



### Renaissance woman

## Piecing together success

In between basketball and studying, freshman forward Yadili Okwumabua finds time for music, sewing and her friends

### Off the hardwood

**Caron Alarab**  
Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

Ever since she hit the awkward age of 12 and realized that most girls' clothing didn't appreciate her height, Duck women's basketball forward Yadili Okwumabua has loved the hobby of sewing.

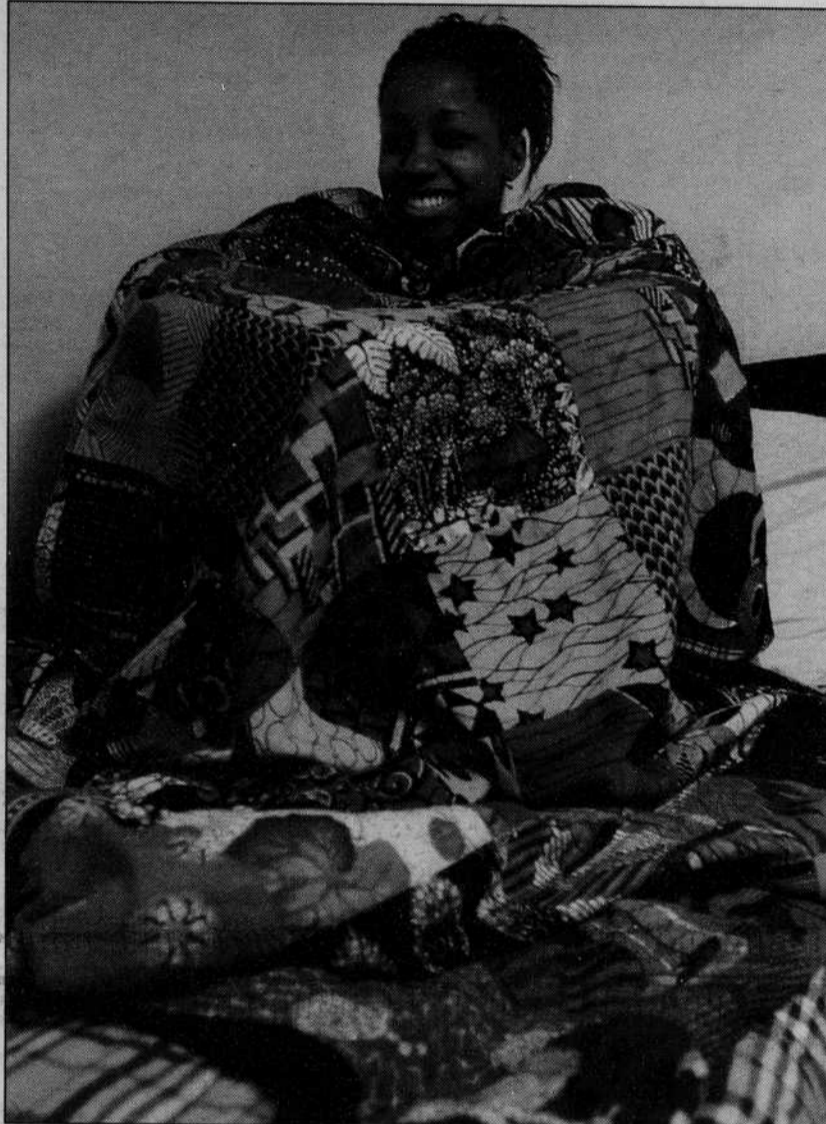
"I've always been kind of tall," the 6-foot-2-inch freshman said. "So when I found good patterns, I would make clothes that fit me."

More recently, she has put her skills toward making a quilt — an activity she has enjoyed for years, but is a challenge nonetheless.

"Piecing things together is the hardest part," the Canadian native said.

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Okwumabua comes from a family of

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Jeremy Forrest Emerald

Yadili Okwumabua has been sewing since she was 12. The quilt pictured above was made from authentic fabric from her parents' homeland Nigeria.

## Law meeting to focus on environment

Land Air Water is hosting an environmental law conference that will feature legal expertise from around the nation and the world

**Ali Shaughnessy**  
Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

Environmental injustice is the theme of this year's Public Interest Environmental Law Conference, a four-day affair beginning this afternoon.

