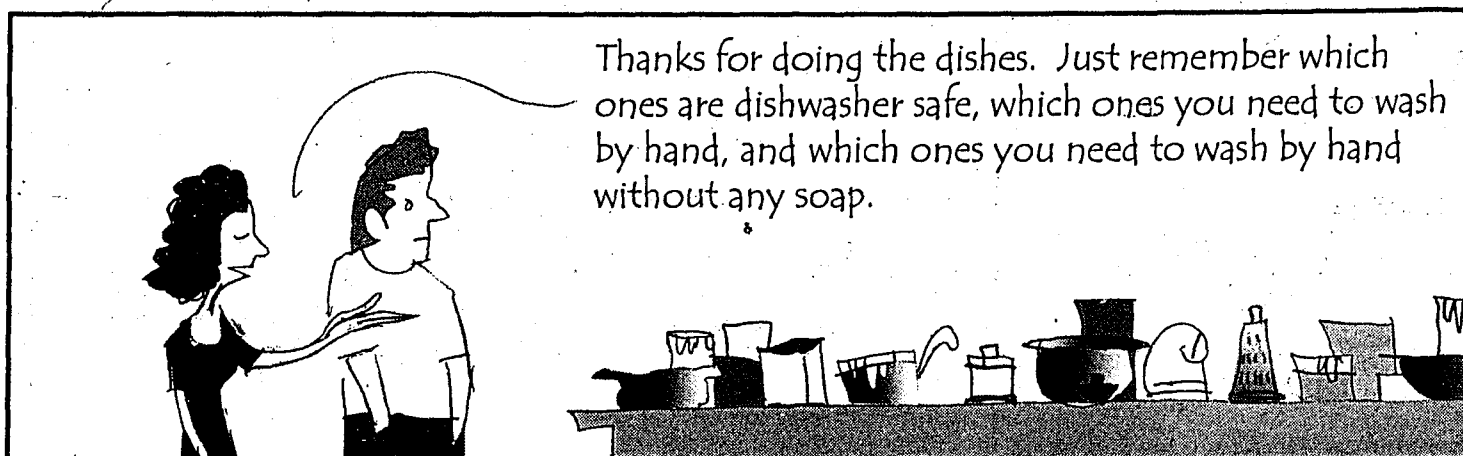
Volume 3 Edition 4



**Soaring
indoors**

People We Know

by K. Ray Johnson/Argonaut



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If you are interested in advertising in Summer Arg please contact advertising manager

Alexis Roizen at
885-7784
Monday-Friday
1-4 p.m.

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SRC Summer Hours	Climbing Wall	Outdoor Rental Center	Outdoor Program
Mon-Fri 6am-9pm	Mon-Fri 3:30-8pm	Mon-Fri 10am-4:30pm	Mon-Fri 9am-6pm
Sat-Sun noon-6pm	Sat 12pm-6pm	Sat-Sun CLOSED	Sat-Sun CLOSED
	Sun CLOSED		

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Summer Wellness Classes begin May 12th.

Classes open to the community, check schedule at www.uidaho.edu/wellness

Summer BBQ's

Tuesdays June 24 - July 29
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Campus Recreation Office

Office hours 7:30am - 4:30pm
Phone 208-885-6381

Web site - www.campusrec.uidaho.edu

Outdoor Program & Rental Center

If you don't have it, we do! Open in the summer for all your outdoor equipment needs.

Climbing Wall
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Adventure Bound Youth Program
Wednesdays June 18-August 13
Climbing, Hiking, Mt. Biking, Canoeing

Thursday Skills Clinics
Sailing, Sea & White Water Kayaking, Fly Casting

Trips
Kayaking, Climbing, Mountaineering, Backpacking

Summer Arg

Telephone Directory

Advertising	(208) 885-7794
Circulation	(208) 885-7825
Classified Advertising	(208) 885-7825
Fax	(208) 885-2222
Newsroom	(208) 885-7715
Photo Bureau	(208) 885-2219
Production Room	(208) 885-7784



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SPJ Mark of Excellence winner, 2005

Non-profit Identification Statement: The Argonaut, ISSN 0896-1409, is published twice weekly during the academic school year and is located at 301 Student Union, Moscow, ID 83844-4271.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the address listed above.



The Argonaut is printed on newsprint containing 24-40 percent post-consumer waste. Please recycle this newspaper after reading. For recycling information, call the Moscow Recycling Hotline at (208) 882-0590.

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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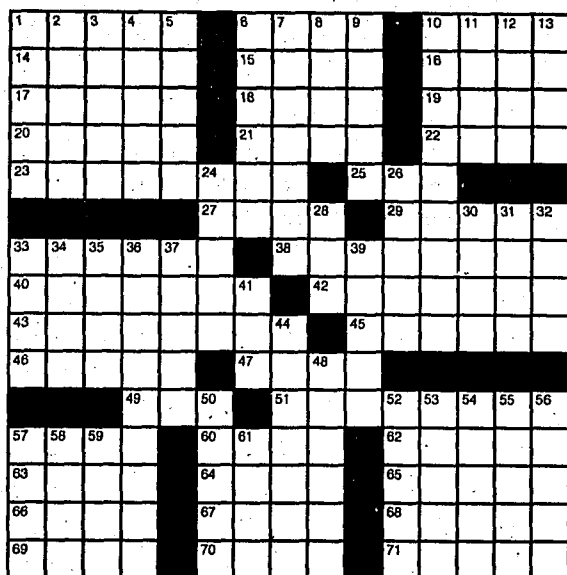
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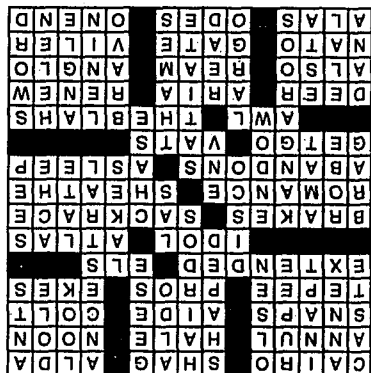
- ACROSS**
- Capital on the Nile
 - Uneven hairstyle
 - Alan of "M*A*S*H"
 - Render void
 - Patriot Nathan
 - Midday
 - Loses one's cool
 - Right-hand man
 - Young horse
 - Conical abode
 - Players for \$
 - Supplements, with "out"
 - Lengthened
 - Ernie of golf
 - Graven image
 - Cartographer's book
 - Slows down
 - Company picnic event
 - Love story
 - Put one's sword away
 - Forsakes
 - Napping
 - Square one
 - Fermenting tanks
 - Pointed tool
 - Couch potato's ailment
 - Bambi and kin
 - Opera song
 - Freshen up
 - In addition
 - Paper quantity
 - Saxon
 - Amer.-Eur. alliance
 - Slalom marker
 - Even more despicable
 - Unfortunately
 - Poetic tributes
 - In an upright position



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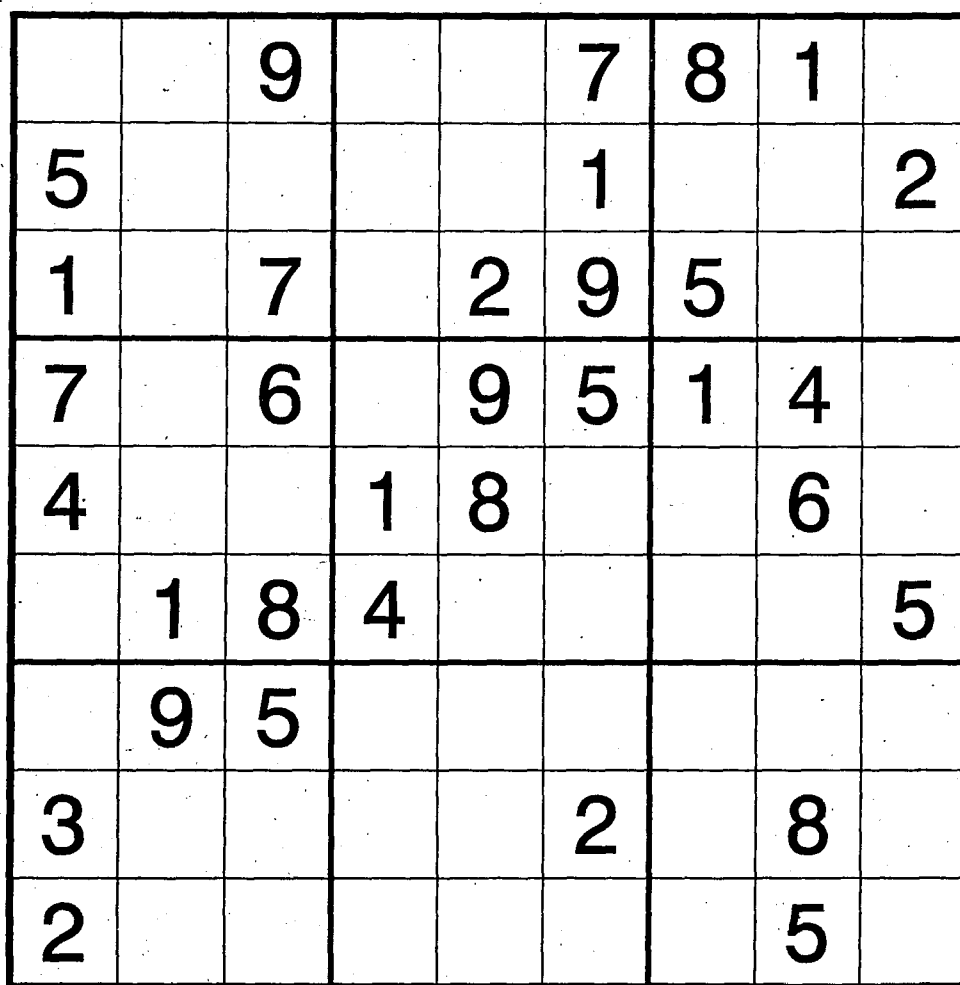
- DOWN**
- Hindu class
 - Add on
 - Not suitable
 - Money in Sri Lanka
 - Johnson's comedy partner

