

# THE ARGONAUT

Friday, March 30, 2007

The Vandal Voice Since 1898

Volume 107, No. 52

## Moscow transit is still rolling

By Sean Garmire  
Argonaut

An agreement drafted between public and private organizations, including the University of Idaho, will allow both Wheatland Express and Moscow Valley Transit to continue to run their routes. For the time being.

If approved, the memorandum, drafted by a steering committee of local stakeholder groups, will raise student fees by \$3.

The memorandum will fund transportation services an additional nine months before a long-term agreement for funding is made sometime in December or January 2008.

"We're committed to work ... to find out if this is a permanent solution, or if some other arrangement will need to be made," said Moscow Transportation Commission Chairman Walter Steed. "Both bus services were going to fold, and now they're not. I see that as a real achievement."

ASUI has detailed requests in the new proposal for the student fee increase, which is expected to generate approximately \$50,000 annually — depending on enrollment numbers — to fund the shuttle service.

The university has agreed to match the student fee proceeds by contributing an additional \$50,000 annually to Wheatland Express. The money will be generated through parking tickets, amounting to an estimated \$15,000, and an additional \$35,000 from the general budget.

Before the student fee proposal is implemented, it must be approved by the Idaho State Board of Education, which will vote on the issue during its meeting April 19 – 20 in Moscow.

The outcome is not certain, but Lloyd Mues, vice president of finance and administration, said he anticipates it will be well-received by the board.

"We have a very viable and workable mechanism that will not only allow the Wheatland to continue, but the (Moscow) Valley Transit to continue, for an indefinite period of time."

Washington State University will continue to offer its annual funds of \$100,000 to the service.

Moscow City Council has agreed to increase its support for Moscow Valley Transit to \$60,000, and Latah County's support will likely remain at \$1,200.

A new source of funding will likely come from New Saint Andrew's College, which has pledged \$1,500 in support of the transit service.

Ultimately, transportation in the Moscow-Pullman area will receive an additional \$3,500 in the newly proposed funding solution.

Despite this increase, Tom LaPointe, Moscow

See TRANSIT, page 4

## A global education

International teachers share their thoughts on how an Idaho education differs from the rest of the world

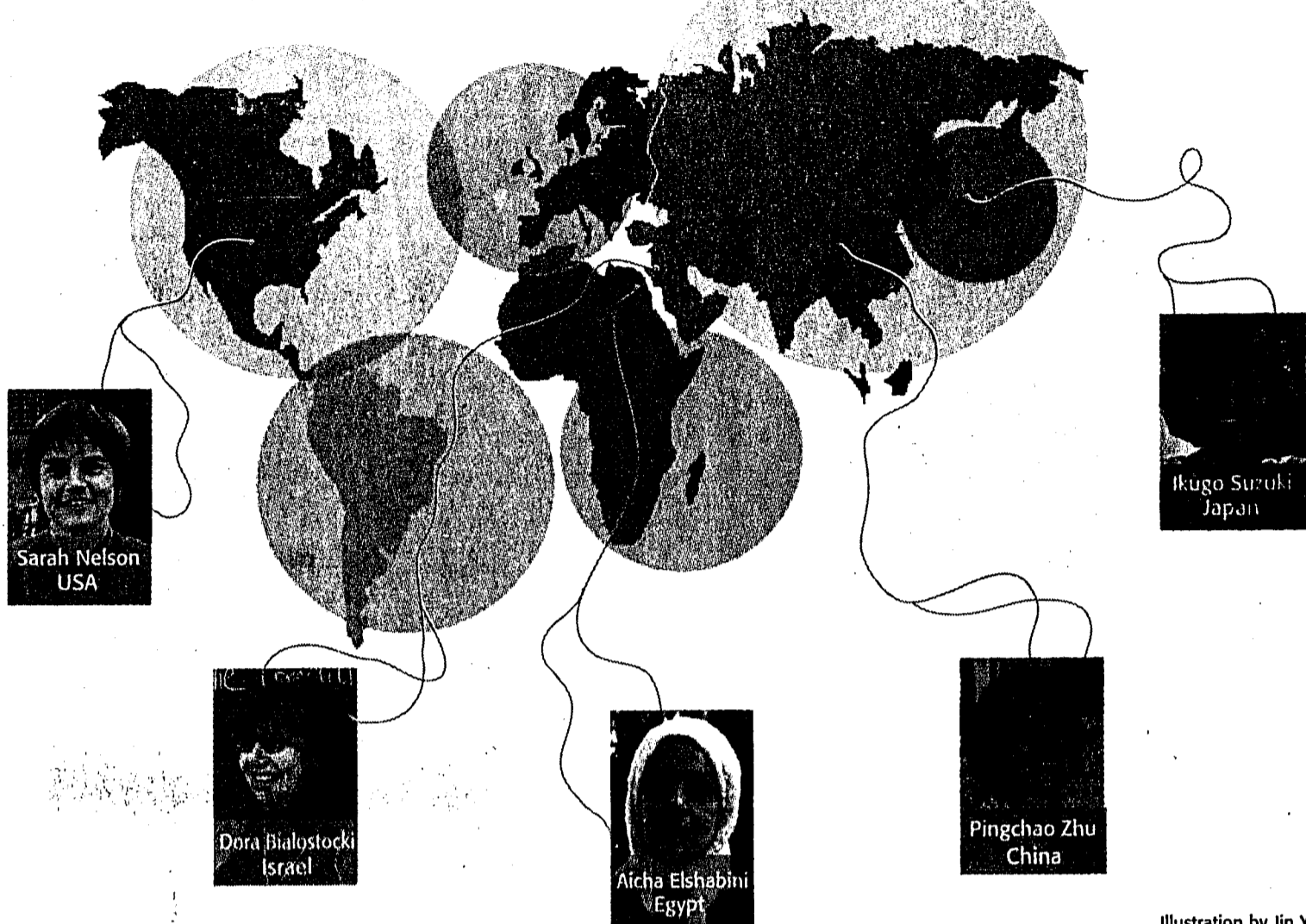


Illustration by Jin You

By Carissa Wright  
Argonaut

Dr. Aicha Elshabini wears a small gold pin with a geometric black design on the lapel of her dark suit. It came from one of the societies she belongs to, she says, to mark one of her awards.

"All of these pins keep on coming," she says, "But I can't wear more than one. It looks funny."

The much-honored Elshabini is the College of Engineering's first female dean. She is also the first dean at the University of Idaho to have come to Moscow from the Middle East — Cairo, Egypt, to be precise.

Elshabini graduated from Cairo University with a bachelor's degree in electronics and communication — a five-year program — in 1973. She came to the United States soon afterward to earn a master's degree and a doctorate in electrical engineering within five years. She has been teaching ever since.

"I love to work with students and make

a difference in their lives," Elshabini says. Her own experience as a student in Cairo, however, was much different than what students in the United States face.

"We do not have the same system," she says.

In traditional Egypt universities (as in many other countries, American-style academies and colleges have flourished in Egypt), students stay with one subject for 10 months, then take an exam. These long classes offer students a chance to go more in-depth with the subject, Elshabini says, and give them a deeper understanding and mastery of the material.

"When I came to the States, I was cruising through my grad studies," she says.

Her writing and communication skills, however, had not been developed. As a student in a math- and science-based curriculum, Elshabini took no history or humanities courses. The balance that is so emphasized in American schools, she says, is not as important in Egypt.

"I think that balance is important," she

says. "It makes you appreciate other disciplines."

When Dora Bialostocki, a professor in UI's math department, went to college in Israel, students had to pass a government qualifying exam to even be admitted. Now, however, most colleges are four-year, private institutions, much like the American system. But like in Egypt, some aspects of education remain distinct.

"Because military service is compulsory in Israel and is generally served between high school and college, most students are older and more settled."

"When you come (to a university), you don't really waste time. You come to get a degree," she says, noting a contrast between her observations of American students and Israeli students. "(In Israel,) you don't come to party."

Students in Israel tend to know their major from the very beginning, Bialostocki says. And because there is no set of core

See GLOBAL, page 5

## Fight to save Steel intensifies

By Jeremy Castillo  
Argonaut

Armed with picket signs and screaming voices, residents of Ethel Steel House continued their fight Wednesday to save the cooperative they call home.

Outside the Idaho Commons, several members waved signs and chanted as passersby stared.

Between waving posters reading "Save Steel House!!!" and "Viva Steel Revolution" and chanting phrases such as "The whole school is watching" and "Hell no, we won't go," the female picketers generated support from onlookers.

Some signed petitions. Others agreed to join Facebook groups in support of the cause. A few passersby even grabbed signs to protest with the Steel House members.

"Co-op living is part of the Moscow community and the university community," said Dean Throop, a UI junior who picketed alongside the residents. "Our school is

very pro-people. ... It's a travesty that the administration makes these decisions without student input."

News of Steel House's closure broke during a meeting last Wednesday. Throughout the discussion, several house members said they were worried about financial problems living elsewhere.

In response, University Residences offered several options to residents who renewed their contract for the 2007-08 school year.

Those assigned to the Wallace Residence Center will pay the same rate as Steel House — \$3,075 per year for a double room, according to the University Residences Web site. This rate includes housing and one of three meal plans: 19 meals per week with \$100 flex, 14 meals per week with \$300 flex or 10 meals per week \$500 flex.

If residents choose not to live in Wallace, they can live in McConnell Hall or the Living Learning Community with a \$1,186 discount.

"Price came up as a very



Kentaro Murai/Argonaut

Steel House residents protest the closure of their hall in front of the Idaho Commons on Wednesday.

big issue for the women," said Michael Griffel, director of University Residences. "A number of them said the Steel House rates allowed them to go to school and that if they weren't able to live

there, they wouldn't be able to live on campus. And some said they wouldn't be able to attend the university at all."

Upon numerous requests

See STEEL, page 4

## Tours, fair planned for recruitment day

By Hayley Guenther  
Argonaut

Campus will be buzzing with more than 1,000 future Vandals today as they prepare for their journeys at the University of Idaho.

Vandal Friday coordinator Angela Helmke said the main goal of the event is for students who are admitted to the university to meet with an adviser and register for fall classes.

"We want the participants to experience what it is like to be a Vandal and find activities and clubs that interest them," she said.

Vandal Friday not only gives incoming students the opportunity to meet with their academic advisers, but also a chance to confirm financial aid and scholarships, explore the campus, meet current students and faculty and find their niche at the large activities fair.

Morning registration for the festivities will be held at the Kibbie Dome from 7-8:15 a.m., where students will check in and receive the day's itinerary. The welcome rally will follow as UI President Tim White and New Student Services Director Lloyd Scott enthuse participants for

their Vandal Friday experience.

The activities fair will run from 9-11:30 a.m., giving prospective students a chance to browse the many organizations the university has to offer.

Helmke said the fair will be one of the highlights of the day.

"It's a great opportunity for new students to see what is available out there, as well as for the current students to display what they do," she said.

Tours of the Student Recreation Center and living groups will run throughout the morning and depart from the Kibbie Dome. They are projected to last around an hour and will showcase everything from classrooms to the Greek system.

Two rounds of student workshops will be held before the pasta lunch with intentions to better familiarize participants with their desired career and different educational opportunities. Academic advising will begin around 1 p.m., when students will be instructed to find their college or department sign.

A pizza rendezvous will be

See FRIDAY, page 4

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### look INSIDE

#### ARTS&CULTURE

Slam poet Sean Williams talks about his journey to regionals and the GSA hosts "The Prom You Never Went To."

#### OPINION

The editorial board offers some real reasons to come to UI and Tecla says good bye to her shoes.

#### SPORTS&REC

Spring practice gets underway for UI football and the snowboard club takes gold at nationals.



### on the WEB

Ever want to tell off the cops? Now you can, through the blogs at

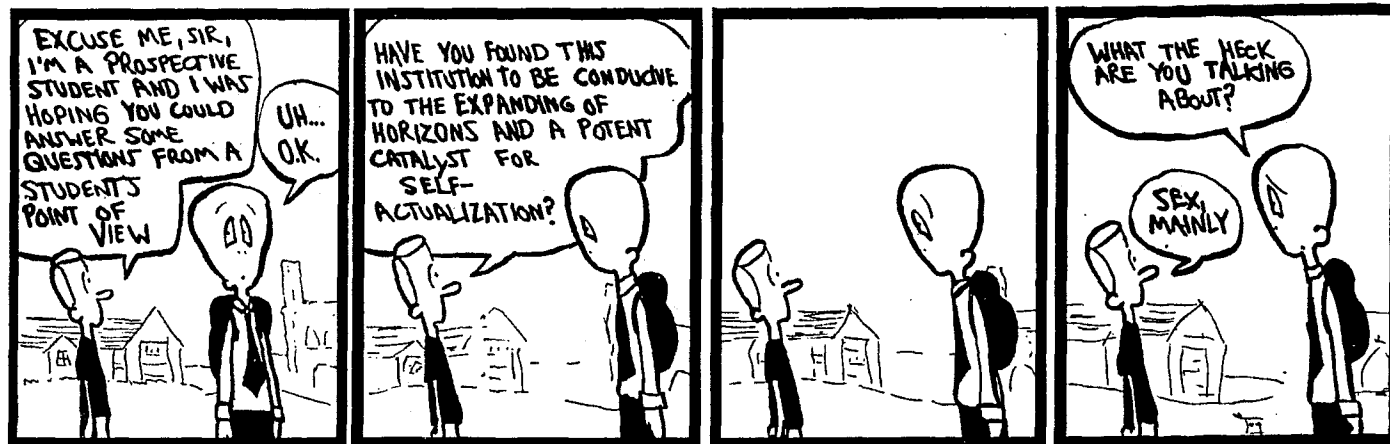
www.uiargonaut.com

WeatherFORECAST

Today Partly cloudy Hi: 61\* Lo: 41\*
Saturday Showers Hi: 50\* Lo: 32\*
Sunday Partly cloudy Hi: 45\* Lo: 30\*

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.

Visit the Argonaut's blogs at www.uiargonaut.com/blog

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

Vandal Friday March 30th
Open Rec 9pm to Midnight
Vandal Friday Participants and UI Students FREE (bring your Vandal Card)

Sport Club Federation
Start a Club • Join a Club • Get Involved

Welcome Vandal Friday Participants!
Do you like competitive sports?
WE DO!
Would you like to compete against other universities?
WE DO!

Lacrosse Water Polo Rugby
Email ggresch@uidaho.edu or stop by Campus Recreation for more info!

LOOKING FOR A GREAT JOB?
The SRC is HIRING for Summer & Fall!
The SRC is taking applications for summer and fall employment.

Campus Recreation Office 885-6381
Recreation Hotline 885-1212
www.campusrec.uidaho.edu
Bring your valid Vandal Card
Fitness & Wellness - Intramurals - Outdoor Program - Sportclubs - Student Recreation Center

CampusCALENDAR

Today
Vandal Friday Check-in Southwest Kibbie Dome entrance 7 a.m.
Dissertation defense, Mark A. Schrieter
'Monopolizing the Wild: A History of the Outfitting Industry in Idaho's River of No Return Backcountry' Administration Building Room 330 11 a.m.
Ecology from Afar Lecture Series
'Biodiversity Conservation and Land Use Planning Tools: Present Status and Challenges for the Future' CNR Room 10 12:30 p.m.
'Guantanamo: The Struggle for Human Rights' James Yee, former U.S. Army Muslim Chaplain Commons Clearwater Room 6:30 p.m.
American Society of Mechanical Engineers Student Professional Development Conference Memorial Gym and UI Commons 7 p.m.
Sapatq'ayn Cinema: 'American Holocaust: When It's Over I'll Still be Indian' and 'The Spirit of Annie Mae' Kenworthy Performing Arts Center 7 p.m.
Performance: 'Betrayal' Kiva Theatre 7:30 p.m.
Saturday
ASME Student Professional Development Conference Memorial Gym 8:30 a.m.
'Islam: A Civilization, A Faith' James Yee, former U.S. Army Muslim Chaplain Moscow High School 7 p.m.
Auditorium 1:30 p.m.
Mechanical engineering competitions Memorial Gym 4 p.m.
Sapatq'ayn Cinema - An evening with Director Heather Rae Kenworthy Performing Arts Center 7 p.m.
Performance: 'Betrayal' Kiva Theatre 7:30 p.m.
Sunday
Performance: 'Betrayal' Kiva Theatre 2 p.m.
Student recital: Amanda Thomas and Kristian Bucy, voice School of Music Recital Hall 4 p.m.
Borah Symposium documentary: 'The Shape of Water' Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre 7 p.m.
Borah Symposium documentary: 'The Shape of Water' Kenworthy Theater 7 p.m.
Student recital: Casey Emerson, saxophone School of Music Recital Hall 8 p.m.
Monday
Borah Symposium: 'Passion for Change: Women Making Change Around the World' SUB Silver and Gold Rooms 11:30 a.m.
Foreign Film Series: 'Iraq in Fragments' SUB Borah Theatre 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Borah Symposium keynote: 'Empowering Women for Peace' SUB Ballroom 7 p.m.
Graduate Student Recital: Jordan Brownlee, guitar School of Music Recital Hall 8 p.m.

LocalBRIEFS

Buy tickets now for Grad Student Expo

The Graduate Student Research Exposition takes place April 10 in the SUB's Gold, Silver and Appaloosa rooms. The event runs from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and graduate student research projects will be presented to faculty judging panels throughout the day. Projects receiving the highest marks for quality of research and presentation will be awarded cash prizes at the Graduate Student Banquet later that evening. Research projects and artwork will be displayed at the banquet. A buffet dinner will be available starting at 6 p.m. and will provide vegetarian and non

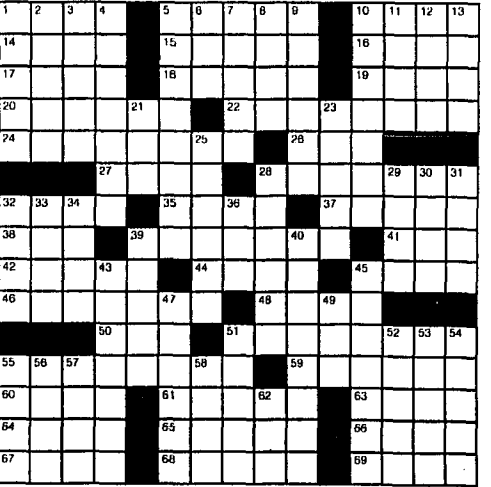
vegetarian foods. Following dinner there will be an hour of distinguished speakers, performances by the cast of the musical "Oklahoma!" and Grad Expo award presentations. Guest speakers will include Provost Douglas Baker, Dean Margrit von Brau, and GPSA President Luis Guerrero. There are 300 tickets available for the banquet on a first-come basis. All graduate students are eligible to receive one free ticket. GPSA senators, banquet guest speakers and the Expo's participants, judges and volunteers are given two tickets each. Tickets for all other attendees will be \$15.95 each. In addition to the banquet, there will be a free exhibition of undergraduate research projects and graduate student artwork in the SUB Ballroom. Contact

Cheryl Weiss at clweiss@uidaho.edu for information regarding when and where to purchase and pick up tickets. Tickets must be picked up by Tuesday.
Volunteers clean up stream Saturday
The third annual Pullman Stream Clean Up begins at 9 a.m. Saturday at Spring Street Park in Pullman. Join Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI), the City of Pullman, GroundWorks, the Palouse Conservation District, Washington State University's Cougar Pride Days and members of the community as they volunteer to improve Pullman's waterways until 1 p.m.

