

# THE ARGONAUT

Friday, March 23, 2007

The Vandal Voice Since 1898

Volume 107, No. 50

## Water tower to receive makeover

By Sean Garmire  
Argonaut

A University of Idaho water tower will be repainted this summer, but the old starburst logo that now adorns the tower may be changed.

An apparent low bidder has been selected to contract the project, which has been estimated at \$193,000, and will be paid for by federal dollars from the Idaho Division of Public Works out of the state's permanent building fund.

Raymond Pankopf, director of UI Architectural and Engineering Services, said funding for the project was requested by the university more than five years ago, but was not approved until 2006.

The starburst logo now on the tower is a sign of change at UI. The image is being phased out as part of the school's new "Open spaces. Open minds." image campaign.

The university has not yet commented on which logo will be used on the tower; however, the current blueprints show UI's new "word mark," which is simply the university's name.

The university administration previously released information indicating they do not plan to remove the starburst symbol from any current locations on campus, including the water tower. Wendy Shattuck, assistant vice president for marketing and strategic communications, told *The Argonaut* in September, "You will never see it in any of our new stuff ... (However), the expense of removing it and replacing it, we can't contemplate that in our budget."

Pankopf said the image on the blueprints is not necessarily the one that will be painted on the tower, however.

"I've been asked to hold open the possibility of painting a different logo," he said, adding that repainting the starburst is an option.

President White is expected to discuss the issue in an upcoming presentation Monday.

The paint for the tower will be a light gold-brown wheat color with black lettering.

The current lowest apparent bid is from TML Construction, and is set at \$99,999. However, an error made in the bidder's acknowledgement statement may compromise its chance of getting the bid.

See TOWER, page 5

## Alleged victim testifies in Taupule hearing

By Sean Garmire  
Argonaut

A University of Idaho football player arrested for armed robbery and aggravated battery made an appearance in court Thursday for a preliminary hearing.

Tone Taupule, a 23-year-old communications major from Long Beach, California, was incarcerated March 9 by Moscow Police as a result of a robbery, which took place on the evening of March 8.

The alleged victim, Sean Fitzmaurice, an architecture and interior design sophomore, took the stand at the hearing. Fitzmaurice testified that on the evening in question he had returned to his Blake Avenue apartment and found an assailant hiding behind the living room curtains with a gun. He alleged that the attacker pointed a semiautomatic handgun at him, at one point even placing it against his forehead, and directed him to go



Tone Taupule

See TAUPULE, page 5

## Steel House to be closed

By Jeremy Castillo  
Argonaut

In an emotionally charged meeting Wednesday night, University Residences announced to members of Ethel Steel House that the building will no longer be occupied after May 2007.

Director Michael Griffel cited numerous reasons for the closure. The facility needed a new roof and overhauls of the electric and plumbing work, and there are currently violations of life safety codes.

"We're not talking about little fixes or routine maintenance

issues," Griffel said. "It's a 53-year-old building. When it was built, the systems were believed to be good. But they wear."

Other requirements Steel House would need to continue operating are internal and external staircases, along with the removal of eight rooms.

"You don't want people living in a building you have concerns about," said Leah Andrews, University Residences' manager of marketing and recruitment.

When news broke that Steel House, the oldest women's cooperative in the country, would be shut

down, its members were visibly upset. During the meeting, several residents broke down into tears. Others crumpled pieces of paper repeatedly or hung their heads.

After the meeting, some hugged and cried onto each other's shoulders. Others went for a walk to clear their minds.

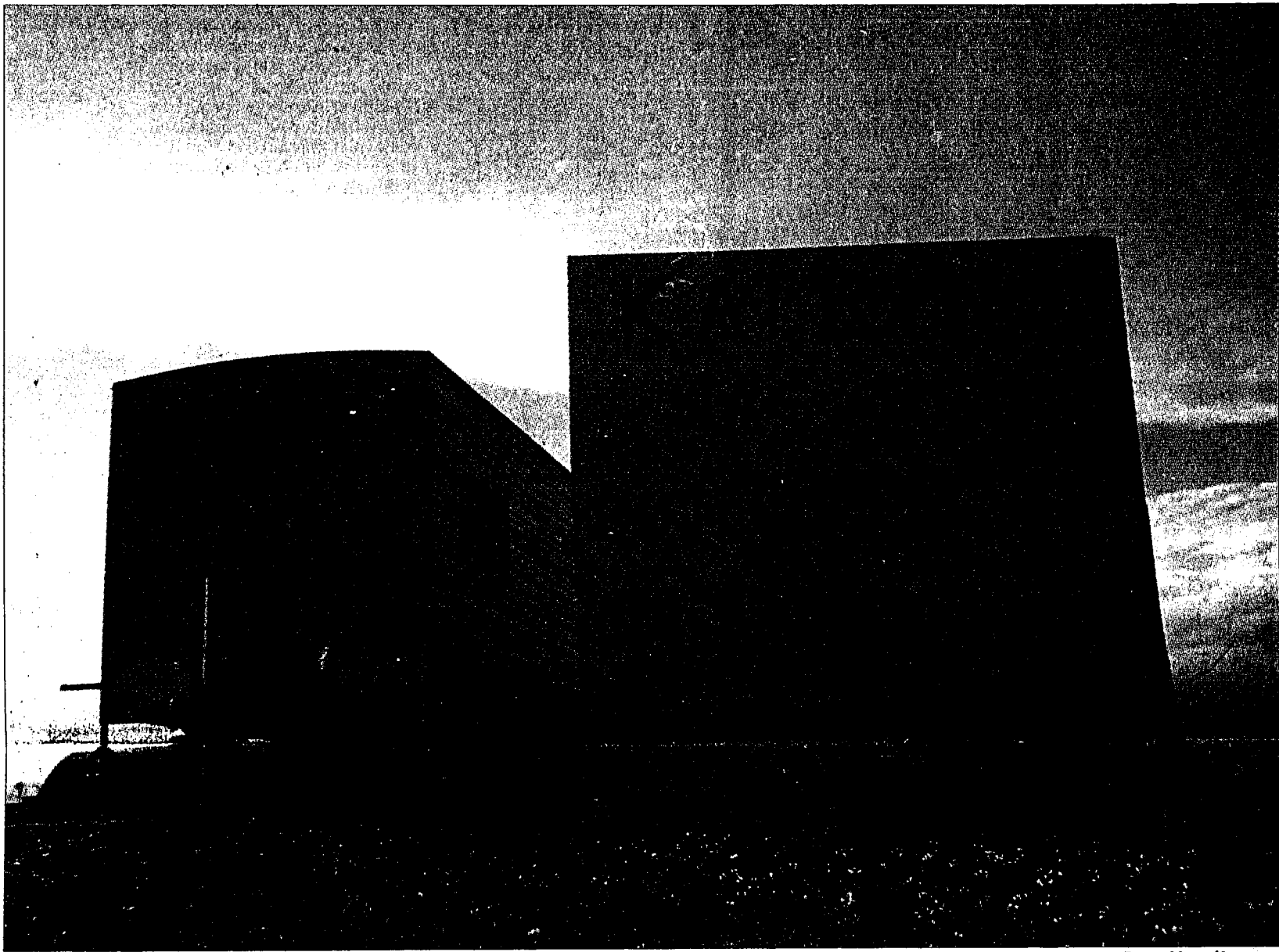
"Obviously I'm quite angry about it," said Cyndil Markert, Steel House president. "All of us felt like it was coming. ... But then (we were) handed the paper that said the building won't be used after May 2007 — that hit us so hard."

What made the news so powerful was the suddenness of its announcement.

"What would have been a lot better," Markert said, "if when they started realizing the repairs wouldn't be able to be fixed, if they brought that to us, the girls would have felt like they could have done something about it. (But) we just had it thrown on our lap."

Many Steel House residents are concerned about where they will live next semester.

See STEEL, page 5



Bruce Mann/Argonaut

This sign sits next to a FEMA trailer on the grounds where St. Clare Catholic Church once stood. The church, rectory and school were all completely leveled by Hurricane Katrina.

## Students rebuild homes destroyed by Katrina

By Shanna Stalwick  
Argonaut

Colin Seeley classifies the theme of last year's Alternative Service Break trip to Waveland, Miss., as "destruction."

"We were tearing down stuff and clearing out garbage," Seeley said. "It was really depressing work."

This year, Seeley said, most student volunteers worked toward rebuilding homes and neighborhoods devastated throughout the Gulf region rather than cleaning up debris as they did on last year's trip.

"I thought there was so much progress," Seeley said. "The streets were so much cleaner and there was almost no garbage compared to last year."

Seeley is the Alternative Service Break intern for the ASUI Center for Volunteerism and Social Action, and last week, he spent his second consecutive Spring Break volunteering as part of the disaster relief effort.

Seeley was part of a group of 33 students from UI who joined roughly 200 other volunteers from schools across the nation to contribute to clean-up efforts in Waveland, a small community along the Gulf of Mexico that was obliterated in Katrina's wake.

The remaining 75 UI ASB participants volunteered in New Orleans and Maryville, Tenn. Nearly 700 students representing more than 40 schools aided in New Orleans alone.

A large portion of the trip's cost — about \$20,000 — was funded by ASUI. Other UI groups, including the Parents Association, Office of the Dean of Students, UI Foundation and Alumni Association, also contributed, leaving students to raise about \$190 each.

And while 18 months have passed since Hurricane Katrina ripped through the Gulf Coast in August 2005, the ruins remain untouched in many areas.

"You still drive down the streets and see houses that haven't been touched," said



Bruce Mann/Argonaut

Idaho freshman Victoria Loehlein gets right back to work prepping a shed to be painted after a quick lunch.

Shannon Hohl, who returned to Waveland for her second time as an ASB participant. "You still see a lot of devastation."

Hohl said she and the other ASB volunteers in Waveland usually worked from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on various jobs organized by Community Collaborations International, a nonprofit organization that heads relief programs and works with universities to distribute volunteers where they are needed most.

Volunteers tore off roofing, tore down houses, constructed walls, painted houses, made accessible ramps and worked with children at the Boys and Girls Club.

check out MORE

Check out page 4 for a column by Frank McGovern and photos taken on the scene by Bruce Mann.

Hohl said she and the other students were constantly in contact with Katrina victims, many of whom they worked with while repairing resident homes.

"Almost every job I went to, the homeowner was there working with us," Seeley said.

Helen Jackson, a post-graduate international student from the Isle of Man, said she recalled watching the news coverage of the hurricane while in the British Isles, and remembers the impact of seeing the devastation at the sight.

"It just shocks you when you go down and you see just one house left (standing) and you see only the foundations to the rest of the houses," Jackson recalled.

At the time the storm hit, Jackson was unaware she would be spending a year abroad in the states, and her Spring Break contributing to the relief effort in Waveland.

"A few of my friends were traveling to different places (for Spring Break) and I had to think about it because I'm only in the States for a short amount of time," Jackson said. "But I just thought it was such a worthwhile opportunity. Something I've never done before, so I really wanted to do it."

Hohl said she feels this experience made many of the volunteers feel lucky for where they live, and made her grateful for her choice to attend UI.

"I'm from Alaska and I'm so glad that I chose the UI because it offers programs like this," Hohl said. "My siblings went to other colleges and they didn't have programs like this. It's pretty awesome that we are able to do this."

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### look INSIDE

#### ARTS&CULTURE

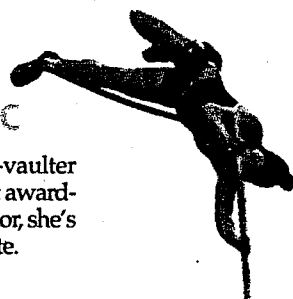
The Women's Center presents the second Step and Stroll Competition and an Argonaut writer reviews Sisters' Brew.

#### OPINION

The editorial board thinks the State Board of Education should approve UI's student fee proposal.

#### SPORTS&REC

Although UI pole-vaulter Melinda Owen was just awarded an All-American honor, she's more than just an athlete.



### on the WEB

Got a question for the cops? Leave a note on the restarted Moscow PD blog at

www.uiargonaut.com

**Corrections**

In the March 20 article "Grant promotes paper conservation," the amount of Kimberley Higgs and Justin Saydell's grant was misstated. The correct amount is \$3,000.

**WeatherFORECAST**

**Today** Partly cloudy  
Hi: 59°  
Lo: 44°

**Saturday** Evening showers  
Hi: 56°  
Lo: 42°

**Sunday** Showers  
Hi: 49°  
Lo: 31°

**Campus Recreation**

M-TH: 6am-11:30pm Friday: 6am-9pm  
Saturday: 9am-9pm Sunday: 11am-11pm

**LOOKING FOR A GREAT JOB?**

**THE SRC IS HIRING FOR SUMMER & FALL!**

The SRC is taking applications for summer and fall employment. Stop by the Campus Recreation Office located in the SRC to fill out your application!!

**Sport Club Federation**

Start a Club • Join a Club • Get Involved

Spring sports are gearing up for competition. Be part of the fun, join a sport club today.

Email ggresch@uidaho.edu or stop by Campus Recreation for more info!

**REC** Vandal Friday March 30th

Open Reception to Midnight

**OUTDOOR PROGRAM**

www.campusrec.uidaho.edu/outdoor

**Spring has Sprung, Be in It...**

Women's Backpack Trip March 24-25

Intro to Kayaking Pool Clinic March 28: 7-10pm

Instructional Kayak Trip April 9

For more information visit: www.campusrec.uidaho.edu/outdoor call 885-6810

**INTRAMURAL SPORTS**

www.campusrec.uidaho.edu/intramurals

**4 ON 4 FLAG FOOTBALL**

DUE: MARCH 27TH

CAPTAINS MEETING: MARCH 29TH

Campus Recreation Office 885-8381  
Recreation Hotline 885-1212  
www.campusrec.uidaho.edu

Bring your valid Vandal Card

Fitness & Wellness - Intramurals - Outdoor Program - Sportclubs - Student Recreation Center

**UniversityAVE.**

by Paul Tong/Argonaut



Love University Ave.? Check out a second comic on page 5, and every issue from now on above the classifieds.

**CampusCALENDAR**

**Today** Opening reception for BFA exhibit Ridenbaugh Gallery 4 p.m.

**ASUI Blockbuster Series: 'Marie Antoinette'** SUB Borah Theatre 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

**Dancers, Drummers, Dreamers**

**Hartung Theatre** 7:30 p.m.

**Saturday** Step and Stroll Competition SUB Ballroom 6 p.m.

**ASUI Blockbuster Series 'Marie Antoinette'** SUB Borah Theatre 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

**Dancers, Drummers, Dreamers** Hartung Theatre 7:30 p.m.

**Students begin Relay for Life today**

University of Idaho's annual Relay for Life will begin at 6 p.m. today at the Kibbie Dome and end at 10 a.m. Saturday.

People not participating in the event can come and enjoy the festivities. A silent auction will run all night. There will also be a variety of games and entertainers.

At 10 p.m. a luminaria ceremony will be held, honoring people who have or have died from cancer.

Tables will start closing at 8 a.m.

**Students give ideas for new playground**

The Associated Students of the University of Idaho's Center for Volunteerism and Social Action will host KaBOOM! Design Day Saturday.

The event begins at 9 a.m. in the Genesee School's Auxiliary Room. Genesee students and parents are invited to participate in choosing equipment for the Genesee school playground renovation.

Paper and crayons will be provided for students to draw their dream playground. The University of Idaho KaBOOM! team will collect the pictures to find similar ideas and compile them into the design for the new playground.

Breakfast will be served to parents and students participating in the event. The breakfast is for donations only and all proceeds will go to the playground.

**Barker Trading applications due**

The College of Business and Economics and Barker Capital Management and Trading Program will hold the first Barker Trading Competition this year. The application deadline is today.

The competition, open to all students (graduate or undergraduate) currently enrolled at the university, is being held to encourage interest in financial markets and the University of Idaho's Barker Capital Management and Trading Program.

There will be awards for first through fifth place ranging from \$600-\$50.

Rules and complete information will be provided to those admitted. For further information and/or to apply, contact Professor Darek Nalle at 885-7858 or nalle@uidaho.edu.

**Former Muslim chaplain to speak**

James Yee, former U.S. Army Muslim Chaplain, will be the featured speaker at a University of Idaho sponsored event March 30 at the Idaho Commons Clearwater Room. Yee will present "Guantanamo: The Struggle for Human Rights," at 6:30 p.m. Yee, a third-generation Chinese American converted to Islam in the early '90s and served as a Muslim chaplain for the U.S. prison camp in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He was accused of spying, espionage and aiding

the alleged Taliban and Al-Qaeda prisoners. After investigation, all criminal charges were dropped.

**Engineers compete March 30 and 31**

The University of Idaho section of American Society of Mechanical Engineers will host the annual Student Professional Development Conference March 30 and 31.

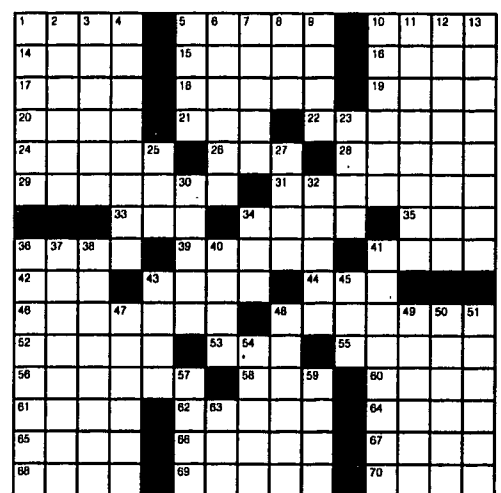
The Student Design Competition begins at 7 p.m. March 30, where competing students from various universities will design a human powered Water Still.

Technical presentations begin at 8:30 a.m. March 31 and run until noon, followed by the RC Baja Competition at 4 p.m. in Memorial Gym. An awards ceremony concludes the event. All students and community members are invited to come see and support mechanical engineering students from UI and other universities.

For information contact Tyler Merritt at (208) 412-7809.