- Solutions**
- Formed
 - Afros, beehives, etc.
 - Ray of "God's Little Acre"
 - Filers in a skein
 - Longtime-honored
 - Appearance
 - Welfare, U.K.-style
 - Pismires
 - "Saturday Night Fever" dance
 - Huron and Superior
 - Head of Vegas?
 - After curfew
 - Muscle misery
 - Ooze
 - Toot one's own horn
 - Judge's attire
 - Latin 101 verb
 - Aussie jumpers
 - Fund a fellowship
 - Run after



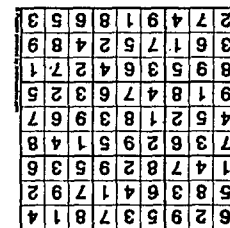
- Part of SASE
- Fill to the brim
- English river
- "Key _"
- Met cheer
- Top Bolshevik
- Point of view
- Actress Hayes
- Saber or rapier
- Comic Carvey
- Airline to Israel
- Como
- Usted?
- Enjoy a book

MONSTER SUDOKU



© Puzzles provided by sudokusolver.com

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.



Classifieds

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Please join us for an open house

Sunday, Aug. 24, noon - 4 p.m.

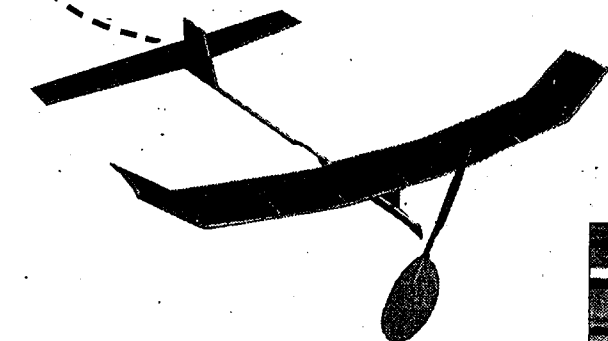
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Flying high in the friendly skies



Christina Lords
Summer Arg

Patience may be a virtue, but to Steve Brown, it's a necessity.

Brown, a participant in the Kibbie Dome Annual, has built competition indoor model airplanes for the last 25 years. This is at least his 20th visit to Moscow for the five-day indoor model airplane competition.

The contest began Sunday and will continue until Thursday.

As a three-time world champion and current world record holder, Brown said he has to be a little bit of a masochist.

"I like the idea of the nature of the technology and the nature of the material," Brown said. "I like to fly in the competition. It's challenging, but you have to have a very, very high tolerance for frustration."

The hand launched and catapult gliders used in the competition are almost all made from hand, Brown said. Each model is extremely lightweight and most scale in at 1 gram — the weight of one U.S. dollar.

The competition is held in a series of events based on different weights, sizes and classes of models.

Each flight is timed and is critically analyzed by the model maker. Depending on the type of model, flights can last from a few seconds to Brown's free flight world record of 1 hour, 1 second.

Andrew Tagliafico, the contest director for the Kibbie Dome Annual, said the dome is one of three buildings in the United States that can hold the competitions. The annual, a regional qualifying event, has been held in the Kibbie Dome every year since 1981. The world championships for indoor model airplaning are held every two years. Moscow hosted the world championships in 1996.

"It's the best building in the world," Tagliafico said. "Everybody who does this thinks so."

The dome is a clean, unobstructed environment for airplane enthusiasts to take advantage of, he said. The only drawback is the planes floating all 150 feet to the ceiling and getting caught in the rafters.

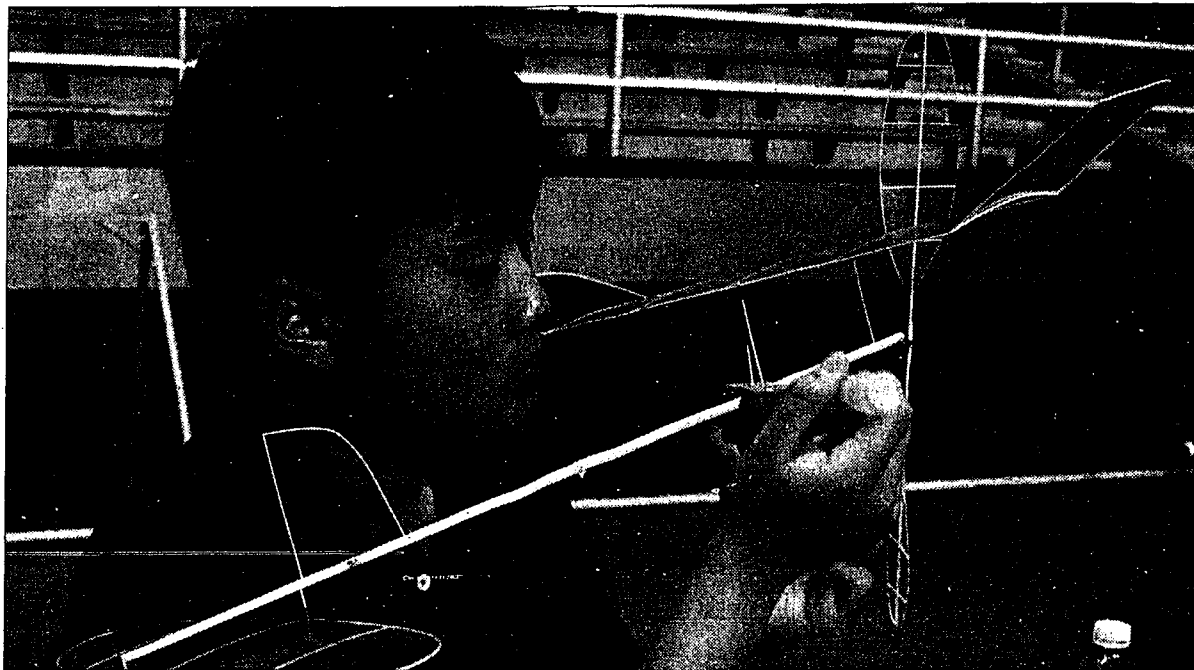
"We have days that nobody gets in trouble," Tagliafico said. "But other days several models get caught up there."

Kibbie Dome staff members can access the top of the building to push wayward planes down, and some long lost models have been found from years ago, he said. Large helium-filled balloons can also be used by competitors to avoid in-air collisions and prevent planes from becoming entangled in the rafters.

"We accumulate old models from over the years," he said.

Thirty competitors are signed up for this year's annual. Most travel long distances to reach the competition, including people from Indiana, California and Kansas,

Competitors travel far for annual indoor airplane contest



Jake Barber/Summer Arg
Tim Chang works on one of his model airplanes at the Kibbie Dome Annual, a model airplane show and competition, in the Kibbie Dome Tuesday. Chang will be part of a team travelling to Belgrade, Serbia to compete in August.

Tagliafico said. Competitors have also come from as far as Canada, Ireland and Australia in the past, he said.

Cezar Banks, a seven-time second place world champion from La Mesa, Calif., said he loves the "lure" of the hobby.

"It's an odd hobby, and we're odd people," Banks said. "At least it keeps us out of the saloons."

Banks and Brown agree that the technological aspect of the activity is what has kept them interested for decades.

