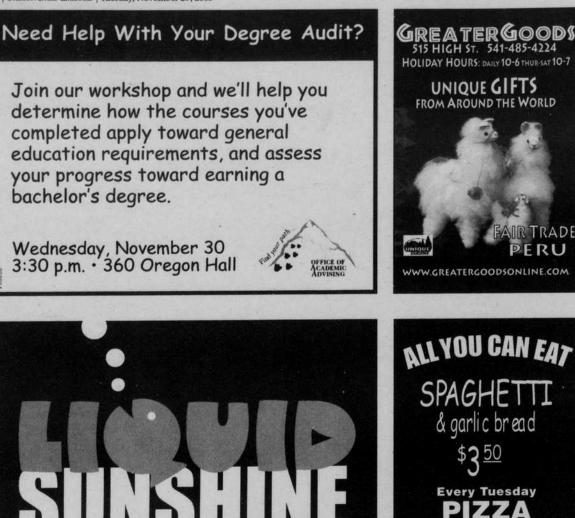
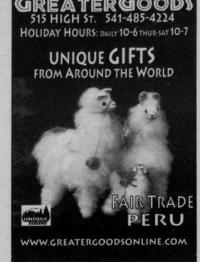
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IN BRIEF

Former NFL star claims pipe belonged to friend

When police found a marijuana pipe in Michael Irvin's car, the former Dallas Cowboys star said it belonged to his brother, contradicting earlier statements he made to the media.

"It's my brother's, he left it in there," a police officer quoted Irvin as saying in a court document obtained by The Dallas Morning News.

The officer also wrote that the pipe and plastic baggies with marijuana residue were found in a Versace sunglasses case under a driver's seat compartment.

Irvin, now an NFL analyst for ESPN, told The Associated Press on Sunday, and repeated in an interview Monday with ESPN Radio, that the pipe belonged to a friend with a drug problem.

He declined to name the friend to the AP, but said it was someone he's known for 17 years. Irvin is the thirdyoungest of 17 children. He's 39 and his youngest sibling is around 30.

In the AP and ESPN Radio interviews, Irvin said he cares more about getting those closest to him off drugs than he does being inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He was named among 25 semifinalists last week.

'More important to me is to help my friends and help my brother and to remove this drug addiction spirit

out of my family," Irvin told on ESPN Radio.

Irvin won three Super Bowls in four years with the Dallas Cowboys as part of an offense that also featured Troy Aikman and Emmitt Smith. A vocal, emotional leader, he set every significant career receiving mark in team history before retiring because of an injury suffered in 1999.

In 1996, Irvin pleaded no contest to felony cocaine possession in exchange for four years of deferred probation, a \$10,000 fine and dismissal of misdemeanor marijuana possession charges. He also was arrested on drug possession charges in 2000, but they were later dropped.

According to the new documents, Irvin was driving a 2005 Mercedes Benz SL55, with his wife also in the car, on the North Dallas Tollway on Friday afternoon. He was pulled over for going 78 mph in a 60 mph zone. Although he also was cited for failing to signal while changing lanes and for failing to carry his driver's license, he was not ticketed for those two violations.

A routine computer search turned up an outstanding arrest warrant for a speeding ticket in Irving. That led to the vehicle being searched. Irvin declined to consent to the search, but the request is procedural.

Irvin was released after paying a \$335 fine for the arrest warrant and a \$256 bond. The paraphernalia charge is a Class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to a \$500 fine.

- The Associated Press

Notes: Defensive effort and rebounding impresses Smith Continued from page 9

and shooting .385 from the field, including .313 from three-point range.

"In the past, I've never had the greatest preseason," Davis said. "I'm more than satisfied with where my role is. We are winning and that is all I ask for.

All 12 Oregon players played Monday and just three played 20 minutes or more. Oregon's bench scored 52 of the Ducks 70 points.

Hitting the boards

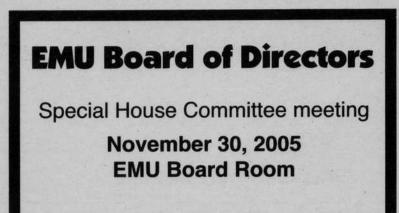
Oregon outrebounded a shorter and scrappier Arkansas team 50 to 30 Friday as the Ducks allowed 12 offense boards. Arkansas had only one player

taller than six feet in 6-foot-2 Kristina Andjelkovic, and she only played for eight minutes. Drake presented a larger challenge with 6-foot-tall players Lindsay Whorton (five rebounds) and Brandy Dahir (six) and 6-foot-1 forward Jill Martin (four).

Oregon held a 40-to-33 rebound advantage against Drake and gave up 16 offensive rebounds. Oregon held Drake to 21.7 percent shooting and 10.5 percent from three-point range.

"I'm very pleased with our desire to be a great defensive team and (how we) help each other out," Oregon coach Bev Smith said.

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