**CrosswordPUZZLE**

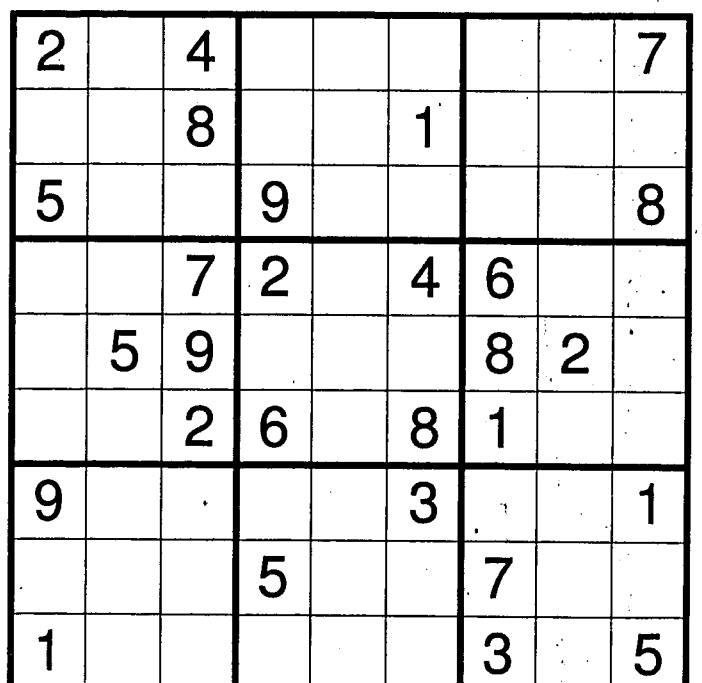
- ACROSS**
- 1 Order (around)
  - 5 Whiskers
  - 10 Con game
  - 14 High point
  - 15 Chain mail
  - 16 Weighty book
  - 17 Ruckus
  - 18 Color of envy
  - 19 Iowa State city
  - 20 Coarse greens
  - 21 Cry out loud
  - 22 Filtritious eyes
  - 24 Happening
  - 26 Aries
  - 28 Diameter halves
  - 29 Repellitive and boiling
  - 31 Dream up
  - 33 Freight weight
  - 34 Erelong
  - 35 TV spots
  - 36 Hunky
  - 39 Toga's cousin
  - 41 Part of M.I.T.
  - 42 golcha now!
  - 43 Half a quart
  - 44 Harrison in "Star Wars"
  - 46 Prepared
  - 48 Melancholy
  - 52 Stu of early TV
  - 53 Hold the title to
  - 55 Financial exam
  - 56 Hungered for
  - 58 Sports off.
  - 60 Border
  - 61 Polynesian amulet
  - 62 Character in "The Tempest"
  - 64 Baseball team
  - 65 Bld first
  - 66 Passover cracker
  - 67 Owner's paper
  - 68 Actress Russo
  - 69 Virtually vertical
  - 70 Bookie's numbers



**Solutions from 3/20**

- 6 Blunders
- 7 Single-celled organism
- 8 Caviar
- 9 First 007 film
- 10 WWII prison camp
- 11 Stand-up performer
- 12 Trees and Crows
- 13 Superlatively untidy
- 23 Mom's mom
- 25 Also
- 27 Skimpiest of skirts
- 30 Release from bonds
- 32 Chocolate coffee
- 34 Aardvark's snack
- 36 Filmmaker
- 37 Past prime
- 38 Bring back to life
- 40 Reversal command
- 41 Subtle insinuation
- 43 Fragrant conifer
- 45 Nabokov book
- 47 Heavenly
- 48 Ah-choo!
- 49 Swirled
- 50 Inked
- 51 High-spirited horses
- 54 Scribble
- 57 Blocks off
- 59 Lead balloon
- 63 Squeal (on)

**SudokuPUZZLE**



**Solutions from 3/20**

2	9	4	6	3	1	7	8	5
5	7	8	2	4	9	1	3	6
6	3	1	7	8	5	9	4	2
1	6	7	4	2	8	5	9	3
9	4	2	5	6	3	8	7	1
3	8	5	1	9	7	2	6	4
4	5	9	3	7	2	6	1	8
7	2	3	8	1	6	4	5	9
8	1	6	9	5	4	3	2	7

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit [www.sudoku.org.uk](http://www.sudoku.org.uk).

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**UI STUDENT MEDIA BOARD**  
The UI Student Media Board meets at 5:30 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month. Time and location will be published in the Argonaut Classified section the Tuesday of the week before the meeting. All meetings are open to the public. Questions? Call Student Media at 885-7823 or visit the Student Media office on the SUB third floor.

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# Data file posted to university Web site causes no harm, still stirs up trouble

By Jeremy Castillo  
Argonaut

For 19 days, University of Idaho's Web site had posted on it a data file containing the names, birthdates and Social Security numbers of 2,700 former and current employees — including teaching assistants and resident assistants — hired by the school as of Nov. 1.

From Feb. 8-27, a proprietary binary format readable only with compatible software was uploaded on to UI's Institutional Research and Assessment page by an authorized user for research purposes.

"Under state law, we can't discuss personnel issues," said Doug Baker, UI provost. "But I will say appropriate actions have been taken against the employee."

The file was quickly removed upon its discovery and wasn't

accessed or used for criminal purposes, according to University Communications and Marketing.

Baker and his department launched an investigation to find out how and why the data was posted.

"Unfortunately, it just a mistake by a person working on (the Web site)," he said. "They didn't need (the information) nor realize it was there. The Social Security numbers weren't in an obvious column and when we checked the file, no one realized it was there."

"The good news is no evidence it was being used by anyone for illicit purposes and you need special software to access this file. You can't just use a browser."

ITS immediately worked on informing people of this incident. Letters have been sent to employees possibly affected by the posted file.

ITS also created an information

## for more INFO

If you have questions or concerns about the posted data file, visit [www.vandalidentity.com](http://www.vandalidentity.com) or call the phone bank from Moscow at 885-2082. Others can dial (888) 900-3783.

page ([www.vandalidentity.com](http://www.vandalidentity.com)) with an explanation of the event and an FAQ section to answer any questions.

With identity theft being a sensitive issue, one might wonder why Research and Assessment needed access to such sensitive information.

According to the FAQ section, "For many years, the university used Social Security numbers to uniquely identify employees for tracking pur-

poses, such as studying faculty and staff promotion patterns or staffing trends."

"We don't use Social Security numbers for these purposes anymore, but the information is still present in many of our data files."

Baker said Social Security numbers and other personal data is being removed from university computers, but the process will take some time.

His department is assessing its data inventory in centrally managed files to ensure security breaches don't happen in the future.

"This hit us hard because of previous incidents," Baker said. "I was more upset than most employees were."

ITS will be doing desktop audits to erase sensitive information from computers that don't need it. It is also training faculty and staff how to encrypt important files and creating

firewalls for computers that will contain personal data.

A phone bank was set up on March 8 to address security issues and answer questions the FAQ page couldn't about this recent breach. From Moscow, the number is 885-2082. Others can dial (888) 900-3783.

"We had to find a staff and brief the employees," said Wendy Shattuck, UI's associate vice president of communications and marketing. "(But) we moved as quickly as we could and got temporary employees to staff the phone bank."

So far, the university has received fewer than 25 calls about the latest data leak, Shattuck said. However, the phone bank is ready for an increase in feedback.

"We are prepared to have it staffed to handle any volume of callers," she said. "We had no idea how many people would call."

## Students evaluate nutrition

By Cyrilla Watson  
Argonaut

In recognition of National Nutrition Month, a booth has been set up in the Commons Food Court providing free information about nutrition.

Information about how to identify fad diets, nutritional facts and Web sites to check out is available at the booth, which will be open from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. today. A nutritional guessing game will reward those who answered a question correctly by putting their name in a prize drawing.

According to the American Dietetic Association, the main purpose of National Nutrition Month is to focus on the importance of making informed food choices and develop healthy eating habits.

Some college students have a harder time eating healthy because of time or availability of healthy foods.

Freshman Sierra McFarland said it has been hard to eat healthy as a college student, but also said there are ways to keep track of what you are taking in.

"(It is possible to) pick and choose what to eat," McFarland said.

"(Part of a) nutritionist's job is to form personalized nutrition plan," said Verna Bergmann, a nutrition counselor at Student Health Services.

Bergmann also said a specific diet plan will not work for everyone. Personalized diet plans are the way to go and seeing a registered dietitian can help anyone formulate a plan, she said.

The American Dietetic Association has key messages from National Nutrition Month which are to develop an eating plan for lifelong health, choose foods sensibly by looking at the big picture, find personal balance between food and physical fitness and food and nutrition misinformation can have harmful effects on health and well-being.

"It is hard to eat healthy because I don't buy my own food," freshman Amanda Hopper said. "Living in Delta Delta, we have a chef who cooks most of the meals for us. There is always a salad bar available, along with fruits and other vegetables."

One thing Hopper does to balance her meals is eating small amounts of each food group.

Bergmann suggests taking a look at a food pyramid because it gives a visual representation of what people need to eat and how many servings are needed on a daily basis. She added that looking for the different food groups in each meal will also help. She said it is important to not skip meals and to eat foods filled with nutrition on a regular basis.

National Nutrition Month began as a weeklong event, but adapted to a month in the early '80s because it grew dramatically with those involved. Each year the theme for National Nutrition Month changes. This year's theme is "100% Fad Free."

For Nutrition Counseling, contact Verna Bergmann at 885-5012 or [verna@uidaho.edu](mailto:verna@uidaho.edu).

# Wheatland may finalize funding agreement

By Cynthia Reynaud  
Argonaut

The details of an agreement that would keep the Wheatland Express operating for another year have been worked out, according to city officials.

Moscow Transportation Commission Chairman Walter Steed said the agreement that would keep the commuter bus running between the University of Idaho and Washington State University for one more year should be finalized sometime next week.

"I am extremely optimistic that we will have bus service

for one more year," Steed said.

Steed declined to give any more details about the agreement until it has been signed.

Lloyd Mues, UI vice president of finance and administration, could not be reached for comment.

ASUI President Berto Cerrillo said ASUI, the University of Idaho, the city of Moscow and Washington State University are all involved in the new agreement.

Earlier this month, the student fee committee recommended \$3 per student be dedicated to funding the Wheatland Express after a

proposal was made by the ASUI Senate. The increase would generate about \$50,000.

"I think it's fabulous the students care enough to take on a fee," said Tom LaPointe, executive director of Valley Transit and a member of the UI Student Media Board.

When UI proposed to stop annual payments made to the Wheatland Express bus system, Moscow Valley Transit was also in danger of losing its funding. The transit system, which operates on approximately \$300,000 a year, receives the majority of its funding from "soft-match" federal grant dollars for the

\$100,000 UI and WSU each spend in funding Wheatland Express.

Discussions about alternative funding began last year when UI decided it could no longer help fund the bus service after a review of its general budget.

According to a recent survey, WSU students, faculty and staff account for about 49 percent of Wheatland riders, followed by UI students identified as 39 percent of all riders. The remaining 12 percent of riders are community members using the service for non-university related reasons.

UI students make up the

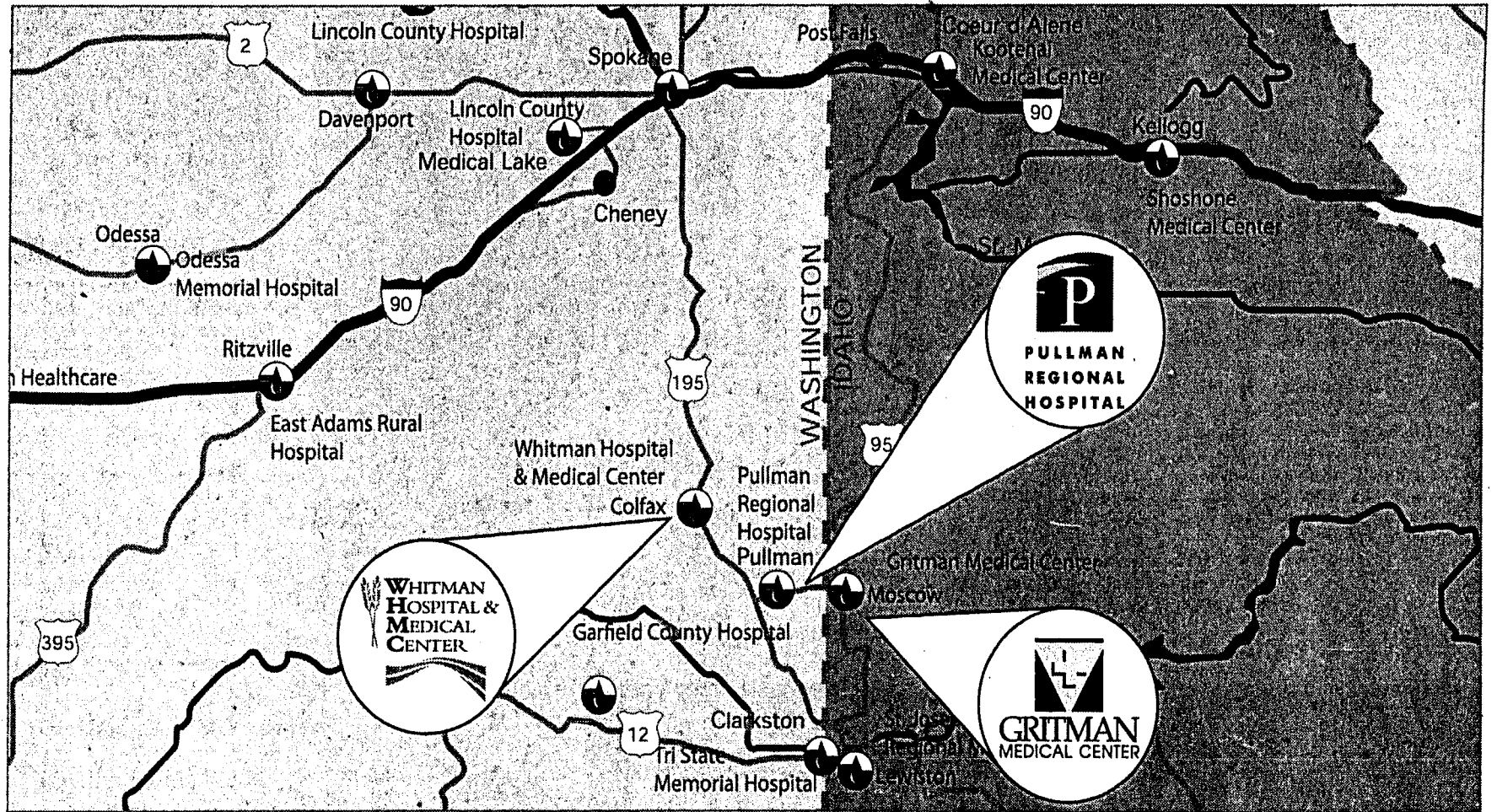
largest portion of Valley Transit riders with 65 percent.

LaPointe stressed that although all are hopeful that the agreement will be approved, nothing is finalized.

"There are a lot of people working very hard to make sure the Wheatland bus continues," he said. "I expect the problem to be resolved, but it's not resolved yet."

Cerrillo also noted that nothing is for sure until the student fee proposal receives approval from the State Board of Education. The board will address the topic at its April 19 meeting in Moscow.

# Palouse Hospitals Welcome Inland Northwest Blood Center



During World War II, advancements in blood transfusion medicine created a need for a consistent blood supply. The Spokane medical community met that need by founding Inland Northwest Blood Center - a not for profit life saving organization.

Over the past sixty years, INBC has grown to be the sole provider of blood products to more than thirty hospitals and medical facilities all over Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho.



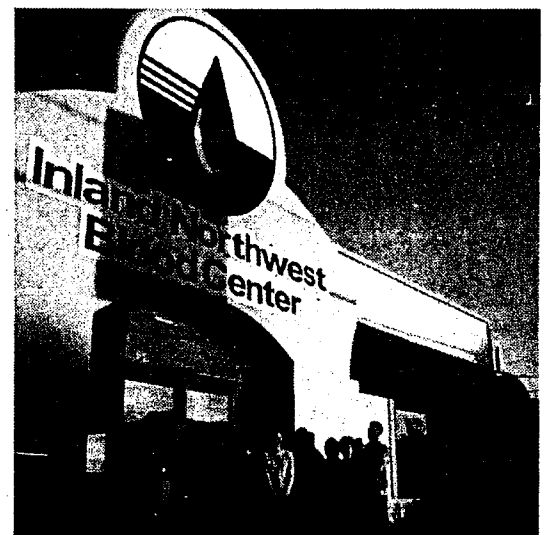
Now, Whitman Hospital and Medical Center, Pullman Regional Hospital and Gritman Medical Center welcome Inland Northwest Blood Center as their supplier of blood and

blood products, providing a consistent, local blood-supply on the Palouse.

INBC will host regular blood drives at the three hospitals and our volunteer donors who have given blood through other collection agencies will be able to transfer their credit to INBC.



It all means a reliable, timely and local supply of blood for healthcare professionals and their patients on the Palouse. Inland Northwest Blood Center - It's About Life.



Inland Northwest Blood Center

It's About Life!

[www.inbc2.org](http://www.inbc2.org) - (800) 423-0151

# Rebuilding life in the wake of Katrina

## Destruction outlasts national attention span

A couple of weeks ago I told a buddy of mine that I was headed to Waveland, Miss., for the Alternative Spring Break program. Some months prior he'd driven through the same haunts of Katrina-affliction where 100-plus UI students would shortly be shipped and warned me. "It's like a nuke went off down there, man. It looks like pictures of Kosovo or Afghanistan. It's third-world down there."

I assumed this was sympathetic hyperbole on his part. I further supposed that, if not, his account, influenced by the initial shock of the destruction, would have since been rendered as much by time's habit of easing people and places out of tragedy. As you may have guessed, however, he was right on the money. Photos, media coverage (what's left of it) and even first-hand description are sorely deficient substitutes for actual visitation. At the risk of cliché, nothing could have prepared me for the reality and enormity of Hurricane Katrina's devastation.

A cursory consideration of Katrina and her aftermath could easily be considered apolitical: A massive storm nailed a largely unprepared population and misery followed. Unfortunately, Katrina was, and is, a political entity, arguably from the moment whatever weather systems coaxed her into being. We have been dealing with an increasing number of hurricanes recently, a very likely result of global warming. Katrina was just one of the stars (although as the body count goes, she was well behind the tsunami that tore up Thailand).

The screwing afterward was far more personal. Shortly after Katrina, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait offered to gift us with spare oil, gasoline and "other refined petroleum products" (Executive Intelligence Review). Less infuriating than the criminal negligence that proceeded, but still pretty infuriating, was the fact that President Bush and Cheney turned them both down and the national price-gouging began. Oil companies reported record profits wrung from the destitution of American citizens.

Meanwhile, Michael "Brownie" Brown, Arabian horse enthusiast, Bush buddy and head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, was on the front lines, seeking help through his Blackberry. The following are actual Brownie e-mails during the crisis: "Yes, sitting in the chair, putting mousse in my hair..." "Can I quit now? Can I go home?" "If you'll look at my lovely FEMA attire you'll really vomit. I am a fashion god." "Do you know anyone who dog-sits?" "Order a #2, tater tots, large diet cherry limeade."

The administration knew that New Orleans' levees were unfit for a Level 3 hurricane, much less a Level 5, and did nothing. Rescue efforts were slow, undermanned and inefficient. The effort-botching would have been almost comical if large portions of Louisiana and Mississippi's infrastructures hadn't been disintegrating. There were failures at all levels, though Brownie was a big one. Rescue attempts were so sparse, due in no small part to the presence of so many soldiers, National Guardsmen, etc. stationed over in

Iraq, fighting for the oil we wouldn't take for free from Kuwait and the Saudis.

I talked to a man in Mississippi who'd huddled on the roof of his family's ancestral home with nine "babies" and five adults for hours. Their wait was further protracted by the understaffed rescuer's assumptions that they were all dead. In one coastal city, every cop and fireman clung to a tree for four hours while the storm whipped around them and their station flooded. Everyone I talked to had similarly unbelievable and heartbreaking stories. One woman likened the day after to "Dawn of the Dead" and recounted the sight of a half-naked woman staggering down the beach in a daze trying to get cell phone reception.