Most individuals have common template categories that they adhere to, but each competitor has tweaked aspects of the model to create something all their own, Tagliafico said. Each plane can take 20 to 40 hours to build.

Each craftsman has their own table to set up and repair models throughout the competition.

"I enjoy the challenge at a high level," Brown said. "There's always a lot of things going on, and you make everything yourself."

Each plane is usually made from balsa wood — a soft, lightweight wood usually found in South

America. A thin, sheer film material is used for the wings and tail and glue similar to fingernail polish is used to hold the plane together.

The rubber-powered plane model is powered by a tightly wound rubber band attached to two hooks along the body of the plane. As the rubber unwinds, it moves the propellers and the plane flies up.

Environmental dynamics factor greatly into how successful each flight will be, Banks said. Even in a stable building such as the Kibbie Dome, air drafts, heat and outside weather can affect the planes.

Rising rental costs of the facility and reduced participation in the event because of high gas and travel prices may mean this is the last year for the competition, Tagliafico said.

"I just hope that we can continue to have this here," he said. "Everybody loves the place. ... The building is so large and we have such a relaxed format here. We have much more flying time."

The Kibbie Dome is open for the competition and for spectators from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**"It's an odd hobby, and we're odd people.
At least it keeps us out of the saloons."**

- Cezar Banks, Model airplane competitor

MUSINGS OF A CRAFT GEEK

The wonderful world of polymer clay

Meagan Robertson
Summer Arg

If you've never played around with polymer clay, you're seriously missing out. Almost like Play-Doh for big kids, polymer clay is great for making just about anything. I prefer to make charms with my clay. Where else would you find bacon and egg charms? From necklaces and pins to one-of-a-kind earrings and charm bracelets, anything can be made out of this wonder clay. For an easy starter, learn how to make a yummy little cupcake charm.

What you'll need:

Polymer clay

Any color or brand will do, but I stick to Sculpey and Fimo clays. They come in many different hues and if the right one can't be found, mix the clay together for a desired shade.

Toothpicks or a needle

For poking holes in the clay

A knife or other sharp cutting tool

A hard surface for rolling and flattening the clay

An oven

A baking sheet or oven-safe tray

Metal wire

For putting hooks in the clay, that way the charms can hang. To avoid the hassle of bending the fine wire, buy eye pins, or straight metal pins with the hoop already made. You'll only have to cut the straight part of the pin back if it's too long.

Metal "findings"

Metal "findings" are the clasps, hoops and other jewelry making necessities. I always have a little can full of all sorts of findings, that way I always have what I need when I need it.

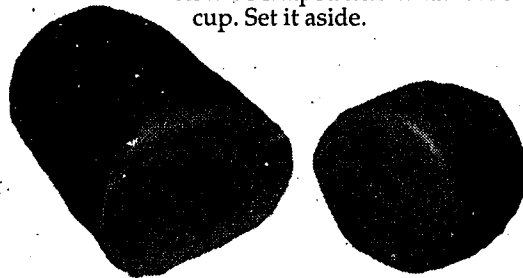
Acrylic paint (optional)

1. Prepare the clay

The clay doesn't just come out of the package soft and ready for rolling. Knead the clay until it is pliable and comfortable enough to work with. The entire package isn't needed, so just pinch off a decent chunk of the corner and start squishing it to get it ready. The final cupcake should be about the size of a nickel or a dime, so don't use excess clay.

2. Making the cup

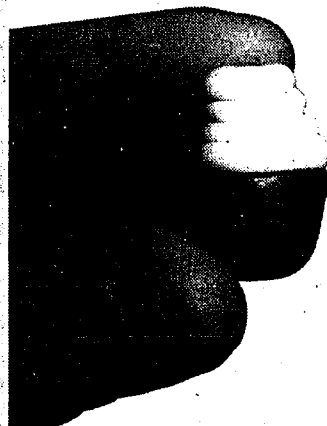
Start by rolling a ball about the size of a quarter. Once the ball is made, place it on a flat surface and roll it a little bit, making it into a more cylindrical shape. Don't make it too skinny, or very long. The goal here is to make a short, chubby tube. Once that is done, take a knife and chop the end off, making a cut about 1/4 inch into the roll. The clay should now be shaped into what looks like a cup. Set it aside.



3. Making the icing

Take a second color and make another ball, only this time roll it out into a nice, long roll. This one should be long and skinny, and if one is too long, cut the excess off. Once you have a roll, place one end on top of the edge of the cup made in step two. Slowly and carefully, run the icing roll around the top edge of the cup, spiraling upwards like you would when actually icing a cupcake. Make sure to press the clay firmly together, but not so hard that it loses its shape.

Once the desired icing height is reached, cut off the excess (if there is any) and finish off the icing spiral.

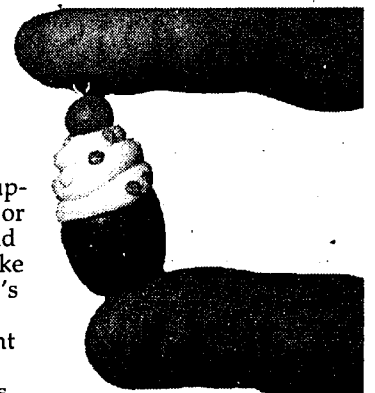


4. The final touches

Now that there is a cute little cupcake, just add the finishing touches. To make the cup part look more like an actual cupcake cup, carefully take a knife and make lines around the edge. You can also roll tiny balls of clay and place them along the icing, like sprinkles. This is the part to be really creative, so add whatever you'd like to the cupcake.

5. Adding the wire

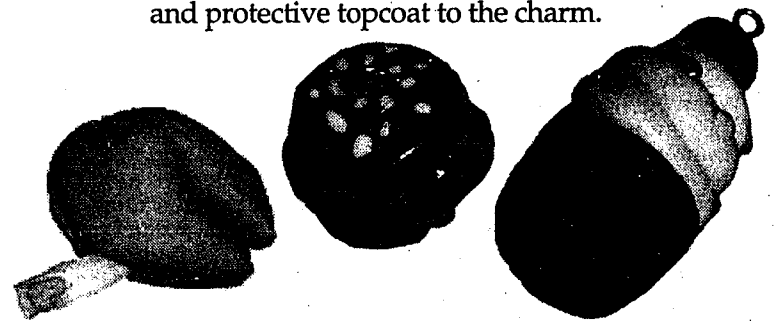
If you have an eye pin, cut it down to the appropriate length (you don't want the end to stick out the bottom) and slowly stick it into the middle of the top of the icing. If you're using wire, the process is the same, only you'll have to use some needle nose pliers and carefully bend the hoop. I'd recommend waiting until the clay has baked in the oven to do that.



6. Bake it

Place the finished cupcake on a baking sheet or other oven-safe tray and stick it in the oven. Make sure to refer to the clay's packaging for baking instructions, as different clays bake at different times and temperatures. Place it in the oven for the required time and when the time is up, the charm is done. Carefully remove the tray from the oven and set aside for a few minutes to cool.

Once the clay has been baked, the charm is good to go. If you used wire to make the hook, bend the hoop once the charm has cooled. Now you can hang your charm, or add findings to make earrings or other jewelry. One of the cool things about polymer clay is that it can also be painted, so if you didn't add sprinkles, or the color isn't what you wanted, you can paint those on as soon as it's hard from the baking. I like to paint little faces on mine. You can also purchase glaze, to add a shiny and protective topcoat to the charm.



California knows how to party

The University of Idaho parties harder than you, me or any other college student in town.

But it can't match Riverside. UI recently spent \$14,000 to throw a goodbye party for former President Tim White, who left UI June 30 to become chancellor at the University of California, Riverside.

Lloyd Mues, UI's vice president of Finance and Administration, told The Moscow-Pullman Daily News that the amount was "prudent." Faculty Council Chairman Don Crowley said, "The people who were upset about it probably just didn't go."

With most students out of town for the summer, there were probably a lot of people who didn't go or who didn't even know about the party.

To be fair, students weren't forced to

pay for this. The \$14,000 came from "unrestricted dollars," which are donations made to the university that do not specify how the funds should be used.

Still, one wonders whether these donors would have been so generous if they knew \$416 of those dollars went toward buying gifts for White and his family, including a crystal vase. The two largest individual expenses were \$3,700 for catering and \$5,000 for media production. Mues said most of this money was spent within the university, with less than \$6,000 spent out of town. Some of this outgoing money went to produce a video featuring tributes to White from Gov.

Butch Otter and other state officials. The remaining funds went toward decorations, set up and invitations.

The university spent nearly \$3,900 ear-

lier in the week for the catering and set up of White's tree-planting ceremony.

