Spanish students to get practice

By Ashley Hall
Staff Writer

The college’s Spanish students now find themselves taking the language out of the classroom and into the real world. Known as Mesa Hispanola, or “the Spanish Table,” the new student program will last a week and hold across the next two months to offer students the opportunity to communicate solely in the Spanish language.

Attendance at the lunches, required for all students enrolled in 101- and 200-level Spanish classes, but open to anyone, is associate professor of Spanish, hopes that it will not seem as intimidating for the classroom.

The Mesa Hispanola lunches will provide “an environment where the students can use all the Spanish they know,” Liso said.

The lunches, five to six Spanish students, will be held every Wednesday from 1 to 1:30 in the private dining room in Cantrell Hall.

By taking Spanish out of the classroom, Liso said she anticipates students’ appreciation for the language and their desire to speak it will grow.

Even current Spanish students think the lunches will be beneficial. “It connects the professor and the students, and the students with the students, on a more personal level,” said Jenna Powers, a Spanish student, and 200-level Spanish student who is required to attend.

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Jealousy, the “Green” Friend

By Steven Perez

Last October I was able to go see the breathtaking musical titled "Wicked," about the life of the Witch of the West and how she became evil. I have always thought that people know she is green, and after watching the musical and then reading the book I have come to realize that she is not green from jealously but from her own self-hate. I wish people around this campus could wear their true colors on their skin. This would eliminate the whole process of trying to find a person that will match you because you will be able to see if they are a yellow or red on their skin. Finding a match whether it be a girlfriend or a boyfriend would be as simple as looking at the color of their skin. This would allow for people to be more honest about what they are dealing with.

I am always happy that your friends were in place to help me make decisions that are not always the best. Real events, however, have caused me to rethink this point. Apparently a friend’s job is to use you to either better another social status—because no one will talk to them without you being there—or to make sure that their own selfish white selves are not hurt by your presence. It is hard to imagine a contract that you signed when you agreed to be BF’s friend. This also means that instead of helping you feel better about a decision that you have made in your own best interest and those of your future, they are bound by contract to make you feel that your happiness comes second to everyone else’s. So, Joe-Guy, you and I have basically involved a bunch of socially inept people including you and asking “What is your life ambition?” or “Where do you want to be in 10 years?” because they want you to be truly interested in you and your every step. So then, you just might be a bitch. If this fails, at the minimum they are wet and that’s also a fantasy.

Steve’s a senior and is majoring in administration of justice.

Do you have a reaction to this story or an idea for the campus community? E-mail it to Opinion Editor Kate Baldwin at kb@uvawise.edu.

The failure of grades

By Andrew Miller

(W&L) AMES, Iowa - After entering college, it is hard to determine how to keep up with all the work and to keep your grades up. It is also hard to be pleased from the American higher education system. Grading is a form of cheating, and is the ultimate goal of the university experience. I have noticed that in this country, this is the only sensible explanation for so many of the strange things we face while striving for a degree. Why else would we be sub­jugated to the point of being full of stress and to barely get by? It’s probably the same thing that every student here has, occurred, gotten passed on information just to be useful to be able to pass it on as such, even though, everything is forgotten in just days. Students can be pushed to the edge when they are given the minimum effort required to make the grade and move on.

It is no wonder, then, that undergraded numbers of college graduates are unprepared for the working world. For the past few years, and is limited to the current state of the issues are present for high school graduates. The num­bers are striking. At one school that only accepts B-level students and higher, more than a third of the new stu­dents needed remedial math and almost half needed remedial English. If there are none of these students, what does that say about “lower achievers”?

The problem is that grades are increasingly not repre­sentative of skill level, but instead of a student’s ability to look good to the system. For example, good classes that are not hard are given grades that range from 90 to 100. These are not for the students who have completed a 2005 study that found that 70 percent of undergraduate students admitted that they cheated. I learned from one of these lessons the hard way but se­lected in a particularly disturbing course. My hours of dis­tribution to homework and studying were pay off in uncom­mensurate grades. I ended the year with a C grade, and I used the days off to work on a research paper. At semester’s end, however, my paper was marked significantly and I was told that my paper was found accused of plagiarism. Still, I was afraid to use my grade to make me the best student in the class, as I cannot see any of all those things. What if my worst was more than me, and I have to convince people that I am the one who is the minimum effort required to make the grade and move on.