The official death toll for Katrina is well over 1,300, although the actual number will never be known. People are still dying from a variety of illnesses, accidents, crimes and desperation. Inhalation of airborne molds and funguses that thrive in seemingly every waterlogged structure has significantly contributed to sky-high pathology. Reports of staph infections have peaked beyond any expectations. In Bay St. Louis, Miss., a town with a pre-Katrina population of 8,209, EMTs confided that they'd responded to 12 attempted or completed suicides in the last three weeks. The numbers for the weeks before and after will probably be similarly grim, especially since 60-plus percent of the populace has left for good. Car wrecks have increased almost exponentially; people are distracted and tired.

Even the next generation is being shaped by Hurricane Katrina's withdrawal of their safety, which is pretty much all they know. Their caretakers seem perpetually edgy and woefully under-trained and their parents pick them up from school or extracurricular clubs or day-cares exhausted. Their spelling assignments consist of sentences like, "HIV is the virus that causes AIDS," and "Alcohol, speed and crack can bring on an early death."

Not that everything is dire, though the stories of inspiration are sometimes as melancholy as those of defeat. The people were incredibly grateful, kind and selfless. One woman who'd lost nearly everything had decided to keep helping people until she died of a staph infection rather than have her leg amputated. Though they were coping with often ostensibly insurmountable pain and loss, nearly everyone I encountered had dug in and committed themselves to rebuilding.

It's hard to avoid sounding melodramatic when recounting Katrina's massive and in-progress taxation. The thing is, it will take decades — if not, as some residents suggested, a generation — before things are back to normal. Watching the news after I got back, I kept reflexively waiting for the Katrina stories to appear, but 18 months later she's largely faded from the national consciousness. I'm not sure what exactly can be done, but do what you can. As sad, often uncomfortable and draining as it can be, and was, my trip to the South was without a doubt the best, most rewarding Spring Break I've ever had.



Frank McGovern  
Argonaut  
arg\_news@sub.uidaho.edu

## Amid the destruction, hope and homes rise

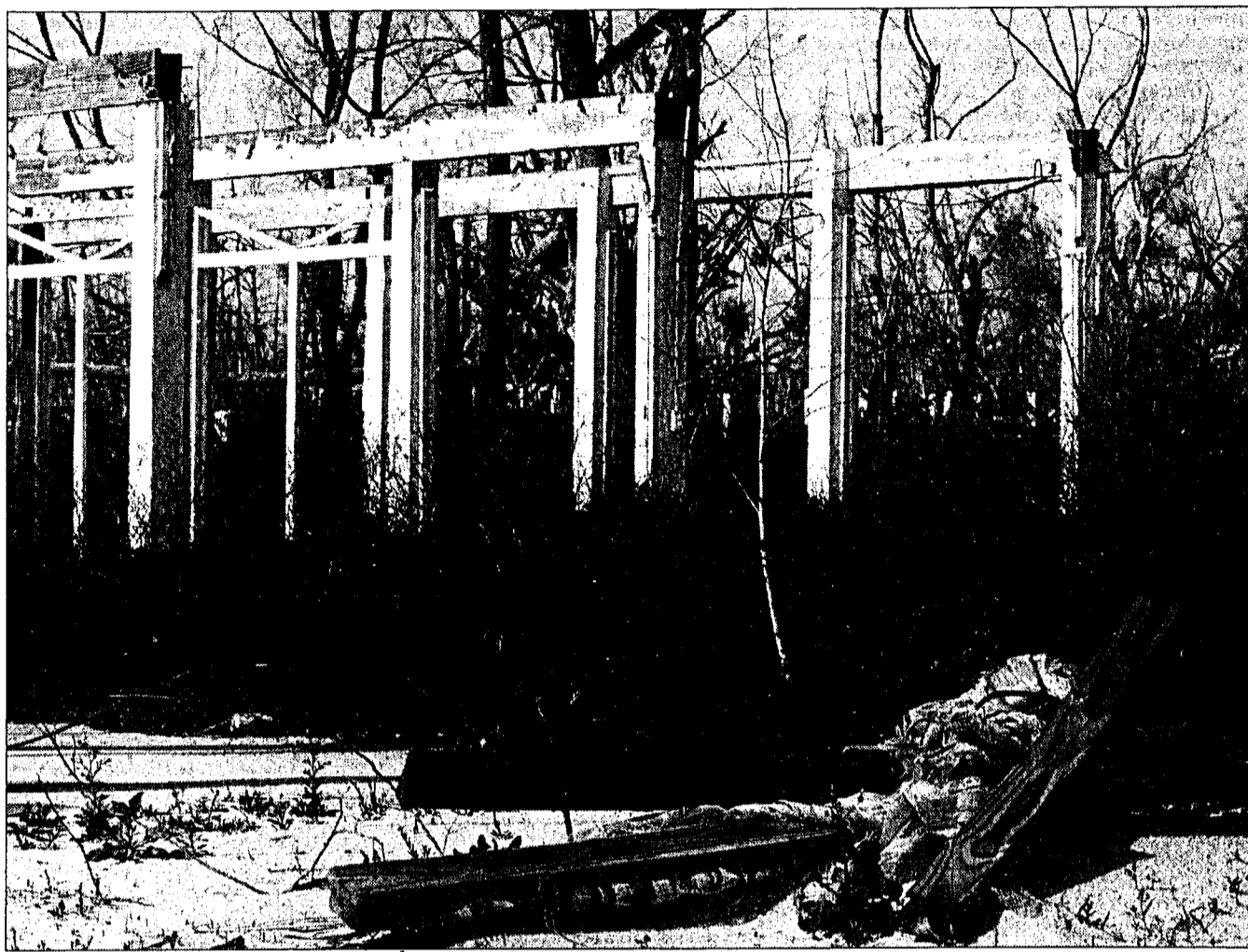
By Bruce Mann  
Argonaut

Last week, 108 University of Idaho students and advisers spent their Spring Break volunteering in Tennessee, Louisiana and Mississippi for the Alternative Spring Break Program.

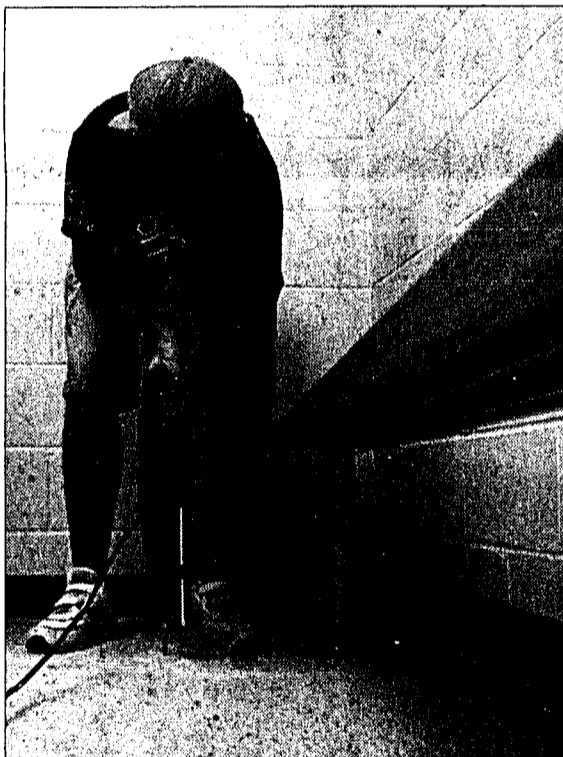
The following photos are just a small snapshot of one team's experience working in Waveland and Bay St. Louis, Miss. Every team at each of the three locations saw different things, talked to different people and had completely

different experiences.

While the communities are slowly beginning to rebuild, it will be a long time before the Gulf Coast region is back to its former self. Bay St. Louis and Waveland are made up of strong, proud resilient people, all with a story to tell about the past and their hopes for the future. And only through the continued efforts of citizens and volunteers from service organizations, churches, and university students like those from Idaho, can the communities affected by Hurricane Katrina come together and rebuild.



When residents returned to Waveland, Miss. after Hurricane Katrina, many found their former homes almost completely destroyed. These beams are all that is left of a house overlooking the beach in Waveland.



Idaho sophomore and student athlete Steven Potratz drills holes for a new bench in the locker room of Our Lady Academy, an all-girls Catholic school in Bay St. Louis, Miss. The school lost its original schoolhouse, built in the 1930s, and suffered extreme water damage throughout all of the buildings.



Long time Waveland, Miss. resident Genevieve Gordon discusses repairs to her home with Lloyd Ridler, a volunteer carpenter from Missouri. Gordon buried her husband the Saturday before the storm and, after fleeing to Houston, came back to find half her home flattened by a tree.

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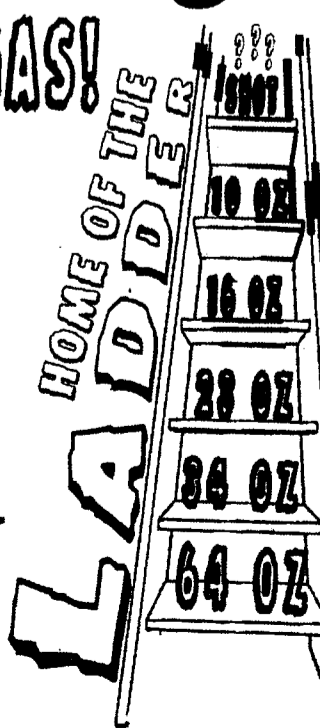
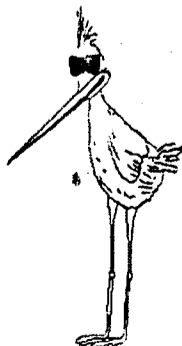
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**SenateREPORT**

**March 21, 2007**

Open Forum

ASUI Director of Community Relations Jon Gaffney updated the senators about the city council meeting that will be taking place April 4 at the University of Idaho. The council will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Idaho Commons. Gaffney encouraged the senators to go to the meeting and tell their living groups to also attend. He also encouraged participation in the eighth annual Saturday of Service.

Mandolyn Duclos, a member of the

Vandal Entertainment Board, thanked the senators for supporting the promotion of the Taylor Swift concert in the Student Union Building Ballroom on Thursday. She said the board is planning to schedule The Roots as the band for Finals Fest during dead week. The Roots will perform at 8 p.m. May 2 on the Theophilus Tower lawn. The concert will be free to all students.

Faculty Council representative Robert Taylor encouraged senators to participate in the KaBoom project to create playgrounds for surrounding communities. He said a design date was set for 8 a.m. Saturday in Genesee. Children will be at the meeting to discuss what kind of playground they want to have.

ASUI Vice President Adjutant Eric Everett updated the senators on the ASUI Doodstday Clock. The clock has been pushed back nine minutes and was presented on yellow paper.

**Executive Communications**

ASUI President Berto Cerrillo said he favored SO7-31, an act specifying how much money candidates running for the ASUI Senate or vice presidential and presidential positions could spend. He said the new bill concerning the senate's budget was available. He said he was open to any questions from senators concerning the budget.

**Unfinished Business**

SO7-31, an act creating campaign finance rules, passed.

SO7-32, an act updating the ASUI Student Recreation Board bylaws, passed.

SO7-34, an act amending ASUI rules and regulations section 7000, passed.

**New Business**

SO7-35, an act providing for the establishment of the ASUI general operating budget for the Associated Students University of Idaho, was sent to Finance.

-Christina Lords

**TAUPULE**  
from page 1

into his room and open the safe, which contained exactly \$1,000 in cash. After taking the money, Fitzmaurice testified, the attacker struck him in the back of the head with the gun, knocking him to the floor, before leaving the residence.

Fitzmaurice said the attacker was a large, black male with an afro, wearing dark clothes and a black bandanna around his face.

Fitzmaurice admitted before the court that he had dealt marijuana on many occasions since moving into the apartment, and had recognized Taupule almost immediately because he had sold him marijuana on two or three occasions and had seen him just days before the attack. On the two or three occasions Taupule had come over, Fitzmaurice said, he or his friends had purchased small amounts of marijuana valued at around \$20.

Fitzmaurice testified that the \$1,000 stolen from the safe belonged to a friend who lives in Pullman. Fitzmaurice maintained he was keeping the money for his friend, who didn't want to spend the cash, which consisted of one \$100 bill and possibly one or two \$50 bills. The rest, Fitzmaurice said, were \$20s.

A shotgun and handgun ammunition were recovered from Taupule's residence following the arrest, but no

handgun was found.

In January, Moscow Police also investigated Taupule for the theft of a safe that contained \$600 and other valuable items. However, Taupule was not indicted for the crime.

Taupule's attorney Tim Gresback argued to drop bail, which was set at \$100,000, citing Taupule's previously clean record with no criminal record of violent activity.

"We have somebody who comes from the tough side of town who's on the cusp of getting a college degree," Gresback said.

However, the judge denied the request, and bail remains set at \$100,000.

The seats at the courthouse were filled with Taupule's family and friends, including his mother and his wife, who is currently seven months pregnant.

The day of the hearing was Taupule's 23rd birthday, and this semester would have been Taupule's last. He planned to graduate May.

"I want the public to know that he's innocent," Taupule's mother Paula Taupule said. "How can they let a drug dealer go free and keep him (Taupule) in jail? Is it because of his color?"

Taupule, a 6-foot-1, 205-pound transfer from Compton College in California, started all 12 games for the Vandals last season, recording 34 tackles, including 25 solo.

**TOWER**  
from page 1

Pankopf said he expects the university will know for certain sometime next week.

The contractor was chosen out of six potential bidders.

The water tower, built on the hill above the golf course, still retains its original coat of paint from the mid-'70s. The once red-tinted tower is now a shade of dark gray-green with cracks and chips in the surface, which are beginning to rust.

The tower is used to store water for domestic use on campus and also for fire suppression, and the rust on the tower could eventually pose a health risk.

The total surface area of the tank that will be painted is 21,000 square feet. Pankopf said it is for this reason that the job was estimated at just less than \$200,000. The job will require specialty equipment and preparation time.

"That adds up to a lot of labor hours," Pankopf said.

Pankopf said the university usually sees \$2 million annually from the Division of Public Works for this type of repair.

**STEEL**  
from page 1

Griffel said the most feasible option is moving into another area. What University Residences has to offer, he said, is a section of a building in the Living Learning Community or a whole hall in the Wallace Residence Center.

"The fourth floor of Ballard is completely available," he said. "It doesn't have a name or a theme right now. But that's not hard and fast. It doesn't have to be there."

A move into another residence hall will mean higher rates.

Singles in the Ethel Steel House cost \$300 less than in Wallace and \$1,100 less than in the LLC, according to University Residences' room rates chart. This price increase may send some former Steel House members to find somewhere else to live.

"Some girls want to live off campus, but they want Steel House to stay alive," Markert said. "We don't want that to disappear. It's a rich tradition of 53 years. If we could get a discounted rate in Wallace, a lot of girls would stay because it's so important to us."

Griffel said several times at the meeting that a lower price in

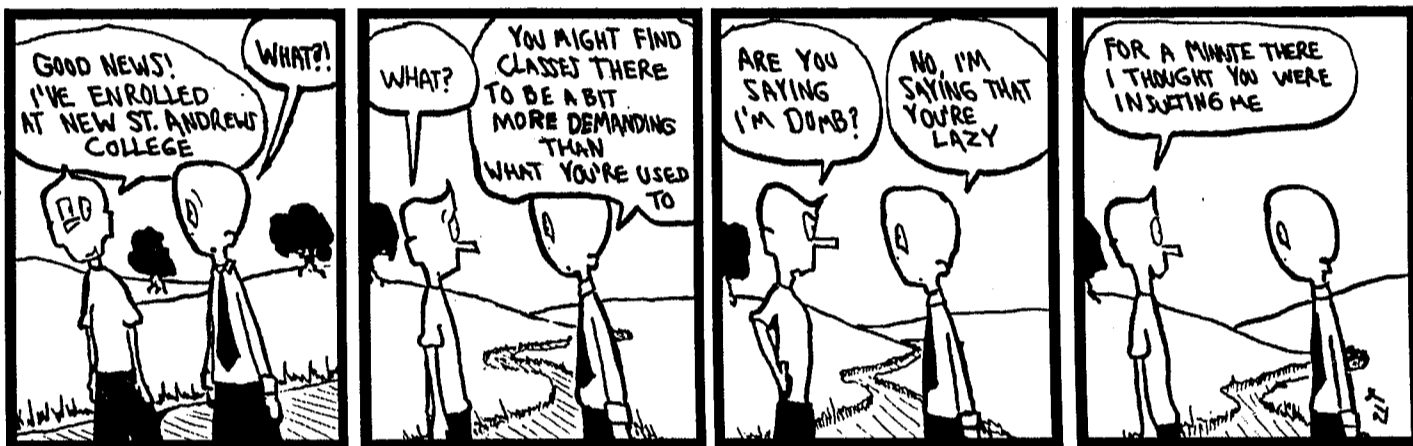
Wallace may be a possibility, but he made sure not to make promises.

"We really do want to work with folks, even though we're not providing and not meeting identical needs to those of Steel House," Griffel said. "We do want to provide means with what cards we have on the table."

Once vacated, the building will be evaluated for future use, which could include offices, storage or demolition. The university currently is working to address a backlog of deferred maintenance for all of its facilities totaling \$207 million.

**UniversityAVE.**

by Paul Tong/Argonaut



**The Argonaut Classifieds**

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Found in Kibbie Dome parking lot: women's white gold gemstone ring. Contact Meredith at Tutoring & Academic Assistance Programs, Idaho Commons 306; 885-6307; [taap@uidaho.edu](mailto:taap@uidaho.edu)

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**Employment**

**UI Extension 4-H Youth Development Internships.** We are seeking undergraduates interested in youth-related careers to gain field experience working with youth in the 4-H program. Generally, college credit will be allowed and interns will be paid a stipend of \$360/week for up to 10 weeks. Internship opportunities of varying lengths are available in several Idaho locations. Application deadline - April 6. More information can be found at [www.extension.uidaho.edu](http://www.extension.uidaho.edu).

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**Employment**

**Saturday Receptionist Job # 471**  
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Hours/Week: 5 hrs/wk - Saturdays  
Start: ASAP

**Roofing Laborer Job # 470**  
Perform all aspects of roofing. 18 years of age, valid driver's license. Rate of Pay: \$10-15.00/hr depending on capability  
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Start: May 7th or end of semester  
End: indefinitely  
Job Located in Moscow

**Apartment Cleaner Job # 468**  
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Job Located in Pullman

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Job Located in Moscow

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**OurVIEW**

## BOE should approve increases

On April 19-20, the Idaho State Board of Education will be in Moscow to review all of the student fee and tuition proposals for the four state institutions it oversees. The University of Idaho will present its student fee changes, which were developed over the last several weeks by ASUI, the administration and the student fee committee. After working diligently together to develop a reasonable increase that accomplished everything required of the university, UI will present a plan that increases undergraduate student fees by \$125 (5.95 percent). All that's left now is for the state board to accept the proposal.

And that's where UI has run into trouble before. Last year, in an incredibly arrogant move, the SBOE rejected UI's student fee proposal and handed the university back an increase of almost half what was asked. Cutting the UI fees from a 9.5 percent increase to 5.85 percent essentially told everyone who put the proposal together, "You don't know what you're doing or how to run your school."