Students are living in a different world. My car cost less than White's party, and it's not a beater. That amount could pay tuition and fees at UI for three in-state students. To most of us, \$14,000 is a life-changing amount of money.

Spending money to say goodbye to White is a given. An outgoing university president deserves a formal farewell from the campus and community. But is a party for one individual worth as much — or more — as some full-time workers make in a year?

Again, we are living in a different world. White was president of UI for four years, less time than it takes many students to graduate with a bachelor's degree. His first-year salary at Riverside, \$325,000, will be about \$39,000 more than he was paid at UI last year. Riverside is also giving him \$25,000 to relocate,

an \$8,916 annual vehicle stipend and a university-provided home. To him, a man of no mortgage, \$14,000 is probably not a big deal.

If it were not a tacky and selfish move, making White pay for his own party would make a lot of sense. He can afford it.

This is the same guy who asked donors to give \$35 million to make luxury renovations to the Kibbie Dome.

I can see it now — Tim White and Dennis Erickson, living it up in one of those \$1.25-million box suites.

Couldn't the \$3,900 tree planting ceremony held earlier in the week have been part of the same evening of festivities? Those attending both functions would have saved travel time and fuel costs. Combining catering and media services might have saved some money.

Money that, in an economic recession, might not be replenished at the rate that UI has become accustomed to.



Holly Bowen
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RUNNING ON EMPTY

Not just 'playing house'

My mom visited me once and I forgot to tidy up before she arrived. She looked at me and said "Alexis, I can't see the floor of your room."

I hadn't done laundry for a few weeks. So what, right? Then she saw the kitchen and it turned out that I hadn't done the dishes for a few weeks either.

They were not impressed by my "adult" behavior.

But now I can finally remove the quotes — or at least one — and say I finally feel like I am becoming a grown-up.

Although living cheap definitely has its low points, I have made some progress, saved some money and used my free time in more mature ways.

For instance, instead of being too tired to cook dinner after a day of classes, work and eventual homework, I now come home, cook a delicious meal and, for the first time in my life, clean the dinner dishes as I use them.

When I go to bed I could eat off the counter, everything is so clean. Instead of having to wash a pan, a spatula, a plate and maybe a pot before I ever start to prepare, I can now go to my cupboards and everything is clean and neatly organized. I may use paper plates instead of

real ones to cut down on clean up, but that's just smart thinking on my part.

It is finally a nice feeling to walk into my apartment and not look like a tornado ran through it. I don't get many unannounced visitors, but if I did, now they would be greeted with a clean and friendly environment. My room may still have a few clothes on the floor, but that's my business, Mom.

Graduation is around the corner and my mom suggested for me to use the summer to research jobs and companies that I would like to work for. I took this idea one step further.

I started redesigning my entire resume and design portfolio. I have been surfing Monster.com like crazy every night and Googling every public relations and graphic design firm in the greater Denver area — my preferred location after I leave Moscow.

These are all things I would have to do anyway, and mostly likely I would do them the night before I intended to send them out. Instead of waiting until mid-October, when I actually need to start applying for jobs, I am making sure that a professional package is put

together before school starts.

But I wouldn't have thought about taking the time to do all this had I been down at the bar every night drinking a \$2.50 tub. I don't think I would have thought about anything but sleeping after a couple of them.

Up until this point in my life I didn't really use my resume. Every once in a while when I was applying for a job they would ask for one so I would have a basic one handy. Most of the time I was just required to fill out an application. I still had jobs on there from high school about bussing tables and cooking pizzas. I don't think my future employer wants to know that I can spin out an extra-large pizza crust.

The beauty of my summer situation is that I didn't have to find time at all. Hopefully that will mean that I can smoke every other person applying for the same positions.

This project sort of fell in my lap and I am certainly happy it did. Every time I open my resume, I feel a little better about myself. Not only am I doing something ahead of time, but also I really do have a lot of experience.

I think my parents would be proud knowing that I am keeping house instead of just "playing house" like I used to do when I was little. Drop by any time you like, but just don't ask to see my room.



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Local/BRIEFS

Food bank seeks canned donations

City of Moscow citizens are working together to collect canned food and other non-perishable items for local food banks. Donations will be collected on July 19 at the Farmers Market in Friendship Square.

The drive is being facilitated by St Vincent de Paul, the Jewish, Islamic and Christian Communities of the Palouse and the Latah County Human Rights Task Force.

For more information on the food drive, contact drive organizer Carla Kappler at 882-4168.

Hog Heaven Band plays Thursday

The Concert Series in the Park will showcase the Hog Heaven Band at 7 p.m. Thursday at East City Park in Moscow. The band features a full 40-plus piece band sound. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Moscow Arts Director Kathleen Burns at kburns@ci.moscow.id.us or call at 883-7036.

PCEI hosts volunteer day at Rose Creek

The Palouse-Clearwaater Environmental Institute will host a volunteer day at the Rose Creek Preserve in Albion, Wash. The day will consist of aspen restoration, trail maintenance and weed control. Volunteers will meet at the entrance of the preserve at

10 a.m. Saturday. Volunteers will need to wear work clothes and sturdy shoes.

Idaho state parks celebrate 100 years

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is celebrating 100 years of state parks in Idaho on Saturday. Use entrance is free and cake will be served at every Idaho State Park.

Events have been organized throughout the state park system, with the largest celebration taking place at Heyburn State Park located outside Plummer, Idaho.

The property now referred to as Heyburn state park was set aside officially as a state park in 1908 through the efforts of Sen. Weldon Heyburn.

Heyburn State Park is Idaho's first state park and the first state park in the Pacific Northwest.

LHSOM offers summer concert

The University of Idaho Arboretum Associates and the Lionel Hampton School of Music are presenting this summer's concert series at 7 p.m. Monday at the UI Arboretum and Botanical Gardens.

Parking is available along Nez Perce Drive across from the president's residence or at the Arboretum parking lot. Transportation for people with disabilities will be available from the parking areas to the concert. For more information, call Dick Naskali at 882-2633.

Confessions of a barista

"What kind of cookie would you like?" a mother asks her 3-year-old son. "They have triple chocolate chunk, white chocolate macadamia nut toffee," she continues, squeezing the sides of his face between her thumb and index finger to get his attention, "snickerdoodle and oatmeal cranberry raisin."

The pompous parent takes her son's head and very lovingly turns it toward the plate of sweets behind a glass partition. I stood behind the register forcing a close-lipped smirk, waiting patiently for little junior to make, obviously, the most important decision of his life.

"Honey, listen to Mommy," she tells him, looking at me with embarrassment shining through. "Do you want chocolate? Chocolate? Choc-o-laaaaat?"

Here I am, wasting away another summer as a barista, serving the masses of sleep-deprived tourists. Each year I tell myself that I won't do this again, that I simply won't put up with bratty children crying because they can't have a cappuccino or ornery elderlies that make me pick through the pile of change in their hands to find exactly 34 cents.

A 10-year-old elitist was babbling away at lightning speed while Mother Dearest attempted to talk over her to order a drink.

"Do you want something here or should I drive you through Starbucks on the way home for a frappuccino?" Mother asked, interrupting her daughter's interruptions. The tween queen wandered away, so Mother ordered for her a 16-ounce blended drink. With extra chocolate. And topped with whipped cream. With chocolate on the whipped cream.

While I was dressing the elaborate dessert-in-a-cup, the little girl was shoving a magazine in her mother's face with — you guessed it — heartthrob Hannah Montana on the cover.

Someone, anyone, get me a

stiff drink.

"Mommy, I want my hair just like hers," she demanded, "but a little shorter and more straight."

Mommy told her of course we can do that, my darling, it would look very nice. And then we'll buy you that Prada handbag you've been just positively smitten on for weeks.

OK, so that last part was a bit fabricated. But I'm sure it'll be just a few short years before the little monster is all over high fashion.

Believe me, if there was a gravy train to ride, I would be first in line for a ticket. Until that day comes, I will need to earn my keep by slaving away

at my demeaning, less-than-ideal workplace.

After all, there are a few bars within stumbling distance of the LLC that I'll need to save some bucks for.

"Linda," as we'll call her, and her nameless husband whom she has never introduced, come calling at least three times a week, asking for large mochas with twice the espresso shots and half the "mocha."

I wonder, do they honestly know what they're asking for? That's barely any chocolate with six whole shots of strong, caffeinated coffee; they may as well grab a tourniquet, slap their forearms and let me inject them in a dark alley. Hopefully they'll know better than to share needles.

The kicker — everyone has his or her own method of making Linda's drinks, yet she claims it's "perfect as always" and "just what they needed" every time. Further proof that they do not know what they're talking about.