The conference, officially titled "Environmental (in) Justice in the Global Village," is an annual event in its 21st year. Hosted at the Knight Law Center by Land Air Water, the event will feature multiple speakers from all over the world, as well as a variety of panels, workshops and presentations throughout the weekend. Registration for the event begins at 2 p.m., with the first panel starting two hours later.

Derek Riman, one of four law students who organized the conference, said he expects at least 4,000 people to attend the event, which has been planned since mid-September.

Riman said this year's conference aims to raise awareness of international issues involving social and environmental problems.

"This is an enlightening conference to expose environmental issues in the U.S. as well as abroad," he said.

Jim DiPeso — the policy director of REP America, the national grassroots organization of Republicans for Environmental Protection — will be a keynote speaker Friday evening. He said he plans on giving a history lesson to those who attend his lecture, focusing on what Republicans have done in the past to protect the environment.

DiPeso added he is disappointed in the lack of interest the Republican Party is now showing toward environmental issues, pointing out past leaders such as former U.S. President Richard Nixon had a vested interest in protecting the environment.

"Many of our leaders have turned their backs on conservation (of the environment)," DiPeso said. "These are ecological services we all depend on."

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## Meeting tackles sports funding, 'arms race'

The Task Force on Athletics held a forum Wednesday to discuss issues in collegiate sports, including funding and academics

**Caron Alarab**  
Safety/Crime/Transportation Reporter

About 30 attendees made Wednesday night's University Task Force on Athletics open forum seem uninspired as hundreds of seats remained empty in 150 Columbia. And although the forum was organized to help the six panelists obtain statements from the community regarding the national athletics "arms race" and related issues, only six individuals made three-minute statements, four of whom returned to the microphone for a second round.

"It would have been nice to have more people and input," panelist and English Professor Suzanne Clark said. "It seems feelings about this issue are currently unheated."

Law Professor Margie Paris opened the hour-long forum with a brief introduction. Clark, the first panelist to speak, then addressed the local influence of collegiate athletics and questioned what athletics of-

fers the community, and vice versa.

English Professor James Earl spoke about the paradoxes that arise between faculty and athletics and defined the role of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. Law Professor Jim O'Fallon explained the government structure of the NCAA and mentioned factors he thinks strengthen the current arms race.

University alumna and former track athlete Jenny Kenyon gave a short explanation of her perspective on the issue, and she added that many athletes are scholars, as well.

Men's track head coach Martin Smith voiced his concerns regarding negative stereotypes of college coaches and his personal experience with the athletic program. The floor was then open for attendees to comment.

Art history Professor Richard Sundt proposed reducing the number of mid-week basketball games to encourage academics, adding, "We're not here to train people for the NBA."

University student Tim Young pointed out that

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Danielle Hickey Emerald

English professor James Earl (middle) speaks as fellow athletics task force members (left to right) Suzanne Clark, Jim O'Fallon, Jenny Kenyon and Martin Smith look on Wednesday evening.

## ASUO leadership means sacrifice

The ASUO is holding a question-and-answer session tonight for prospective ASUO candidates

**Brook Reinhard**  
News Editor

Future politicians take note: Tonight is the night to learn more about campus politics and ask burning questions of current political icons.

The ASUO is sponsoring a question-and-

answer session about elections for 2003-04 at 7 p.m. in 16 Pacific. There are 27 positions open, and while tonight's forum isn't mandatory, anyone who wants to run for a student government office must decide and file paperwork with the ASUO elections office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

"Students should come tonight to learn how to serve their student body," ASUO Elections Coordinator Andrea Hall said. "Everyone on campus has a lot of ideas but very few people implement them. If students

are serious about their ideas they should put them into action and run for office."

ASUO Vice President Ben Buzbee, one of several campus politicians running tonight's discussion, said he's welcomed the chance to use his position to make a difference and represent people on campus.

"It's definitely been a learning experience — what often gets overlooked is (ASUO president) Rachel (Pilliod) and I are still students and we make mistakes,"

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### WEATHER

Today: High 47, Low 40, rain at times, breezy,  
Friday: High 48, Low 42, rainy and windy

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Friday**  
Students for Peace hosts a "Bikes not Bombs" ride to protest petroleum use

**Monday**  
Authorities speculate partying increases when weather turns warmer