It was an institutional slap in the face. This year, the administration took the board's lesson to heart. Anticipating more rejection, UI has put together a lean proposal that does little more than fund the essentials. The state board should approve this proposal as it stands.

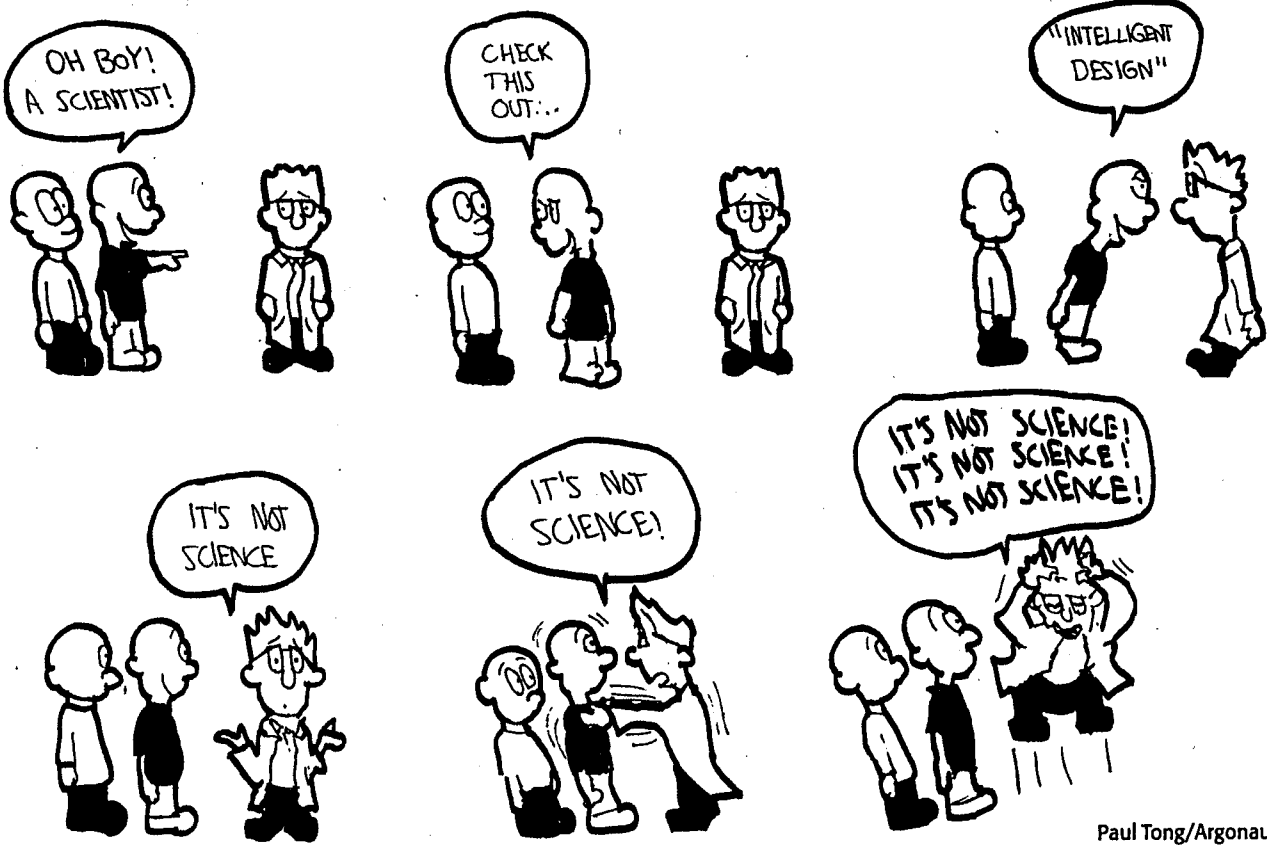
This is the second year that ASUI officials, the university administration and the committee have worked together to present a unified front to the SBOE. As an elected student official, ASUI President Berto Cerrillo has done a tremendous job in listening to and accommodating student requests, particularly in regards to the \$3 fee added to transit services to fund Wheatland Express.

This year's fee increases are reasonable. Only five areas in dedicated activity fees are seeing increases: ASUI (\$10), intercollegiate athletics (\$5.65), Student Health Services (\$4), student research grants (\$1) and transit services (\$3). In addition, facilities will receive a \$40 increase, and the general education operating budget will go up \$56.35. Considering all the thought and effort that went in to coming up with these numbers — and that the \$125 increase per student still keeps UI below the national average for student fees — denying this proposal would show disrespect for everyone at the university.

Who knows better what it takes to run UI: the elected student representatives and administrators who are intimately familiar with the goings-on on campus, or a state board who appears more concerned with perceptions than reality?

This year, the board needs to let decisions about UI student fees be made by the university. If the SBOE denies this proposal, it is time to question whether or not it actually cares about funding education in Idaho.

— S.C. for the editorial board



Paul Tong/Argonaut

## Collegians too special for their own good?

On March 2, columnist Sally Kalson published a piece denouncing the current collegian generation as being "too special for their own good."

In unoriginal windy bitching, Kalson calls us conceited, impulsive, demanding and more-or-less unwilling to change. She affirms a newly published long-term study by a group of social scientists that name this crop of college kids the most narcissistic of all.

So science says we're narcissists. The old folks have been saying it for a while. And you know what? They're right.

We are legends in our minds. I see it all the time. I see it on Facebook profiles, in traffic. I see it in the struts, the cell phones, the swearing in class, the picture poses, the hoochie-coochie accoutrements.

Our worlds revolve around us and everything in it exists to advance our interests. Like it or not folks, it's the way it is.

Whether or not our hubris will be our demise, no one can say. According to the study, it will definitely wreck mad havoc on monogamy. We are more likely to have romantic relationships that are short-lived, at risk for infidelity and lack emotional warmth, and to exhibit game playing, dishonesty and over-controlling and violent behavior.

Bummer. On a broader scale, we're skeptical of authority. We're demanding. We're entitled. We swear in public. We take off our clothes at inappropriate ages, smear ourselves with body oil and then snap pictures at flattering angles and put them on the Internet. We demand vegan dishes and our music to be playing out of little white headphones at all times. We have a hundred different aliases, log-ins and avatars. Because of our skepticism and penchant for wanting to Google the crap out of everything, sociologists have dubbed us the "Show Me" generation.

We pull no punches and this impetuous, defiant behavior has 'em all worried. It's important to note that all of America, whatever the age, has grown to be more narcissistic. Our generation just doesn't feel guilty about it.

We're educated and we're antsy, two very good things. Literary critic Lionel Trilling called it. "Our educated class has a ready if mild suspiciousness of the profit motive, a belief in progress, science, social legislation, planning and international cooperation."

Our collegians have the time, the resources and the mindset to entertain that suspiciousness, by far our most precious trait going.

We don't double over, retching with agony and feeling like traitors when one of us questions the efficacy and sense of the most automatic and core values of our society.

Whether or not the world is doomed and our generation is a bunch of Myspace-addicted, hedonistic, incorrigible twerps, we must move forward. The trick will be to figure how to live up to our own expectations. How do we become as great as we are in our heads? The state of the world is already a formidable challenge for the rising class of leaders. We better be the badassess we make ourselves out to be.



Tecla Markosky  
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## Uh, no... that's not my bomb... or my weed

There are many things one can chalk up to forgetfulness. Leaving nail clippers in your purse or a cigarette lighter in your pocket and then going through airport security is a mistake. Take the items out, drop them in the provided bins and move on. Get a new lighter when you get off the plane. It isn't like there will be an opportunity to smoke between take-off and landing, anyway.

Claiming not to know there is a pipe bomb in your backpack is not a mistake. Such was the case two weeks ago at the Spokane Public Safety Building.

As Sylvia Ceniceros went through the security checkpoint and had her bag searched, officials spotted the tape-wrapped plastic pipe with wires protruding from it. According to numerous reports, security kept her bag while she went through that building and into the neighboring Spokane County Courthouse to sit in on a hearing.

Not much later, security pulled her out of the courtroom and evacuated both buildings. The bomb turned out to be real and was subsequently detonated by the bomb squad.

Ceniceros says she didn't know the bomb was in her backpack and

doesn't know anyone who would have put it there.

If this wasn't so serious, I would have laughed in her face at that excuse. Ceniceros is 35 years old.

How does she not notice she has a bomb in her backpack?

Maybe I'm the only paranoid one out there, but if I know I'm going through a security checkpoint at any foreseeable time in the immediate future, I look through my things to see if there is anything that might cause trouble.

Then again, I don't make a habit of carrying around pipe bombs and I can't say I know anyone who does.

The "I didn't know it was there" excuse doesn't work for people who forget to take knives out of their pockets or marijuana out of their bags. Plan on paying for those mistakes.

It doesn't work if you are a celebrity, either. Ask Sylvester Stallone how his last trip to Australia went. The Aussies gave Stallone's private jet and his hotel room thorough searches after seizing "banned substances" from his entourage.

Yo, Adrian, I didn't do it!

Not even Calvin Broadus can escape with these kinds of excuses. Snoop Dogg's car was searched at

the Bob Hope Airport in Burbank, Calif. and he was arrested on drug and gun possession charges after appearing on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno." This came shortly after Snoop was found with a 21-inch collapsible baton among his bags the previous month.

Ceniceros is not a celebrity or public figure. Security didn't find steroids, pot or a gun in her backpack. They found a bomb. Big difference.

Until the rest of the story is known, no one can say the bomb was hers and that she meant to bring it to the courthouse. Maybe someone she doesn't know slipped the bomb in her bag, knowing she was headed to the courthouse the next day. Maybe somebody wanted to set her up, or worse, actually blow up the building.

Maybe she doesn't know the people she surrounds herself with as well as she thinks she does.

Perhaps she simply was caught doing something she shouldn't have been doing and used a 5-year-old child's excuse to try and get out of it.

Security did its job and no one was injured. They defused (or defused, if I felt like using a bad pun) a potentially dangerous situation. Ceniceros will have her own day in court.

I wonder who will come watch her trial. Anyone who does better know that they will be searched.

the meter. It's a good thing I did because the parking meter official was checking the meters. I emptied my pockets of change but I was still 30 minutes short ... not good when the official is there. Marge could tell by my frantic searching that I was in trouble. She looked at my meter and took change from her own pocket to give me thirty more minutes of parking. Thank you Marge! It may have only been a small amount of change but it is a gesture I will remember.

Eric Haley  
first year law student

**MailBOX**

### More articles needed to promote acceptance

I was thrilled to read "Something Like Home" in Tuesday's Argonaut. In summer 2005, I lived in my car in Moscow. Another friend of mine also lived in his truck for one semester. We had no idea so many people have had similar experiences, because the car life is so stigmatized in our society. We need more articles like this

showcasing the rational and legitimate reasons somebody would choose to live in their car. Perhaps someday, carsleepers will no longer be forced to the margins of society.

Jason Hoetger  
senior, economics

### Act was small change, but meant a lot

I don't have a parking pass so I had to use the parking meters across the street from the law school. I had a break in class and put more money in

**Off the CUFF**

Quick takes on life from our editors

### Erickson's Momma

During my Spring Break trip to Seattle, I met someone interesting. His name was Curtis, and he drove the hotel's courtesy van. Curtis grew up next door to Dennis Erickson. His statement on the matter: Erickson's arrogant, but his mom is really, really nice. (Go Vandals!)

— Tara

### Feeling frigid

I am cold. I'm fairly certain that when the weather turned nice (Sunday and Monday), the decision was made to turn off the heat to ... everywhere. I don't know if it's just me, but it seems to be cold everywhere I go. In my room in the residence halls, at work in the SUB and in about half of my classes. I can understand the excitement of the coming spring weather and the need to save money, but give me back my heat!

— Miranda

### Time flies in college

Is it just me or do the days seem to go by faster and faster after Spring Break? One minute you're all caught up in your classes and then there is Spring Break and BAM! You have papers due, projects due and tests coming in classes you kind of forgot you were enrolled in. And this year, I've started thinking about all the "last times" whenever I do anything, and making sure I do all those things I said I was going to do before I graduate ... you know, "the list." At the same time I just can't wait for May to come, a part of me just wants everything to slow down, just for a second.

— Cynthia

### Wrecking ball operator:

Congratulations on landing the silo destruction job! I have greatly enjoyed watching your work. The ball, the destruction, it all makes me so happy. I noticed, however, that the progress has been slow, and I thought I'd offer a few pointers to speed up the process. It would probably help to wind up a little more on each swing, or better yet, just rotate the crane as fast as possible and get a round-house going. Also, I can't stress the importance of spikes. Most important, however, is expanding the work day. This can be accomplished by recruiting volunteers to work the crane through the night. I would be happy to take the first shift.

— Alec

### Taking stock

As I look around my predecessor's desk, I take stock of many things. I browse through the photo equipment catalogue, the second-hand photo books and the CD-Rs stacked on the corner of the desk. Some people might call this a "messy desk," but I like to think of it as a repository for Photo Bureau artifacts.

— Kentaro

### Flippin' out

So ... I made a pact with myself before graduation. No, no, it's not to find a job, drag myself to class everyday or lose five pounds. It's much better. I realized that when the real world comes around in a few weeks, it won't be as welcoming to my flippies as college has been. The world will want my feet covered and stifled in an 8-by-5 cubicle for, like, the next 50 years. Therefore, I'm determined to wear flippies or some form of sandals everyday for the rest of the semester. My feet will be so flippied-out by then, I'll be ready for the real world, dude.

— Mackenzie

### Trashy TV

I think all TV entertainment shows should be banned. I'm not saying that I don't enjoy mindless, trashy celebrity news sometimes, but crappy TV shows like "Entertainment Tonight" try too hard to look like real news. I was watching a similar program at the gym and I couldn't believe how ridiculous it was. I recommend that people stop watching these shows and start reading The National Enquirer and The Weekly World News. There is no overly perky host telling you what to think or so-called experts pretending they are saying something important. The Enquirer is just plain lowbrow and they don't pretend they are anything else. And the Weekly World News, well that's just good reporting. I love lowbrow entertainment, but celebrity television news is going too far.

— Ryli

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The Argonaut welcomes letters to the editor about current issues. However, The Argonaut adheres to a strict letter policy: Letters should be less than 300 words typed.

- Letters should focus on issues, not on personalities.
- The Argonaut reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and clarity.
- Letters must be signed, include major and provide a current phone number.

- If your letter is in response to a particular article, please list the title and date of the article.
- Send all letters to: 301 SUB, Moscow, ID, 83844-4271 or arg\_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu.



"AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH"

C. Scott Aguilar/Argonaut

## Aloha, winter, I barely knew ye

I am excited that spring is here. By God, I am.

Save for the three weeks I was back home in Hawaii for Christmas, the first few weeks of this semester, and final few of last, gave me a crash course in winter: getting hit with snow, slipping on an ice patch and falling onto the sidewalk, icy winds trying to rip skin off my face, seeing the sun go down at the ungodly time of 4:30 p.m. Fun times, really.



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my first class. From Wallace to the Admin Building by way of JEB Hill, I saw my fellow Vandals wearing sweaters from several other states: Washington, California, Oregon, Wyoming, Kentucky, Colorado, Texas, even Maryland.

Seeing my peers wear swag from other schools, especially ones clear across the country, made me wonder why they came to little old Moscow from such faraway states, as I myself did.

Another highlight from this winter was at the tail end of last semester. I was walking out of Wallace and saw the Wheatland Express coming down Sixth Street. Instead of going to class, I boarded the bus and rode it to Pullman and back, soaking in the snow-covered hills that seemed to roll into infinity and the sweet classic rock tunes playing on my iPod. I got back to campus in

just enough time to walk into my next class.

Of course that's all fading away now. In a couple weeks, those sweaters are going in the closet along with the gloves, hats and boots. The snow is gone from the sun-tanned rolling hills and in its place will grow the wheat that gives names to so many Moscow businesses. The bald branches will get their leaves back.

And I, for one, am pretty happy about it.

Winter was charming but I'm all for the sights of spring: squirrels running around campus, blue sky and bright sun, students throwing Frisbees around or sunbathing on the Theophilus Tower lawn. It'll be just like when I first moved to this little town back in August as a transfer student who never even crossed Idaho state lines.

If not, then so be it. I'll just be happy walking to class without putting on enough layers to rival a cake.

## Life could save your drinking

There are several facets to engaging one's adulthood. Sadly, they all usually end the same way: waking up groggy, unsure of where they are and with a stomach like lead.

A highly celebrated ritual in our popular society is the 21-run, where the celebrated 21st birthday includes going out and getting free drinks until you pass out. Passing out isn't how the ritual set in stone, but it is a probable danger faced when attempting a 21-run.

There has been some flack about the lack of concern for young drinkers and the risks they impose on themselves by drinking.

My experience with alcohol has shown me that there is an inherent responsibility everyone must accept to deserve the right to drink. The most important is to be aware of one's limitations.

The only run I have documented was not my own. It was a friend's, and it ended in the hospital. It is quite an experience to shove an incoherent giant back into the ER when he has just pulled out an IV and is walking around the waiting room in his

undies. There is no way to truly promote drinking alcohol when considering the dangers. There's no way to truly tell someone not to drink — or smoke or suck helium out of balloons. People must do what makes them happy. They should also be aware of how often their happiness is the result of harmful elements.



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The inclination to drink doesn't make someone an alcoholic. Drinking is a well-established norm in our society. If we don't want alcohol to prevail, stop the advertisers. To do that we have to stop watching sports, because alcohol is a huge ad revenue for networks when sports are playing. Drinking is as celebrated an American past time as baseball.

If the inclination is to drink away problems or forget bad experiences, then that is a risk for drinkers to take. Drinking has never empowered anyone, and, as students, we can't afford to give up power to substances.

To assume we aren't aware of the present dangers of excessive partying seems

to degrade the college lifestyle, which many older citizens are re-embracing every year.

Of course, we never see the 45-year-old soccer mom at these parties, but that's not to say she's not invited. I think any college student would like a designated driver with a minivan.

We are also well aware of the laws. That might be why the streets of Moscow don't run with blood and oil every Friday night. Students will generally assume their drinking responsibilities and not get behind the wheel with a stomach full of gin and chicken wings. Those who do are not without the reasoning that it is illegal and the penalty is high. Those are the ones that might take a few more years to graduate.

When students turn 21 they have the right to drink. They have had the right to smoke and browse adult stores for three years prior. Until their AARP card comes in, we have nothing left to look forward to after our 21st birthday. But, just as surely as they are drinking now, they will have a lot more drinking to look forward to when they become senior citizens.

## SPECIAL from page 6

It's important to note the more irritating qualities of this so-called "narcissism" will eventually knock off. Through the forces of gravity, loan deadlines, the powers of calendars, simmering

hormones and job interviews, collegians are pushed to conform. We'll marry, vote and beget children. We're not going to cancel Medicare. Things will run smoothly.

Holding college kids accountable for their shortsighted, ultra-irritating arrogance is a lame pursuit. It's

part of the program. We solidify the stuff "inside" so that we may better address the stuff "outside." The Show Me generation will have its hands full in a few years. For now, there's no better crib than college, saggy Sally Kalsin in her middle age should know. We're right on track.