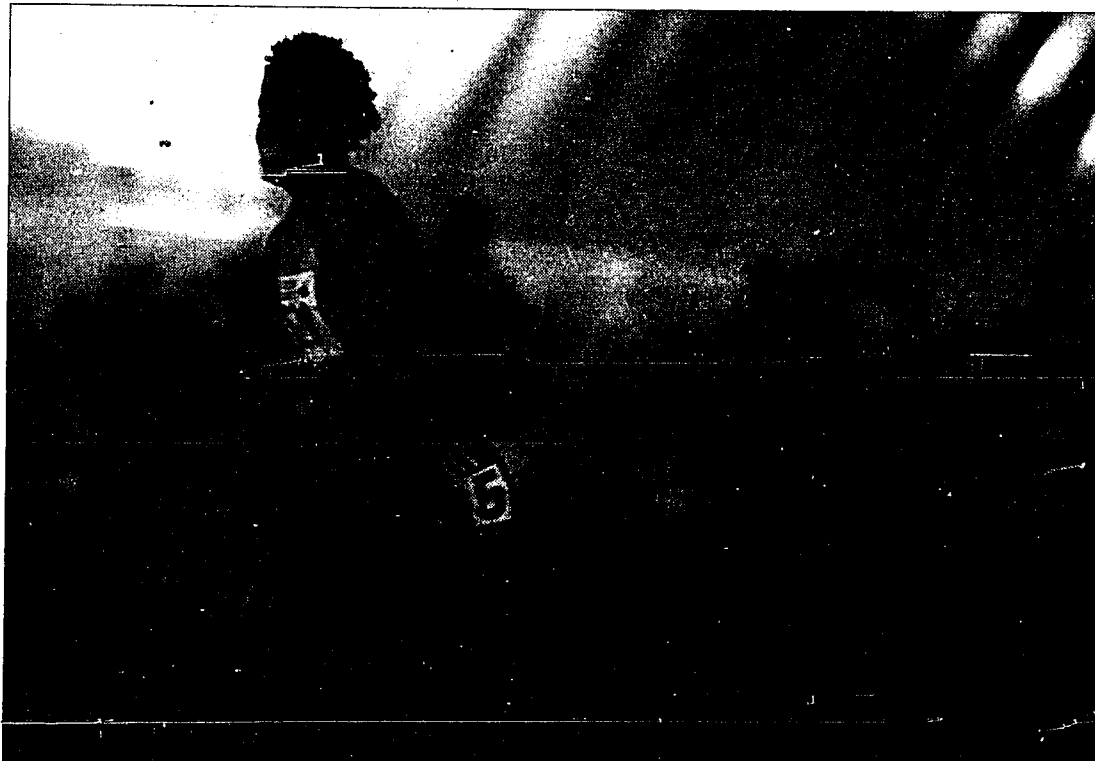
In order to survive the remainder of summer, I must remain positive; I've been striving for a could-be-worse attitude. For instance, I could be a fuzzy puppy euthanizer or work in a sweatshop making Mary Kate and Ashley clothes exclusively for Wal-Mart.

Hell, I could be in school.



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RUNNING FOR GOLD



File photo
Angela Whyte, a 2003 University of Idaho graduate and current assistant track coach, made the Canadian Olympic team. She finished second in the 100 meter hurdles at the Canadian trials with a time of 12.96 seconds. She placed sixth in the 100 hurdles four years ago at the Athens games.

Look up in the sky, it's Will Smith being a jerk

T.J. Tranchell
Summer Arg

Will Smith is this decade's Harrison Ford.

The box office gold that Ford guaranteed during the '80s — and Tom Cruise in the '90s — has become the property of Smith. Not just anyone gets to open a film over the Independence Day week and not every film given that slot succeeds.

Then there are movies that are "guaranteed gold" that look like they might fizzle like a five-year-old's sparkler.

Enter "Hancock." On the surface, it's a superhero movie and stays true to many of the roots of its predecessors. Hancock, the lone man with his unique abilities must find his way in a troubled world while being troubled himself.

The drunk, belligerent Hancock of the opening scenes is not the superhero one has come to expect from Hollywood — to comics readers, it will seem more familiar as the comics world learned it had to delve deeper into the psyches of its hero 25 years ago.

Smith plays the tortured Hancock with a subtle comedic glow that lets the audience know he is having fun being a jerk.

It is a shame that the story line is destined to strip Hancock down to a one-dimensional stereotype just when things get interesting.

All is not lost. Let's have another round of applause for "Arrested Development." Without

that TV show, we may have lost Jason Bateman forever. While his characters — be it in "Juno," "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium" or "Hancock" — all seem like the same accountant who grew up watching British comedies, Bateman manages to bring a certain heart to the films he is in. While he may never be a leading man, he has become the reigning king of subtle humor in Hollywood.



"Hancock"
★★★★ (of 5)
Will Smith
Now playing

Rounding out the leads is Charlize Theron who must have needed a paycheck. She is wasted in this film and while the plot twist craves a powerful actress, one of her talents is not needed and instead serves as a distraction. One goes through the film expecting more from her and when it happens, it doesn't feel right.

Thankfully, her screen time is limited and doesn't get in the way enough to ruin an otherwise enjoyable film. Director Peter Berg ("The Rundown," "Friday Night Lights") keeps the focus on Hancock and lets Smith be Smith.

It's a wise choice, considering how good Smith can be — "Independence Day," "Ali," "The Pursuit of Happyness" — and how bad he can be — "Wild Wild West," 2007's "I Am Legend."

Speaking of "I Am Legend," Smith needed a film like "Hancock" to make up for that sad sack of a sci-fi/horror movie.

It's too bad Hancock can't go back in time and save Smith from making it.

DIARY OF A FANTASY GEEK

It's the All-Star Game, not the most-deserving game

The Major League Baseball All-Star Game actually matters.

"This one counts" is the slogan MLB uses. What's at stake in this game is homefield advantage during the World Series.

Homefield advantage is crucial. So why is it we let the outcome of what should be an "exhibition" game decide such an important factor?

Shouldn't a game with this much at stake include the most deserving players?

I think so, but it never seems to happen. For example, the Tampa Bay Rays have the best record in baseball, but did not have a player elected to start the game, and have just two representatives in all.

It's anything but fair. It's politics and the teams in bigger markets will always lead in votes. The Red Sox had four players voted into the starting lineup and seven players overall in the game. The Cubs had three voted in and seven players on the National League roster, more than any other team. The Yankees could end up with four players in the game, despite hovering around .500.

Baseball's All-Star Game forms each league's starting lineup by fan voting. Nevermind the word "fan" because there are hundreds of thousand of people that vote who have no idea which players are deserving.

They simply vote for their favorite players. That would be alright if this was truly an exhibition game.

This formula usually translates into several players being unjustifiably selected by way of fan voting each season.

My nephew Kevin feels voters should have to pass an online baseball exam in order to cast a vote — only the educated pick the starters. Sorry for throwing you under the bus, Kevin.

I don't exactly agree, it's almost absurd to ask fans to pass a test before voting.

One group that may agree with my nephew would be the current players.

A month ago Sports Illustrated released the results of a poll done by current MLB players and one question SI asked was to name, in their opinion, the most overrated player. By a landslide, Derek Jeter was voted by his peers as being baseball's most overrated. It's no surprise that Jeter will be starting in this year's summer classic.

I wish fans voted for the most deserving players rather than their favorites. It's a popularity contest and nothing more.

It's on par with the junior high cafeteria. Remember the "cool kids" table? I'm sure Jeter does.

I like Jeter and being that the game will be in Yankee Stadium, he should be on the team despite mediocre statistics. Jeter's number this year: .282 BA, 4 HR, 36 RBI. Hardly All-Star numbers.

His backup in this game, Michael Young, should be starting. Young's num-

bers: .292 BA, 7 HR, 46 RBI.

Young tops Jeter in every major statistical category and made the team only by votes from his peers and coaches.

Thankfully, players and coaches vote for the reserve players in the All-Star Game.

The game is right around the corner — Tuesday to be exact. This season's mid-summer classic should also be one to remember. The game will be played at Yankee Stadium — its final season.

In case you haven't heard, the Yankees will be moving into basically the nicest ballpark ever created next season. Yep, they will leave behind years of memories, championships and history unmatched by any other professional franchise in this country — all sports included.

One of the most exciting moments will be guest appearances from past legends. Pretty much every living baseball hall of famer will be there in what should be the greatest spectacle of living legends the game has ever produced.

I'm not exactly a Yankee fan. However, I can't help but respect and admire the traditions they've built. I'm going to miss Yankee Stadium. I'm sure most fans will. Babe Ruth played there. Hence the phrase "the house that Ruth built."

