Field turf project underway

**BY JULIE ROBEG MANAGING EDITOR**

No longer will students have to walk around the east field of the Idaho Dome for their athletic and physical education needs. The University of Idaho is replacing the field with artificial turf that will span in size with two 120-foot fields and a 100-foot alleyway through the middle. The project will be completed by the end of June and installation will continue through July. According to Kirsten McLean, RDEE Dome manager, the project should be done by early August if the weather stays dry. Despite the lack of student support for the project, McLean said he believes the turf will benefit all students.

"If you really believe something's right, you fight for it," McLean said. According to McLean, the design committee for the turf included Karen Johnson, a student, Student Recreation, Center coordinator, and the project manager for architectural and engineering services, Sharon Weir, based on input, surveys and feedback from students, football, golf and soccer games. She said that after the committee researched all the possibilities, it unanimously decided on Sprinturf. Sprinturf is made from recycled tire rubber, which doesn't mix him with the shoe rubber used on other turf types. The turf can be replaced and does not come because the rubber does not hold water. The first Sprinturf fields installed were as large as 10 years ago. However, the University expects the turf to last 12 to 15 years because the early installations are still going strong. McLean said the landscaping will include companion grass by bermuda, and the turf will wear about $15,000 a year in maintenance. Petroleum is used in the turf, but McLean said he will do a study on the amount of petroleum used in the turf and the amount of gas used by most. He said the plan is that the turf does not release permanent chemicals because the environment is not as healthy as it was in the past. The next-best options were about 300 hours a year, but turf will provide more than 3,000 hours of playing time this season. McLean said, "If the turf will open up the Kibbie Dome for other events, it will be a great opportunity for the university."
Cataldo's self-titled debut album leaves much to be desired

The first few tracks of Cataldo's self-titled album are a little bit of a letdown. It's nice to start with an acoustic number, but it only sets the stage for what's to come. The album starts off with a bit of a slow track, but then picks up the pace with a couple of more upbeat songs. However, it feels like the album is missing something. Despite the problems, the album is still worth a listen, especially if you're a fan of indie music. Cataldo's sound is unique and it's fun to hear an album that's different from what you usually listen to. In conclusion, Cataldo's debut album is a mixed bag. It has its moments, but overall, it's a little bit disappointing.
Vandals send six to championships

BY ABBIE LOTTOW

Six faithful athletes will participate in the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships, and coach Warren Phillips hopes all six will achieve All-American honors.

It is very realistic for all six to make the 2004 NCAA outdoor championships. They are extremely competitive and they all have high expectations.

The NCAA Championships run through Sunday in Sacramento, Calif. The Vandals competing are Mary Kamau (400, 800, 1,500, and 3,000 meters), Jereme Henderson (100 meters), Tanzania Sharebala (high jump) and Josh Winger (discus and shot put).

Kamau is ranked, second nationally in the 400 meters. She had the second-fastest time in the nation with a 48.89 clocking.

Phillips said Kamau has made huge improvements in the last two years. Winger credits his coach, Merle Strickland, for his continued success.

The Vandals, who are expecting to go to the NCAA West Regionals, would have thought it'd have made it for Track.

Winger also qualified for the NCAA Track and Field Championships, which will be June 11-13 in Sacramento, Calif. He is ranked 6th nationally with a 13.18 100 meters.

Phillips said the Vandals are composed of American deserving, having placed fifth with a personal record of 2:44.38 in the 2004 championships.

He also advanced with California to the 2004 nationals with a butterfly mark of 1:01.93. Kamau, also advanced for the 2004 nationals, with 3:54.40 points.

Phillips said the top four competitors are likely out of his reach and will need a a wide and exceptional performance to place or a more athletic performance to make it a close race.

The race will be won in the top ten with a year of more than 12.00. Strengths are on jumps and hurdles, but he has not improved enough to be among the leaders.

Phillips said the Vandals are expected to compete next year with Scott Conley, a 2-time All-American at Washington State University.

Phillips said the Vandals are expected to compete next year with Scott Conley, a 2-time All-American at Washington State University.