For information contact Courtney Rush, PCEI's Volunteer Coordinator, at 882-1444, e-mail crush@pcei.org or visit the PCEI Web calendar at www.pcei.org/calendar.htm.
Talk to city leaders at ASUI forum Tuesday
ASUI will host an open forum with Mayor Nancy Chaney and three city council members at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday in the Commons Whitewater Room. The forum will give students and city leaders a chance to discuss issues concerning the city of Moscow and UI. There will be time for open dialogue as well as a question-and-answer session. For information contact Jon Gaffney at jgaffney@sub.uidaho.edu.

CrosswordPUZZLE

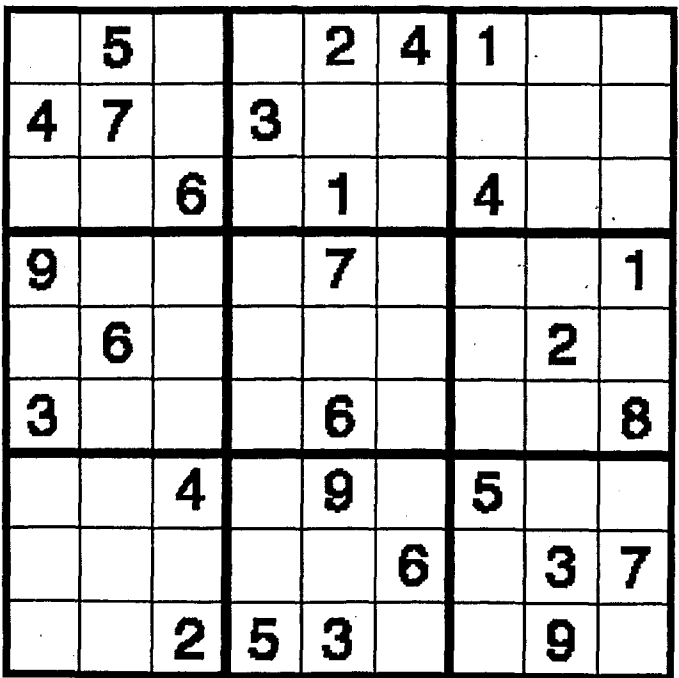
- ACROSS
1 Glammy
5 Goons
10 Obi-Wan, for one
14 Object of devotion
15 Ford or Clay
16 WWII losers
17 Writer Ephron
18 Shady bower
19 Pocket-sized
20 Chesny crust
22 Discomposes
24 Spectator
26 Jackie's second
27 Cameo stone
28 Horse with a horn
32 Denver or Ireland
35 Make the first bid
37 Machine shop machine
38 Raw mineral
39 Spat
41 Country singer Williams
42 Destiny, in Delhi
44 Hatch dead to rights
45 Gravy holder
46 Put in office
48 Destitute
50 Bobbsey twin
51 Has need of
55 Indian prince
59 Needing fast attention
60 Skater's lump
61 Dull surface
63 Alan of "The West Wing"
64 Gusto
65 Nickel add-on?
66 Amateuinish painting
67 Small vortex
68 Remote button
69 Alimony recipients
DOWN
1 Wild dog of Australia
2 Beauty
3 Lesson from Aesop
4 Oliver Stone Oscar-winner
5 Words of gratitude
6 Of a female
7 Lift the latch
8 Sailor's rum drink
9 Damascus resident
10 West Indies republic
11 Way out
12 Enjoy a repast
13 Nile goddess
21 Charged atom
23 Vocal quaver
25 Spread out
28 Still green
29 Milanese eight
30 Periman of "Cheers"
31 Audition call
32 Punch line antecedent
33 For the mouth
34 Roll-call call
35 Time period
39 Doha's land
40 Silver-tongued
43 Playwright
45 Terrence
46 Military unit
47 Fill with love
49 "Town"
51 Hotel charges
52 Take five
53 Provide with a quality
54 Knives
55 Labyrinth
56 Chopped down
57 Beer formation
58 Nephrite
62 Corn location



Solutions from 3/27

ACROSS
1 G L A M M Y
5 G O O N S
10 O B I - W A N
14 O B J E C T
15 F O R D
16 W W I I I
17 E P H R O N
18 S H A D Y
19 P O C K E T
20 C H E S N Y
22 D I S C O M P O S E S
24 S P E C T A T O R
26 J A C K I E
27 C A M E O
28 H O R S E
32 D E N V E R
35 F I R S T
37 M A C H I N E
38 R A W
39 S P A T
41 W I L L I A M S
42 D E S T I N Y
44 H A T C H
45 G R A V Y
46 P U T
48 D E S T I T U T E
50 B O B B E Y
51 N E E D
55 I N D I A N
59 N E E D I N G
60 S K A T E R
61 D U L L
63 A L A N
64 G U S T O
65 N I C K E L
66 A M A T E U R
67 V O R T E X
68 R E M O T E
69 A L I M O N Y
DOWN
1 W I L D
2 B E A U T Y
3 L E S S O N
4 O L I V E R
5 G R A T I T U D E
6 F E M A L E
7 L I F T
8 S A I L O R
9 D A M A S C U S
10 R E P U B L I C
11 W A Y
12 E N J O Y
13 N I L E
21 C H A R G E D
23 V O C A L
25 S P R E A D
28 G R E E N
29 M I L A N E S E
30 P E R I M A N
31 A U D I T I O N
32 P U N C H
33 F O R
34 R O L L
35 T I M E
39 D O H A
40 S I L V E R
43 P L A Y W R I G H T
45 T E R R E N C E
46 M I L I T A R Y
47 F I L L
49 T O W N
51 H O T E L
52 T A K E
53 P R O V I D E
54 K N I F E S
55 L A B Y R I N T H
56 C H O P P E D
57 B E E R
58 N E P H R I T E
62 C O R N

SudokuPUZZLE



Solutions from 3/27

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

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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 885-7825 or visit the Student Media office on the SUB third floor.

# Gambino's starts a new life in new building

By Tara Roberts  
Argonaut

The old Gambino's building stood vacant and dark before Spring Break, but when students returned to town, a bulldozer had razed the building, leaving an empty lot.

The rebirth of Gambino's Italian restaurant had begun.

Larry Swanger, a local businessman who owns several area Subway restaurants, bought the building in 2005. Plans for the building, the name and the menu were in flux for a while, but the final plans are now in motion.

Swanger originally planned to remodel the building, but that fell through.

"Once we went in there, that's when we decided to tear it down and rebuild it," Swanger said.

He had hoped to rebuild

and open by late 2006, but the plans were so big, it took time to finalize everything.

"There's so many things we had to deal with," he said. "It just took a little longer than we'd planned on through the city."

Swanger was finally able to put his plans in motion during

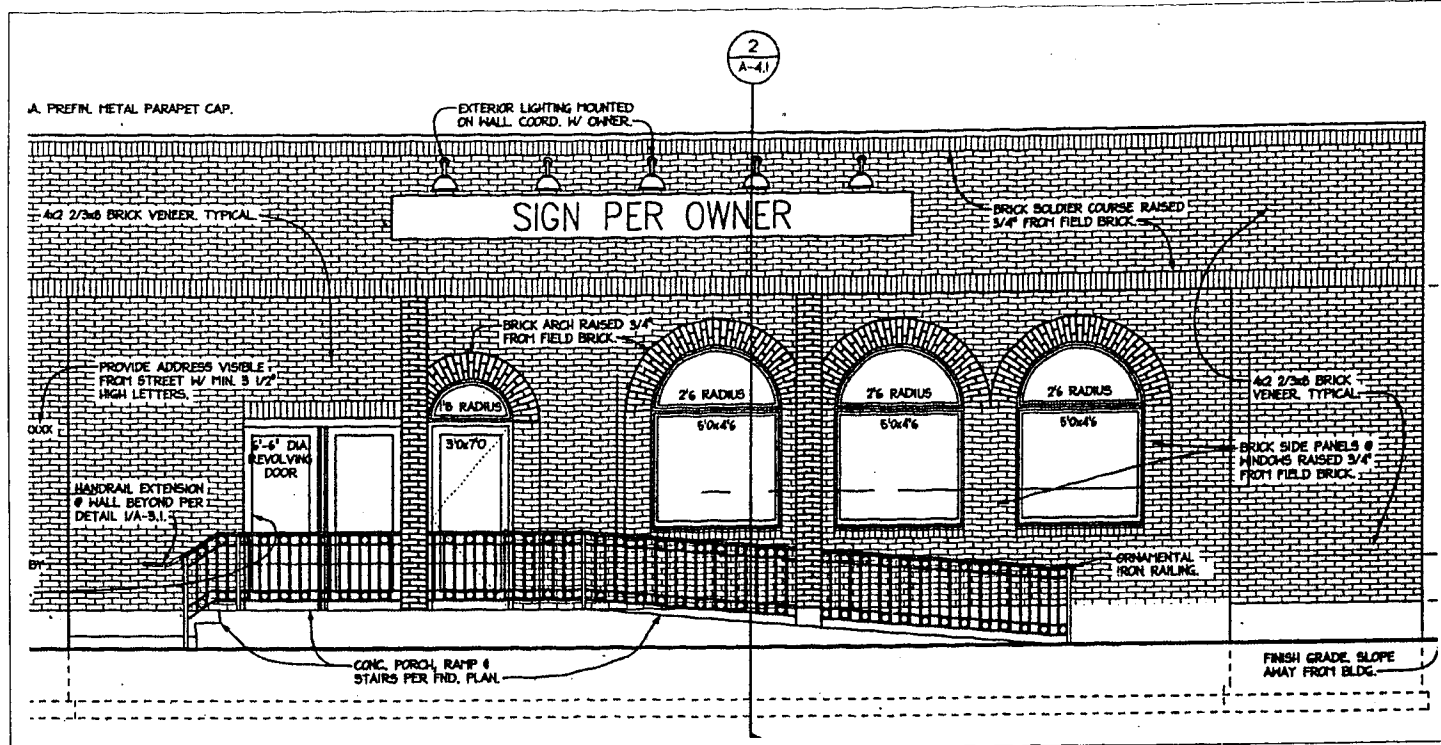
**"Our goal is to make it more of a place you'll feel comfortable going with your family."**

Larry Swanger  
Gambino's owner

the last few months. Wasankari Construction demolished the old building and is currently pouring footings for the new one. Early Enterprises will soon begin framing, and Swanger will do the finishing.

Swanger said things may change slightly as he puts the final touches on the new restaurant, he hopes to open by August.

The new plans call for a 4,500-square-foot restaurant — twice as large as the old one — with a dining room big enough



This architect's drawing shows part of the face of the new Gambino's, now under construction at 308 W. Sixth St. The new, 4,500-square foot building will feature a large dining room, a 10-foot salad bar and a custom-made bar.

for about 180 people. A bar is currently being specially crafted in California.

"We have kind of a quiet bar in there that will seat about 28," Swanger said.

Tentative plans also call for a special beer cooler to accompany the bar.

In the new building, there will be no more outdoor dining.

Swanger said he cancelled plans for a patio because of sanitation concerns.

"When you have an open dining room, I just don't know how you control bugs," he said.

Another big change is the death of the infamous fishbowl.

Ending the fishbowls — round, 60-ounce glasses of beer — was part of the decision to change Gambino's atmosphere.

"Our goal is to make it more of a place you'll feel comfortable going with your family," Swanger said. "I just don't think it's wise as an owner to allow somebody to sit and drink 60 ounces at a time."

The original plans also included a name change.

Swanger's sons, George and Scott, drew up a logo for the restaurant with the name Capone's. But one day, while he was driving through Coeur d'Alene, Swanger spied a

restaurant called Capone's. He didn't want to borrow someone else's family name, so he decided to revert back to Gambino's, the name given the restaurant by its founders, Don and Ellen Roskovich. George and Scott are currently designing a new logo.

"I like the Gambino's name," Swanger said.

A few key items from the old menu will stick around, too, like the Zonker Sandwich. The restaurant will still serve pasta, Swanger said, but the main focus will be another Italian favorite.

"We're probably going to

Courtesy of Associated Architects

emphasize more on pizza," he said.

But don't expect the same pizza as before. Swanger decided to model Gambino's new pizza on pizza from Fazzari's, a restaurant in Clarkston. He said he admires the owners and loves their style.

"I think that's the best pizza I've ever had," he said.

Despite all the changes, Swanger said, old fans will still know the restaurant is Gambino's.

"I'd gone there when I was in college," he said. "So it has some sentimental value for me, too."

# Increased student fees discussed at open forum

By Christina Lords  
Argonaut

Members of the student fee committee spoke openly to the public about the decision they made to increase dedicated student fees 5.95 percent at the student fee open forum Tuesday.

The committee's recommendations were sent to University of Idaho President Tim White March 7. White approved of the recommendations and included them in his proposal to Idaho's State Board of Education on March 8.

The proposal suggests a \$125 increase in resident undergraduate fees per semester. If approved by the State Board of Education, the cost of attending UI for one semester would go up from

\$2,100 to \$2,225. Law school fees would also increase by \$225 per semester.

"The student fee process is an important conversation," Dean of Students Bruce Pitman said.

"It's the first step among many to go to the state board."

The state board will meet April 19 on campus to decide on UI's proposed dedicated student fees and matriculation fees, and the proposed fees from other colleges and universities from around the state.

Pitman invited the 15 to 20 people who attended the forum and anyone else who

did not wish to speak at the open forum to submit a written comment via e-mail to him that would be included in the proposal.

**"We will be looking at a more open budget process."**

Jana Stotler  
UI Controller

University Controller Jana Stotler, who works in the business and accounting services department, explained some aspects of the increases, including the matriculation increases. The recommendation for the proposal is a 4.28 percent increase in matriculation fees.

"Due to enrollment decreases, (the increase) will keep us even," Stotler said.

Stotler said even with the

4.28 percent increase, the new matriculation fee may have to stretch to cover all of the current costs of the university.

"A big percentage of matriculation costs over the last few years have gone to facilities management," she said.

There is a proposed \$40 increase in deferred maintenance costs, Stotler said.

"It's a topic of conversation

because we have to figure out a way to fund maintenance of our buildings," she said.

She also said matriculation helps to fund areas like business and accounting services, advancement, and some scholarships.

The university is in the process of looking at and evaluating its budget model, Stotler said.

"We will be looking at a

more open budget process," she said. "We want to refine the process and continue into the next year. We're looking at getting out more information across campus."

The open forum was held at 4 p.m. in the Whitewater Room in the Idaho Commons. No university students chose to speak for or against the proposal who were not a part of the student fee committee.

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# UI BEST OF 2007

<p><b>Campus</b></p> <p>Best Professor: _____</p> <p>Best Class to Take: _____</p> <p>Best Excuse for Missing Class: _____</p> <p>Best Place to Study: _____</p> <p>Best Hangout Spot: _____</p> <p>Best Vandal Athletics Team: _____</p>	<p><b>Best Bar/Pub</b></p> <p>Best Happy Hour: _____</p> <p>Best Buffet: _____</p>
<p><b>Food &amp; Beverages</b></p> <p>Best Pizza Shop: _____</p> <p>Best Sandwich Shop: _____</p> <p>Best Place for Breakfast: _____</p> <p>Best Italian Food: _____</p> <p>Best Asian Food: _____</p> <p>Best Mexican Food: _____</p>	<p><b>Entertainment</b></p> <p>Best Video Rentals: _____</p> <p>Best Radio Station: _____</p> <p>Best TV Show: _____</p> <p>Best New Movie: _____</p> <p>Best New Album: _____</p> <p>Best Rap/R&amp;B Group: _____</p> <p>Best Country Group: _____</p> <p>Best Rock Group: _____</p> <p>Best Local Band: _____</p>
<p>Best Romantic Restaurant: _____</p> <p>Best Place for Dessert: _____</p> <p>Best Burger Joint: _____</p> <p>Best Natural Foods: _____</p> <p>Best Coffee/Espresso: _____</p> <p>Best Late Night Snack: _____</p> <p>Best Place for Ice Cream: _____</p> <p>Best Place for Margarita: _____</p> <p>Best Drink Selection: _____</p> <p>Best Beer Selection: _____</p> <p>Best Sports Bar: _____</p> <p>Best Night Club: _____</p>	<p><b>Around Town</b></p> <p>Best Place to Meet People: _____</p> <p>Best Place to Shoot Pool: _____</p> <p>Best Place to see live music: _____</p> <p>Best New Business in Moscow: _____</p> <p>Best Hair Salon: _____</p> <p>Best Tanning Salon: _____</p> <p>Best Bookstore: _____</p> <p>Best Night to Go Out: _____</p> <p>Best Car Dealer: _____</p> <p>Best Flower Shop: _____</p> <p>Best Bank: _____</p>

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## STEEL

from page 1

for lower rates in Wallace, Griffel said he investigated ways to make that work. By Friday afternoon, he got approval for the discount and sent a letter to the residents announcing it.

However, the Steel House women consider moving to Wallace their last option, seeking out funding and support from other sources.

"We're not expecting the university to build us a new house," said Cyndil Markert, Steel House president. "We're looking for other avenues of money."

Besides seeking alumni donations, the residents are also writing letters to Oprah Winfrey trying to get attention for their cause.