## Will a national identification card destroy civil liberties in America?

### No: Standard ID cards make good sense

By Henry Mark Holzer  
MCT Campus

As usual, the civil libertarians are mistaken. There's no "national ID card," let alone one that will destroy our civil liberties.

A 2005 federal statute provided that in 2008 "a federal agency may not accept, for any official purpose, a driver's license or identification card issued by a state to any person unless the state is meeting the requirements of this section. 'Official purpose' includes but is not limited to accessing federal facilities, boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft, entering nuclear power plants, and any other purpose that the secretary (of homeland security) may determine."

Applicants for state-issued ID must provide certain kinds of proof, such as citizenship or legal residency, and the state-issued ID must contain certain kinds of information, such as name, photograph, date of birth.

Unarguably, Congress has the textual power, augmented by more than 200 years of Supreme Court decisions, to legislate on a broad range of ID-related subjects — including the use of passports, production of veteran documents to obtain benefits, the possession of draft and Social Security card, and the public display of licenses for all manner of personal and business activity. Moreover, for federal pur-

poses, the federal government is not obligated to accept any state identification documents. One can't re-enter the United States, obtain VA benefits or possess DEA privileges on the strength of a driver's license.

Reciprocally, no state need comply with the ID statute. Although the secretary of homeland security has the power to make administrative regulations enlarging the category of "other (federal) purposes," he hasn't done so. When he does, they will be subject to judicial review.

What, then, upsets the civil libertarians? Some say state compliance will be too expensive. Typically, not only do they offer no proof, but, ironically, for many of them few state spending programs have ever been too expensive — especially if they were for some boondoggle like welfare.

Others spout empty slogans like "if we lose our identification card, we lose our identity, we lose our ability to access the services and infrastructure that society offers." A Texas congressman, speaking of the statute, loftily complained that in Washington there "is no rule of law. There is no respect for the Constitution."

One searches in vain for any serious commentary plausibly arguing that under the Constitution and Supreme Court opinions, Congress lacks the power to have enacted the statute. Nor have any serious attempts been made to show

any provision in the statute that requires states to comply — indeed, some states are considering opting out.

And perhaps most important of all, there have been no serious examples proffered of how the statute violates Americans' civil liberties — especially today, when the United States is in at least a de facto war with radical Islam.

On the other hand, there are manifest benefits to be had from full implementation of the statute. Foremost is greatly reducing the incalculable amount of forged and stolen identification papers that this country is awash in — from driver's licenses, to Social Security cards, to credit cards and more — all of which facilitate illegal immigration, identity theft and other criminal activity.

A potentially greater reason is the impact on criminals and terrorists of, again, state-issued ID — which can't be issued without clear proof of identity and status, and will contain crucial information of no threat to anyone engaged in lawful conduct.

It is well known that the Sept. 11, 2001, hijackers relied on phony documents to facilitate their destruction of the World Trade Center and murder 3,000 innocent souls. Perhaps more stringent ID requirements would have prevented that calamity — or not.

But given the stakes, neither the U.S. government nor the people can afford to take the chance of guessing wrong.

### Yes: Don't surrender freedom for a scam

By Eric Peters  
MCT Campus

What if we just said no? Not to drugs — though that's a good idea, too. But not to being fingerprinted and/or optically scanned for purposes of the soon-to-be-mandatory "national ID card."

How about it? We're supposed to be a fiercely independent, freedom-loving bunch — the sort who'd never trot willingly to the glue factory like so many European herd animals. Right? So what's the deal with this national ID stuff, specifically, to meekly submitting to being fingerprinted and having our irises scanned — the so-called "biometric" tags — like common criminals?

In 2005, the government passed into law the Real ID Act, which requires all states to change the way they issue driver's licenses so that they conform to a single federal standard — one that includes a requirement, dazzling in its stridency, that each of us be tagged with those so-called biometric identifiers — digitized fingerprints and retina scans — with the data linked to a single federal database that would be continuously fed information about us and what we do and where we go.

All of it in the name of fighting terrorism; apparently this will be accomplished by setting up one of the building

blocks of every modern police state. The national ID card will be required for virtually every transaction of modern life, from boarding an airplane to opening a bank account.

The digitized devices would provide an endless mine of personal data — where you travel, what you buy, etc. — for Beltway bureaucrats to pore over and identify thieves to exploit. Just wait until that \$10,000 bill for computer gear you never bought shows up in the mailbox!

Privacy advocates have been up in arms since the idea was first broached after the 9/11 attack, and rightly observed that homegrown terrorists like Timothy McVeigh had perfectly in-order "papers" — including legitimate driver's licenses.

A national ID would not have stopped the Oklahoma City bombings or prevented Mohammed Atta from boarding the 767 that flew into the World Trade Center's Tower 1. And anyone who believes it will prevent or even put a dent in the endless truckloads of illegal aliens entering this country from Mexico has been guzzling the Kool-Aid.

Interestingly, several states are showing more guts than most of us — or at least, more self-interest.

Maine, Georgia, Wyoming, New Mexico, Vermont and Washington have either passed legislation objecting to

the federal Real ID Act, or seem poised to do so. It's not that they're looking out for us, though. They're looking out for their bottom lines. Estimates of compliance costs run to \$11 billion and more — big money, even at the federal level and huge payouts for states with entire budgets that are smaller than that.

But we — you and me — have a more profound interest at stake. At a certain point that's hard to define before it confronts us, we must each be ready to take a principled stand and say, "No." This is unacceptable. I will not comply. Politely; without violence. But firmly. It is a question of right vs. wrong.

The "law" be damned. That's a concept that made this country possible in the first place. The American Revolution was set off by obnoxious tax edicts from the English crown and parliament. It's the kind of attitude that helped self-cleanse some egregious historical wrongs — slavery comes to mind; then Jim Crow. A certain amount of scofflawing from time to time has served, for more than 200 years, to keep Washington from over-stepping its bounds.

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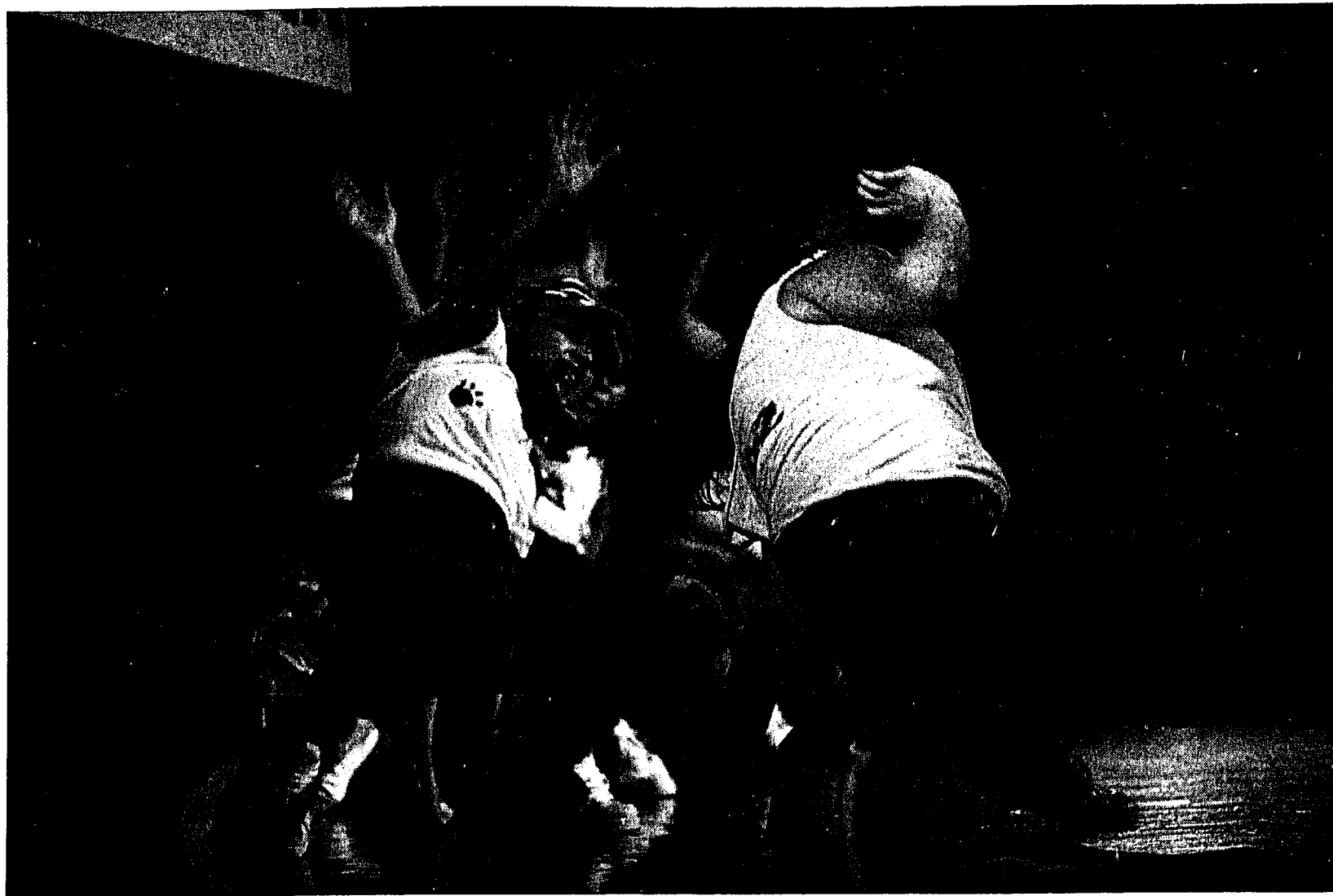
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The stroll team from the ETA Chapter of the Gamma Alpha Omega sorority compete in the Spring Step and Stroll Competition held in Memorial Gym last March. File Photo

## Dancing for cultural diversity

By Michael Howell  
Argonaut

Last year, the University of Idaho Women's Center sponsored the first ever UI Step and Stroll Competition to promote intercultural awareness through dance.

The event returns 6 p.m. Saturday at the UI Student Union Building Ballroom. With some updated rules and a larger number of competing teams, the event looks to be bigger and better.

"We have teams coming from all over the Northwest," said Amy Sharp. "There will definitely be more competition."

Sharp, a program adviser for the UI Women's Center and a Stroll Committee chair member, said the increased number of teams means a lot for everyone involved in the competition.

"It's a sign that last year's event was a big success," she said. "Most of these new teams asked if they could be participants. They must have heard some positive things."

Sharp also said that this year comes with changes she hopes will make the competition better. One of the most drastic of these changes is the inclusion of more professional and impartial judges.

"Last year, we had the teams bring someone

that they wanted to be a judge," she said. "What ended up happening was we would have numerous judges who weren't necessarily informed on what to look for."

This year, Sharp decided to go with a pre-approved jury of five judges. The judges come from different organizations and offices within UI and Washington State University, including the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

That's only part of the new judging standards. Sharp also made sure that the five judges are prepared as well as they are looking for.

"We sent them our rules and last year's competition DVD," she said. "We also decided as to what each judge would be looking for specifically in terms and points and deductions."

The Step and Stroll Competition is also partnering up with the Take Back the Music program.

The Take Back the Music program seeks to inform people about how women are portrayed in modern music.

"It shows women how much they can, and in most cases are, objectified within much of today's modern music," Sharp said. "Modern genres like hip-hop oftentimes feature lyrics and videos that don't portray women in the most positive light. By partnering with the organization, we are hoping to enlighten people."

### see the COMPETITION

See the Step and Stroll Competition at 6 p.m. Saturday at the UI SUB Ballroom. Tickets are available in advance at the UI Women's Center and Office of Multicultural Affairs and at the door for \$7. For information visit [www.uidaho.edu/womenscenter/stepandstroll](http://www.uidaho.edu/womenscenter/stepandstroll).

Along with Take Back the Music, the event will also be partnering with the UI Office of Multicultural Affairs and numerous other organizations to promote ethnic diversity.

"It's a part of the community that I think we need to see," said Francisco Salinas.

Salinas, who is the Director of Multicultural Affairs and a judge for this year's competition, said the event shows a side of cultures he thinks everyone can get into and relate to.

Sharp said she hopes people will be able to watch some great stepping and strolling and just have a fun time.

"Last year everyone who came was way into the competition," she said. "It made for a wonderful time. We hope that the people this year will be even better."

## A high-class coffeehouse

check it OUT

Sisters' Brew Coffee House is located on the corner of Third and Main in downtown Moscow.

By Rebecca Bujko  
Argonaut

Outside the streets are busy and loud, but the second you walk in the door of Sisters' Brew Coffee House you instantly feel at ease.

The aroma of fresh-brewed coffee invites you to the counter, but you are too intrigued with the setting. Soft music plays in the background, setting the mood of the coffeehouse. It's hard to tell where to look first,

since there are so many different areas of the store. A homemade pie on display catches your eye and you decide to order.

The employees are friendly and open to variations to the menu.

The prices are fair — most items are under \$4 — and there are a variety of drinks as well as baked goods like pies, cake and cinnamon rolls.

The coffee is served in a variety of cups, some plain white, some clear and some with flower decorations on the sides. The variety of dishes makes you feel more like a guest than a customer.

The extra-sweet caramel latte tastes like Irish cream mixed with chocolate and the caramel swirl on the foam is an attractive touch.

The Americano is served hot, so make sure to sip it slowly or you might burn your tongue.

The white chocolate mocha is absolutely divine. It tastes like a liquid candy bar so it is easy to guzzle it down a bit too quickly. Make sure to save room for some treats.

The chocolate and espresso mini bundt cakes are delicious little cakes smothered with chocolate syrup. They are especially good when heated in the microwave by the counter. The homemade cherry-apple pie is perfectly spiced with a buttery, flakey crust.

The baked goods are served on nice dishes but with plastic forks, which seems odd because the food is such high quality.

Notice that the name says coffee house, not coffee shop. One explanation could be the store's resemblance to an actual living room that might be found in someone's home.

Customers can be found lounging, sipping coffee and maybe doing some homework.

Although there are a few tables in the front as could be found in a normal coffee shop, the rest of the space is filled with comfy, high-class couches and cushioned chairs, each with an end or coffee table close by. There is enough space to accommodate small or large groups of people without cramming them all right next to each other and it is hard to choose a spot to sit because they all look so inviting.

See COFFEE, page 9

## Making trash trendy

Fashion show sponsored by College of Art and Architecture showcases sustainable clothes

By Alexiss Turner  
Argonaut

Forget Gucci. Prada is for the energy-ignorant.

Real fashionistas work the catwalk in garbage bags and duct tape.

At least that was the theme of Wednesday night's fashion competition, Embodiment Energies. Under the bright lights of the stage, University of Idaho students strutted their stuff in student-designed fashions made from all things recyclable.

The event was sponsored by the College of Art and Architecture and is the first big event that the college has had since its re-instatement at the university. The event is one of many during Celebrating Sustainability week, a week of events created and sponsored by the college. Students were encouraged to work with highly sustainable materials and conserve as much energy as possible while creating a piece of wearable art.

"(The competition) is about managing very limited resources," said Ellen McKenzie, management assistant for CAA.

Students of all disciplines participated in groups of no more than five and competed under names they created. Teams met at 10 a.m. Wednesday to receive the guidelines for the competition. Certain materials were supplied, including fabric, wood, bamboo shoots, pipes, Plexiglas and book covers. Most teams used their time scouring the town to find usable supplies. Designs were due by 5:30 p.m. that afternoon.

Members of the design team Classy Gals said the time commitment was

tough. Laurel Scheiwe, presenter of her team's design, said balancing their designing time with classes was difficult.

An audience of almost 100 people attended the competition. Most were there to show support for their friends and family. During the competition a member of each team modeled the team's designs on stage while another answered questions about the design's sustainability and described how the team used the materials.

M & M Designs discovered the competition through a class. They used all organic materials for their white sundress complete with a bamboo umbrella. Everything used in the design was natural except the plastic hula-

hoops used to make the skirt of the dress. Their design earned them a Judges' Choice award in the competition.

"If we hadn't used (the material) it would have been thrown away," M & M Designs team member Marcie Meredith said.

Kelly Anderson and Michele O'Hanesian (Members of Wingless O'Hanesian Productions), were encouraged by their department to create a design they described as a "post-apocalyptic warrior." Their design was modeled by Anderson, who donned the bamboo chest plate and plaid kilt with enthusiasm, swinging his weapon: a painted croquet mallet. He also wore an inner tube back-plate, which O'Hanesian said was for any unexpected water landings.

"(Our design) is about sustaining and protecting your own self," Anderson said.

See FASHION, page 9

## Who knows the price of a good liver these days?

By Brandon Macz  
Argonaut

At the current rate college students consume alcohol on campuses, not many people think about how it will affect the price of their livers on the black market. Kameron Manley and Streeter Johnson do, and have realized that religion is the key.

"If we were going to get a liver transplant, we wouldn't want one from any of the people we associate with," Johnson said. "A Mormon would obviously be the No. 1 choice."

This idea became the basis for their band, Mormon Livers are Expensive, a ghetto-tech and hip-hop love-child created with Apple's GarageBand computer program.

"Basically, I mess around on GarageBand and take loops and synth beats and mesh them together into a smorgasbord of awesome," Johnson said.

Manley and Johnson, also known as K'Diz and Yung Briggim, began discussing band names on a trip to Oregon with no intention of starting a band. Johnson said he made a song about a friend known as Nasty Nate and Manley decided to join in the experience to become Mormon Livers are Expensive.

"We figured after five years at UI, we knew enough people to have a fanbase no matter how bad we sucked," Johnson said.

Johnson said Mormon Livers has a fanbase on Myspace.com/mormonliversareexpensive, and the majority of them reside on Greek



Brandon Tolman/Argonaut  
Kameron Manley (left) and Streeter Johnson make up the band Mormon Livers are Expensive.

Row and are from the members' hometowns of Nampa and Coeur d'Alene. Despite their name, the band members said, Mormons also listen and enjoy their ghetto-tech music and raspy vocals.

"We want to let it be known that LDS is the preferred nomenclature," Johnson said. "We've got nothing against Mormons. Our name is just a true statement about them. It's actually a compliment to them if you really think about it."

Presidents Day weekend, Mormon Livers teamed up for a house party with Sole Serene and played a few songs. They plan on playing a few more shows but said they like to keep their new spins online.

"(Sole Serene) are way better

musicians and were able to learn the music and jam out on their guitars while we spit hot fire on a packed house full of screaming fans," Johnson said.

Johnson said Manley is the emcee and "designated dance machine," while he makes the beats and "spits" the rhymes.

"After that, Kam and I just come up with a concept ranging from people we know to ridiculous things like chili cheese fries," he said. "We even have a song where Satan and Jesus battle rap. It was an epic battle between two extraordinary talents."

According to their Myspace credentials, their influences have

See LIVERS, page 9



# FASHION

from page 8

Davidson and Charlie Duerr created their design entirely out of waterproof pea bags they got from the old silos in Moscow.

"We wanted to be pure about it," said Davidson, model for the design.