Despite what my nephew might think, the All-Star Game is about the fans. If the fans want to see their favorite players,

then that's what will happen. Then again — why are they playing for homefield advantage?

Most fans probably couldn't name four players on the Rays roster. Why would the common fan want to watch an All-Star Game with players they've never heard of.

At the same time, the only way casual fans will learn who the up-and-coming stars are is if they can see them on the grandest stage. If the game actually "counts", then why aren't the best players selected to start?

I'm sure the hardcore geeks that play fantasy baseball and follow every team would like to see the players with the best stats participate. The casual fans want to see the most well-known, popular players.

I have no problems with this game being about the fans, just don't put anything on the line. If you're going to play for homefield advantage, maybe baseball should tweak the system and let more deserving players help the cause.

Why should a player on the Royals, Mariners or Nationals have anything to do with who hosts the World Series?

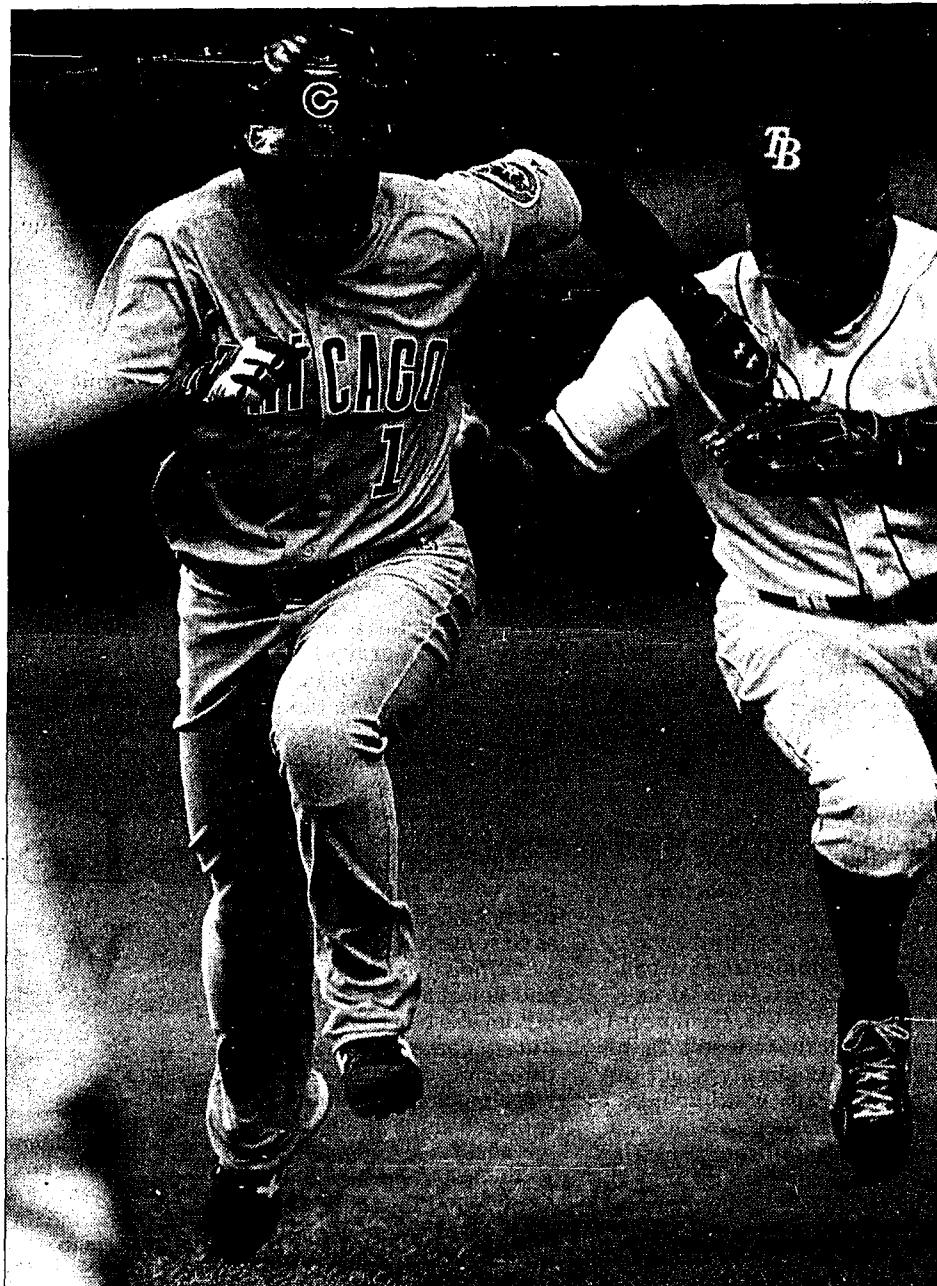
With the players and coaches deciding the reserves, hopefully the fantasy geeks and casual fans can get what they want.

Listen to the Johnny Ballgame Show on KUOI 89.3 FM or www.kuoi.org Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.



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Why should a player on the Royals, Mariners or Nationals have anything to do with who hosts the World Series?



Chicago Cubs' Kosuke Fukudome, of Japan, left, is caught in a rundown while trying to steal second base by Tampa Bay Rays second baseman Akinori Iwamura, of Japan, during the third inning of a baseball game June 19 in St. Petersburg, Fla.

watch all WEEK

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- DHL All-Star FanFest

July 13

- Taco Bell All-Star Sunday featuring:
 - XM All-Star Futures Game
 - Taco Bell All-Star Legends
 - Celebrity Softball Game

July 14

- Gatorade All-Star Workout Day featuring:
 - MLB All-Star Batting Practice
 - State Farm Home Run Derby

July 15

- MLB All-Star Game Red Carpet
- 79th MLB All-Star Game

REDNECK SUMMER

NASCAR pit crew of the year

Credit for dominant performances in NASCAR is usually given to drivers. Jeff Gordon's 13 wins in 1998 are always "Jeff Gordon's 13 wins" not the "No. 24 car's 13 wins with Ray Evernham as crew chief." Drivers win the series, not the crew.

Get ready for a paradigm shift.

One car with one crew has won nine NASCAR Nationwide Series races of the 19 raced in the 2008 season. The Joe Gibbs Racing No. 20 is on pace to win 17 races.

Four different drivers have combined for those wins. Of those four drivers — Tony Stewart, Denny Hamlin, Kyle Busch and Joey Logano — none has a chance at winning the series championship. Rules are rules.

There is an owners' championship every year and the majority of owners' champions also win the drivers' title. With the way the 20 car is running, the difference between the two championships should have people looking at how this could happen.

Following the Camping World RV

Sales 200, Clint Bowyer led the Nationwide standings by 182 points. Kyle Busch — who has also won Nationwide races this season in the 18 and 32 cars — is seventh, 386 points behind Bowyer.



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The owners' standing after the same race had the 20 car 173 points ahead of Bowyer's No. 2 car, which is owned by Richard Childress. Halfway through the 2008 season, the No. 20 car has nine wins, 12 top five finishes and 14 top 10 finishes. The results for the 2 car are: one, eight and 16.

The last two Nationwide seasons have been two of the best ever for drivers. Kevin Harvick and Carl Edwards won the 2006 and 2007 championships in such commanding fashions that each could have skipped multiple races and still won the series title. Crew chief Dave Rogers and the rest of his team won't be missing any races.

Having multiple drivers available gives the team a certain edge — an edge that precludes them from winning the drivers' championship — but if they weren't dialing that car in right every

week, it wouldn't matter. The Gibbs stable aren't slouches. Even 18-year-old Logano has won a pole, finished in the top five and won a race in the 20. Without the crew building the engines, picking the gears, jumping the wall race after race and Rogers talking his drivers through every turn, the 20 would be just another car with a few good finishes.

Go to a track — any track, be it a dirt track in Ely, Nev., or Daytona — and the first people a great driver will thank is the crew. A good driver will thank himself.

The good driver and the bad driver will also blame the crew if something goes wrong. The great driver takes the blame first.

Great and good drivers aside, the 2008 Nationwide season belongs to Rogers and the rest of the 20 car's crew.

Now, I'm not saying you could put anybody in the car and it would win. Me, for example. Or a host of other Nationwide drivers. There are even some drivers in the Sprint Cup series that would drive Rogers' best set-up into the wall.

Rogers deserves special honors for the performance he has gotten from the car, the drivers and the crew. It takes a

special person to deal with the diverse personalities of the men who have driven his car to victory lane this season without a major problem.

Barring any such problems, the 20 should continue to win right up to the final race of the season. The only question will be who will get the winner's circle celebration shower.

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series

7-12 LifeLock.com 400 Chicagoland Speedway TNT 6:30 p.m.