The Queen of Daytime TV has yet to respond to the snail-mail barrage, but others have heard the co-op's calls for help.

Steel House's story has been covered by regional newspapers and radio stations, and is featured on the North American Students of Cooperation's Web site.

Even ASUI is getting involved with saving Steel House and cooperative living groups.

At Wednesday night's meeting, the Senate approved resolution S07-01, which "supports Steel House residents in their efforts to preserve their cooperative living group."

Jonathan Gaffney, ASUI director of community relations, wrote the resolution, which was endorsed by Sens. John Adkins and Garrett Holbrook. Gaffney's reason for helping Steel House exceeds aiding fellow students. It's literally part of his family history.

"My grandmother lived there while she was going to school here and couldn't afford to live anywhere else," he said. "And she met my grandfather while she was going to school here. I sort of owe my life to the Steel House."

Sen. Chuck Chambers has also reached out to the residents, putting himself into the women's shoes.

"If Theta Chi (my fraternity) was being taken away and the university said, 'We're closing it down,' I would do everything in my

power to make sure that didn't happen," he said. "I wanted to let them know, as a senator, I would do everything in my power to help. Whether it be advertising for their Facebook group, sign their petition, talk with them while they're picketing or just offering my ideas on how to raise money."

Chambers and Gaffney aren't the only ones who supported the resolution. Sen. Jimmy Fox made the motion to approve it and spoke of his personal history with the house.

"I participated in Man of Steel last year and it was a really fun experience for me to meet the women (there)," he said. "They're a very unique and special group of ladies that have a real sense of community, which the residence halls try to produce. ... I fundamentally wish the cooperative tradition can be continued in the current building or somewhere else on campus. Those girls need the chance to live together in the years to come."

Jessica Wiggins, Steel House's second floor resident assistant, wasn't expecting ASUI's support but was overwhelmed to receive it.

"I honestly hadn't spoken personally with anyone in ASUI yet," she said. "When I heard they took special interest in us after just a week, it felt amazing. They really stepped up and understand our issues. We're really grateful to ASUI for their actions to help us and our cause."

What the senators do now is determined on an individual basis. S07-01's passing simply allows them to help Steel House at their prerogative.

"The resolution is basically an expression of opinion," Gaffney said. "It's not saying the Senate is appropriating money. It's not changing any existing ASUI policies. ... The resolution is the appropriate way of showing support for different things that the Senate agrees with. This is the only tool they have to do so."

While ASUI's actions are yet to be seen, Steel House residents know what's next for them — a campout on the Administration Lawn next week. Wiggins said the exact day is to be determined.

## TRANSIT

from page 1

Valley Transit executive director and a member of the UI Student Media Board, said while there is enough money to maintain current operation, there will not be enough for expansions, which LaPointe has mentioned he would like to make.

"This is a great start for finding ongoing, permanent funding," LaPointe said. "I'm very grateful to the students. It shows a lot of forward thinking."

The added \$3 to student fees will be the only portion of fees allotted to transportation. Conversely, WSU students currently pay \$15 for their local transportation.

Part of the public interest in UI's decision to find new funding for Wheatland was generated as a result of the potential loss of Moscow Valley Transit. Moscow's transit service is largely funded by money granted by the Federal Transportation

Administration to the Idaho Department of Transportation, which doles funds as a match for local transportation dollars. In short, if funding for Wheatland Express is cut, federal dollars supporting Moscow Valley Transit will also be halted.

The Wheatland shuttle has been funded for the last seven years by UI and WSU. Both universities split the \$200,000 annual operating cost equally.

The current contract held between the universities and Wheatland expires in August 2007, and stipulates that the universities may place their requirement to uphold the contract on an annual basis for the last three years of the agreement.

Due to budget constraints, UI administration decided it could no longer sustain its payments to the organization, and a task force was assembled to find alternative funding.

More than 30 groups make up the task force, and each has a potential interest

in maintaining the transit services. Among others, they consist of Mues; Steed; LaPointe; ASUI President Humberto Cerillo; Kenton Bird, director of the school of journalism and mass media; and Michael Kyte, director of the National Institute for Advanced Transportation Technology.

A survey taken in November showed WSU faculty, staff and students made up the largest percentage of trips on Wheatland, amounting to 49 percent of the rides, while UI students made up 39 percent during the time of the survey.

The survey showed there would be a significant impact on students if the services were dropped, as 46 percent of Moscow Valley Transit's rides consist of students going to and from classes.

UI students were the largest group of people riding Moscow Valley Transit shuttles, and made up 65 percent of the rides.

The survey also found the transportation services save 85 daily parking spaces at the UI.

# Controversial poster's ripple effect hits Moscow

By Jeremy Castillo  
Argonaut

Flyers for Canyon County Commissioner Robert Vasquez's recent talk on illegal immigration at Boise State University have created headlines across the country.

Even in Moscow, backlash against BSU's posters is being felt.

The event's posters, created by the school's College Republicans group, displayed a highway safety sign featuring silhouettes of a migrant family, dummy identification cards and advertising for a free dinner contest.

To win the complimentary Mexican dinner for two, contestants were to "climb through the hole in the fence and enter (their) false ID documents into the food stamp drawing."

The club's Web site maintains the poster was not racially charged or meant to offend but to gain attendance for Vasquez's appearance.

"We simply want to bring attention to the problem of illegal immigration in America," the Web site read. "While the drawing for dinner is all in good fun, the topic is serious and the College Republicans have chosen a serious speaker. Robert Vasquez is one of Idaho's leading Latino citizens and an authority on the subject of illegal immigration."

While the poster was meant to be innocuous, a controversy still brewed.

Lucia Venegas, community chair for Lambda Theta Alpha, University of Idaho's Latina sorority, heard about the posters from her sister Rosario, a BSU senior, and Francisco Salinas, director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

"It got me very upset," Lucia said. Instead of taking drastic measures, she rallied her sorority together and held a pledge drive tied into Vasquez's speech. For every minute he spoke, donors gave a certain amount — similar to the way fun-run participants earn money per mile.

The event has already raised \$406.05, Venegas said, and more is yet to come. Once completely collected, the funds raised from the pledge drive will go to the Idaho Hispanic Caucus.

"I was very, very impressed with our ladies in Lambda Theta Alpha and by the Students In Unity who talked about the need to respond in

some way," Salinas said.

While some question BSU's College Republicans club's sensitivity toward immigration, others understand the group's tactics.

"I can see where people would get upset, but I think that was the idea: get people to react and get them to go," said Brett Walter, president of UI's College Republicans. "If their motive was simply to get a reaction to force people to come, this is what you need to do."

"I don't know if I would do something up here because (immigration) doesn't affect Idaho the same way it does border states. They're only going to see the poor, struggling families trying to make a living. It doesn't affect them the same way."

A native of Santa Clarita, Calif., a town 15 minutes from downtown Los Angeles, Walter has seen the flipside of immigration Idahoans rarely, or as he says, never, observe.

"I am from an area in Southern California that is highly affected by this and often see the rip-off," he said. "I was working at a Starbucks and someone came in who couldn't speak a word of English but was paying for her coffee with food stamps."

"(The poster) is not a far leap. This doesn't mean, of course, everybody who comes here is trying to rip off the government or trying to come illegally."

This recent controversy at BSU may remind some about a recent demonstration at Washington State University. Last November, WSU's College Republicans built a 24-foot chain-link fence on Glenn Terrell Mall in support of Congress' approval to build a fence across a portion of the U.S.-Mexico border.

The event was called racist by protestors and caused a professor to start cursing at students.

While the fence incident could have been offensive for attention's sake, others disagree with such tactics — even fellow Republicans.

"I think if a group does things that are somewhat incendiary then the response may not be positive, especially when a group is viewed as attacking another," wrote graduate student Julian Williams in an e-mail. "To me, tact always works well in political or social situations. Like my father always used to say, 'You can catch more flies with sugar than with vinegar,' not to discriminate against flies in any manner of course."

**"I can see where people would get upset, but I think that was the idea: get people to react and get them to go."**

Brett Walter  
President, UI College Republicans

## FRIDAY

from page 1

held at the UI Bookstore from 3-5 p.m., allowing for students and families to reunite and enter a drawing for free iTunes cards.

Open house receptions will follow the rendezvous, and future Vandals are encouraged to check out other campus facilities, such as the Student Health Building, Tutoring and

Academic Assistance Programs, and the various ASUI/student activities.

Check-in for overnight stays will run from 5-6 p.m., when students can meet up with their hosts to prepare for an entertaining night on the UI campus. The night's festivities include a concert and ice cream social at the Idaho Commons, a global block party and Vegas Vandal Style at the Living Learning Community, a festival of new French films at the Student

Union Building, Vandal Jingles at the Kibbie Dome, comedian slam poet Mike McGee at the SUB Ballroom and Late Night at the Rec at the Student Recreation Center.

To aid in the success of Vandal Friday, Helmke said the most important thing current students can do is keep an eye out for people who seem lost and point them in the right direction.

"Make sure to wear your Vandal gear and get your game faces on," she added.

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**SenateREPORT**

**March 28, 2007**

**Open Forum**  
Steel House resident Nikki Betts spoke on behalf of the members of the residence hall to gain support from the senators to pass a resolution that would show support from the ASUI Senate for the cooperative. She said some of the 32 members would not be able to afford housing costs if the cooperative closed due to maintenance costs. She said that Steel House was still a livable space for the women.

ASUI lobbyist Emily Davis gave a recap of her time spent lobbying for the University of Idaho and for ASUI in the Idaho Legislature. She said she had three main focuses as the lobbyist: faculty and staff compensation, student financial aid and facility maintenance. She stressed that the lobbyist appointed for next year needs to be picked at the beginning of the next fall semester to allow more training time for them to be introduced to their position. She said another important main objective was to create a community college system for Idaho.

ASUI Deputy Director of Advancement Jo Seely updated the Senate about the Larry Craig endowment project she has been working on. The endowment allows funding for students on the UI campus to partake in leadership conferences.

Jon Gaffney, the director for community relations for ASUI, reminded the senators of the city council open forum that will be held next week. Three city council members and the mayor will be at the open forum to talk about issues that relate to the community and the university.

Jeremy Castillo, a reporter for

The Argonaut, clarified aspects of his story about the closure of Steel House for the senators.

**Executive Communications**  
ASUI President Berto Cerillo updated the senators about the student fee proposal. He said he and other members of the student fee committee spoke at the student fee open forum Tuesday. He also discussed a meeting he attended to talk about service learning programs. He said he expected to see more funding for service learning programs in the future.

**Unfinished Business**  
S07-35, an act providing for the establishment of the ASUI general operating budget for the Associated Students University of Idaho, passed.

**New Business**  
S07-36, an act changing the times of the final spring 2007 ASUI Senate meeting and the first fall 2007 ASUI Senate meeting, was sent to Ways and Means.

S07-37, an act appointing Sara Schmoie to the position of ASUI student recreation board activities coordinator, was sent to Government Operations and Appointments.

S07-38, an act appointing Tyler Doil to the position of ASUI student recreation board vice board chair, was sent to Government Operations and Appointments.

S07-39, an act providing service to the Moscow community through philanthropy, was sent to Ways and Means.

**Resolutions**  
S07-01, a resolution supporting Steel House residents in their efforts to preserve their cooperative living group, was immediately considered and unanimously passed.

*Christina Lords*

**GLOBAL**  
from page 1

classes that all students must take, switching majors is very rare.

"It would be like starting over completely," she says.

Another difference between American and Israeli universities is the level of preparation for math courses. There are no remedial courses in Israel, Bialostocki says. At UI, the lowest-level math course essentially repeats high school algebra. In Israel, there are no courses lower than calculus.

Even outside the fields of math and science, professors at UI have noticed differences. Pingchao Zhu has been a professor in UI's history department for 10 years. After earning her bachelor's degree in China, she came to America to pursue her master's and Ph.D. in 1989. As in Israel, the higher education system in China has changed greatly between the late-'70s and now.

"Chinese college students study inside a box," Zhu observes. They learn by the book, in a vacuum, while "U.S. college students study on the street." There is more freedom for students to direct their own studies in the United States, she says.

Zhu says that after graduation, Chinese students look around and don't know what to do because they are so cut off from the rest of the world. American students have already learned how to negotiate for jobs and how to earn their own money; in general, Chinese students have not.

The job search is one challenge for which Zhu says Chinese students are woefully under-prepared. When she graduated from college, Zhu was guaranteed a job from the government. However, that has changed, and

Chinese students now have to create resumes, apply for positions and sell themselves just as aggressively as American students, though they have little to no experience in the area.

"In China people tend to be reserved," Zhu says.

Selling one's personal merits and qualifications for the job requires a different mindset, she says, and can present a challenge to Chinese students who were raised in a culture that values discretion and reservation.

Ikuyo Suzuki, a professor of Japanese who is currently working toward her Ph.D. in education at UI, views the differences between American students and those in other countries as an opportunity.

"I want to tell my culture," she says, adding that she views her classes as a bridge between American and Japanese culture.

Though she taught in Japan before coming to Idaho to earn her master's degree in secondary education, she enjoys teaching in America much more.

"I like teaching here," she says.

The academic environment is much more open to innovation, she says, and professors have the freedom to create new curriculum. Students are also more friendly and talkative in class. When Suzuki walks into a class here, she can "catch a feeling" immediately. In Japan, she says, students don't show emotion.

Though Sarah Nelson was born and educated in America's Midwest, she has spent years overseas teaching English as a second language in Belgium, Switzerland and France. For a time, she was also an assistant teacher at a public junior high in France.

"I certainly did notice differences," she says. For one thing, the curriculum at that level is much more rigorous than in the United States.

"Students are expected to stock a lot

more knowledge," she says, adding that the emphasis is on stocking knowledge rather than on students expressing themselves through analysis or writing. In the United States, Nelson says, creativity and a well-rounded education are more important.

To get into college, Nelson says, all students have to take and pass what's known as the BAC — an exam that "dominates" the lives of high school students.

"It's not uncommon for students to fail the BAC the first time they take it and repeat their last year of high school," she says.

Nelson has also led groups of students on study abroad trips to France, and says that a lot of students at the university level get the impression that nothing is required of them. There are no day-to-day homework assignments, she says. Students receive a bibliography for the course, and sometimes, toward the end of the term, a syllabus, which is basically a compilation of lecture notes. The grade for the term is generally based primarily on a 20-minute oral exam that encompasses all that information.

In French universities, Nelson says, getting a degree is a more rigid process. Once a major is declared, the student follows a defined curriculum. Before moving on to the next year or next level of classes, the student has to get a passing grade for every class he is taking.

"(In the United States), you can switch majors your junior year and not have to start from scratch," she says. That would be impossible in France.

Nelson has also had experience with French graduate students teaching in the American system.

"It just made them laugh that students wanted to be told what was on the exam," she says.

**on the WEB**

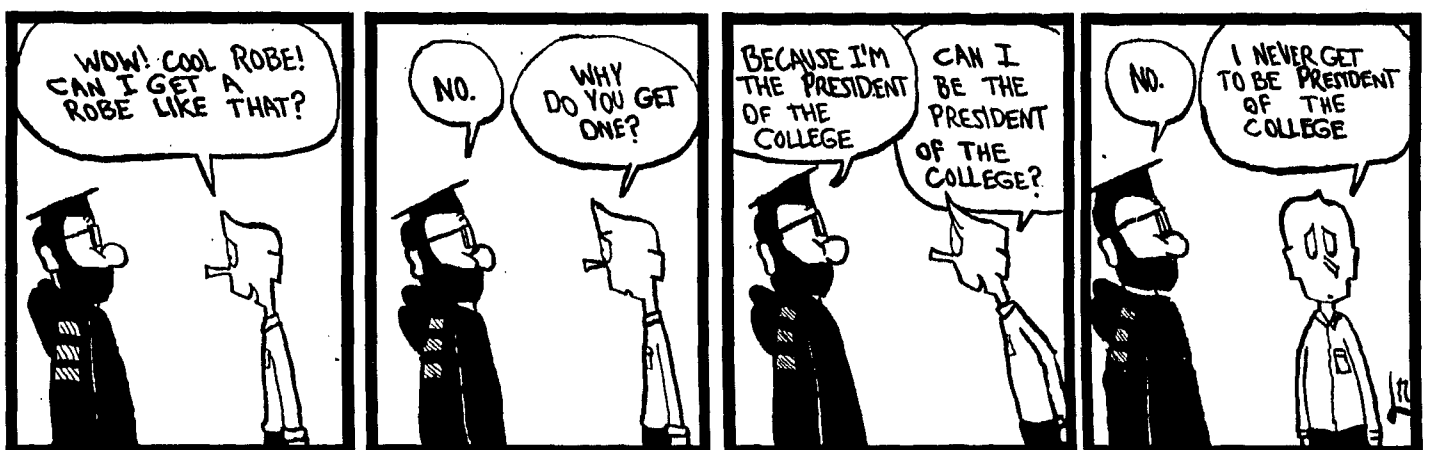
Your comments on the Steel House editorial: "I distinctly remember giving a speech in class concerning the diminishing funds from the state and how the university was going to shut down in incremental units with

only the Ag College remaining. Don't sweat the small stuff. Uoi will always pull through." - Brad410

This week, Robert shares his thoughts on Vandal Friday and WWI vets, and Web reporter Jasun Wellman writes about the experiences of students from India — only at [www.uiargonaut.com](http://www.uiargonaut.com)

**UniversityAVE.**

by Paul Tong/Argonaut



**The Argonaut Classifieds**

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Rate of Pay: \$10.00/hr  
Hours/Week: 10-20, flexible  
Job Located in: Moscow

Rate of Pay: DOE  
Hours/Week: 40 hrs/week  
Job Located in Shelley, ID

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I hold a Child, Family, and Consumer Science Education Degree. Providing child care in my home. Filling spots for 3 children (infant to 4 years). Certified with the State of Idaho. Many certifications. Care will be educationally directed. Please contact Summer after 5:00 pm at 208-596-2798 or email [merchet9170@yahoo.com](mailto:merchet9170@yahoo.com) for more details, experiences, references, or to set up a meeting.

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## OurVIEW

# Real reasons to come to Idaho

Welcome, Vandal Friday students, to the University of Idaho. Now that you're here, you're going to spend the weekend being besieged by UI propaganda. We at The Argonaut would like to be on that propaganda wagon.