The team used only materials that were destined for the trash. They cut old tires and used them as knee and elbow guards. Davidson's face mask was hammered out of a heat shield of a car muffler, complete with breathable burlap that Duerr said was to protect against airborne chemicals.

A panel of four judges selected winners from the 15 teams involved. First place received \$600, second received \$300 and third received \$150. The judges also recognized two teams with Judges' Choice awards.

First place went to a four-person group, Something Trashy. Decked out in a wide skirt of plastic tubes and Venetian blinds, model Maria Berube said because the team planned the design in such a short time, winning was a surprise. The Sea Turtles team came in a close second, followed by Go Green. A second Judges' Choice was also awarded to a team named 4:1.

Student judge Rose Keller said judging was difficult because of the time restrictions.

"All the teams were amazing," she said.

Ron Walters, president of the CAA Advisory Council and emcee for the competition, said the show exceeded his expectations. He said one of the most amusing aspects of the competition was the enthusiastic strut of participants across the stage.

"Some of (the participants) really owned those costumes," he said.



Tessa Sheehan/Argonaut  
Kelly Rundle models her group's sustainable clothing design on the Kenworthy's make-do runway.

# LIVERS

from page 8

come from heavy hitters like Bloodhound Gang, Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch and Scatman John. Their song "The Invasion" is a chronicling of the rise of Mormon Livers.

"People of the earth grab your headphones," says "The Invasion." And listen to our ghetto-tech sound. There's no way to stop the culmination, the invasion's goin' down."

Manley is majoring in secondary education at the University of Idaho and Johnson is studying advertising which may come in handy for their first album which is now for sale online at <http://www.indifi.com/members/2314>.

"Neither of our livers have ever been too valuable, but hopefully this band thing takes off and our livers' value at the auction block will skyrocket," Johnson said. "However, the Mormon Livers do not condone selling your or anyone else's organs in exchange for cash."

## ArtsBRIEFS

### Kenworthy enters the maze

The award-winning Spanish-language film "Pan's Labyrinth" will play at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre this weekend. Showtimes are 7 p.m. Friday and 4:20 and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

The film follows a young girl in Spain as she encounters mythical creatures and human monsters at the end of the Spanish Civil War.

"Pan's Labyrinth" won Academy Awards for cinematography, make-up and production design, as well as being nominated for Best Foreign Language Film.

Director Guillermo Del Toro also directed "Hellboy," "Blade II," "Cronos," and "The Devil's Backbone."

### See your movie and eat it, too

Sofia Coppola's "Marie Antoinette" starring Kirsten Dunst and Jason Schwartzman will screen at the SUB Borah Theatre Friday and Saturday night.

Dunst plays the young

French queen in the days preceding the revolution. Luxuriant, Oscar-winning costumes and a modern soundtrack make the film stand out from other biopics.

Shows begin at 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for students and \$3 for the general public and are available at the SUB Student Information desk.

### Festival of French films at the SUB

Five award winning, French language films will screen next week in the SUB Borah Theatre as part of the Tournees Festival of New French Films. The festival runs Tuesday through Saturday, March 31 and will feature films from Belgium, France, and Burkina Faso.

Two films will screen each night of the festival at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Festival passes are available at the SUB Information Desk for \$8 for students and \$12 for the general public. Individual film tickets are \$2 for students and \$3 for the general public on the night of the event. The Tournees Festival of New French Films is sponsored by the Commons & Union Foreign Film Series and made

possible with the support of the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture.

### Dancers, Drummers, Dreamers on stage

Dancers, Drummers, Dreamers, now in its 16th year, is back for its annual performance with the theme "fun-emotion." DDD combines Dance Theater and the Percussion Ensemble for many different dance pieces. The performance is at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the Hartung Theatre. There will also be a 2 p.m. matinee Saturday. Admission is \$7 to \$11 depending on seat location.

### 'Betrayal' at the UI Kiva Theatre

The University of Idaho Department of Theatre & Film presents "Betrayal," by Harold Pinter. The Show will play at the UI Kiva Theatre March 28-31 at 7:30 p.m. and April 1 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for UI and WSU students, faculty, staff and youth. Tickets are available at the UI Kibbie Dome Ticket Office, [www.uitheatre.com](http://www.uitheatre.com) and at the door.

## COFFEE

from page 8

Another bonus is the is conference room in the back that people can use free of charge.

Like most coffee shops, Sisters' is a wireless hot spot and has plug-ins by some of the tables. What most other shops don't have, though, is computers for their customers. In the front of the store, Sisters' has a desk with two desktop computers that any customer can use.

The lighting in Sisters' Brew is very relaxing, with strips of overhead lights running through the store. The lights are not too overpowering but bright enough to see what you are doing. There are also lamps mounted by some of the tables that patrons can adjust to their liking.

The coffeehouse is decorated with various art forms including captivating paintings, sculptures, plants and pottery that gives the coffeehouse an at home feel.

Unlike most stores, the bathrooms are decorated as well. They have big mirrors,

fairly tale wall paper and paintings.

The coffeehouse has bookshelves for their customers with lots of books, board games and cards.

The inside of Sisters' Brew is a sight to see, but the outside is hardly marked. There are no big signs up yet, but they are supposed to be there by the summer.

Sisters' Brew Coffee House is a nice quiet place people can go to study, read or just hang out. It is a new business and it is up to the customers to decide if it should stay in Moscow or go out of business.

# BLOT:

Look for the new issue of Blot in April!

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# One Swift interview

By T.J. Tranchell  
Argonaut

Country singer Taylor Swift swung through Moscow on her way to the top of charts.

Her song "Tim McGraw" reached No. 1 on the country charts and her latest single "Tears on my Guitar" is well on its way to reaching the same position.

Before her performance Thursday night and close to the SUB ballroom, which was filling up with 13-year-old girls, the Argonaut had a few minutes to speak with the 17-year-old singer/songwriter.

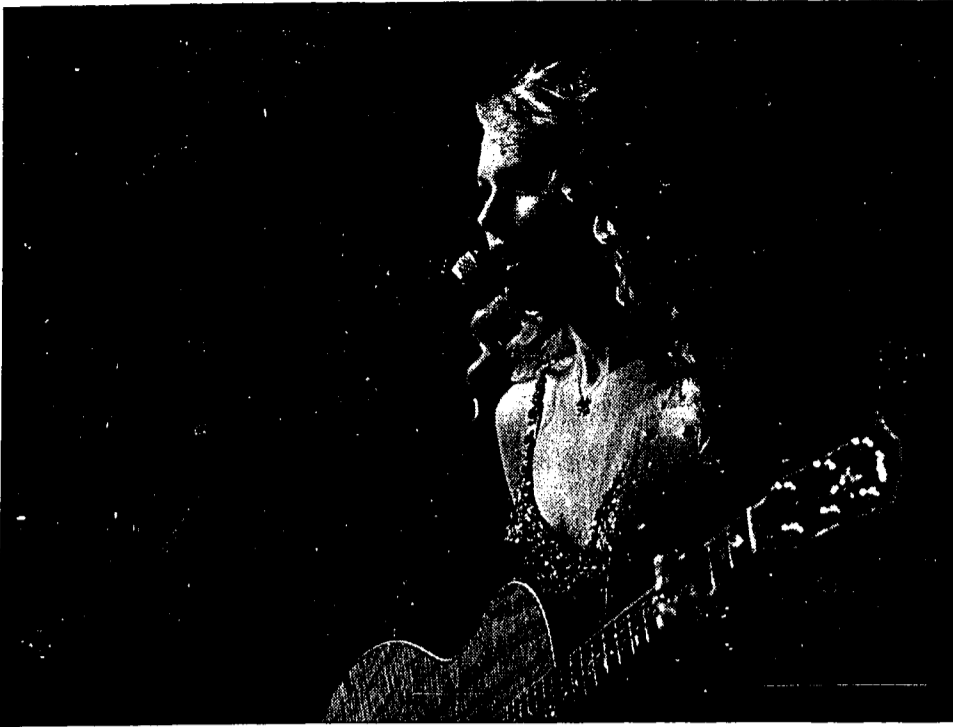
She sat on the floor of the Chiefs Room, strumming a 12-string guitar and preparing herself for the 8 p.m. show.

Last year, she sang the National Anthem at a NASCAR event in Phoenix and will sing the anthem again before a game in Dodger Stadium next month.

"I like NASCAR more than baseball," Swift said, her subtle southern accent coming through in just a few short words. "Kasey Kahne (driver of the No. 9 Dodge) is my favorite driver."

These appearances come between tour stops. Swift, who travels with her mother and younger brother, recently wrapped up a tour with country superstar George Strait. Later this year, she will have an opening spot on Brad Paisley's tour.

"I'm really looking forward to touring with Brad



Country singer Taylor Swift performs Thursday night in the SUB Ballroom.

because I love his writing," she said, "but I'd really love to tour with Kenny Chesney."

Songwriting is a major part of Swift's career. She serves as a songwriter for Sony/BMG and wrote all the songs for her debut album.

"I'm working on one right now," Swift said, hitting another chord on the 12-string. "I love playing new songs during shows."

Fans attending the UI performance were treated to a few new tunes as well as her two most popular songs. "Tim McGraw," her

best-known song is up for a number of CMT awards, including Break Out Video of the Year.

"I'd love it if people go to CMT.com and vote for me," she said. "I'd really like to win."

Another win, one that for now is only hypothetical, would be if Swift battled pop-country princess and American Idol Carrie Underwood.

"I would totally win," Swift said, laughing along with the members of her band. "I'm 5'11", she's like 5'2". She's small."

Swift shares much of the

same fan base as Underwood. Those fans give her the jolt to keep going, even with a tough tour schedule. Being a role model for the young girls is especially important to her.

"It feels awesome," she said. "I want to be out there. I stay after every show to sign autographs. Some artists forget that we're here for the fans. Someone might forget the show but they'll never forget meeting you."

The show was sold out. If Swift has her way, many fans will never forget March 22, 2007.

# Ex-congressman's story to become a film

By Maria Recio  
McClatchy Newspapers

Charlie Wilson, a Texas congressman known for his foreign exploits, love of beautiful women, fun-loving lifestyle and serious legislating, always seemed to be a creation of Hollywood.

Now, he is. The former Democratic lawmaker, who retired in 1996, is the main character in "Charlie Wilson's War," a movie starring Oscar winners Tom Hanks as Wilson, Julia Roberts as a connected Houston socialite and Philip Seymour Hoffman as a shadowy CIA agent. The film, directed by Mike Nichols, is nearly wrapped up for release on Christmas Day.

"It's just unworldly," Wilson said of watching Hanks play him.

The movie, based on the 2003 best-selling book by the late CBS "60 Minutes" producer George Crile, details Wilson's exploits supporting the mujahedeen in Afghanistan against the Soviet occupation during the 1980s. Wilson, then in Congress, secretly secured funds to arm the Afghans and, in a move that would have made State Department officials hyperventilate had they known, sneaked across the Pakistani border to deliver arms and fight the Soviets. Once, the man known as "Good-Time Charlie" even took along a girlfriend who was a former Miss World contestant.

Defiant women in Wilson's world are at center stage in the movie. One is Texas socialite Joanne Herring, played by Roberts, who channeled Wilson's anti-Soviet energy.

But the audacity of Wilson taking his own belly dancer to Egypt to perform for the minister of defense stands out.

That belly dancer, Carol Shannon, beguiled Wilson when he first saw her dance at a Fort Worth, Texas, hotel.

"You don't expect to find really professional belly dancing in Fort Worth," said Wilson, who recalled attending a political function and going to a happy hour where Shannon was entertaining.

Wilson, something of a connoisseur of belly dancing, said, "I was stunned that she was so good." Wilson and Shannon, both divorced, soon started a yearlong romance that took her to Egypt, Israel, Pakistan and the Khyber Pass.

Shannon's history in Egypt helped win over the defense minister, who sold Wilson the arms he sought. But filling Shannon's small but colorful role in the movie has been a problem.

Nichols, according to Wilson and Shannon, wasn't happy with the dancing scenes shot with Prince's ex-wife, Sherry Scobee, as Shannon, so he's looking to re-shoot with another actress.

"That's a big scene in the movie," said Wilson, who visited the movie sets in Morocco and California over the past year. He said the problem has been finding a dancer as "exciting" as Shannon.

"Carol was spectacular," he said. As for Wilson, 73, he and his wife, Barbara, were married in 1999 after Wilson's self-described "longest midlife crisis in history."

On the movie sets, Wilson wasn't a paid consultant and doesn't have a financial piece of the film. But he was given "a chair," as he puts it, and would sometimes interject "when they didn't get something quite right." And "sometimes they appreciated it and sometimes they didn't," he said.

# Popularity of '80s-era Rubik's Cube shows it's not just for squares

By Jonathan Pinkerton  
McClatchy Newspapers

Twist. Turn. Flip. Then throw across the room in frustration.

That's the typical approach to solving the Rubik's Cube, the baffling '80s toy that is hot again.

The Cube may be older than most college students, but it has found a new generation to challenge and frustrate.

Rubik's Cube sales have had double-digit growth over the past several years, according to Patricia Riso, a spokeswoman for Hasbro, the Cube's manufacturer.

Walk onto any school campus and you will find Cube experts such as 12-year-old Kyle Dickinson of Cameron Park, Calif., who explains the fascination this way:

"At first, I thought it was impossible, but once I knew the steps I could do it," Kyle said in an e-mail. "Eventually, I started to memorize them and now I can solve a Rubik's Cube in one minute and eight seconds. When people hear I can solve a Rubik's Cube that fast, they say, 'Prove it.'"

Robb Hecht, an adjunct marketing professor at New York's City's Baruch College, attributes the Rubik's Cube resurgence in part to the movies. Hecht thinks "The DaVinci Code," while not featuring a Rubik's Cube, inspired people to solve cryptic puzzles.

And in "The Pursuit of Happyness," the Rubik's Cube got a starring role next to Will Smith. Smith's character solved a Rubik's Cube in a matter of seconds. Smith's 8-year-old son and "Happyness" co-star, Jaden, even brought a cube with him

to the Oscars.

Erik Greene of Sacramento says "Happyness" had a big impact — indirectly — on him.

"I became interested in learning how to solve the Rubik's Cube after watching Will Smith solve it on the Oprah show in December," he said in an e-mail. "I purchased one cube for myself and began practicing, and shortly after starting to solve the cube, I purchased cubes for my co-workers and began showing them as well."

And it's not just the movies. Hecht thinks people are turning back to the cube because it is cheap (usually about \$10 per cube) and it is portable. Plus, with the popularity of iPods and cell phones, people may have a desire to bring along something to keep their hands occupied.

Not to mention, it's like announcing your IQ test scores to the world.

"The street smarts to solve the everyday toy are almost like getting a degree from a smart school," Hecht says. "People are impressed with the intellectual capability to solve that pattern."

But in today's world, solving the puzzle is only half the challenge.

Now, it's also about speed. One of the world's fastest Cube solvers is Tyson Mao, who said he understands why the cubes have resurfaced.

"They'll give you many more hours of entertainment than your standard movie at the theaters," Mao said via e-mail as he was visiting his hometown of Burlingame, Calif. "It also helps exercise your mind as well."

Mao adds, "The Rubik's Cube is something with prob-



Paul Telford, left, 30, Kyle Dickinson, 12, Jeremy Dixon, 19, and Jake Jabbara, 14, with their Rubik's Cubes, Monday, March 12.

ably one of the smaller learning curves in this world. After a few hours, you'll have one of the greatest party tricks known on this Earth."

Tyson's younger brother, Toby, set a record in 2006 by solving the Rubik's Cube in 10.48 seconds, according to RecordHolders.org. The brothers actually taught Smith how to solve the cube in lightning speed for his role in "Happyness."

"Will Smith was very nice and a very eager student," Tyson Mao says.

But for some people, it takes more than a couple of coaches to solve the cube that has more than 43 quintillion combinations.

"It took me 20 years just to solve two sides," says Sheila

Briggs Scafina, a high school teacher in San Mateo, Calif., who had Tyson Mao as a student.

"Now I solve it on an average time of two minutes," Briggs Scafina teaches advanced-placement calculus and makes her students solve

the cube before they leave for summer break. So far, no one has failed it.

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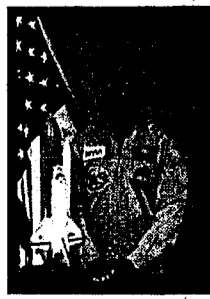
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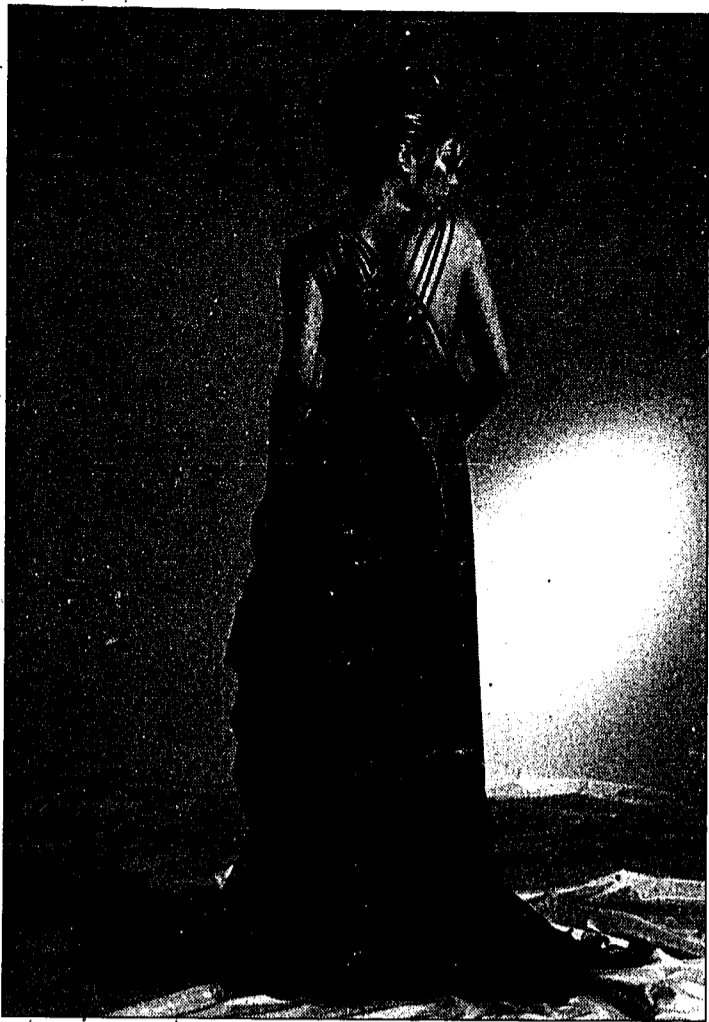
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# Muslim dresses modestly, designs expose plenty



Dress designed by Rabia Yalcin.

MCT Campus

By Noreen S. Ahmed-Ullah  
Chicago Tribune

Turkish designer Rabia Yalcin wears modest clothes that cover her completely, and hides her hair with a scarf, in accordance with her Islamic beliefs.

But her haute couture designs bare plenty of skin with plunging necklines and exposed backs.

Yalcin, a rising star in the European fashion world who put on her first solo American show recently in Chicago, sees no conflict.