7-27 Allstate 400 at The Brickyard Indianapolis Motor Speedway ESPN 1 p.m.

8-3 Pennsylvania 500 Pocono Raceway ESPN 1 p.m.

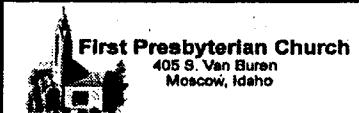
NASCAR Nationwide Series

7-11 Dollar General 300 powered by Coca-Cola Chicagoland Speedway ESPN 7:30 p.m.

7-19 Missouri-Illinois Dodge Dealers 250 Gateway International Raceway (St. Louis) ESPN2 9 p.m.

7-26 Kroger 200 O'Reilly Raceway Park (Indianapolis) ESPN 7:30 p.m.

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Keep cool and take a swim lesson

Corrine Schmidt
Special to Summer Arg

The lifeguards at the University of Idaho Swim Center are keeping cool this summer by offering swim lessons and keeping people safe.

Dan Lawson, the center's aquatic director, said working at the center is a good job opportunity for students.

"The idea is to employ students at the University of Idaho to teach," Lawson said. "So although I'm responsible for them and can teach them, my objective is to give the students a chance to earn money and gain experience."

The summer Swim Center staff consists of approximately eight lifeguards and eight swim lesson instructors. Water safety instructors who have been certified as such through the Red Cross teach the swim lessons.

To Lawson, certain qualities make a person a good aquatic worker.

"You have to be responsible, reliable, (have) good skills, good lifeguarding skills, honesty and (be) a team player," he said

One of those team players is Kats Tekeno. The recent graduate of UI is a lifeguard and the swim center's athletic trainer, and works with the other lifeguards to stay in shape for the job.

"We swim a lot because we have to rescue somebody if something happens, so we keep swimming and we do some in-service training once every two weeks," Tekeno said. "We swim and then we do some skill development so we practice rescuing (like an) underwater rescue, or underwater backboard for a spine injury."

When it comes to the job of a lifeguard, safety is the biggest concern. Whether it's informing the facility's maintenance department of small accidents or jumping into the



Jake Barber/Argonaut
Lifeguards Mary Skidmore, left, and Megan Grubb stand watch at the University of Idaho Swim Center on Monday.

water to keep a person from drowning, keeping patrons at the facility safe is the top goal of a lifeguard.

To prepare for the day, Megan Grubb, another lifeguard on staff, makes sure that everything is in place before swimmers arrive.

"A typical day at work ... (is we) get here, change, usually have to put lane lines in, take lane lines out, get everything ready for the day," Grubb said. "(I) make sure all the guard stands have their tubes, get my water bottle out there, just get everything ready for the day, (and) get the clock running."

Despite the routine aspect of the job, both Grubb and Tekeno have been challenged on the job in different ways.

"Sometimes we need to maintain the safety of this area

but there are customers as well so I try not to tell them to 'do this,'" Tekeno said. "I try to tell them as politely as possible."

Grubb, who has been a lifeguard for three years, found herself particularly challenged in the certification process for becoming a lifeguard.

"You have to pick up a five-pound brick from a 14-and-a-half foot pool," Grubb said. "And that was my biggest challenge, getting down there and getting the brick up."

Although there are challenges, Tekeno and Grubb enjoy their jobs.

"Personally, I like swimming," Tekeno said. "I like to work with physically active people so that's always good to be a lifeguard or athletic trainer."

Grubb enjoys the work environment as a lifeguard.

"The people you work with are fun," Grubb said. "It's a great environment and you get to keep up with certifications, the first aides, so you have that sense that if there is a problem. You know how to help and it's a great way to keep in shape."

Available for open and lap swim sessions, the pool also stays busy through their summer swim lessons. They are available to any age group ranging from parent-toddler classes to those for adults.

"We do two, five-week sessions in the summer semester," Lawson said.

The facility is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until July 18 when the facility will close until Aug. 25 for annual maintenance.

For more information, visit the Swim Center's Web site at www.uidaho.edu/swimcenter call at 885-7518.

Editor's note: Schmidt is a high school participant of Scripps Howard, a journalism workshop put on by the School of Journalism and Mass Media.

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July 9, 15, 24 at 6:00 pm
UI Kiva Theatre.

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"One of the funniest plays ever written!"

Mild-mannered architect, Willum Cubbert is getting ready for his 34th birthday party, when he gets a call from Rick Stedman, the man who saved his life in the Gulf War. Although the two have never met face to face, Willum has written to Rick over the years, and has always expressed his undying gratitude and his willingness to do "anything" for Rick to pay him back. But when Rick - an oafish, inept ... "NERD" shows up and becomes the nightmare guest that never leaves, Willum will do almost ANYTHING to get rid of him! (Rated PG)

UI Hartung Theatre July 12, 18, 24, 26, 29 at 7:30 pm & July 20 at 2:00 pm

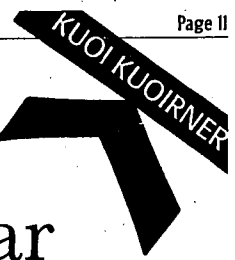
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Sharing personal stories and performing songs such as; "Three Coins in the Fountain"; "Sixteen Tons"; "Chain Gang"; "Perfidia"; "Cry"; "Heart and Soul"; "Rags to Riches"; and "Love is a Many-Splendored Thing", this clean cut foursome will charm your heart and tickle your funny bone in this smash musical comedy hit. (Rated G) UI Hartung Theatre - July 17, 23 at 7:30 pm & July 13 & 27 at 2:00 pm

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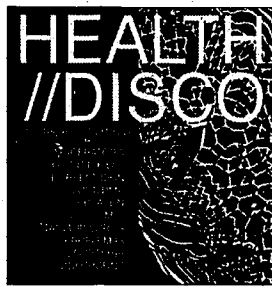


The music crate of 2008 ... so far

Marcus Kellis
Summer Arg

Due to new synergy requirements, all music hereafter mentioned in this column will get all bloggy at music.kuoi.org. There, at the KUOI chief executive director of music blog, you'll find links to songs and to Web sites. Here are more worthwhile releases from the first half of the year.

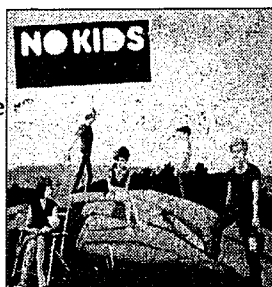
HEALTH, "HEALTH//DISCO" (Lovepump United)



Standout tracks: "Crime-wave (Crystal Castles vs. HEALTH)," "Problem Is (Thrust Lab Rmx)"

Do you love the '80s? HEALTH and a cast of remixers do. We have here eleven remixes of seven songs, with two each for "Heaven" and "Lost Time" and three of "Triceratops." The excellent Crystal Castles remix of "Crimewave" was previously released as a Crystal Castles single and appeared on their self-titled album. Most of these reimaginings diminish the band's less accessible tendencies (though your parents wouldn't recognize any of it as the disco of their youth) and instead focus on circuit-bent, Sega-flavored keyboards. The solo in "Problem Is," especially, is wonderful. If you've been wondering what the hip kids are dancing to, here is your answer. Lovepump United also features recommended releases from noisy rockers Genghis Tron, AIDS.Wolf and USAISAMONSTER.

No Kids, "Come Into My House"



Standout tracks: "I Love the Weekend," "For Halloween"

Hailing from Vancouver, British Columbia, No Kids is a fancy-pop trio. When I saw them at SXSW, I expected a much bigger crowd than the few dozen in the attic of a restaurant. They certainly deserve it. The emphasis and the beat arrive in unexpected places, supported by a full complement of percussion-grounded by a jazzy drum kit and piano. Horns and harmonies appear. Live, the setup is much more Spartan — a few keyboards, the drums, and a bag of toys (guiro, shakers, etc.). Lead singer Nick Krgovich's beautiful tenor voice is showcased particularly on the downtempo "Bluster in the Air." All the members are also of the indie pop group P:ano, though one member of P:ano is not present here. The glib barbershop name dropper, "Four Freshmen Locked Out As the Sun Goes Down," features harmonies and a ukulele.

Strategy, "Music for Lamping and Ambient Not Not Ambient" (Audio Dregs)



Standout tracks: "Cathedral Spark," "All Day..."