As students who at one time were just like you, we understand what it's like to try to choose a college. We picked UI, and you should too. Here are a few reasons why:

• **UI is affordable.** Yeah, smaller state colleges are cheaper, but UI is the best bang for your buck. In-state tuition and fees for a year are just \$4,200 (a wee bit higher after the upcoming increase, but increases mean more cool programs). That's comparable to Boise State, and way better than going out of state — an Idaho kid going just over the border to Washington State University would pay \$17,174 in tuition and fees. Even in-state tuition and fees at WSU are a truckload more: \$6,860. Hey, we're a bargain.

• **Students here get involved.** So maybe we're not all about politics, but we've got action handed. UI just sent 108 students to help fix Hurricane Katrina damage. The UI KaBoom! chapter is helping build a playground at a local elementary school. The ASUI Center for Volunteerism and Social Action has a database of opportunities across the area — there are volunteers needed in everything from the arts to human rights.

• **There are amazing research opportunities.** UI received more than \$80 million in competitive research awards in 2006, including a \$20 million deal to research biodiesel. We've even got nifty vehicles that run on it. Students can work in campus labs and research stations to get real-world experience with bacteria, robots, animals, numbers, kids — whatever you want. We even have the Student Grant Program to fund independent projects.

• **We've got cool programs and classes.** Want to be a professional golf management major? Into Latin American studies? Range livestock management? Resource recreation and tourism? We've got that here. And within the "normal" disciplines, there are weird classes. Next semester, students can take The Occult in History (HIST 401); Herpetology (that's the study of reptiles, BIOL 404); Color, Chemistry and Art (CORS 215) and Whitewater Rafting (REC 224).

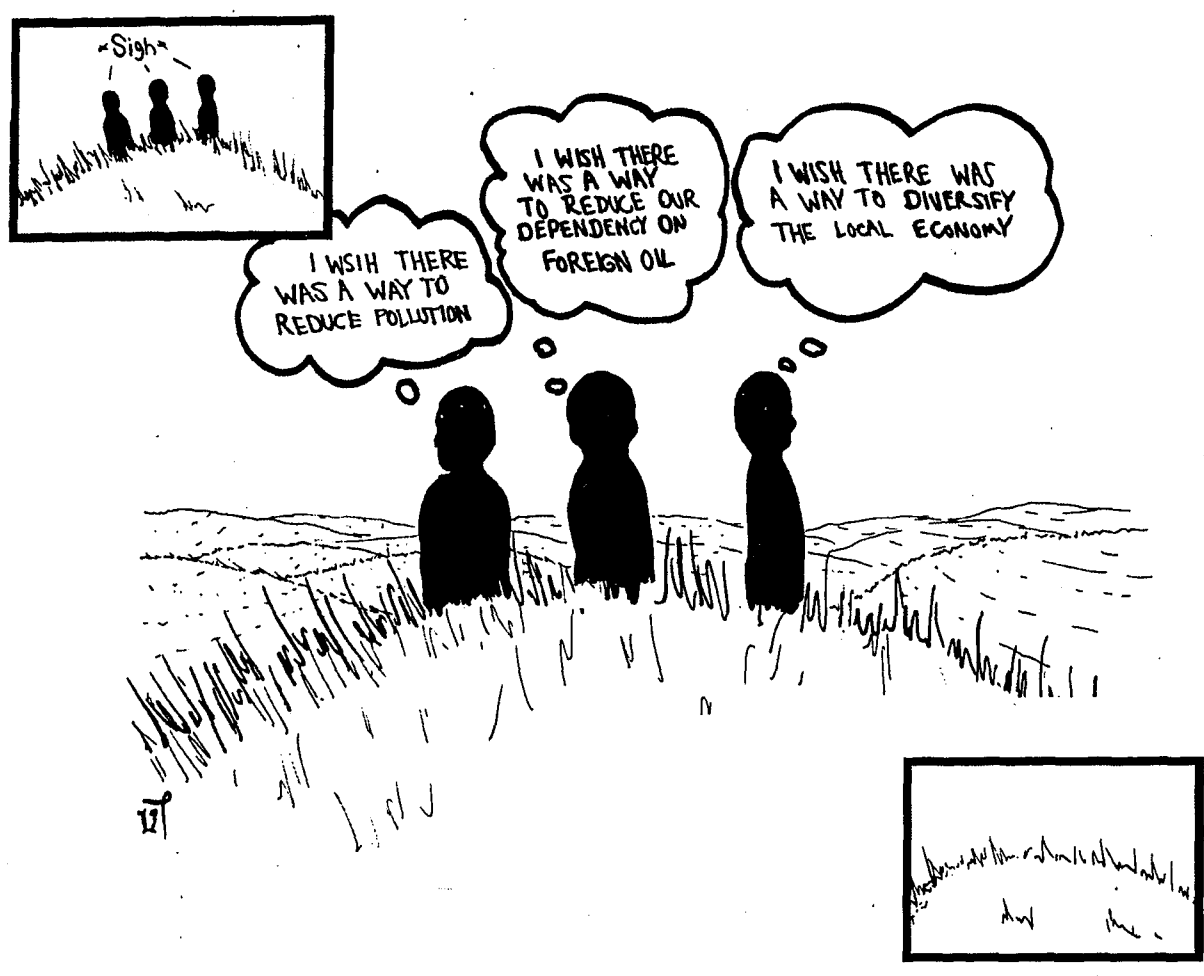
• **The administration will keep you laughing.** UI's bureaucrats spent \$900,000 on an ad campaign that features pictures of places miles from campus — and yet, they couldn't find \$30,000 to fund community outreach classes! There were multiple computer data leaks in one year! A simple e-mail transfer turned into a fiasco! Yeah, the choices made by the head honchos around here aren't always the hottest, but hey, at least it gives students something to make fun of.

• **It's just a nice place in a nice town.** We're not stuck in a big city, but we've got great restaurants, decent shopping and tons of culture. If you dig outdoor recreation, it's everywhere. Heck, you can scale a 55-foot vertical climbing wall right on campus. And despite the occasional tendency for horizontal snow, the Palouse in general is gorgeous. You can't beat campus in the autumn.

• **And of course, the best reasons to attend UI:** We have cows with windows in them, and we cloned a freakin' mule!

Hope to see you here next year, newbies.

— T.R. for the editorial board



Paul Tong/Argonaut

# Mushrooms, memories: A shoeology

I dumbly brought a pair of black leather high heels when I moved here in January.

Heels don't work in this town. That's not say you can't dress "cute," it's just different. Sensibility is something I've introduced to my wardrobe since moving Idaho; it's cold and in muddy Moscow in March, heels don't make any sense.

Despite not being worn for the past three months, these shoes are totally cashed. For years, they were my stand-by. Simple, classic, Kate Spade and CoCo Chanel would be proud. I bought them when I was a teenager, and it was a pretty big splurge at the time. String-bean 15-year-olds look ridiculous wearing heels over two inches, but I didn't care. They were like glamour in a can — when I put them on, my legs felt longer, more toned. I think of all the smooches I stole in those shoes, the floors I danced across, the parties I crashed, the sore feet and high hopes.

High heels and dresses were the tools of my urban life. If I had a spare \$80 lying around, it would not go to bike parts or gasoline, but instead to shoes, dresses and chunky-cut jewelry. I've never been one to relish in the things material, but it was part of the program and became part of me. From 15 forward, my female identity was defined largely by what I wore, the venues I frequented and my inter-

actions with others. High heels played a major part.

These pumps lasted a long time, but now they are dead. The heel is broken, little pieces of grass and Lord knows what else are jutting out, they're scuffed, the sole is peeling. I brought them to Idaho only to be buried. This is a shoeology.

The stuff we bring and the stuff we take. I brought clothes, pumps, tan lines, experiences, an accent and an attitude. I moved to Idaho bringing the things that used to work — high heels, short hemlines, thin jackets.

What I'll leave with is something quite different.

With the semester half over and the temperatures somewhat on the rise, conversations have begun to drift in a forward direction. What we're doing this summer, jobs after graduation, etc. In May, Moscow will release its grip on the lives of its student residents. We'll pop like pollen and drift around in search of travel, cheap beer and longer days.

In describing a summer job in California, a friend told of his experience being an Idaho ex-pat.

"I learned to use being from Idaho to my advantage. They saw me as 'behind.' So being the good, honest Idaho guy became my identity. But I thought, 'These guys would never make it in Idaho.'"

When we travel, we bring our ideas, standards and values. We make comparisons of others to our-

selves but we still weasel our way into a place at the local table. It's a silent elitism and we all do it. We change a little and then we change again. I brought heels and the idea that I could crash into the lives of people of Moscow and if things didn't work, I could rationalize it — think, hey, these Idahoans would suffocate in the Southern heat, be eaten by bees and book a ticket back to Boise faster than a Georgian shucks a peanut. And for my friends back in South Carolina, I'd feel a silent toughness from three months of Arctic breezes. I'd get secret kicks from the survival of my own private Idaho.

But that's not the case. There's no scoreboard. I don't get my kicks.

When I return to the sticky South, I'll remember it's futile to think my friends and family will understand my affection for this place and why I will return and why we have cows with windows. I'll go home and put on a sundress and gallywoo my way over to the races and gum a cigar and tell everyone of my big Western adventure. They'll laugh and someone will ask where Idaho is and about the weather. I'll demurely administer a geography lesson. But I will never be able to fully explain the trade-off of my pumps for mud boots, silk for wool, Jim Beam for Honeymoon Wheat. The things we bring and the things we take. The race will begin, the moment will pass and we'll pose for a picture.

A great line sneaks out of Mark

See 'SHROOMS, page 7



Tecla Markosky  
Columnist  
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# Revenge of the underpants gnomes

Way back in season two of "South Park," there was an episode involving a boy, Tweek, who brought the other boys to his house so that they could witness the gnomes that snuck into his room at 3 a.m. to steal his underpants.

The gnomes were stealing Tweek's underpants in order to make a profit. How this would happen was unclear, even to the gnomes.

Gnomes that steal a cartoon boy's tights-whites are funny.

Men who steal women's panties from their laundry ... not so funny.

Perhaps you heard about this. Grant Flaherty, 24, was arrested in Pullman when he was caught swiping women's undergarments from the laundry. Police had been investigating a string of such crimes and had warned people to be on the lookout for anything suspicious.

Calling the police when I see some guy sniffing g-strings at the washing machines is not the first thing I think to do, but someone did.

When Pullman police went to search the man's (I almost typed "gentleman" out of polite habit, but I'd say we are beyond that) home, they found bras and panties strewn around his apartment floor.

According to the police report, they filled five garbage bags with the underwear. Total weight: 93 pounds.

Anywhere from 500-1,500 individual items were recovered for an estimated value of \$2,200.

This guy must have been at it for a while.

Pullman Police Commander Chris Tennant talked to the man. Someone write this down as a nominee for quote of the year: "He said he had a problem," Tennant said.

Congratulations Commander, not only did you catch the great Pullman Panty Bandit, you also captured the infamous Mr. Obvious.

This is much more serious than it seems. Imagine being afraid to go wash your knickers because some pervert might steal them. Imagine wearing Monday's white cotton when you should be wearing Wednesday's pink satin.

Imagine sitting next to that person. If she is that afraid, she's probably sweating like crazy, too.

Oh, the humanity. What ever happened to the days of simple, innocent panty raids? Crossing the lake one night at summer camp, swiping a few pairs of Monday undies, running them up



T.J. Tranchell  
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## Off the CUFF

Quick takes on life from our editors

### Why am I doing this?

Would it have been that hard for the Josters folks and the bookstore to plan the "Grad Finale" event a little better? The only table where people gave me helpful instructions was the alumni survey — after that, it turned into a sea of tables where I was supposed to pull a purchase form out of my ass, fill it out and then find the other unmarked table that looked like the three next to it to pay. Oh, and of course, if I'd wanted a \$300 piece of manufactured nostalgia in the shape of a ring while I was at it, they would have been more than happy to pad their pocketbooks.

— Nate

### Lawn-mowing season

This morning I walked past the AGR house and someone was out front mowing the lawn. It was the first time this year I've really believed it's spring — that smell of fresh-cut grass is one of the most perfect things about this season. So now I'm hooked. I demand that all Moscovans with lawns commence mowing immediately.

— Tara

### Don't freak out

The semester is quickly coming to an end and life is getting crazy for many students on campus, but don't worry. Everyone gets all knotted up inside at the end of every spring semester, but I know we'll all make it through. Students have the tendency to freak out when they get a bit overloaded, but managing time wisely and taking a few minutes a day to just breathe will help. The school year will be over before we know it.

— Ryli

### A discussion we need

James Yee, a former U.S. Army Muslim chaplain, will be presenting "Guantanamo: The Struggle for Human Rights" at 6:30 p.m. Friday in the Idaho Commons Clearwater room. Yee was charged with spying, espionage and aiding alleged Taliban and al-Qaeda prisoners, although the charges were eventually dropped. Considering the University of Idaho's involvement in the 17-month detainment of former grad student Sami Al-Hussayen on terrorism-related charges, I can't think of a more fitting presentation for the patrons of this university to attend.

— Alec

### Thanks for the heat

I just wanted to say a real quick thanks to whoever it was that made the decision/actually did it to turn the heat back on in Steel House. I was cold. Now my life is much better, and I was able to take three blankets off my bed. It's quite pleasant. Thanks!

— Miranda

### Show some patriotism

While walking across campus yesterday I spotted some fraternity members preparing to hang their American flag in front of the house. I am not an incredibly patriotic person, but I was offended by how much disrespect they showed to the flag. One gentleman was holding it in a ball, letting it drape on the ground while the other two tried to figure out how to hang it up. Seriously you guys, whether you believe it's just a hunk of cloth or not, it means something to most Americans. Show some respect. And if you don't know how to properly put the flag up or take it down, call the ROTC guys. They can gladly show you.

— Savannah

### Tainted tours

Is it just me, or does anyone else just get a sudden urge to jump in on those campus tours that are running rampant around campus and pretend like you're a prospective student? I just really want to hear how many lies those tour guides are telling those poor little high schoolers. I mean, I'm sure they have some sort of embellishments they like to throw in there to make them sound smart. C'mon, our campus isn't that interesting. Besides, think of how much more interesting it would sound if people actually said hi to you on Hello Walk!

— Cynthia

## Editorial Policy

The opinion page is reserved as a forum of open thought, debate and expression of free speech regarding topics relevant to the University of Idaho community. Editorials are signed by the initials of the author.

Editorials may not necessarily reflect the views of the university or its identities. Members of the Argonaut Editorial Board are Tara Roberts, editor in chief; Nate Poppino, managing editor; and Savannah Cummings, opinion editor.

## Letters Policy

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.

# Steel is more than a house

In response to the OurView editorial "Steel should look to the future" in the March 27 issue of the Argonaut: Steel House is not just any residence hall. It is not just a place where people sit in cement cubicles like Wallace. It is a cooperative living establishment. This is an arrangement that is impossible in Wallace and that is why Steel House residents have refused to take that option. Even the Dean of Students, Bruce Pitman, admits that Wallace is an unpleasant place to live.



**Audrey Mattoon**  
Guest columnist  
arg\_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

for Steel House. We are contacting alumni and members of the community. We've spoken with representatives of national co-op organizations. Steel House is the nation's oldest women's cooperative, according to the university. We have one of the lowest rates of disciplinary issues of a residence hall on campus. The community built at Steel House is unreplicable in other residence hall living options. Steel House isn't just about the reduced rate, it is about the cooperative

living community. It is not that we are adverse to moving — what is Steel House today originally started in Ridenbaugh Hall — it is that we are adverse to allowing the university to flippantly disregard us because we are a house of poorer women. Sticking the Steel name on a hall in Wallace that bears no resemblance to the cooperative living tradition that Steel House embodies is a placating maneuver by the university to silence our justified protest. There are more options available than the university has let on, and time is going to prove that as long as residents of Steel House and concerned members of the campus community continue to push for the preservation of an important way of life.

There has been no serious consideration on the part of any current resident of Steel House to push for taking the Targhee Fine Arts building. We have a great deal of solidarity with our fellow South Side residents, even while they are in Wallace. The numbers that the university put forward as far as maintenance, \$1.2 to \$2 million, are murky at best. There has never been a serious evaluation of the work that needs to be done here at Steel House and they have admitted as much.

I object to the claim that we have not been looking to the future. Monday, March 26, members of Steel House met with the Dean of Students. We have discussed future possibilities that are more suited to cooperative living. We met with the Women's Center and they were extremely helpful. We also are working on getting the maintenance records

*Audrey Mattoon is the vice-president of Steel House.*

# How we can learn to be nice to others

## Chimps are from Mars, Bonobos are from Venus.

The Borah Symposium will be held in the UI SUB Ballroom from April 1-4. This year's topic is "Women, War, and Peace," a topic that I had unsuccessfully lobbied for when I was on the Borah Committee in 1985.



**Nick Gier**  
Guest columnist  
arg\_opinion@sub.uidaho.edu

When Jane Goodall first told her colleagues that she had witnessed chimpanzee murder, they advised her to not to make this discovery public. As a good scientist, Goodall of course chose otherwise, even though the news undermined the widely held view that we were the only violent apes.

many means of conflict resolution, a solution that even some married couples have learned to use. The Japanese have been studying the bonobo for 34 years, and they have not observed a bonobo killing another bonobo.

Describing bonobos as "highly compassionate and conscious beings," Sally Coxé writes fondly about her interaction with Panbanisha, a bonobo female at Georgia State University. Panbanisha can understand English, use sign language, and spell out words on a keyboard.

While playing hide-and-seek with Panbanisha, Coxé noticed that the bonobo recognized her name, and then

made a gesture to Coxé to be quiet so that they would not be found. Responding to a small cut on Coxé's wrist, Panbanisha wrote out "hurt" on her keyboard.

The question of whether chimps and humans are hard-wired for violence has been addressed by Robert Spolsky, who has studied baboons most of his career. Male baboons are just as aggressive and abusive to their females as some male humans are.

Spolsky documented remarkable behavioral changes in the particular band of baboons that he had been studying closely. The dominant males had been raiding the garbage dump of a hunting lodge, and all of them died as a result of eating tainted meat.