She believes women should have the choice to dress as they wish in public, whether it is provocative or demure.

For those who choose to dress modestly like her, Yalcin's dresses come with wraps and jackets that cover exposed skin — but with the slip of a button, reveal plenty. What's underneath is meant to be worn in private, in front of one's husband, she explains.

Her objective: "To show the beauty of the flower, while covering the flower."

Last month, her designs debuted in America when she participated in New York Fashion Week's DesignersForDarfur charity event, sharing the runway with designs from Donna Karan and Baby Phat. A flowing emerald-green, ruby red and sage-col-

ored gown with beading work on the bust was being auctioned off on eBay for the charity. Bidding started at \$800.

Across the Muslim world, Yalcin is part of a wave of designers trying to marry high fashion with Islamic sensibilities. Her promoters believe, however, that she is one of the only Muslim women who observes traditional dress codes while designing haute couture.

Her gowns run anywhere from \$3,000 to \$15,000, with clients including royalty and leading political families in the Gulf region. She has high-end customers throughout the Middle East, Turkey and Europe, but dreams of seeing her dresses on the red carpet one day on stars like Angelina Jolie.

Her dresses often look to Turkey's Ottoman empire for inspiration, with trousers mimicking Turkish pantaloons, ribbon-work embroidery and dresses in the style of the opulent Topkapi court.

One barely there, navel-exposing dress covers the model's bust with tulips, Turkey's national flower. Another, a black-and-brown velvet gown, is held together with a necklace of bronze and pearl, worn in the Turkish countryside by young girls at weddings.

A pink-beige gown modeled after an Ottoman era wedding

dress is open in front to reveal a lacy, sequined peek-a-boo bra.

"Women are full of surprises," said Yalcin, 40, looking chic in a less surprising way, clad in a red scarf, fitted jacket, calf-length skirt and knee-high boots. "You never know what to expect."

Huma Gruaz, the curator at Chicago's River North art house Gallery 415, where an exhibit of Yalcin's designs were displayed, first met Yalcin in Istanbul last summer. She found the designer's story inspiring.

Yalcin's mother was a seamstress. At age 6, Yalcin began sewing clothes for her dolls. She never studied fashion, never went to college, had not even seen a runway show when she first launched her line of clothing in Istanbul in 1996.

What impressed Gruaz most was that, despite Yalcin's conservative attire and traditional upbringing, she embraced women from all backgrounds and religions.

"She has taught me the fact that she covers her hair doesn't mean she doesn't have the same passions and desires that I have," said Gruaz, a native of Turkey who chooses not to follow strict Islamic dress codes. "Only her dress is different."

Yalcin stresses that she designs for all women, regardless of faith or culture. Her

faith, she says, does not need to be reflected in her designs, which she calls "sensual," rather than sexy.

She steers clear of talking about Turkey's ban on the hijab, or head-covering, in universities, dismissing it as the law of the country. Still, when her 22-year-old daughter wanted to cover in college, Yalcin designed hats for her.

She says in the Muslim world, many of her wealthy clients have two wardrobes: a modest outfit that they wear in public and more revealing clothes that they wear at home with their husband or at a party of female friends.

"So the religious woman needs to have a version of the outfit she can wear in private and a version of the outfit she can wear in public," Yalcin said, explaining the need for enveloping wraps and cover-ups. A dress may have a plain front but vines and flowers embroidered in the back; it may be covered in front but fully exposed in the back.

When she creates her designs, she says she's looking for mystery and the element of surprise.

"What I'm looking for is creating a mystery about the woman," she said, "and provoking curiosity without displaying her passions and feelings explicitly."

# Photobloggers communicate in the universal language of images

By Evelyn Shih  
The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

The blogosphere isn't news anymore. In fact, nowadays, it makes the news. From television newscasts to magazine pages to the radio and digital airwaves, the influence of more than 12 million blogs is being felt everywhere you turn.

But out of all the different blogs now populating the blogosphere — including podcasts and more-recent vlogs (video blogs) — the photoblog is a unique creature. Because photographs are entirely visual, a photoblog updated daily may be viewed and experienced by countless eyeballs worldwide without

language barriers.

"I can post (photographs) ... and get comments within hours from people around the world," said Chris Lupetti, a photoblogger from Maywood, N.J. "It's a very global community."

Most photoblogs work in much the same fashion as a word-based blog. Photobloggers find an online host, or locale to display their digital images. Some photographers traffic in specific themes, such as nature, people or historic monuments. Others document pivotal or mundane moments in their lives, like wedding ceremonies or a trip to the park with the dog.

The photos are uploaded online,

and then the wait begins.

"It's very encouraging, the comments that you get," said Lupetti, who has been photoblogging for about three weeks.

Photobloggers generally fall into two camps: the casual and the serious.

Some photobloggers view their blog as a hobby and sporadically update their pages with large batches of photographs, using the Web space to share social pictures with friends and acquaintances. Their equivalents in the word-blog world might be online diary writers, who blog to update friends on their daily lives.

In general, it's light-hearted stuff that generates comments along the

lines of "Nice photo" or "Cute dog!"

Stylistic photoblog communities may discuss a specific aesthetic, or the effect and features of a certain kind of camera. And while many update their photo pages daily, serious photobloggers plan their image updates far in advance.

Constant feedback and the pressures of an unseen public may push many aspiring amateurs toward a more serious hobby.

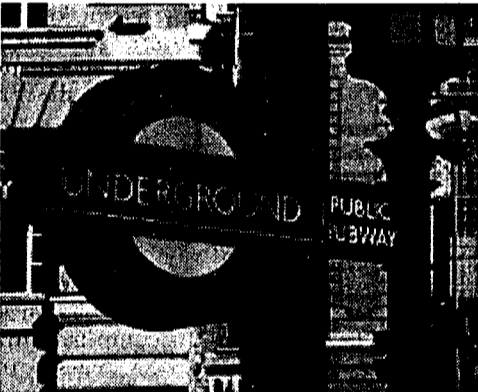
Photoblogging "gave me incentive to really get into photography and develop some sort of style," said Brian Liloia, a photoblogger from East Rutherford, N.J.

"Because I'd have to put some

thought into why I put up this picture for this day."

But the comments aren't the only reason an aspiring photographer might browse the blogs. "When I see other people's work and it sparks something in me, that's really cool," said Liloia, who haunts Flickr groups and searches using "tags," or identifying catch-phrases photobloggers attach to each photo.

Photoblogs might also be a good place to find original art for decorating an apartment or home. The photoblogosphere is populated by images taken by an avid army of amateurs and professionals with their fingers on cutting-edge, high-resolution camera equipment.



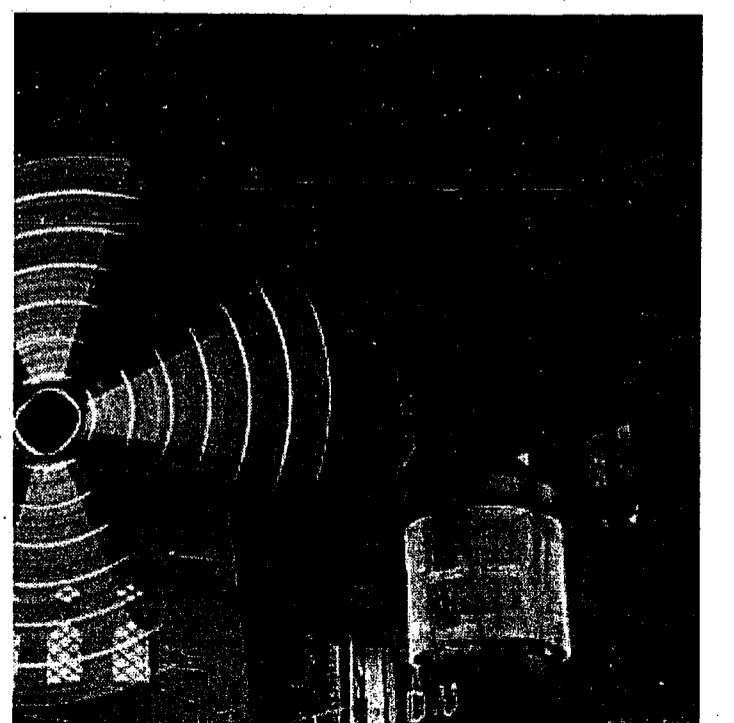
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## An airborne All-American

UI track and field pole-vaulter Melinda Owen balances academics and athletics as she enters a new realm of competition

By Ryan Atkins  
Argonaut

Balance is the most important thing in Melinda Owen's life.

As an athlete, she balances her entire body on a skinny pole and propels herself nearly 14 feet in the air.

In life, she has to balance what is most important to her.

"The balance is what makes me successful," Owen says. "I have to have a balance with family, religion and track. It all has to be in sync, unless it doesn't work as well for me."

As a pole-vaulter for the University of Idaho track and field team, Owen has had recent and long-term success. Most recently, she was awarded All-American honors for her fifth-place finish in the NCAA Indoor Championships in Fayetteville, Ark.

Growing up with a large extended family was something that has always been important to Owen, and she was never left wanting for attention.

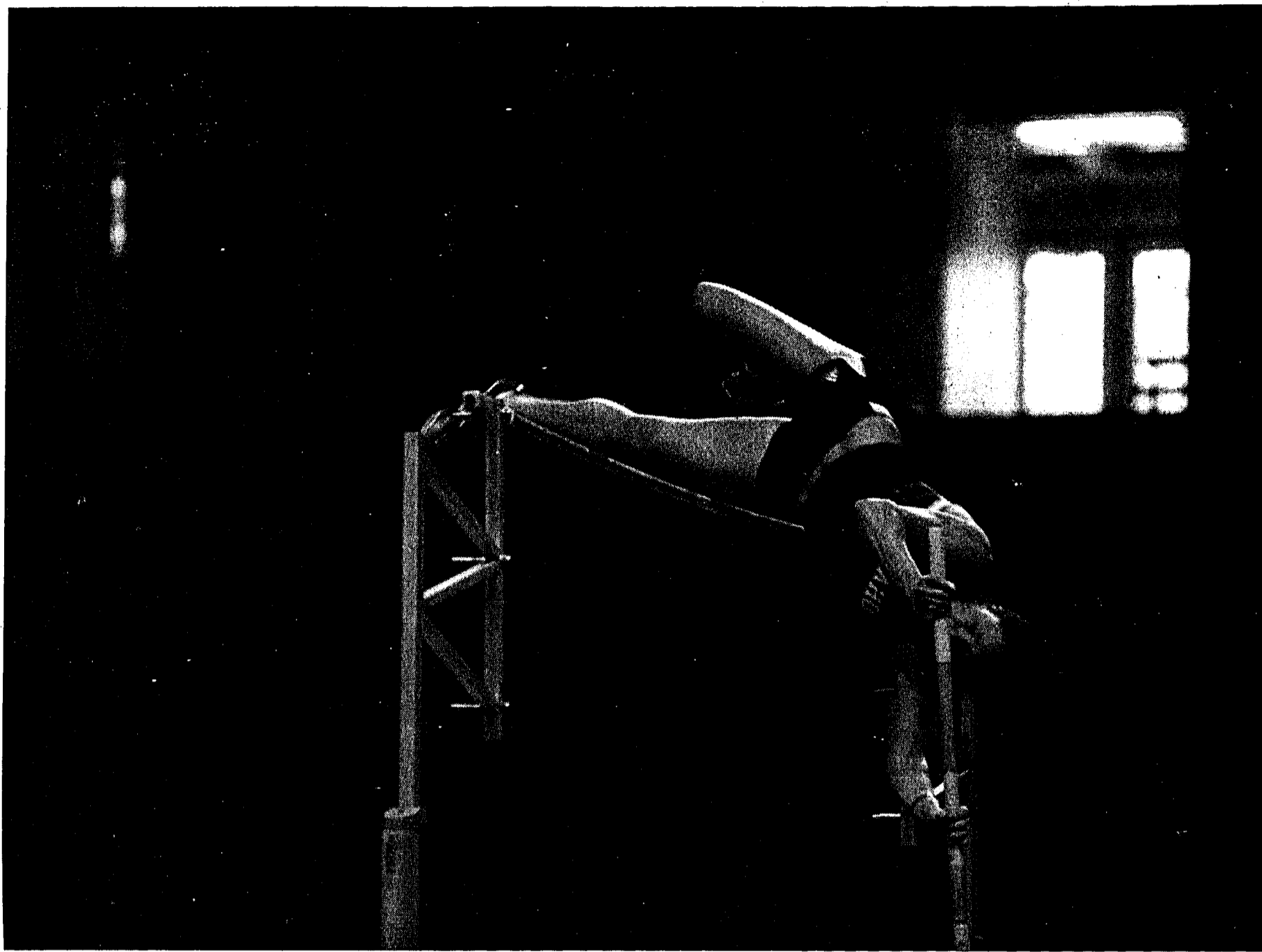
"I am extremely close, not just with my immediate family. There are 24 of us cousins and we grew up like brothers and sisters," Owen says. "My dad had nine brothers and sisters and they were all extremely close, so we all stayed really close."

Owen and her family grew up in Montana or "The Last Best Place," as she likes to refer to it. The wild, rugged and untamed outdoors of the Montana wilderness suited Owen just fine growing up.

"I loved it. I grew up in the greatest place ever," Owen says. "I am really into fly-fishing and hiking and camping and doing anything on the water. We lived right on Flathead Lake and at the base of the Mission Mountains right by Glacier Park, so I grew up just doing the outdoor things my whole life."

In fact, her humble abode in wilderness of Montana could be considered an outdoorsman or outdoorswoman's dream.

"You drove a couple miles and we would be fishing all day. We were right on the water to do the lake thing all day. It was just a couple miles to the trailhead, and hunting was right behind my house," Owen says.



University of Idaho track and field athlete Melinda Owen vaults during an indoor track meet Feb. 3 in the Kibbie Dome.

Roger Rowles/Argonaut

But by sixth grade, Owen was doing more than just exploring the outdoors, waking up early to take part in a family training routine in the wee hours of the morning.

As a child, Owen's heart was set on becoming the next great basketball player out of the state of Montana, and her family workouts were just one of the steps to get there.

"I thought the whole time growing up I was going to play basketball," Owen says. "I would go in every morning and shoot. I wanted to be the

next Shannon Cate.

"She was awesome and I wanted to play at the University of Montana," Owen says. "Every morning, my dad would get up and run and do sit-ups and push-ups. And he would get us up when he got back from his run and we would all get up and do push-ups and sit-ups together. We would all go work out at the gym and I would play basketball."

Owen and her three siblings were rewarded by the hard work with their respective

places in collegiate athletics. Both of her brothers wrestled and her sister turned to softball for an athletic retreat. Strangely, it was her sister's choice to play softball that eventually led Owen to become what she has today.

"I didn't even decide to do track until the day before it started, it was between that and softball," Owen says. "The only reason I picked track was because my sister did softball and it was her thing and I wanted to do something that wasn't hers."

And while she began to excel at track, along with basketball and volleyball, she wasn't just athlete but a well-rounded student. Owen graduated from high school with a 4.0 grade point average and she was named valedictorian for her class.

"I was kind of a nerd. I have this thing where I don't know how to half-ass stuff so I always worked really hard," Owen says. "I had to work really hard to get good grades so it was something I was definitely proud of."

Soon, she brought her hard-working attitude to Idaho, where she continues to excel at the academic aspect of college life. Currently, Owen is majoring in elementary education and is president of the UI Athletic Department's Student Advisory Committee for the third straight year.

Her leadership is also evident on the track, where she has been captain the past two seasons.

See OWEN, page 14

## Spring season, recruiting underway for women's soccer

By J.R. Conrow  
Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's soccer team is one of the few teams across the country that competes in both fall and spring soccer. The women have five matches this spring to prepare for next fall.

"These matches we play don't have any result on our overall season," Idaho coach Pete Showler said. "These matches are mostly for practice and preparations."

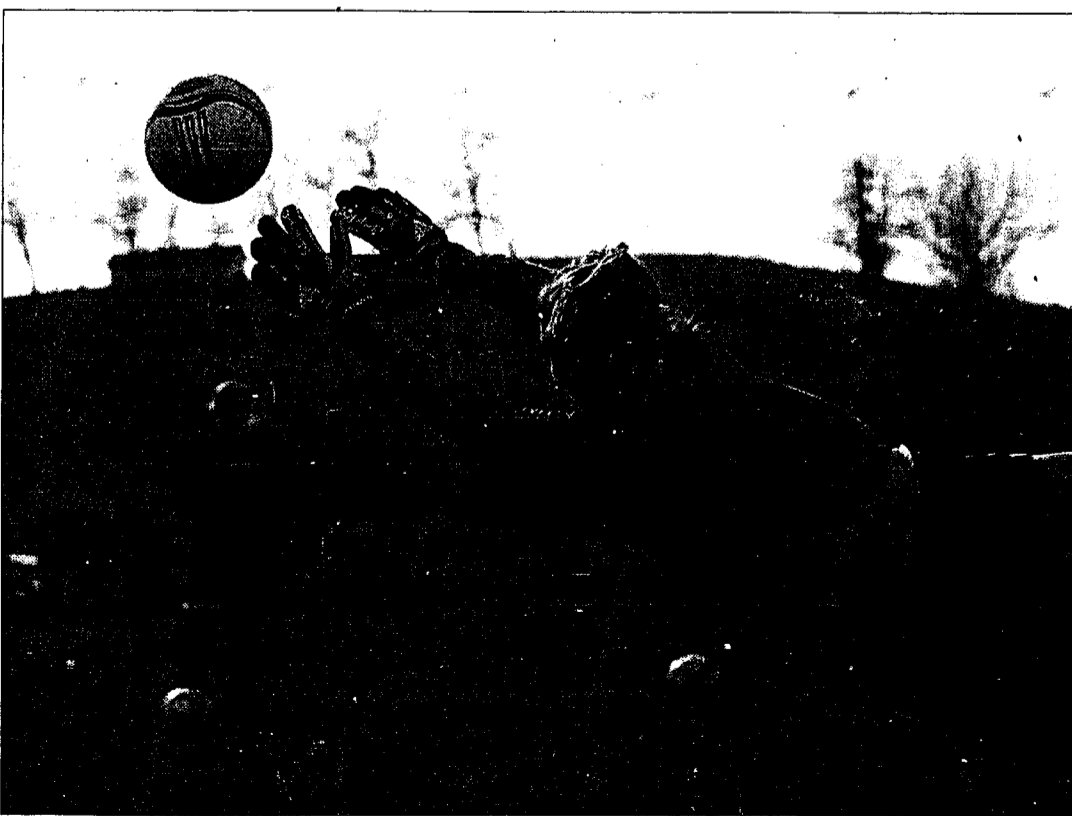
The women played in their first spring match on March 3 against Montana. The game ended in a 1-1 tie. The Vandals' next game is at 1 p.m. on Saturday against Gonzaga at Guy Wicks Field.

Showler said that during the match against Montana, the women played in a new formation that was unfamiliar to the team. However, after some playing time the players adjusted to the formation and dominated the game by the second half.

"We looked more relaxed out there," Showler said. "We took more shots on goal and had more scoring chances while looking more relaxed."

