

## Straps

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gestures behind the misshapen backs of all the Quasimodos-in-the-making.

And that's not all. Double-strap-pers are the kind of people who can long divide without benefit of paper or pencil. We can pronounce the word *legume*. We do crossword puzzles with pens.

I do not want everyone to get the idea that just because the two-strap packer is in every way superior to the one-strapper, we can't find some common ground.

After all, you one-strappers may look pretty silly, but those who don't even wear backpacks are showing the sort of moral courage your average U.S. senator will display on the sub-

ject of abortion.

Even these shoulder-bag-wearing issue-duckers aren't the worst, however. The worst are those who walk around with Day-Glo protrusions wrapped around their waists.

These individuals look like they have lost the use of a major organ and are being fed vital fluids intravenously. This is fine if a major organ is indeed not functioning, but the vast majority are just looking for an athletic-looking holder for their cigarettes.

The real question may not be how or what kind of backpack to wear. For all of us guys, the question is: What are we going to do when we don't have the excuse academics provides for carrying around a thinly disguised purse? I'm not getting a briefcase. Those are for geeks.

## Freshmen

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"Swimmers are at their peak from age 18 to 22," said Arthur Wodjat, a sophomore swimmer at Iowa. "You don't have time to compete at age 28. Your career is over. I couldn't give up swimming at this age."

Glenn Patton, head coach of the Iowa men's swimming team, said the measure is simply unnecessary for his athletes because they have little trouble handling the combination of academics and athletics.

"We're dealing with student athletes who have a tremendous amount of self-discipline and appear to be quite successful with academics," Patton said. "They have career objectives which go beyond the sport."

Patton suggested that a viable alternative to unilateral enforcement of the

rule would be to limit mandatory freshman ineligibility to "high-profile media sports" like football and basketball, where most of the reform proposals are focused anyway.

"All this is coming about because of football and basketball, not because of tennis, swimming and golf," said Iowa freshman Jason Palmer, a member of the tennis team who opted to redshirt his first year because of an injury.

Palmer claims that adjusting a team actually aided his adjustment process, since his teammates and coaches helped him get comfortable with the university and develop good study habits.

While it may be unfair to limit freshman ineligibility to men's basketball and football, coaches may accept the measure if it is imposed on all NCAA schools.

Freshman ineligibility will be formally considered, along with other reform legislation, by the NCAA council in January 1991.

## Gang

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Police Harry Hueston said local gang activity has increased in the past year.

Most recently, two men reportedly attacked and terrorized a 20-year-old Hispanic woman; the men involved allegedly were skinheads, Hueston said.

Campus officials nationwide agree that what affects the surrounding city usually affects the college.

"The university is not surrounded by a fence. There's no big moat around it," said UA Det. Sgt. Sal Celi.

At the U. of California, Los Angeles, with about 12 entrances, the potential for gang activity also exists, said John Barber, campus police chief.

Gangs have been a UCLA concern for about five years. In that time, two shooting incidents at the school's Mardi Gras spring carnival were gang-related, and police arrested about 24 gang members on or near campus in the past year.

At Boston U., campus police have suggested creating a separate category listing gang affiliations when they institute a new on-line booking system.

"We do from time to time, in the normal course of making arrests, have individuals who claim they are, or we have reason to believe they are, gang members," said BU Police Department Lt. Robert Gaffney.

Because school colors instigated the initial Bloods-Crips rivalry, students should learn to recognize the nuances of gang appearance and dialogue. "A lot of (gang members) don't look much different than other college students, except for their colors," Barber said.

Red typically is associated with Bloods gangs, while a shade of blue symbolizes involvement in the Crips. Skinheads have adopted more of a punk style, often signifying their membership by such details as a twist in a shoelace, Tucson Police Sgt. Ron Zimmerling said.

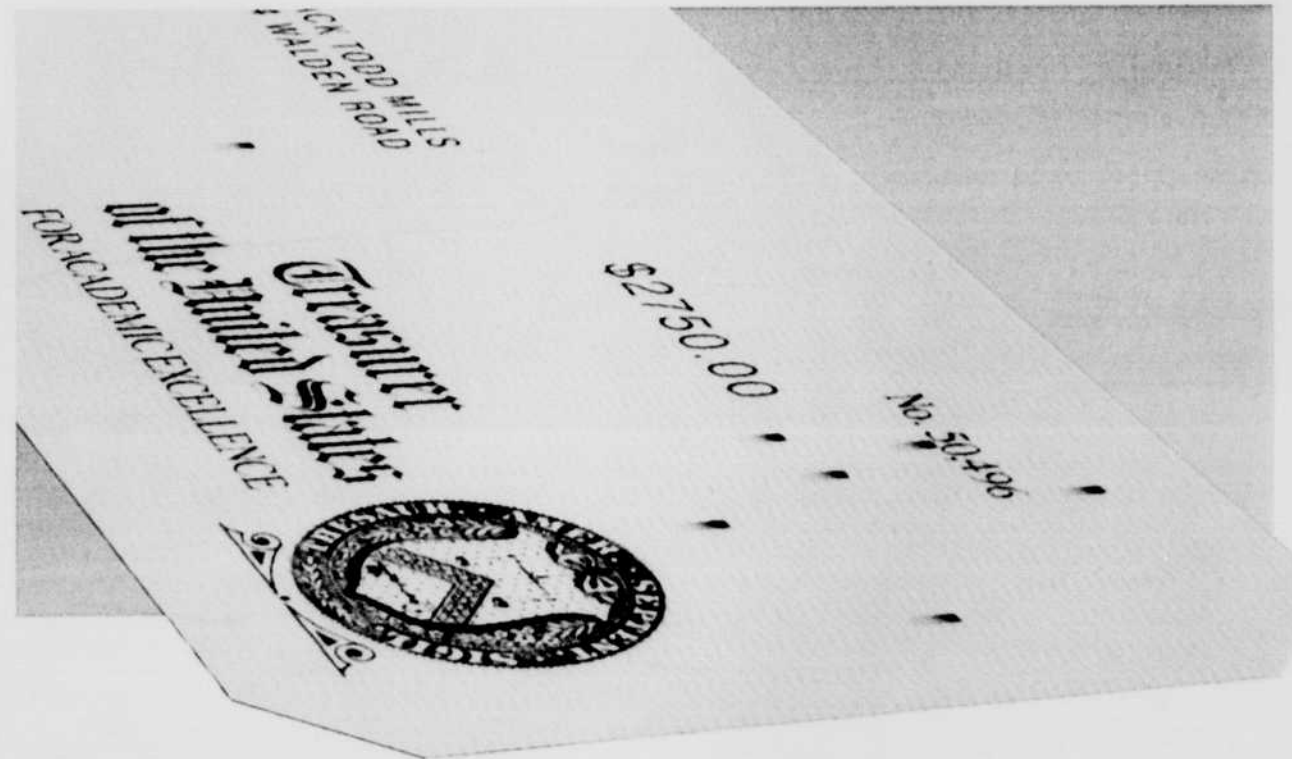
Because many of Tucson's gang members have been transplanted from California, Zimmerling said university officials should keep a close eye on students recruited from other cities.

"We investigate every student athlete that we recruit," said David W. Murray, UA men's head track and field coach. "Sometimes you pick things up, sometimes you don't."

Zimmerling said, "Security and peace of mind of the students is certainly a concern."

Pat Carrillo, a juvenile probation officer in Tucson, added, "Is it going to get better? Is it going to get worse? Is it a fad? I don't know."

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