This troop's females were able to stage a velvet revolution, in which they were able to pacify the surviving less dominant males. Spolsky noted that "aggression was less frequent, particularly against third parties. . . . There were even instances, now and then, of adult males grooming each other — a behavior nearly as unprecedented as baboons sprouting wings."

This evidence, combined with other experiments in which babies from aggressive monkey species were pacified by less aggressive foster mothers, strongly suggests that primates are not "natural born killers," and that we can all, under the influence of nurturing females, learn to be nice to one another.

And since we seem to have a lot of bonobo in us, we don't have as far to go as our chimp cousins.

*Nick Gier taught philosophy at the University of Idaho for 31 years. His columns as the "Palouse Pundit" can be found at www.NickGier.com*



UMM... I REALLY LIKE THE CAMPUS...



SO BESIDES ME... WHAT MAKES YOU WANT TO COME TO THE U OF I?

C. Scott Aguilar/Argonaut

# Defending our rights to political privacy

By Richard Stallings, Sen. Clint Stennett and Sen. Kate Kelly  
Idaho Democrats

Senate Democrats and state party officials are standing united against a misguided attempt that would result in an invasion of political privacy of Idaho voters.

Senate Bill 1244, introduced in the 11th hour of the 2007 legislative session, would require voters to register as party members before a political primary election. Although voters would have the option of registering as an "independent," they would then be prohibited from voting in either party's primary election.

With so little time left in this session, it appears that the bill will not move forward. But if it comes back again next year, it will still have the same fatal flaws in terms of policy, legality and plain old common sense.

The worst thing about Senate Bill 1244 is that it turns every Idahoan's political preference into a public record — instantly accessible to any employer, telemarketer, neighbor or even religious clergy. True, registered independents would not be subject to public political classification, but the price of that privacy would be the exclusion from voting in primary elections. And, as we all know

in Idaho, primary elections often determine the outcome of the General Election race.

The fact is, the government already knows most of us better than some of our own family members. The government knows what kind of car we drive and how much it cost. It knows our age and birthday, our height, weight and Social Security number. It knows how we make our living, how much we earn and how our investments fared — to the dollar. It knows where we live and how much our homes are worth. Much of this information is not only available to the government, but the government makes it available to anyone who asks for that information.

The point is, the government knows enough about each and every one of us. The State of Idaho does not need to know which political party we choose to affiliate with.

Idaho has a long and proud history of rugged individualism. As Idaho Democrats, we are standing up to protect the rights of the people to vote and support whichever party they please without fear of retribution. We believe the voters' own conscience should be their guide, not their neighbors, not their political party and certainly not their government. The Senate Democratic Caucus and

the Idaho Democratic Party leadership are united in this matter. While we acknowledge that there may be some individual aspects of Senate Bill 1244 that could be useful to political parties, Democrats refuse to bargain away the political privacy of Idaho voters.

Finally, this bill is a solution in search of a problem — there has been public outcry for primary election reform. Yet, Idaho's Republican-controlled Legislature has spent the last three months rejecting just about every issue that people do actually care about. Community colleges, child daycare centers, raising the minimum wage, public transit and automobile safety have all gone by the wayside. We believe the last hours of the 2007 Legislature would be far better spent revisiting one of these important issues. If we used our remaining days wisely, perhaps then lawmakers could return to their home districts and tell their constituents that the 2007 session was not a complete waste of energy, time and the taxpayer's own dollars.

*Richard Stallings is a former Idaho Congressman and the Idaho Democratic Party chair. Sen. Clint Stennett is the Idaho Senate Democratic leader. Sen. Kate Kelly is the Idaho Senate Democratic caucus chairwoman*

## 'SHROOMS from page 6

Wahlberg's fantastic mouth in the movie "The Departed." He's talking about the Feds.:

"And that's how I treat 'em. Like mushrooms. Feed 'em shit and leave 'em in the dark."

We feed 'em shit. The rift between how we are understood and who we think we

are — the two pieces never match so why bother?

Southerners will see me through their own scope just as Moscow has all semester. And there are no moments of triumph. We don't get to put those girly Californians to the test. Summer jobs and summer friends will do the same. We keep moving and shedding. Kicking off our heels and jamming right back into them.

In our travels, we bring

stuff, we take stuff. We are tattooed by our experiences. Peter Pan had his shadow, I have my Idaho — it's a personal kind of thing.

And so I'll treat my family and friends like fungus. I'll feed 'em shit stories about chilly nights, bike crashes and lentils. I'll politely leave them in the dark about what exactly happened. They won't know the difference and I will never be able to tell it.

## MailBOX It won't be same without Frank

I love The Argonaut. LOVE it. But I loved it more when it gave me my weekly dose of Frank McGovern hilarity.

*Cady McCowin Alumna, former editor*

*Editor's note: As of this issue, Frank McGovern's column will no longer appear in The Argonaut.*



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# Elephants, donkeys to be replaced by hicks

If there's one thing you can learn watching state politics in Idaho, it's how much Republicans can hate each other when there's no Democrats around.

Already, legislators on Thursday reversed one of two vetoes by Gov. Butch Otter, banning smoking in bowling alleys while leaving grocery tax relief for next year. That came after loud fighting among themselves over such issues as day care licensing, closed primaries and a simple vote-by-mail plan. But hey, at least they can make themselves feel important.

If you look at things one way, the Idaho Legislature and Gov. Butch Otter are just continuing a noble political tradition. After all, this session isn't the first time politicians have played games with legislation that could actually affect people's lives. Look at Congress: Bills disappear in every session just because Bob from Mississippi gave the com-

mittee chair a funny look. The public usually ends up screwed then, too.

The most productive one of the contentious issues to actually pass has been the smoking ban, which Otter vetoed simply because he was mad, which tells you how much the Legislature has half-assed this session. And the only reason it's a big issue is because of places like the lone bowling alley in Twin Falls, which for the past 10 years has been nothing but a little box holding three times more smoke than oxygen. (Sorry, smokers, but I don't like going home smelling like a concentrated Swisher Sweet. Either spend some actual money on your smokes or knock it off.)

What should happen is a reorganizing of Idaho's political parties. The Democrats haven't been able to do anything but sit around and com-

plain for years, so let's just eliminate them. That leaves the Republicans with everything by default — or would it? The spread of Idaho's Republicans is large enough that two new parties could be carved out of them.

Notice I don't suggest three or four. Everyone likes simplifying a fight to two sides: good vs. evil, mayo vs. Miracle Whip. If you're the College of Southern Idaho women's softball team, shaven vs. unshaven. Plus, no one wants to feel like we're Europe.

Dividing the party along geographic lines may seem the most obvious, if only because of the vast difference between the northern and southern ends of the state. But a Northern Party and Southern Party will remind everyone of the Civil War, and then we'd have to either lis-

ten to the two remaining Aryan Nations members rant all day or shoot both of them. An alternative would be to create the State of Boise Party and the Everyone Else Lives Here Too Party, but that's too cliché.

I suggest throwing geography out the window and dividing Idaho politicians by their penchants for being basket cases. The parties would be the Party of Reasonable Citizens and the Wacko Hicks From Iona (name courtesy of Rep. Tom Loertscher, who wondered during the day care debate what the state could do to keep all those pesky working moms home where they belong). The Hicks could be led by Loertscher and House Speaker Lawrence Denney, who, in steamrolling anyone who didn't vote for him, has proven completely unable to fill the shoes of long-respected former Speaker Bruce Newcomb. The Reasonable Citizens could be led by people like Twin Falls' Rep. Leon Smith, Sandpoint's

Sen. Shawn Keough and Moscow's own Rep. Shirley Ringo, who seem to actually care about their constituents. If Otter wants to avoid being thrown in with the Hicks, he can head the possible third party of Guys Who Spend The Rest Of Their Careers Riding Off One Maverick Vote In Congress.

This would greatly simplify Idaho politics. Come Election Day, we can use the two parties to decide how much entertainment we want that year. Do the issues deserve serious consideration, benefiting us while preserving Idaho's hands-off approach to government? Then we can vote Citizens. Are the issues hogwash befitting a discussion by howler monkeys? Then we can vote Hicks. Afterwards, we can go home as the true Independents most of us are and prepare for the legislative session's hilarity, remembering that we can vote all these fruits out in the next election.



Nate Poppino  
Managing editor  
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## Democrats want to turn Idahoans into political pawns

Sixty years ago, U.S. Senate chaplain Peter Marshall prayed that God would "give us clear vision, that we may know where to stand and what to stand for — because unless we stand for something, we shall fall for anything."

Those words are moving in their simplicity and honesty. Only with the grace of God, with strong values, deep conviction of principle and ongoing willingness to listen and learn can leaders gain "clear vision" of their responsibilities to citizens. When we believe in something — and stand firm in our principles and values — we gain a clear compass and a clear conscience to do the right thing for our country.

Unfortunately, Congress has a history of doing otherwise. Sadly, votes are not always black-and-white, choices between obvious good and transparent evil. Too often legislation is a confusing cocktail of essential items laced with pure political pork. When there are 10 things in a bill that you support and five things you don't, pork politics compels your vote according to your stake in the political smorgasbord.

A prime example is the vote held recently in Congress on the measure to set a strict

timetable for pulling troops out of Iraq. The House of Representatives voted 218-212 in favor of the Democrat-led legislation. I voted against the proposal, because I believe that a publicly declared timetable to withdraw troops from Iraq will hurt our troops and damage national security.

How disheartening that Speaker Pelosi and her House lieutenants included in the bill the worst, rawest form of political bribery — spending on the parochial pet projects of wavering members of Congress. By including everything from funding for Gulf Coast levees and shrimp subsidies to peanut storage money and a spinach program, Speaker Pelosi bought the votes of reluctant Congressmen — some who want an immediate pullout and some who don't really support a timeline at all.

Mrs. Pelosi's bill even included badly needed money for rural Northwestern schools, counties and highway districts. For Idaho alone, the bill provided more than \$23 million for schools and counties — an extension of the "Craig-

Wyden" funds. This item was included specifically so my Pacific Northwest colleagues and I would have to choose between a vote for the Democrat troop pull-out plan or a difficult vote against schools and roads.

If House Democrat leadership truly agrees with me that relief is needed for our rural schools and counties, it should be willing to permit a straight up-or-down vote. I have

introduced legislation in the House to accomplish this, and Sens. Larry Craig and Mike Crapo have introduced identical legislation on the Senate.

It shocks and infuriates me to see Mrs. Pelosi and the Democrat majority in Congress use Idaho's schoolchildren and economic infrastructure as pawns in the war against America's enemies.

It is wrong for Democrats to use political bribery to enact their military micro-management, especially so wrong-headed a strategy as the one that passed the House. How ironic that Mrs. Pelosi was unwilling to impose a deadline on herself and her operatives in the arm-twisting battle for sufficient votes to pass her bill, but she



Bill Sali  
Guest columnist  
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is more than willing to impose a deadline on American military personnel fighting a real war in Iraq.

Last week in Iraq, terrorists used children as decoys to drive a car through a security checkpoint. After making it through the checkpoint, the terrorists detonated the car with the children in the back seat. This is the kind of enemy America faces in Iraq. They are not rational. They care nothing for human life or dignity. They are murderers, and they must be stopped — on their soil, not ours.

Tying the war against America's enemies in Iraq with issues here at home is politics as its worst.

Now, more than ever, Congress needs "clear vision." Our nation deserves leaders who will stand for what is right, however difficult that might be. The pork politics of the Democrats' Iraq funding bill resulted in Congress retreating from principle and standing for nothing that is honorable. By proudly proclaiming victory in passing their bill, Democrat leaders have asked our country at large to join them in preparing to fall for anything.

Bill Sali is the District 1 representative to the U.S. House.

## Starburst logo an endangered species

Like an endangered beluga sturgeon or giant panda, the University of Idaho's starburst logo calls out and begs for preservation.

The University's introduction of the species "new word mark" is leading to the extinction of the starburst, which is no match for its modern and updated predator.

The starburst logo, or "Daisy," is a species indigenous to the Palouse and was first discovered on the cover of a UI catalog in 1970. Due to its adaptable nature, the starburst can live in various environments — on the sides of buildings, on signs indoors or out, in your UI computer desktop and on letterheads or coffee mugs. They vary in size, but male and female both exhibit a bright yellow color year-round and are indistinguishable.

For 30 years the starburst enjoyed relative prosperity in its native habitat, but the recent attempt to hunt down and extinguish the starburst is leading to possible extinction.

A few rare examples of the symbol will continue to exist in the wild in hidden and hard to reach places, or ones that are well-camouflaged.

Some starbursts are easier targets. The logos that reside in obvious and prominent places on campus will be identified and hunted down first.

One such habitat is the water tower.

The over-hunting of the starburst leads to a clear survival-of-the-fittest mentality and the starburst must adapt to survive. We can simply hope it will manage to blend into its habitat — much like one of Darwin's peppered moths — disappearing into the walls, glass windows, stationary or car bumpers to survive.

But what if the university opens a bounty on the logo? \$25 a

hide might be too strong a temptation to the penniless college student. We can only hope their more sympathetic instincts will lead them to make the right decision and let the harmless starburst be.

University officials are not completely deaf to the death cries of the wounded and disappearing starbursts. Though the water tower starburst is a goner, they have offered to "memorialize" the starburst by keeping one on display in the Commons. In this way future Vandal generations will be able to view the noble starburst complete with commemorative plaque and historical facts.

The university's preservation plan is a good one, but scientists are still unsure if the starburst is able to survive in captivity.



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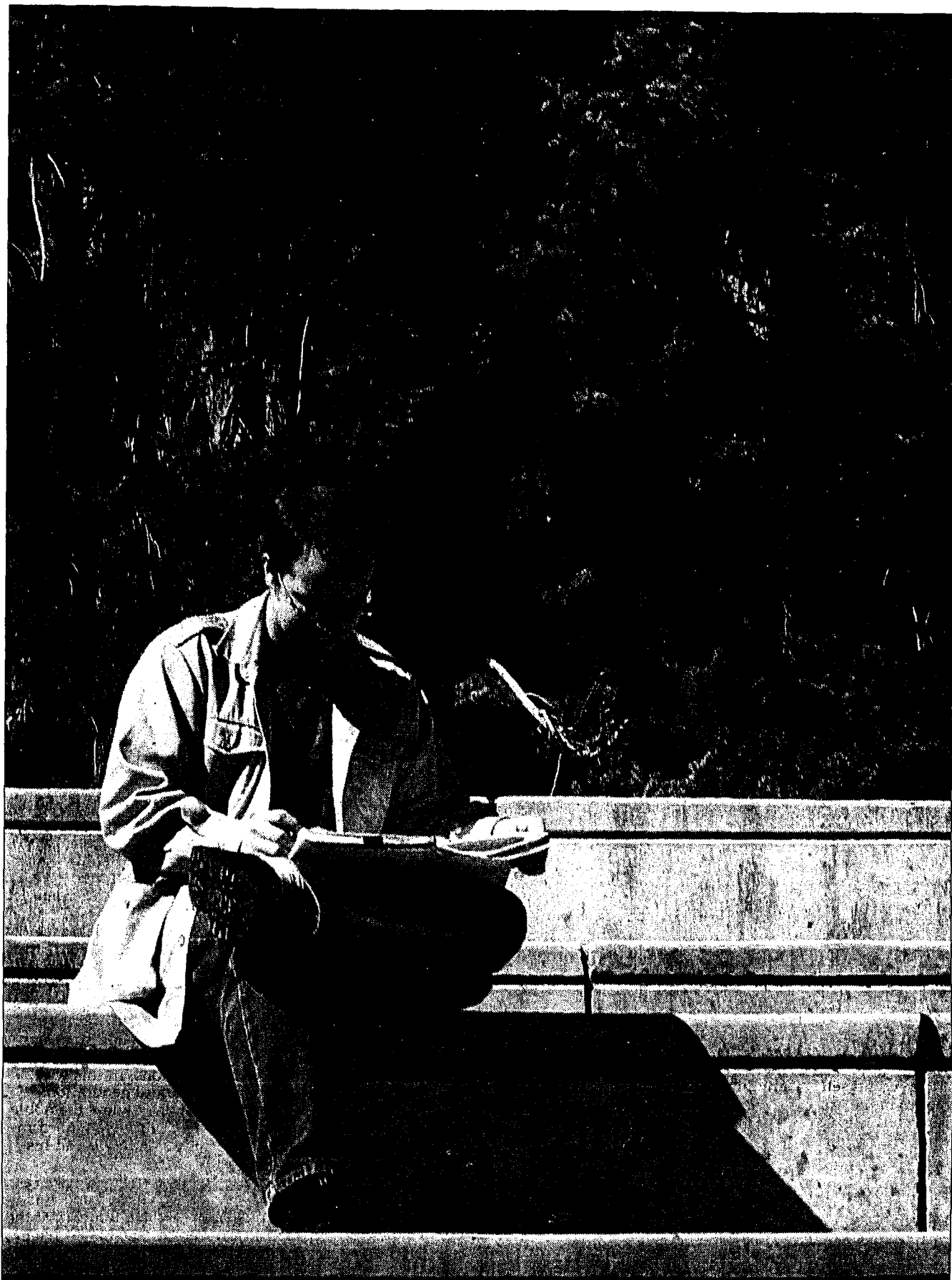
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## Sending a delegate to slam nation



Sophomore Sean Williams writes in his poetry notebook on the steps on the Shattuck Amphitheater in the afternoon sun on Thursday. *Bruce Mann/Argonaut*

By T.J. Tranchell  
Argonaut

Sean Williams didn't win the University of Idaho's Third Annual Poetry Slam contest back in January, and he doesn't wear a beret or a black turtleneck sweater.

Williams did, however, represent UI at the regional poetry slam and did well enough to earn a trip to the Seventh Annual Poetry Slam Invitational April 5-7 at Eastern Michigan University.

The road to Ypsilanti, home of EMU, has had its bumps for Williams and isn't over yet. The journey began for him on Jan. 25, the deadline day for entries into UI's slam competition.

"I was sitting in a literature class," Williams said, "and we were handed little fliers calling for entries. I looked at it and saw that the cut-off was that day."

Williams printed the required copies of his work and rushed to the Student Activities Office to turn in his entry.

"I made it in about five minutes before the deadline," he said.

That was just step one. The next step was performing for the UI crowd.

"Slam poetry is all about the performance," Williams said. "You have to present something. Reading something and hearing it could make for a completely different poem."

Part of the performance aspect is using the space available.