In other courses I have experienced further proofs of good grades: a professor of integrity and education, and so it is the class to which people turn in their homework and food to be eaten. No one else, and the tasks of people to remain the same, though it’s not so much their existence as their interpretation. Much to the point of the world has changed as it is, but still socially acceptable to be “average.” Contrast this with the United States, where many companies would assign a C grade to the high school television production of “The Adventures of Superman.”

Yet, “The Man of Steel” still proves to be rival as Reeves and Tank. If we take Reeves and Tank, we must to see his career past their elementary years happy

Savvy shopper’s guide to the supermarket

By Kimberly Lord Stewart

Why buy organic? The short answer is that organic foods are a better choice for your health and the environment. In the past decade, we have found that non-organic foods contain more pesticides, antibiotics or hormones. Now, more and more people are looking for ways to reduce their exposure to pesticides, antibiotics or hormones and to have more environmentally sound food products available at supermarkets.

Vegetables and Fruits

Organic vegetables and fruits are the single easiest way to get in on the organic food revolution. As the country begins to become more aware that non-organic food may cause us harm, a diet without pesticides, antibiotics, or hormones is something that people want. Having food that is free from artificial flavors or preservatives, and with the USDA’s green and white organic label, the price of organic food is rising. However, there are now free ways to surf the web from anywhere in the building and library. The network operates by using laptops checked-out from the library.

For more information just to be able to vomit it back up to pass an exam. This is the ultimate lie, though it’s not so easy to see yourself past your elementary years happy...
Lady Cavs volleyball: New coach, new season

By Jared Soles
Staff Writer

When looking for his next coaching home this past June, Coach Steven Dallman was looking for a growing school with good support for athletics, and a chance to win a national championship. He said he found all those qualities here at Wise.

"It's great that the school is growing, and the chance to be involved in that excited me," Dallman said.

When searching for a new home on the Internet, Dallman found the opening for the college's head coaching position.

He said he "didn't know a lot about Wise" in the beginning, but "really liked the people here, they seemed like they were really sincere."

Dallman held previous coaching positions at the University of Southern Mississippi, the University of Louisville, and Michigan Lutheran Seminary before ending up at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, a NCAA Division I program. Budget issues and reductions in scholarships were two reasons for his departure, Dallman said.

But in his nine seasons as the head coach at Missouri he amassed a 99-155 record-making him the school's all-time win leader.

Dallman has a chance to be even more successful here at Wise.

This is "the best team I have ever inherited," Dallman said. The Lady Cavs are coming off a 17-9 season in which they finished third in the Appalachian Athletic Conference (AAC). They won the AAC Regular Season Title in 2004 and have been to the NAIA Region XII Playoffs in two of the last three seasons.

And while this year's squad is ranked third in the AAC preseason polls, Dallman said his team has a chance to finish even better.

The team is set to do just that with senior Stacey Ringhoffer and junior Natasha Viers who Dallman said are two of the best middle hitters he has ever had.

He said he also expects great efforts from seniors Davina Dishner and Kate Dush, as well as solid back row play from Cars Hamilton and Britney Lawson.

In the Lady Cavs' win over Pikeville on Aug. 31, Viers, Ringhoffer, Dush and Kristin Salter combined for 47 kills. Dishner led the team with 43 assists and Britney Lawson lead the defensive effort with 20 digs.

The Lady Cavs managed to sweep the Lady Wasps of Emory & Henry in their home opener on Sept. 5, improving their record to 2-1.

But the Lady Cavs suffered on-the-road losses to King, Averett and McDaniel, before pulling off a win over Emory & Henry in their home opener on Sept. 5, improving their record to 2-1.

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Eliminating grades sounds crazy, worth thinking about

GRASSES FROM PAGE 2

to attend school, and it's no coincidence that school stops being fun when grades are the only criteria for success. The force of No Child Left Behind, ever younger kids have curriculum crammed down their throats to be regurgitated for the multiple-choice tests, and do not get to experience learning as a pleasant, interactive process. Seeing achievement levels fall lower and lower suggests that a solution lies in less regulation, not more.

It's easy to assume that a world without grades would be one where less is more, but one is often manipulated by the system that should be serving us. Eventually students would realize that they should try to get what they paid for, and professors would marvel at classrooms of eager learners.

Doing away with grades to improve education probably sounds crazy, and it will likely never be more than a pipe dream, but let the idea at least spark your thoughts. Remember that the university is in debt to its students, not the other way around. And most importantly, don't let your life be consumed by your GPA. Good grades are never worth the price of your individuality.

Andrew Miller is a junior in materials engineering from Ames.