Forward Ashley Irish of Sherwood, Ore., transfer from Portland State University, scored UI's goal that tied the game.

"We had great build-up play from the defense through



Clifford Murphy/Argonaut

Junior Michelle Jordan dives after a ball to protect the goal Monday afternoon during a Vandal women's soccer team practice at Guy Wicks field.

the center-midfield, link up with the wide players. The outside back overlapped to create forward penetration and a great through ball for Irish to slot the ball home," Showler said.

"After the game a lot of the parents came up and said that

we had played very well," Showler said. "There was a big crowd at this match. It was at a recruiting tournament."

Showler said that while they did not win the match, it was still a victory for the team.

"Every time I go out, I want to win," Showler said. "The

women want to do the same thing. We will turn the results around in time. The future looks bright for us."

The recruiting process is well in the works for Showler's staff. He said he has

See SOCCER, page 14

## Idaho golf looks to stay hot at next Invite

By Nick Heidelberger  
Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's golf team has high expectations heading into the Duck Invitational on Monday and Tuesday in Eugene, Ore.

Coming off a third-place finish at the UNLV Spring Rebel Invitational in Las Vegas last week, the Vandals believe they can do even better.

"We expect to win," said Kelly Nakashima, a junior on the women's golf team.

Nakashima led the Vandals at 11-under-par for the tournament, and tied a Vandals all-time single-round record with a 7-under 65 during last week's tournament.

The record ties Nakashima with senior Cassie Castleman, who hit the mark four years ago.

Fourteen teams will compete in the Duck Invitational, including No. 38 San Francisco, No. 46 Washington State, No. 54 Oregon and No. 55 Washington. Idaho is currently ranked No. 52.

"It's a good field," UI golf coach Brad Rickel said. "I think we're the second- or third-best ranked team in the tournament."

Despite the quality of the field, Rickel believes the Vandals can take first.

"The way we've been playing, I would expect us to contend to win it for sure," Rickel said. "I'd like to think that after the way we played last week we'd be the favorites."

Nakashima's confidence is also high, especially after performing well in Las Vegas last week.

"I think the tournament

gave me a lot of confidence going into the Duck Invitational," Nakashima said. "I know now I can go low and possibly win tournaments. My goal is keep on doing it."

Rickel said a win for the Vandals would be a huge boost for the rest of its season, and possibly postseason.

"We've had great tournaments to start the spring and the best tournament in the history of the program last week at UNLV. If we win it, it will push us that much further to get us into regionals," Rickel said.

While he says winning the tournament is a possibility for the Vandals, it's not going to come easy.

"We've been making sure our ball is going where we want it to go, practicing short putts to be confident in our putting and preparing for the worst possible weather because you never know what kind of weather to expect in Oregon," Nakashima said.

After the Duck Invitational, the Vandals will compete in the Dixie Classic in St. George, Utah, on April 4-5. The Dixie Classic is the last tournament before the Western Athletic Conference Championship on April 23-25 in Las Cruces, N.M. If Idaho qualifies, the NCAA regionals will be May 9-12, also in St. George.

Rickel knows the team's confidence gained in Las Vegas can play a role in its success in Oregon, and in the future.

"We just have to keep riding our wave of confidence right now," he said.

# The not-so-Sweet Sixteen

After watching the first two rounds of the NCAA Tournament, the only adjective that comes to mind is underwhelming.

Not only have there been a limited amount of games featuring major drama, there have been hardly any upsets at all. On the first day of the tournament, the higher seeds won every single game except for three.

Two of those "upsets" were in eight-versus-nine games, which are basically toss-ups anyway. For the rest of the weekend, there were only seven more games where the lower seeds won, with the only games that even came close to resembling a true upset featured Virginia Commonwealth downing Duke and Winthrop defeating Notre Dame.

Where have all the upsets gone? For many people, myself included, one of the best parts about the tournament is filling out an empty bracket to see how close they can come to picking all of the games. This leads to countless moments during the opening rounds where people all around the country are violently cursing poor 15th-seeded Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. They'll do everything short of sacrificing a live chicken to make sure the Islanders' double-digit lead doesn't hold up over heavily favored Wisconsin and ruin their selections.

ESPN.com college basketball analyst Joe Lunardi wrote an interesting item in his blog this week. The sum of the seeds for the remaining teams in the Sweet Sixteen is 51. That's the lowest number since 1995, also 51, and just one off the record of 50 set in 1989. And what was the average number since the tournament expanded to a 64-team format? 71.7. This year has been the perfect opportunity for people to merely pencil in the higher-seeded squad in each match-up and get nearly every pick correct.

Wasn't last year supposed to mark the arrival, or at least acceptance, of the mid-majors? With Bradley and Wichita State making the Sweet Sixteen and

George Mason running all the way to the Final Four, all of the supporters of the smaller conference teams were thumbing their noses at the BCS conferences. Finally, parity had arrived in college basketball and there was no turning back.

Then this year happened. Gonzaga lost in the first round, George Mason-wannabe ODU was one and done, and Creighton, from the all-powerful Missouri Valley Conference, couldn't even get past a WAC squad in the opening round.

What is so different this year as compared to last year? Parity is the primary culprit.

When a team like Butler, from the Horizon League, advanced to the Sweet Sixteen in years past it was a big deal. Now Butler has been ranked in the top 25 for a major portion of the season — they even won the NIT Season Tip-Off — so their victory over Maryland last week just wasn't very surprising.

All of the conferences seem remarkably similar this year. Traditional powerhouses like the SEC, ACC and Pac-10 all featured close races to see who the regular-season champ was going to be. In the ACC and SEC a .500 conference record was nearly good enough to be at the top of the standings. Now those teams that looked unimpressive with their seemingly below-average league records have made a strong showing in the NCAA Tournament with nine teams from those conferences making the second round. The Pac-10 saw Washington State, a team picked to finish last in the conference, make an improbable run through the regular season and even win a tournament game.

The second culprit to blame for the lack of surprises during this year's tournament? NBA Commissioner David Stern.

By force-feeding the NBA Player's Union the age-restriction rule last year, Stern single-handedly ensured that this year's NCAA men's basketball season would feature more talent than any sea-

son in the past 20 years. Without the ability to jump straight to the NBA, players like Kevin Durant, Greg Oden and countless other talented players were forced to spend at least one year at the educational institution of their choice. Of course, this leads to the rich getting richer with elite players opting to attend elite universities. If you were going to be in college basketball for a year, wouldn't you want to be guaranteed a shot at a championship? Which school would offer you a better chance, Creighton or Ohio State? How can smaller schools compete with the recruiting resources of major programs like Southern California? Their squad is already in the Sweet Sixteen this year and they have the number one prospect in the nation, O.J. Mayo, coming to play next year.

Clearly, there's no single reason why there's been a nearly historic lack of upsets this year. But before we go out and call last year's tournament an aberration, a complete deviance from the norm, maybe that's what this year is. When is the next time we'll see all four of the No.1-seeds, three of the two seeds and a host of other single seeds advance this far?

Quite frankly, it would be misleading to say I've been disappointed by the tournament so far. I mean, come on, it was still four straight days of college basketball. It's like pizza, or beer — even when it's not that good it still gets the job done.

I guess all we can hope for is some shocking revelations to happen off the court, like someone finding Greg Oden's birth certificate, which officially states he's 64 years old, or a belligerent Jim Boehiem running onto the floor during the championship game to protest his Syracuse squad's snub by the Selection Committee. Is there any chance the NCAA can hire the Cincinnati Bengals or "Pacman" Jones as a host for the remaining games?

# UI rests after road trip games

By Emmanuel Anderson  
Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's tennis team will have this weekend to rest after playing seven matches in nine days over Spring Break.

The Vandals went 4-3 on a nine-day road trip, which began in Boise with matches against the University of the Pacific and Boise State. Idaho was 1-1, beating UP and losing to BSU.

The team then had a layover in Stillwater, Okla., where they lost to Oklahoma State.

The next day in Wichita, Kan., they lost to No. 16 Wichita State and defeated the University of Missouri.

"On the Oklahoma trip against Wichita State, we beat them at No. 6 singles, No. 3 doubles and played a really good match at No. 2 doubles," UI tennis coach Jeff Beaman said. "We had a lot of competitive matches, and that's a team

that has potential to be top 10."

The Vandals then traveled to Edmond, Okla., where they won against Oral Roberts and University of Central Oklahoma.

"It was a good trip. The women played almost 20 percent of their schedule in one little block of almost 10 days," Beaman said. "That's a lot of playing against some good teams and they came through it well."

The women have a 9-6 overall record but seem to have built a level of confidence that their record may not reflect.

"We beat a girl that was undefeated on the No. 16 team in the nation," Beaman said. "The girls realize, all of a sudden, that they can play against anybody. They're good, but we're not that far off."

The UI women will play the University of Montana and Gonzaga in Moscow March 30-31.



Jon Bobango  
Columnist  
arg\_sports@sub.uidaho.edu

## SportsCALENDAR

### Saturday

UI men's rugby vs. Gonzaga  
Guy Wicks Field  
1 p.m.

### Monday

UI women's golf at Duck  
Invitational  
Eugene, Ore.

### Tuesday

Intramural doubles billiards play begins  
UI women's golf at Duck  
Invitational  
Eugene, Ore.  
Intramural 4 on 4 flag foot-

ball entries due

### Thursday

UI men's golf at Cal Poly  
Invitational  
San Luis Obispo, Calif.

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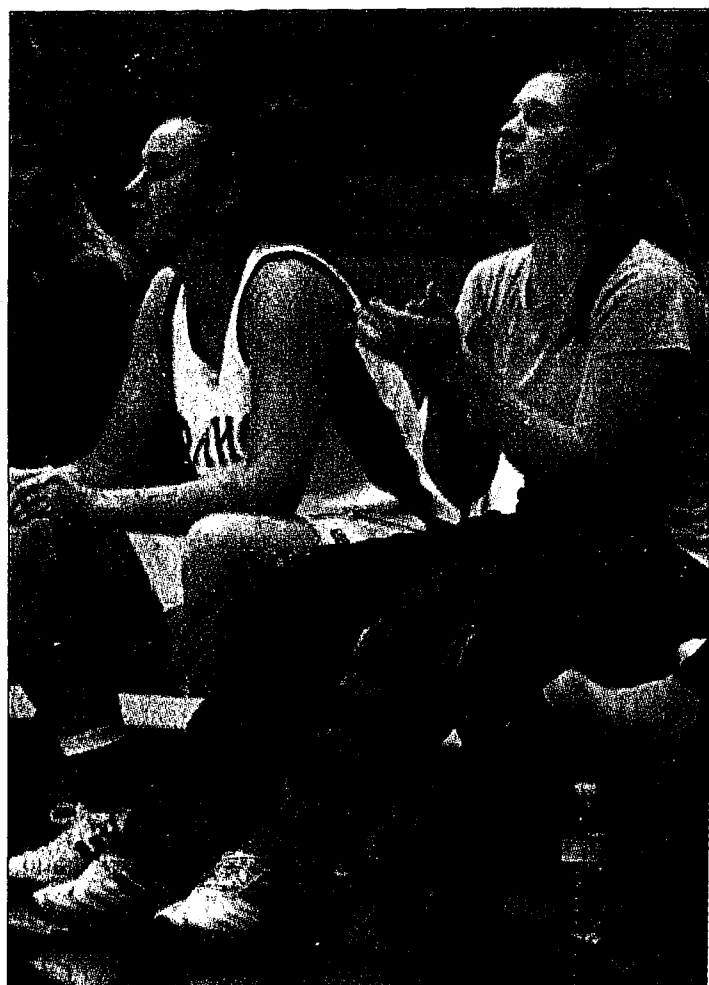
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# Felton finishes career from the bench



File Photos

**Senior Karly Felton never stopped leading the UI women's basketball after tearing her ACL in November**

By J.R. Conrow  
Argonaut

Instead of spending her last year on the University of Idaho women's basketball team as a standout senior that runs the court, Karly Felton had to contribute to the team in other ways.

Felton was sidelined with a torn ACL on Nov. 24, when Idaho played Colorado State. She never played in a game for Idaho again.

"When Karly got hurt, honestly I wanted to throw up," UI women's basketball coach Mike Divilbiss says.

Her injury sidelined her for the remainder of the season, but she attended games as often as she could to watch and support her team.

"Senior Night was bitter sweet to me," Felton says. "While I couldn't be out there on the court with my team, I still accomplished a great deal being the only true senior and being (Mike's) first four-year player that stayed through all the ups and downs."

Growing up, Felton says the main thing she has carried with her has always been the support of her parents.

"My dad was a high school men's basketball coach for 25 years," Felton says. "As he would coach, my sister and I would hang out at the gym and we had a blast. Our mom tried to get us to be more girly like by buying cheer outfits and such, but that didn't work very well."

Felton also says that while basketball has been her life, her family has been involved in sports for a long time — her dad coaches and her younger brother

plays football.

"A unique irony about me and my brother is that we both tore our ACL's in the third game of our senior years," Felton says. "My brother plans next year to play football at Weber State."

Felton graduated from Eisenhower High School in Yakima, Wash., in 2003. During her career, she finished with 1,098 points and she averaged 21.3 points, 9.4 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 3.1 steals per game. She was also a First Team All-Big Nine selection during her junior and senior seasons.

"High school was a great time for me. I was the go-to player in scoring," Felton says. "The game that I played against Walla Walla in my senior year, I was feeling it."

Luckily for her, Divilbiss was in attendance watching her performance.

"The night that I saw Karly play, she scored 32 points," Divilbiss says. "She scored many points in her high school career, she was good. She came to Idaho for a visit and liked the campus and the program to be part of turning the wheel around."

And despite offers from other schools, Felton came to UI.

"I love the campus here," Felton says. "It's like being around nature. It was a great fit for me."

She also says that she was looking into going to Washington State.

"Part of why I looked at WSU was because my family is big fans of Wazzu," Felton says. "The atmosphere at UI was better for me."

During her career at UI, Felton's numbers weren't like her stats in high school, but

Divilbiss' says she was still a valuable player.

"I will always remember her enthusiasm, spirit and love of the game," Divilbiss says. "She always played with a smile on her face and that smile of hers impacted everyone."

However, Felton says she contributed more to the team than just her smile.

"The girls were very supportive of me and asked me for advice about things," Felton says. "We had a strong bond on and off the court."

Before her injury, Felton made major contributions in previous seasons. In her junior year, Felton started all 29 games, averaging around 36 minutes per game. She led the team with a .456 shooting percentage, shooting 82-of-180 from the field and .561 (23-41) from the free throw line. Felton also set career highs in points with 19 (breaking her record of 14 from the year before).

As a sophomore, Felton started all 30 games and averaged 34 playing time minutes per game. As a freshman, Felton started in 28 of 29 games and averaged four points and 2.4 rebounds per game.

"I was excited like any new freshman would be about coming into a new program," Felton says. "I learned quickly that discipline was taught and things would be done a certain way, and I liked that. At Eisenhower, we competed against many good schools, but did not have a sound structured system in place."

"The things that stand out the most to me reflect that toughness. Karly was willing to practice sick," Christian

McDonald said in an e-mail.

"On a couple of occasions, Karly went to the corner of the gym, puked in the garbage can, and then came back out to practice some more. She would also push herself to exhaustion in games. Karly was a great competitor that pulled her teammates up to the same level of effort."

McDonald was Felton's high school basketball coach at Eisenhower.

While Felton ended her season on a note that is difficult to comprehend, she says that her relationship with Divilbiss has been a great one.

"When we were in Hawai'i (in January), he needed to know

what my plans would be for next

year. He said that he would support me no matter what I chose to do," Felton says. "To me that spoke volumes that while he said he'd love to have me back one more year, he felt I need to do what I felt was best for me."

Felton is double majoring in marketing and psychology and plans to graduate from UI in December.

"I have no specific goals right now, except for possibly having an internship in marketing at the Coldwater Creek headquarters in Sandpoint this summer," Felton says. "My goal someday is to become a director or CEO of an advertising company, I want to be the one run-

ning things."

"My first impression was that she was a great athlete — big, strong, fast, skilled, all of the things you would want in a player," McDonald says. "The thing that always stood out about Karly, though, was her effort. Karly worked so hard at all of the things that are the toughest to teach — defense, rebounding, moving without the ball."

"The two years after she left the girls also did really well, eventually getting fourth in state. I give her a tremendous amount of credit even for those teams, because she showed those girls what it meant to get after it and have a no-nonsense attitude about playing."

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already signed seven letters-of-intent with high school students for next fall, and he added an under-20 Brazilian transfer student Erika Teixeira.

He said he's also working on a possible move to add a player from Hawai'i to the squad in the near future.

Showler said his focus is to have an emphasis on scoring

more goals, which was one of the women's key hardships during the fall season. At the same time, he said he realized keeping the defense and goal-keeping strong is just as important.

"The girls are working very hard and they have showed a real desire that you need in Division I athletics," Showler said. "We will have some diversity, which is great, but overall we have good balance."

However, the team will have to go without Irish on

Saturday due to a concussion. Her turn time is unknown.

Showler said that last fall due to the scoring struggles, the women's heads may have lowered with a loss of confidence, but the performance against Montana was a start in the right direction.

"Our sophomore and junior players are the ones to watch for," Showler said. "With time they have grown to become very mature and this along with their passion should run down to the new squad. It's tremendous."

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"She is the SAC president, this is her third year as being president. She has been a team captain this year and last year. She is just very involved in the morals of the whole team," UI jumps coach Jason Graham says.

Owen has also used her full-steam ahead attitude to become the best pole-vaulter UI has ever seen.

Owen won her third-straight WAC indoor pole vault title earlier this year and she became the eighth female All-American in UI history after her fifth-place finish at the NCAA Indoor Championship.

"I only work with people that work hard and Melinda is a very hard worker," Graham says. "I think the keys these last few years is almost just the addition of being a smart athlete. I think in the past

she used to work so hard, she used to try and jump tough injuries and things like that, and now we try to be a little smarter."

As Graham says, "You can't shake rabies, if you catch rabies you have to get the shots, you can't run it out."

And that was the case with Owen who hated taking time off so much, she would simply continue pole vaulting, even while injured.

"It didn't take too long when I got yelled at a couple times by the trainers for not coming in for injuries, so then I eventually stopped trying to tough out the stuff. But it is hard to take time off," Owen says.

But she has realized how to become a smarter athlete and she knows the mental aspect of jumping is what has taken her to the top this year, and it is what will lead even higher in the future.

"I feel like not thinking too much is where my success comes

from. I think it is all about realizing your potential," Owen says. "Through my whole college career people have said, 'You have so much potential, you just need to let yourself go,' but it is hard to just do that."

Owen's first trip to nationals just two weeks ago also opened her eyes to how good she truly is and the success she may have for the outdoor season. The Vandals' outdoor season starts at the Stanford Invitational March 30-31 in Palo Alto, Calif.

"When I was at nationals, the girl that got first was no better than me and I think that is hard to grasp when you haven't been there. You hold these people that are No. 1 in the nation on a pedestal and sometimes you put them up there and they don't need to be," Owen says. "As much as I was upset, I was so glad because it really fired me up to where I want to get back and work really hard."

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