"I was surprised to see people not using the stage, not moving around," he said.

As a part of the Nuthouse Improv group, Williams has learned how to use the given space, as well as a few other tricks that have helped him succeed as a slam poet.

"The biggest things I've learned doing improv are projection and stage presence," he said. "Confidence is huge. The audience is watching you whether you want them to or not. You can either hide behind your nervous tics or use them. You want to give the audience something memorable."

The audience can be the deciding factor in the acceptance of a poet.

"Slam poetry doesn't demand something from the audience. It requires something from them," Williams said. "When you are on stage, you are feeding off the audience energy. They can make you have your best night or your worst night ever."

Williams didn't know he would be going to the regional slam event

until the week before. Tiffany Bidlake, the first-place contestant, was unable to attend. Williams said no solid plans were in place until the night before he would have to leave for Corvallis. Until that point, it was unclear whether or not any other slammers had been entered into the regional competition. Williams also still had classes to think about.

"I had a huge assignment due that I needed to turn in that morning," he said. "While working out the details, I told Christina Kerns (Student Activities coordinator) that I couldn't go because of that assignment."

Kerns made the copies Williams needed and took them to his class. Williams was on the bus to Oregon State University with the College Bowl team. Then the fun really began.

"Everything was setup for the College Bowl kids," Williams said. "No one knew what to do with the poetry slam's kids, though. I ran around the campus, trying to find where I was supposed to be. I overheard a conversation and poked my head into a room and asked if this was where the poetry slam was. I told them my name and they said, 'We thought you weren't coming.'"

Williams placed third in the regional event — good enough to qualify him for the upcoming national slam. The top four finishers will form a super team to compete against college slam poets from around the country.

"Thirty to 40 people stayed to watch the regional slam after the College Bowl was done," Williams said. "We all would have liked a bigger audience but 30 is better than none."

Williams sees the benefits of events like this beyond just being able to share some of his poems.

"I met people I wouldn't have otherwise talked to," he said. "It feels good when someone you don't know tells you that you did a good job. I've had a blast. This is still in my comfort zone but somewhere I haven't been."

His comfort zone is a very large one. In addition to writing poetry and short stories, being involved with Nuthouse and his load of classes, Williams is also an early-morning DJ at KUOI.

"I just like talking," he said. "The radio show helps with that. I try not to ramble, but I don't always succeed."

Williams said rambling, and the

See **POET**, page 11

## Prom receives social reform

By Brandon Macz  
Argonaut

The prom usually serves as the culmination of high school festivities. Men and women gather and dance to celebrate new beginnings. But some never made it to their prom. Their dates were not the appropriate gender for the evening.

For seven years the Gay Straight Alliance has made an all-inclusive prom available for students who didn't make it the first time around.

"The Prom You Never Went To" will be the theme at The Beach Saturday as people of all genders and sexual-orientations get to meet up and dance the night away.

"A lot of times proms seem to be very heterosexual oriented," said GSA co-chair Chris Bidiman, a UI junior majoring in public health. "Our prom allows an individual to bring any date they want to, of whatever ages they want to and wearing whatever they want to."

Bidiman is one of more than 200 GSA members on campus, according to GSA co-chair Carthey Sieverding. Sieverding and Bidiman are prom coordinators who said they enjoy this prom because it brings in more of the group, since some shy away from meetings.

"We also have a lot of members who aren't OK with themselves enough to come to the meetings yet, but they're OK with themselves enough to show up to all-inclusive events," Sieverding said. "We all

believe in the same thing. We're all here for social justice."

This Saturday from 9 p.m.-2 a.m., The Beach will be festooned with streamers, mounted with balloons, covered with pictures and crawling with festively colored boas for the all-inclusive prom. Bidiman said GSA and The Beach are considering playing black-and-white films on the numerous TVs at the nightclub.

Entertainment for the night will include a drag-king troupe called Bois of Boise who are bringing with them a lesbian rap artist, Kritik. There will also be a drag show in which Bidiman will perform under his stage name, Miss Claudia.

His prom dress will consist of playing cards and dice.

"The fact that I can take another guy as my date and I can wear the ugliest dress is a lot more enjoyable and more fun," Bidiman said.

Tickets are being sold at Eclectica and the UI Women's Center and in the Commons by Psi Chi, a national honors society in psychology. Singles are \$7 and couples are \$12, and door prices are \$10 for singles and \$18 for couples.

There will be prizes given away and photographers will document the night with dancing and a variety of couples, Sieverding said. The age requirement to attend is 18 because The Beach will have its bar open for the event.

See **PROM**, page 11

## 'Betrayal' strikes a deep chord

By Kyle Farmer  
Argonaut

When a play is written for only a couple of characters, one could estimate the dedication and passion it takes to put on such a show.

Not just dedication on behalf of the actors, however, but also on the director, lighting crew and sound crew.

The University of Idaho Department of Theatre and Film opened Harold Pinter's "Betrayal" Wednesday, and proved that the passion and dedication are there.

Brian Gibbons directs a cast that totals four, the fourth being a waiter who appears only briefly. It's a story about a love affair in England between Jerry, played by Matt Smith, and Emma, played by Maggie Matteson. Both characters are married — just not to each other. Jerry's wife is spoken of, but never appears in the play. Emma's husband Robert, played by Trevor Hill, is Jerry's best friend and colleague. He and Jerry both work in the publishing world and share memories while talking about playing squash, something they never do.

The play has a reversed chronology, starting at the end and ending at the beginning. This lets the audience see the aftermath first and the means at the end, which is something that must have been a challenge to the cast. It is, however, a challenge they are up



Theatre Graduates Matt Smith and Maggie Matteson play "Jerry" and "Emma" during a rehearsal of "Betrayal" Monday night at the Kiva Theatre. *Kentaro Murai/Argonaut*

to. When on stage together, they give off a sense of secrecy and betrayal at all times. The play focuses much on character and dialogue. There are only a few props (one being a bed that never moves) and a few significant scene changes between the same places. This places the load on the backs of the performers.

Smith seems to fit perfectly into the skin of Jerry. His accent is nearly impeccable and his ability to make the audience laugh and gasp at the same time is priceless. The character of Emma is brought out wonderfully by Matteson. Her beauty alone is enough to catch

the audience members' attention, distracting them from her here-and-there accent, and contributing deeply to the idea that she is a wanted woman who could have any man. Emma's character went from being with Robert to being with Jerry, and Matteson radiates with a guilt that could be felt in the back row.

Hill's performance as the husband who has been betrayed by both wife and best friend is nothing short of magnificent. His facial expressions and body movement are at times enough to get the point across without words. He plays both Emma and

Jerry like a fiddle at times, knowing more than they both think. His frustration beads in sweat on his forehead, and yet he maintains a sense of mystery and fury that seems all locked up inside inviting the audience to wait for his inevitable explosion.

The play is a story about friends and lovers all betraying one another. By the end, one could easily wonder if any of the characters were ever willing to give themselves fully to another. It's marked with moments of humor and instances of rage, and carries more than one definition of the word "betrayal."

DVD REVIEW

# The amazing screwed-up head of Mike Mignola

By T.J. Tranchell  
Argonaut



**"The Amazing Screw-On Head"**

Paul Giamatti  
Now available

Stories of alternate history have been common fodder for science fiction and fantasy writers since H.G. Wells. In the hands of "Hellboy" creator Mike Mignola, history's hidden secrets get a fresh twist.

"The Amazing Screw-On Head" debuted on the Sci-Fi channel last year and the half-hour show is now available on DVD. While no plans for a continuing series are in place, this first episode leaves the audience wanting more.

The history in question is 1862. While the Civil War rages on, President Lincoln finds time to worry about a

burglary at a museum for dangerous books. Lincoln calls on super agent Screw-On Head, voiced by Paul Giamatti, to solve the mystery.

Screw-On Head looks like a light bulb with eyes and a mouth. He has to be put into a body to get around most of the time, but can somehow bounce on the tip of his neck to get from place to place. A variety of bodies are at his disposal, although we only get to see two of them in action.

Opposing Screw-On Head is his former manservant, now deceased, Emperor Zombie. David Hyde Pierce (voice of Abe Sapien in the "Hellboy" live action movie) provides voice talent for Zombie.

These two lead voices lend intelligence and wit to their respective characters, making lines like "Oh, goody," sound much smarter than one would assume.

As for the animation, writer/producer Bryan Fuller and director chose to use Mignola's distinct style as opposed to the two recently released animated "Hellboy" movies. The "Hellboy" movies end up looking like the old "Gargoyles" TV show, while "Screw-On Head" retains an original look, lending itself to the strange subject matter.

All that is great, but just what the hell is Abraham Lincoln doing worrying about dangerous books and re-animated butlers in the middle of the Civil War? Aren't there more pressing issues at hand than protecting the union from werewolves and vampires? Sure, raising one of H.P. Lovecraft's elder gods isn't

such a good idea and should be stopped, but one wonders whether Mignola could have set this vision of hidden history in a time when perhaps not so much was going on.

Then again, maybe that is why this "history" is hidden. With a war going on, incidents such as this have a better chance of being kept under wraps.

With superior voice work, a distinct visual style, a unique approach to history, and enough smart jokes to satisfy anyone who just wants to watch a cartoon, "The Amazing Screw-On Head" is a show that deserves a full season. There isn't anything this intelligent and creative on Cartoon Network right now and the story potential ranks up there with the best of "The Twilight Zone."

The biggest disappointment is that, as of now, there is only this single half-hour to go on.

## Final episode of 'Rome' leaves audiences wanting more

However unfair it may be, the HBO series "Rome" has been cancelled, and after seeing Sunday's finale many viewers will be left unsatisfied.

After not keeping up on my television news, I had no idea that I was seeing the last episode of "Rome," and I was more than upset when I found out. I have invested hours in these characters and storylines just to have them pulled from me suddenly.

I've been following the show since the beginning and through years of plotline. The show starts with the well-known story of Gaius Julius Caesar and takes the audience through the rise to power of his heir, Gaius Octavian. The show ends after Octavian's defeat over Mark Antony and Cleopatra and his triumphant return to Rome as its true leader.

The show is a dramatic and epic retelling of Roman history as well as an intimate drama following the friendship between two Roman soldiers. Soldiers Lucius Vorenus and Titus Pullo really hold the show together, they represent the common Roman, but with friends in high places. I won't give it away, but the show ends their relationship on a very sad note.

If you know anything

about Roman history, you'll know the general outcome of many of the story lines, but it doesn't matter, it still manages to be surprising. Much of this is owed to dramatic performances and honest portrayals of extreme violence and sexuality. This is a television show like I have never seen because it plays out more like a weekly movie than a series.

The decision to cancel "Rome" was based on the extravagant costs of making the show. The estimated cost of the first season was \$100 million. It was actually only meant to be a miniseries, but ended up as a TV show. The show has been successful and achieved critical acclaim and awards, but ratings have never matched those that shows like "The Sopranos" and "Six Feet Under" had in their most popular seasons.

Much like the series finale of "Arrested Development" it seemed like the makers of the show were rushed to put together a suitable ending. The last episode is definitely great, but loose ends are barely tied up and the series ends with the audience feeling like the story isn't really over yet. It seems like they are hoping that "Rome" will live on. I'm crossing my fingers for some sort of "Rome" movie or

miniseries that will give audiences a bit more satisfaction.

The loss of "Rome" is a sad one. Roman history was never so exciting, and maybe that's because it isn't started up enough with sex and violence. I hope the fate of this show doesn't discourage the creation of more epic television series like this. Since shows like this don't come along all that often, they are a huge treat for audiences and I am confident "Rome" will live on on DVD because of this.

"Rome" had a pretty good run, considering the amount of material it covered and the epic nature of the show, but I want more. A great first and second season warrant the making of a third but, unfortunately, the people at HBO are bastards.



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Argonaut  
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### ArtsBRIEFS

#### Hear more music at Bucer's

From 8:30-11:30 p.m. Friday, the RosenCats, Natalie Rose's non-jazz group, will bring R&B and soul to Bucer's Coffeehouse Pub. From 7-8 p.m. Jordan Brownlee, who also performs every other Wednesday, will play classical guitar. Joining Brownlee will be violinist Alex Wurmbrand from L.A. Queener Jazz will perform from 8:30-11 p.m. Saturday.

#### Meg Ryan in Moscow ... kind of

The Prichard Gallery's continuing series WeekSpots will highlight the work of Pullman resident Samantha DiRosa.

DiRosa's exhibit, "Mapping Meg Ryan: Gaze Study," analyzes the actress' emotive range without the trajectory of a storyline.

DiRosa is an assistant professor of photography, digital media and video at WSU.

WeekSpot hours are noon-8 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

#### Celebrate Cesar Chavez

Saturday is Cesar Chavez Day and all are invited to celebrate with the Students of UI College Assistance Migrant Program.

Join CAMP at 2 p.m. Saturday at the East City Park for the free Feast from the Fields picnic honoring the labor-rights activist. The event will also include dancing, music, poetry and a play. Camp will also recognize the Cesar Chavez Distinguished Donors.

#### Big-screen spoonful of sugar

Julie Andrews and Dick Van Dyke will dazzle you all over again when Rendezvous for Kids presents "Mary Poppins" at 3 p.m. Saturday on the big screen at NuArt.

Moviegoers are encouraged to dress in costume and be prepared to sing along with such Disney classics such as "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" and the Oscar-winning "Chim-Chim-Cheree."

The suggested donation is \$5 or \$20 for family. All proceeds benefit Rendezvous for Kids, a two-day children's art festival this summer.

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## POET from page 9

reasons for doing such, can make some of the best slam poetry. "There is an emotion behind an oral presentation that might not come across just from reading a poem. If anyone has a rant, they can turn it into a slam poem. I prefer to do humorous poems, not so serious. That way I can play with the syllables, tweak the expected rhymes." "It comes down to moving the right word, pausing, increasing the emphasis on certain words. Looked at in the right light, even 'Would you like fries with that?' can be turned into a poem. I received the biggest reaction from my shortest poem. If I didn't use those tricks, I never would have met the one minute time

requirement." With so much going on, Williams still prioritizes his time. "You can read for yourself or you can read for school. One of those your grade depends on." As of now, Williams' fate as a slam poet is unclear. Much like the turmoil before the regional competition, he doesn't know if he will be going to Ypsilanti. Funding issues are involved, as is coordinating with the other four members of the super team and the regional board who sponsor the event. One thing is for sure. No matter what happens, Williams will still have at least one fan: his grandma. "I called her between shows the day I was getting ready to enter the first contest," he said. "I always make sure to send her any clips about me."

## PROM from page 9

Inclusion is the theme of any GSA event, Sieverding said, and hopes this will heighten awareness within the community. These topics are discussed at GSA's Wednesday meeting in the Women's Center and have been since the early 70s. And even on a special night like prom, discrimination is sometimes present in high schools. "We've actually had stories of people being thrown out of their proms for bringing their best friend who happens to be a woman, and she happens to be a woman, but because they're together, they're not allowed to go," Sieverding said. The remaining attendants throughout prom night will be able to vote in their nominees for king and queen of "The Prom You Never Went To," which means the king could be a queen and the queen could be queen, as no one is left out on this prom night, according to Bidiman. This year's prom has several sponsors, including receiving a grant from the Pride foundation. The funds raised will be used by GSA to host more events and have a bigger and better prom next year. In a world with intentional and unintentional exclusions, Sieverding said the "Prom You Never Went To" is the prom anyone can go to. If a man wants to wear a dress, a space suit or even duct tape, these are all acceptable options at this year's "prom."

# Showtime's \$38 million gamble on historical soap opera 'The Tudors'

By Shawn Pogatchnik  
Associated Press Writer

Henry VIII is coming back to the throne. And this time, he's bloody gorgeous. Showtime's epic 10-part miniseries "The Tudors" holds court starting 10 p.m. EDT Sunday, with Jonathan Rhys Meyers cast as the unlikely lead. And much like Henry VIII, the show's producers can't disguise their ambitions — to produce a show that finally gets Showtime an HBO-style hit, popular both with the Emmy nobility and peasants alike. They've invested an unprecedented \$38 million and have spent millions more promoting it. "We are hoping to be back here filming for another two, three, maybe four years, because the material we have to work with is so rich and there's so much story to tell. But we must command an audience, so we have tried to make the story as modern and fabulously good-looking as we can," said executive producer Morgan O'Sullivan at the end of the 22-week shoot in Ireland. "Sexy is the word," O'Sullivan added with a smile. "But it's all done to advance the story. It's not gratuitous."

Hmmm. Within the first half-hour, Henry manages — between winning a joust and pursuing war with France — to father his first bastard son and have his way with another of his wife's busty handmaidens. Rhys Meyers defends the copious flesh and bumping 'n' grinding in "The Tudors" as on the mark. "These people had an awful lot of sex, more sex than we have today," said Rhys Meyers, puffing on a Marlboro in his trailer as a downpour pummeled its tin roof. "Once the sun goes down there's very little to do in the Tudor kingdom. There's no TVs, no iPods, no nightclubs, no motor cars, no bowling alleys," he said. "So you either read, talk, laugh, drink, sing — or shag the devil out of each other!" Rhys Meyers, who's starred in "Bend It Like Beckham" and "Match Point," has become a face of Hugo Boss and Versace with his catwalk-model cheeks, lips and rail-thin physique. In other words, he's nothing like the pale, square-headed fattie in the famed Hans Holbein portraits. "I remember having this conversation with Showtime: If you want somebody who looks like Henry, don't cast me," Rhys Meyers said. "But we begin the story when Henry and I were the same age, 29, when

history tells us he was athletic and good-looking. ... I may end up with a load of prosthetics slapped on me and a big red wig and such, but for now I just have to show off a lot of range for 10 hours." The first two hour long episodes suffer from the clunky dialogue typical of historical epics, as characters are obliged to announce obvious bits of background to each other for the viewers' benefit. We're twice told, for example, that the English ambassador to the Vatican assassinated in the opening credits was the king's uncle — so THAT'S why Henry is steamed. It seems two times too many. More generally, too many scenes involve people processing in and out of rooms and explaining who they are.