For a town its size, Moscow has an oversized culture and influence. We all know Sony/BMG artist Josh Ritter, who still maintains a residence somewhere east of Main Street, but the astute reader will also recollect that Strategy's Paul Dickow hails from our city. (His father, Bob Dickow, is an associate professor of horn, theory, and composition at the Lionel Hampton School of Music.) *Lamping* is an exploratory, atmospheric rumination on the Pacific Northwest. Many parts of the songs — as is his m.o. — are hard to identify as being from an instrument or from field recordings or anything else. "Cathedral Spark" seems to have vocalizations, but even that might be chimerical. The tracks, however, may as well be considered artificial bounds for the hour-long work considered as a whole: one track floats into another. On the companion volume "Ambient Not Not Ambient," Dickow and Audio Dregs head Eric Mast (E*Rock) assemble seventeen tracks of both ambient and not not ambient pieces. Featured performers include Mast's brother; E*Vax, himself half of the duo Ratatat; acclaimed Maryland group WZT Hearts; Dickow himself with partner Rhenne Molly Miles releasing under the name Smoke & Mirrors; and Kill Rock Stars artist Lucky Dragons. To paraphrase Brian Eno, this music is as interesting and evocative as it is ignorable.

Thao with the Get Down Stay Down, "We Brave Bee Stings and All" (Kill Rock Stars)



Standout tracks: "Big Kid Table," "Yes, So On and So On"

Thao-Nguyen's second album is as adorable and lovable as "Amélie." From humble NoVa/College of William and Mary beginnings onto Olympia's Kill Rock Stars — former home of the Decemberists, Elliott Smith, Sleater-Kinney and current home to Deerhoof, Stereo Total and others — Thao has erupted in the last year: opening for Rilo Kiley and for labelmates Xiu Xiu, receiving a 7.7 from Pitchfork and perhaps most prestigious of all, headlining the 2008 Sawtooth Music Festival in Stanley, Idaho. (Tickets available now.) "Bee Stings" is like a young adult novel for twentysomethings. "Are you unhappy for me? I am

unhappy for you," she sings. "But I don't know what I don't know." I want to hug her with my body. Besides her lyrical and vocal talents, Thao is as impressive a guitarist as anyone and the album features organ and guiro — two of my favorite instruments.

Throw Me the Statue, "Moonbeams" (Secretly Canadian)



Standout tracks: "Young Sensualists," "Your Girlfriend's Car"

On numbers like "A Mutinous Dream," TMTS's Scott Reitherman sounds just like Pavement and Beulah through a Seattle-colored filter. "Lolita," a song about a nineteen-year-old upon whom one is crushing, has the charming guitar style of the Microphones. It's a testament to the album's quality that, after having been self-released in 2007, current best label in the world Secretly Canadian picked it up for rerelease in 2008. Consequently, its appearance here is somewhat deceitful, but certainly deserved. The video for "Lolita" is opaque but does feature the band performing inside a doghouse. Bands such as Throw Me the Statue, Fleet Foxes and Veleva Veleva are helping cement Seattle's enduring reputation as a hub for music. A fun cut now available on their MySpace profile is a cover of the Huey Lewis classic "If This Is It." Be sure and check out the delightful, not-safe-for-work cover art.

FIVE MORE WONDERFUL SONGS FROM 2008:

Ratatat, "Shiller" ("LP3", XL Recordings)
Startlingly beautiful harpsichordish tones turn sinister with a patented Ratatat guitar line in the last third of this number.

Neon Neon, "Raquel" ("Stainless Style", Lex Records)
An extended instrumental intro sets up an homage to Raquel Welch. Neon Neon is Gruff Rhys of Super Furry Animals alongside Boom Bip. Recommended if you love the keytar.

Los Campesinos!, "You! Me! Dancing!" ("Hold On Now, Youngster...", Arts and Crafts)
I am glad to have the opportunity to highlight this Welsh group. This 6:46 magnum opus delivers exactly what it promises and, along with the Okmoniks album title, allows me seven justified uses of the exclamation mark.

Hot Chip, "Ready for the Floor" ("Made in the Dark", Astralwerks)
There was a time, thankfully now in the past, when electropop was a four-letter word, when electronic hiccups and fake bass and all those other qualifiers of the genre were dismissed as inaccessible. Then Moby came around and broke it open for everyone. Anyway, this song rules.

The Okmoniks, "Teenage Timebomb" (Party Fever!!!, Slovenly Recordings)
This band is like a garage-rock Stereolab — coming in, rocking and getting out under two-minutes-five. A wonderful keyboard sound complements handclaps and excited, indecipherable vocals.

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Summer sights

Athletes from the University of Idaho soccer team (far below) teach kids participating in a soccer camp how to play "sharks and minnows" soccer style June 8 at Guy Wicks Field.

Melinda Owen (right), a 2008 Idaho graduate, finished in a tie for 10th place in the finals of the women's pole vault at the U.S. Olympic Trials on Sunday. She cleared the same height in May at the Vandal Jamboree to break the Idaho school record and WAC record in the event.

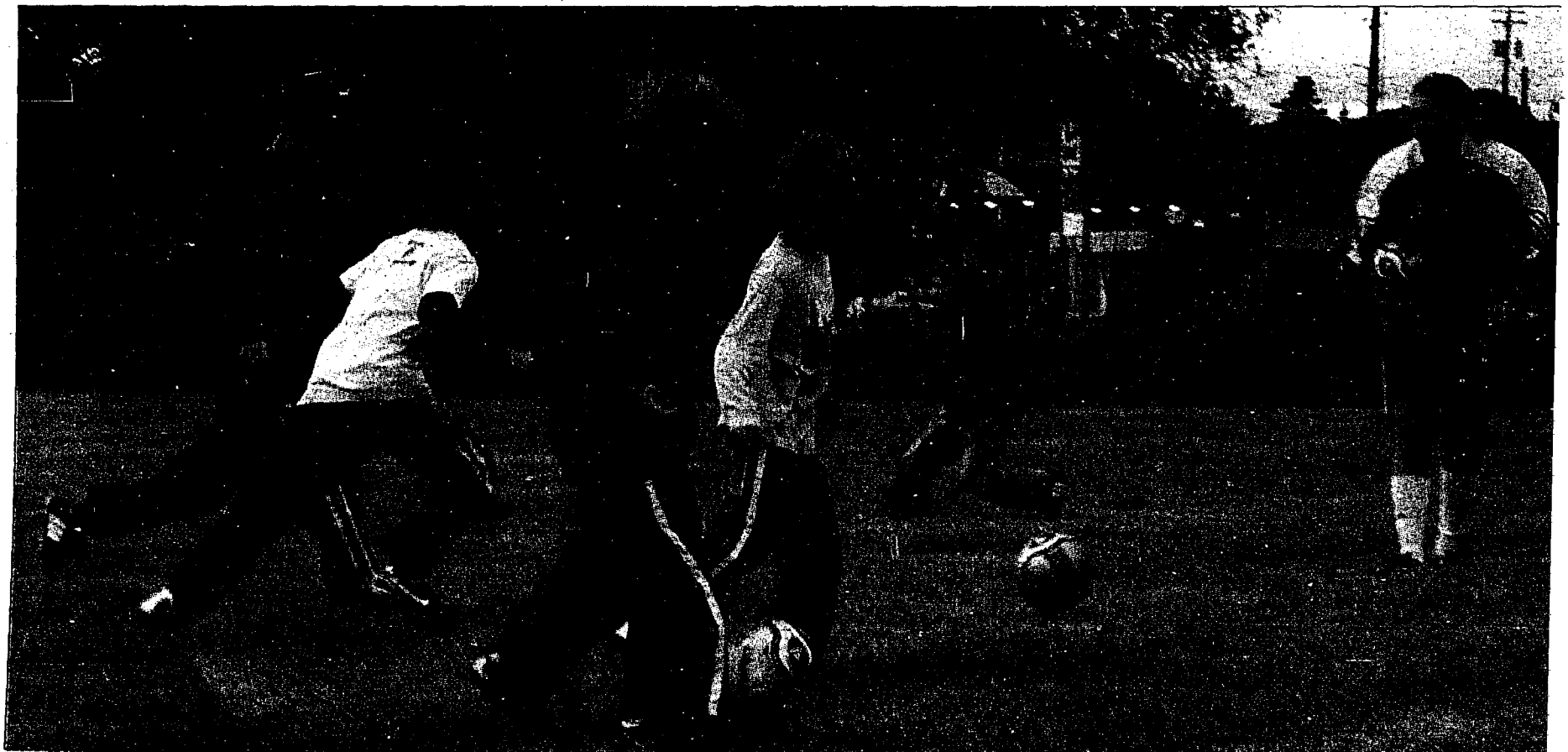
High school students of the Upward Bound program (below) DJ at the KUOI radio station. Participants of the program come from across North Idaho to spend four weeks on the UI campus taking classes such as mass media, engineering and volunteerism.



Courtesy photo



Perry Hanson/Summ



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