That's perhaps unavoidable in a story line that, between all the lusting, seeks to explain the 1520s world of Henry VIII — a man desperate to gain not only a male heir, but also to project English power in continental Europe. This means much conniving in a three-way power struggle with Francis I of France and Charles V of Spain, the nephew of Henry's child-poor wife, Queen Catherine. In Henry's court, the real powerbroker is Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (played in an expert dry delivery by Sam Neill) whose own aspiration to become grotesquely wealthy — and, eventually, the pope — influences Henry's strategic alliances.

Confused? After a while, you can drop the name tags. "The Tudors" gradually gains dramatic traction as the cast either lose their heads or bed down for the long soap-opera haul.

And the plot finds its convincing center once Anne Boleyn — played with inspiration by newcomer Natalie Dormer — enters Henry's life in the third episode.

Dormer's bewitching face ("Those eyes are like dark hooks for the soul," says her court-diplomat father) can shift from angel to arch manipulator with a simple head turn or cocked brow. Just two years out of London acting school, Dormer, 23, was signed immediately after an incendiary audition with Rhys Meyers.

"Chemistry was of obvious significance and importance. And Jonny and I just hit it off. Within five minutes of meeting him, we were doing love scenes. I mean, this is the actor's life!" Dormer said, covering her face in mock embarrassment.

Dormer says she's read four biographies of Anne Boleyn to get into her character and is thrilled to be playing "such a firecracker — one of the first emancipated,



Associated Press

In this photo released by Marie Claire magazine, two of the stars from the original Showtime drama "The Tudors," Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Gabrielle Anwar pose for photographers at a reception and New York Premiere of the series at the Hearst Tower in New York, Wednesday, March 28, 2007.

independent young girls in British history."

Set against such youthful exuberance is the 59-year-old Neill, who spends much of "The Tudors" telling the king how to play his cards — but ends up losing everything because he can't persuade the pope to annul Henry's marriage to Catherine.

Showtime didn't provide advance copies of the final four episodes, but everyone on-set concedes it ends with Wolsey's humiliating removal as chief government minister in 1529 — and England on the precipice of Reformation. Henry's marriage to Boleyn is still four years off, at least according to the history books.

"I hope I can make it to the end of season two without losing my head. I intend to survive as long as I can," Dormer said.

No such luck for Neill. "Everybody else is coming back presumably to do the second series, touch wood," Neill said in his trademark delivery, equal parts dry and wry. "But I won't be back because I'm dead."

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# Voice-over star finally has a face for his fame

By Pauline Arrillaga  
Associated Press

There was a moment at one of those Hollywood awards shows recently that seemed finally to cement Don LaFontaine's place in television and film history, sort of like a star on the Walk of Fame, only, not.

(Don't recognize the name Don LaFontaine? Hold on ... It's coming.)

He walked over to introduce himself to Ian McShane, star of the HBO drama "Deadwood." But before LaFontaine could open his mouth, McShane smiled, dropped his voice to a timbre that seemed a cross between Darth Vader and Dirty Harry, and intoned: "IN A WORLD ..."

This is big, reaaaally big — not because it showed that LaFontaine's

trademark movie-trailer catchphrase, as in "In a world where ... violence rules" or "In a world where ... men are slaves and women are the conquerors," is so universally known.

No, it's because LaFontaine — "That Announcer Guy from the Movies" — hadn't uttered a word.

"The Voice" had not spoken.

This is especially telling, considering the cliché so commonly used in describing LaFontaine: "You may not know his face, but you certainly know his voice."

"The Voice" asked, quite politely, that this story NOT start that way.

It couldn't possibly. McShane did know the face. Chances are you do, too — now. Think Geico commercial. The bald guy with sandy mustache and headphones standing in the kitchen of a "real Geico customer," orating, "In a world where both of our cars were totally under water ..."

LaFontaine has worked in Hollywood for decades, reached the top of his craft, earned plenty and won accolades. And yet, as he might say himself: In a world where exposure is everything, putting a face to the voice behind 5,000 movie trailers can give a guy a whole new perspective.

Suddenly this fixture of show business — one of its hardest-working, albeit obscure, artists — became something else: a kind of celebrity. Visibility brought newfound admiration to a behind-the-scenes star and his rather invisible industry.

"Expect anonymity," LaFontaine once wrote in a book about the busi-

ness of voice-over work. Never mind recognizing him, he went on, "Strangers never recognize my voice when I'm out in public."

Truth be told, there was one guy, behind the counter at a book store in Chapel Hill, N.C., who discerned LaFontaine's location as that from the "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" television promos.

But even the Geico advertising folks didn't have a clue who he was when they were brainstorming "The Testimonial Campaign," a series of spots featuring real customers and B-listers such as Little Richard and Charo.

"Somebody blurts out, 'Hey, what about that movie announcer guy?'"

The other one goes, "Well, what's his name? What does he look like? Who is that guy?" That's how it all started," explains Dean Jarrett of The Martin Agency.

Googling "voice-over guy," they eventually found LaFontaine. Recognition, in all forms, just isn't a part of the voice-over world, where an artist's "stage" is an isolated sound booth and performers are known more for their voice-over pseudonyms than their given names. There's "The Voice of Porky Pig" (Bob Bergen), "The Voice of Zatarain's" Cajun foods (Rodney Saulsberry), "The Voice of Food Network" (Joe Cipriano) and so on.

LaFontaine is often referred to as "The Voice of God." But you won't find his moniker on a film credit alongside "best boy" and "production caterer."

There are no Oscars for voice-over work. An annual fest dubbed the "Golden Trailer Awards" does honor the movie preview medium, including a category for "Best Voice Over." Still, film actors who lend their voices to trailers tend to take home the prize (a hefty trophy topped with a miniature trailer, as in Winnebago) rather than voice-over professionals like LaFontaine.

"You sort of take it for granted, those voices," says LaFontaine's wife, Nita, whose own response after learning years ago what her husband-to-be did for a living went something like: I never thought of people doing that.

LaFontaine insists he never cared that no one knew him, though every-

one knew his voice. Voice-over artists "get credit in our bank accounts," he quips.

Now, post-Geico, it's different.

There are autograph requests. Comments on the streets of Las Vegas. On YouTube, LaFontaine's on-camera turn has notched more than 86,000 hits.

"He's been, for 40 years, the best in this business — in the shadows," says longtime friend and fellow voice-over artist Paul Pape. "This is a great little benefit for him at this point in his life."

For the voice-over business, as well, LaFontaine's visibility, Pape says, "is shedding some light that there are people behind the microphones and behind the cameras that are contributing in ways that they don't always get recognized for."

At 66 years old, LaFontaine still averages seven to 10 voice-over sessions a day, with the potential for up to 40 different reads. He does all of this from a home studio his wife nicknamed "The Hole," where an incessantly chirping fax machine delivers scripts hour after hours.

One recent afternoon, LaFontaine cranked out three takes for this summer's "The Simpsons Movie," four promo reads for the Fox comedy "The Winner," followed by promos for "Trading Spouses" ("Will the conclusion of the same-sex swamp turn violent?"), "Nanny 911" ("The amazing triplet tamer"), "24" ("The race to stop a nuclear nightmare blows wide open") and more.

In the heydays of the 1980s and '90s, when LaFontaine might do 200 reads a day, he got his own limousine and hired a driver to shuttle him between studios.

The voice America has come to know in movie houses and on television developed at the tender age of 13, when LaFontaine's prepubescent squeak went to bass and continued to grow deeper with time.

After working as an Army recording engineer, LaFontaine landed a gig at National Recording Studios in New York alongside radio producer Floyd Peterson. It was the early '60s, and Peterson was working on a new project: producing radio spots for movies, which until then had been advertised in print or with studio-made theatrical trailers.

LaFontaine pitched in, writing copy, recording and mixing sound, and the two eventually went into business together — helping develop the format for the modern-day trailer and scripting some of those punchy



Don LaFontaine, a voice over actor, listens to his wife's new recording in his studio in his Silver Lake home in Los Angeles.

phrases that pervade theatrical trailers to this day.

That includes his trademark, which he explains this way: "We are taking people ... and we are literally about to transport them into a different dimension, a different world entirely. So we have to very rapidly establish the world we are transporting them to, and that's very easily done by saying, 'In a world where ...'"

Lending his own voice to the words he wrote happened by accident. In 1964, when an announcer failed to show for a job, LaFontaine recorded himself reading copy and sent it to the studio with a message: "This is what it'll sound like when we get a 'real' announcer." The studio thought he was "real" enough, and thus "Gunfighters of Casa Grande" became LaFontaine's first trailer.

His career took off when he moved from New York to Los Angeles in 1981. He'd planned on working as an independent producer, but he started doing promos for the major television networks, and the work — TV work, then movie work — just never stopped coming.

Comedies. Dramas. Action flicks. Animated films. Horror pictures.

"The voice that launched a thousand movies ... thousands of movies, actually," began a video tribute at The Hollywood Reporter's Key Art Awards, where LaFontaine was presented a lifetime achievement award in 2005.

Based on Screen Actors Guild contracts signed, he estimates he may well be the busiest actor in the organization's history.

"Within the industry, he's known as The Man, the Michael Jordan of his game," Pape says.

But even the greatest get sidelined, and LaFontaine notes that the bulk of trailer work these days is spread among other voice-over talent or done by actors actually featured in the films. Producers "want to discover the next hot voice," LaFontaine says.

That hardly seems to matter now, because since last year's premiere of his on-camera commercial, his face — not just his voice — is everywhere.

He's appeared on the Carson Daly show, "The Big Idea with Donny Deutsch," "Today," CBS' "The Early Show."

The Screen Actors Guild, at its January awards show, saluted LaFontaine and other voice-over artists in a tribute called "Heard But Not Seen" — where they were, actually, seen.

And LaFontaine suspects his budding celebrity had something to do with being asked, for the first time, to serve as an announcer at this year's Academy Awards. He was the "Coming up next" guy, and the show included a brief on-screen glimpse.

"Flattering," LaFontaine demurs about the new visibility. But he adds: "Being famous for being famous is probably the ultimate kind of silly celebrity."



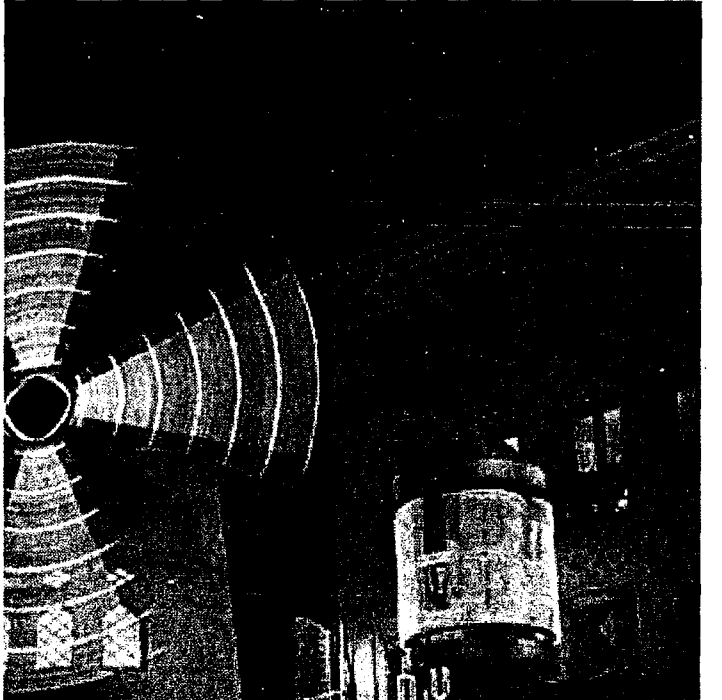
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Evan Kooda balances on the slack line during the climbing competition last April at the Student Recreation Center.

File Photo

## Slackers toe the line

By Abbey Lstrom  
Argonaut

When Kristina Riggs sets out her slackline on the University of Idaho campus, she gets lots of looks, comments and questions. So Saturday, she will set out her slackline not for her own use but to teach others about the activity.

"Most people will never consider doing it if they don't have the opportunity," Riggs says, explaining why she decided to conduct the Slackline Workshop. "My hope is for everyone who comes to be able to take a few steps."

A slackline is a piece of webbing strung between two trees or other stationary objects and pulled tight. The basic objective is to stand on the webbing and walk the length of it.

The workshop, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the trees near the northeast corner of the Student Recreation Center, will include lessons on slacklines and set ups, how to stand, how to walk, how to turn around, how to sit and how to take the next step forward to more advanced acrobatic maneuvers. If predictions that Saturday will bring showers prove to be true, the workshop will be held April 7. Registration

is \$5 through the UI Wellness Program and is open until the start of the workshop. Participants also must sign a release form.

Riggs, a senior outdoor recreation major, was introduced to slacklining at a climbing gym in her hometown of Centennial, Colo. However, she became an enthusiast her freshman year when another student brought a slackline on a camp leadership class trip. After that weekend, she bought the equipment and set out on her own. Although it was about a month before she was able to walk on the slackline, over the past two and a half years she has advanced to holding yoga poses, doing lunges and surfing.

"Surfing is making the line move and then moving with it," she says, standing in the Common Grounds coffee shop to demonstrate the two types of surfing, one in which her feet would be parallel with the slackline and one in which her feet would be perpendicular to it. Slacklining is more of a demonstrating activity than a describing activity.

Slacklining is also the activity to which Riggs turns when she is overwhelmed by schoolwork and her third year of helping to plan new student orientation.

"If I'm really stressed, I will go set up a slackline," she says. "It's a meditative kind of thing. You have to be really focused on what you're doing."

"Your body is always moving," she adds. "There is no way to be calm completely. But to stay in balance on the line, you can't think about anything else."

Although this is Riggs' first workshop, she has taught people before, mostly friends. Some of her students learned to walk on the slackline in just one hour. She also has experience with teaching in general after spending two years as an assistant ropes director at the Rocky Mountain Village Easter Seals camp. This summer, she will be a challenge course builder for Adventure Experiences Inc., and when she graduates in December, she hopes to work at a camp with an emphasis on disabilities, at-risk youth or corporate facilitator training.

Meanwhile, Riggs is focused on Saturday's workshop and hoping for a group of people willing to learn to walk about 45 feet on a narrow strand of webbing. No experience is required. "It's all balance," she says.

For more information or to register, contact the UI Wellness Program at 885-9355.

## FOOTBALL

# Akey, Vandals start spring practice

By Ryan Atkins  
Argonaut

Spring practice gets started for the Vandals today, and during a pre-spring teleconference Wednesday, new coach Robb Akey talked about the excitement surrounding the football team.

"Yes, I am excited. I will feel a little more comfortable when I see where we are at," Akey said. "I like where we are going and I am anxious to find out what these guys can do. I want to see how they will respond to us."

The most glaring issue for the Vandals heading into spring practice lies at the quarterback position, and many of the questions directed at Akey dealt with who would be the starting quarterback for the Vandals come next fall.

"We haven't made a decision, that competition gets started Friday," Akey said. "We need to see who can learn a new system, run a new offense and make good decisions. We haven't seen that yet, it starts Friday."

There are four candidates for starting quarterback — Nathan Enderle, Brian Nooy, Chris Joseph and Luke Tracy.

"At the end of these 15 practices, we should have a pretty good idea of where everyone is sitting. Will we have an absolute starter at the end of the spring? I don't think I can say that right now," Akey said.

That list of potential quarterbacks shrunk from five after Akey announced Jon Tobin would not be with the team during spring drills due to academic issues.

Tobin wasn't the only player with off the field trouble. Cornerback Reggie Jones and reserve defensive lineman Dan Aizpitarte have been kicked off the team for violating team conduct rules. Jones played in seven games in 2006 while Aizpitarte appeared in two.

Running back Andre Harris and cornerback Terrance McCoy have been suspended. Akey had not determined the suspension length, but the two will miss the start of spring practice.

Akey also said as many as six players will sit out spring drills to tend to academic matters. Tobin was named as one while running back Brian Flowers, who

See **AKEY**, page 15

## Freshmen shine at Duck Invitational

By Emmanuel Anderson  
Argonaut

The women's golf team finished fourth at the Oregon Duck Invitational tournament at Shadow Hills Country Club Wednesday afternoon.

Two freshmen took advantage of the chance to be the stars of the team. Beth Stonecypher shot a 231 to tie for sixth and Amanda Jacobs shot a 232 to tie for eighth.

"To have Beth and Amanda step up shows how good we are and how bright our future is," coach Brad Rickle said.

The University of San Francisco led wire to wire with a final score of 919. Washington State finished second with a 922, and the Beavers of Oregon State shot a 933. The Vandals finished with a final score of 937, 15 strokes off the lead, in a tournament whose scores were largely dictated by the weather.

"For those two to step up and lead us is great," Rickle said. "It's a big deal because conditions were incredibly difficult."

The temperature in Junction City, Ore., stayed between 38-45 degrees as a Pacific storm pounded the West Coast early this week.

"The course was slow and wet," Rickle said. "It was as bad as it could get without snowing."

UI's Kelly Nakishima also played well, finishing in a tie for 13th with a 234. Renee Skidmore tied for 36th with a 244 while Cassie Castleman tied for 57th at 252.

It is tough to be even a little bit disappointed with a top 5 finish.

"We were beaten by two teams that we've beaten consistently in the past," Rickle said. "This wasn't our best tournament even though we gave a good effort."

Idaho will look to build off of their experience at the Duck Invitational as they look forward to the Dixie Classic April 3 and 4, in St George, Utah.

**"It's a big deal because conditions were incredibly difficult"**

**Brad Rickle**  
coach

## Women's snowboard team grabs gold

By Andrea Miller  
Argonaut

It was mind over matter for senior Heidi Marineau at the United States Collegiate Snowboard and Ski Association National Championships at Winter Park, Colo., March 4-10.

Marineau won the individual competition and led UI to its first ever snowboarding national championship, despite riding with a broken collarbone.

"I broke it about a month and half ago while snowboarding at Tamarack (Resort)," Marineau said.

She snapped the bone in four places in February and doctors told her she would be out for at least two months, but Marineau was back on the slopes two weeks later riding in a sling. "The doctor said if I crashed (again) the bones might stab through the skin," Marineau said. "It's even more incentive to land my tricks."

Marineau posted impressive runs at Winter Park. She won the Slope Style competition and took third-place in the Superpipe and giant slalom events.

With the help of Marineau's performances, Idaho won the Slope Style and Superpipe portions of the competition and placed third in the giant slalom, which propelled them into first-place in the entire competition.

"This was the best year ever for the girls," Marineau said.

Marineau, who is majoring in graphic design and French, founded the snowboarding team as a freshman and was extremely happy with her team's performance, particularly for her fellow seniors.

"This was the biggest win for us, especially because most of the team is seniors," Marineau said.

Fellow senior Cassie Wood placed sixth overall with a third-place finish in the Slope Style, sixth-place in the Superpipe and 16th in the giant slalom. Marineau and Wood earned All-American honors by placing in the top ten overall for the Vandals.

Seniors Adrienne Boyland and Angie Snell also earned points for Idaho placing 16th and 18th respectively. Junior Heidi Miller was the only underclassman competing for UI at the national competition. She placed 17th overall and rode the competition with a broken wrist.

Marineau said the snowboarding team has



Courtesy Photo

The UI snowboarding team poses for a photo at the USCSA 2007 National Championships in March at Winter Park, Colo.

always been competitive at the national level but this year was the first time they succeeded in winning a national championship.

"We have always been up there (in the competition)," Marineau said. "But after Heidi (Miller) and Cassie (Wood) did well in the slope style, we thought we had a good chance of winning."

Sophomore Katie Anderson was the seventh member of the women's team and joined the team as an alternate, coach and photographer at Winter Park.

"It was fun," Anderson said. "I got to film everything, take pictures and got to ride, just not compete."

The girls competed against 14 teams from all across the country, including Colorado and Colorado State Universities, University of Virginia and team competition runner-up Eastern Carolina University.

The men's snowboarding team also competed at the USCSA national competition. Similar

to the women's team, the men were heavy with senior leadership.

Seniors Chris Caylor, Ethan Davis, Kalen Boland, Benjamin Rodes, junior Daniel Jaklich and senior alternate Jerrod Warner finished in a fourth place tie with UCLA among 21 other teams.

Caylor led the men's team, finishing in eighth-place overall, with a ninth-place finish in the giant slalom. Jaklich, who finished in 17th in the Superpipe, had to leave the competition early and Warner rode the giant slalom in his place.

Sierra Nevada College won the men's competition.

Marineau said the national championship was an incredible ending for her career on the snowboarding team.

Her win at the USCSA nationals qualified her to compete at the United States of America Snowboard Association nationals at Northstar at Tahoe starting Saturday.

# Internet takes work out of office pools

By Nick Heidelberger  
Argonaut

March has always been an exciting time of year for anybody who fills out a bracket for the NCAA men's basketball tournament.

But in recent years, the internet has revolutionized the art of filling out a bracket.

Now, many Web sites offer online brackets and pools, and take a lot of the work out of running an office pool.

Facebook has a tournament homepage, where people can access their bracket and their pools and see their points and standings.

UI student Joe Boehne talked about his experience filling out a bracket on Facebook.

"You can follow other people that are in your pool, or just friends, or pretty much anybody, without having to actually talk to them, and see their bracket on paper," Boehne said. "And you can track how you're doing compared to everybody else, it's kind of nice. On Facebook it gives you your overall standing. Mine wasn't very good, which is kind of disappointing."

UI student John Mallory uses other sites for his brackets.

"I did ESPN, they have the five, so I did my five on ESPN," Mallory said. "I think I did one on yahoo, and I did one on bodog.com, the site where I gamble. They have a \$1 million free prize for whoever takes it."

Another thing the Internet offers is the ability to create larger pools than with paper brackets, but there is debate over whether or not that is a good thing.

"I hate to be a Texas guy, but bigger is better in this case," Mallory said. "You can do your own group, which can be up to a couple hundred. Also, with yahoo and ESPN, what they do is they have their complete rankings. There's a guy in my bracket, in my group this year who had seven of eight Elite Eight teams, and all his Final Four teams, and all in all on yahoo he's like in 16,000th, which is good. That's out of seriously like three million. He's like 98th percentile I believe it is, that's something he's going to tell his grandkids about."

Boehne disagrees, and prefers smaller pools. "I don't think I'd be in a pool that big, it's just ridiculous," Boehne said.

Unlike most other things, Boehne and Mallory

said even if you study and research college basketball, it doesn't always translate to a better bracket.

"Well, it should help them pick correct teams to win, but I've found the tournament is an open book, anything happens," Boehne said.

Mallory agreed, and said that is one reason why so many people fill out brackets, not only basketball fans.

"First of all, anybody can do it," Mallory said. "It's not like fantasy sports where you get the cowards that say 'Oh, I don't know anything, so I don't want to play.' Anybody can do the brackets, you just pick who you think is going to win that game, I mean the records are right next to the teams, too. It's just an American tradition man, it is."

And for those who think they can find success in mass brackets, think again. Many sites limit the amount of brackets a person can submit.

"You can't let some guy get on there and fill out 50 brackets, and then brag that he won it," Mallory said.

Even though the old-time paper brackets have taken a back seat, it doesn't appear that they will ever be gone for good. Many people and businesses still run pools using paper brackets, instead of, or in addition to, the Internet.

"I still do it both ways," Boehne said. "I still have pools with people that aren't online, filling out brackets."

Mallory remembers the times of filling out paper brackets, and said they still have their place.

"I remember back in the day, you had to go to a photocopy machine at school when the secretary wasn't looking and pass the brackets out, you were lucky if you could get two bucks per bracket, pre-Internet," Mallory said. "That was high school, middle school. It was a lot tougher. Internet, definitely better. I still love the old barroom paper brackets, they have one at the Dugout sports lounge, I know they have one at Wingers too. Nothing wrong with the old paper brackets, but they can get a little tedious sometimes. The Alley does one too, but it can be a little tedious when one guy has to add-up 47 brackets. And trust me, it's some bar guy, too; do you really want some bar guy adding at 3 a.m. when you have money involved? No."

Regardless of the method, filling out brackets will always be a part of March.

A funny thing happened at the NCAA Tournament this year.

The higher seeds held court and refused to be pushed around by mid-majors and other low seeds. All four number one seeds made the Elite Eight, as did three number twos and one three seed.

Entering Final Four weekend, the two national semifinals pit a one versus a two and quite frankly, I couldn't be happier about the match-ups.

After experiencing genuine disappointment over the tournament's lack of upsets and excitement, I began to realize what was taking place.

The teams that remained in the tournament had no need for luck; there was no room on the floor for "Teams of Destiny," as the courts were already packed baseline to baseline with a little thing I like to call "talent."

Finally I chose to accept the tourney for what it was, rather than wishing it to be something different. I decided to appreciate this year's tournament for all the unique storylines it has provided us.

We have a rematch of last year's national championship game between Florida and UCLA that will feature at least 80 percent of the stars from their last battle, including the Gator's entire starting lineup.

The last time the Final Four featured a rematch from the previous year's championship was in 1991, when Duke avenged the shellacking it received in 1990 at the hands of UNLV.

The Gators are also hoping to try on a pair of Duke's shoes. The Blue Devils were the last team to achieve back-to-back titles in the NCAA Tournament in 1991 and 1992.

On the other side of the bracket, there is a throwback to old school basketball where Ohio State versus Georgetown features two of the most promising college basketball players seen in years.

Greg Oden and Roy Hibbert should provide us with one of those games that makes you pick up your phone and call everybody you know to make sure they're watching it. This is, potentially, one of the best big-man match-ups since Patrick Ewing and Akeem Olajuwon squared off in 1984.

Throw in the talented guard play of Mike Conley Jr. of OSU and the Hoya's Jessie Sapp, and the clutch shooting of GU's Jonathan Wallace and the Buckeye's Ron Lewis, and we could be in for an instant classic.

Those are just the on-court storylines this year. Don't forget that by making the Final Four, Georgetown coach John Thompson III and his dad, former Hoya coach John Thompson, became the first ever father-son tandem to take teams to the Final Four.

That's not the only coaching storyline to keep track of either. Florida Coach Billy Donovan could be on the move at the conclusion of this season or he could merely be leveraging that

possibility into a huge payday. When Tubby Smith left the University of Kentucky last week, Donovan's name was instantly mentioned as a possible replacement.

With such a strong connection to Lexington, he played at Providence for Rick Pitino, one of Kentucky's most famous coaches, and UK gave him his first coaching job. It doesn't take too much imagination to see this move happening.

Donovan has been at Florida for more than 10 years and there's not much more he could achieve, after taking his team to back-to-back Final Fours and maybe even multiple national titles. (P.S. Most of his talent, i.e. his entire starting lineup, will be leaving after this season, making a job change even more likely.)

Finally, this year's Final Four is more than any other year in recent memory, a national showcase for NBA scouts.

These teams are loaded with the largest number of potential NBA first-rounders since 1999, when Connecticut, Duke, Michigan State and Ohio State reached the Final Four. We've already mentioned Florida's starting line-up, Oden, Hibbert, Conley Jr., Georgetown's Jeff Green, plus UCLA's Arron Afflalo, Josh Shipp, and Darren Collison.

After Oden and Kevin Durant are taken one and two, not necessarily in that order, the rest of the first round could shake out in countless different ways. Don't think for one second that the players with NBA hopes, at this point all of them, aren't aware of their opportunity to increase their value this weekend.

With all of those storylines to keep an eye on it won't be hard to tune in to the final few games of this year's "disappointing" tournament.

Even though there were next to zero upsets, we have been able to see a lot of high quality basketball and maybe a change of pace is what we needed after last year's Cinderella party crashers.

After all wasn't it Abraham Lincoln who said, "I think a change will do you good." Oh, Sheryl who? Whatever.



Jon Bobango  
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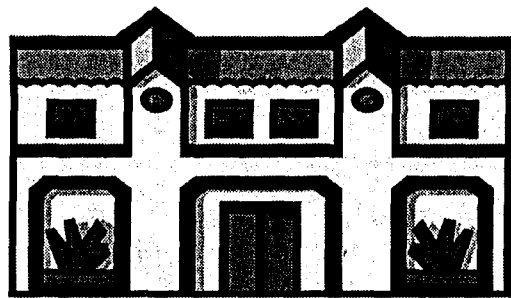
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# Idaho falls to Gonzaga in front of big crowd

By J.R. Conrow  
Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's soccer team has its focus set on improving their play for a full 90 minutes with consistency and goal scoring.

Against Montana on March 3, head coach Pete Showler said he felt the women gained control and took steps in the right direction, but on March 24 against Gonzaga, he said that trend was reversed.

"We did not do well as opposed to the game against Montana," Showler said. "With Gonzaga being a Top 25 team, they pressured us greatly and we looked nervous and not as composed as we normally are."

Gonzaga shut out UI 4-0. According to Showler, about 400 people came out to attend to game, which was a big step for the team. He noted that attendance usually averages about 50 at spring games.

"It was tremendous to see that many people come and watch us," Showler said. "The community support shows, and from the coaching staff and student athletes that support is greatly appreciated."

The Bulldogs finished the fall season at 10-9-1 and finished 3-4-0 in the West Coast Conference.

Showler said that while UI was unable to score any goals, the women never gave up competing.

"During the last 10 to 15 minutes we were able to take better control of the game, but the goal is to play like that for 90 minutes," Showler said. "This week in practice we've worked on putting that game behind us and focus on what we need to do. The girls have been receptive to that."

UI will take on North Idaho College at 10 a.m. Saturday at Guy Wicks Field.

"I don't really know much about the squad at NIC, but they have put a good program together along with the success of other soccer programs around Coeur d'Alene and Spokane," Showler said. "It will be fun to play this game and it will give an opportunity to watch some of their (NIC's) players to see the chances that some of the athletes may have to be looked at to play at the Division I level."

Showler also said the Vandals squad remains depleted with only about eight or nine players who will be available to play.

Forward Ashley Irish has been out with a concussion and will be checked out today to see if she will be cleared to play.

He also said one of his other starters is home with family, so a possibility of one or all of his goalkeepers playing on the field may be an option.



The women's soccer team trains for the upcoming spring season on Monday afternoon on Guy Wicks Field. Roger Rowles/Argonaut

## National BRIEFS

### Mavericks win No. 60 for the season

Dirk Nowitzki hurt his ankle in the first half, but the Mavericks still won their 60th game Wednesday, a 105-103 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks.

It is the third time the Mavericks have won 60 games, all in the last five seasons. Dallas has 11 games left in the regular season.

Guard Jason Terry helped pick up the slack after Nowitzki left with injury with 27 points.

Michael Redd led the Bucks with 34 points, five rebounds and one steal.

The Mavericks 60-11 record is six and a half games better than the second best team in the

league, the Phoenix Suns, and nine games better than the San Antonio Spurs.

### Spring training claims victims

Detroit Tigers pitcher Kenny Rogers was placed on the 15-day disabled list Thursday with a tired arm.

Rogers, 42, finished 17-8 with a 3.84 ERA in 34 outings during his first season with the Tigers in 2006.

Rangers pitcher Eric Gagne will also start on the disabled list. The 2003 NL Cy Young Award winner has pitched only 15 1/3 innings over the past two seasons.

Indians pitcher C.C. Sabathia was also injured, getting hit by a line drive on Wednesday, but Sabathia expects to be for Opening Day.

## Sports BRIEFS

### Vandal freshmen lead Idaho to fourth at Duck Invitational

JUNCTION CITY, Ore. — Top-10 finishes by the University of Idaho's two freshmen helped lead the Vandals to a fourth-place finish at the Oregon Duck Invitational at Shadow Hills Country Club.

Beth Stonecypher tied for sixth at 231 and Amanda Jacobs tied for eighth at 232. As a team, Idaho finished at 937. The University of San Francisco won the tournament with a 54-hole 919 with Washington State second at 922 and Oregon State third at 933.

"We're happy with our effort but not completely satisfied with the result," coach Brad Rickel said. "Going into the tournament, this isn't what we were hoping for — although it isn't too bad."

The players battled inclement weather throughout the two-day tournament. The ability of Idaho's freshmen to fight through it impressed Rickel.

"For those two to step up and lead us is great," Rickel said. "It's a big deal because the conditions were incredibly difficult."

Also for the Vandals, junior Kelly Nakashima was tied for 13th at 234, junior Renee Skidmore was tied for 36th at 244, and senior Cassie Castleman was tied for 57th at 252.

## AKEY

from page 13

led Idaho with 561 rushing yards last season, was also named. Akey declined to name the others.

Luckily for Akey and the Vandals, the team is relatively healthy physically.

"Injury-wise we are pretty healthy," Akey said. "We could have most everyone go. We could have some decisions that will have to be made (today)."

Asked about what could be expected at his first spring practice as a head coach, Akey harped on hustle.

"I expect you are going to see coaches teaching their tails off, players working their tails off," Akey said. "I expect you're not going to see a lot of dead time, we are going to establish ourselves as a physical football team that plays hard snap to whistle."

Figuring out how much depth is available for Idaho this season

will also be on the agenda for Akey and his staff.

"We want to see how many guys we have at each position, how our depth is going to be," Akey said. "We are going to do a lot of teaching over what we expect out of them. Offense, defense, special teams. Every day is going to be a teaching process."

Akey also said special teams will play a huge role with this year's football team.

"Well, to show you how important it is going to be for us, we are going to be working on special teams the first day of practice," he said.

And while special teams will certainly play a large role for the Vandals this season, Akey kept it simple and humorous when asked what the team needed to as a whole this season.

"There are two things we really need to work on," Akey said. "Our offense needs to work on scoring more points and our defense needs to give up less."

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# Unsung heroes

## Hiding behind the scenes, athletic trainers are the glue for UI athletics

By Ryan Atkins  
Argonaut

Unheralded and relatively unknown, the University of Idaho athletic training staff keeps Vandal athletic teams well oiled and running smoothly.

Tape jobs and handing out water bottles is all the casual fan gets to see when it comes to athletic trainers, but behind the scenes, long hours and hard work is what it's all about for this misunderstood group.

"We don't just tape on ice bags, put on band aids and hand out water bottles," Jessica Martschinske said. "There is a lot more to it than people don't see."

And with March being athletic training month, there is no better time for people to find out just what Martschinske is talking about.

Athletic trainers deal in injury prevention and the rehabilitation of athletic injuries, and they are also the first ones on the scene when an athletic injury occurs.

"We are the first responders, we are here so you don't have to wait a couple of days to go see a doctor," Monica Kraack said.

Being the first ones to see an athlete after an injury also means the trainers become close with each respective team they work with.

"You get to be a part of what they are part of. If they win some kind of championship you get some gratification out of that, you helped them do that, you helped them with their performance," Tim Nicoletto said. "But also another aspect is if they lose you feel like you lost as well. You are so much a part

of these team's lives and athlete's lives, you really put yourself into it."

For both the trainers and the athletes, home base is the athletic training room located in the Kibbie Dome.

That is where the magic happens and the athletes are given the greatest chance to avoid or heal their injuries.

"Home base for us is the training room. We have electric stimulation, an ultrasound machine, all different rehab tools," Nicoletto said. "We have a hot tub that's actually a cold tub, it has 50 degree water and people come and sit in it and chill, literally chill."

And in order to meet the needs of so many athletes in so many sports, trainers don't have a set schedule.

"We have no set hours. We open whenever the first practice is, it could be six in the morning or seven, and we close when the athletes are gone so we can be there all day," Kraack said.

With the amount of time they put into their practice, it's understandable this group of skilled trainers gets frustrated with the amount of misunderstanding about their job.

"We want people to know athletic training is not where you come to train. We take care of athletic injuries, there is a difference," said Nicoletto. "A lot of people ask us for workout tips and stuff, we know what to do, but that is not our specialty, that is the conditioning and personal trainers."

And just like athletic training and personal training are different, so are the reasons for each person entering the field of athletic training.

While some simply want a way to stay involved with athletics, others have completely unique reasons.

Miyuki Nishibe, who is from Japan, wants to take the skill of athletic training back to her native country.

"I had a lot of injuries in high school and



Roger Rowles/Argonaut  
Katie Zukin, a certified athletic trainer and graduate student of sports science, works out a cramp for Niccole McAllister during women's soccer practice on Monday afternoon on Guy Wick's Field.

junior high and we don't have athletic training back home. So I wanted to do something like this so I can bring this knowledge and skill back home, and hopefully have athletic training in the future in Japan," Nishibe said.

But for now, Miyuki and her comrades will have to focus on the here and now and on Vandal athletics. And while their focus will always be on the athletes first, it is their hope to spread an understanding of the pro-

fession that they pour so much info.

"At times we feel underappreciated, but when people get an understanding of what we do we get a little more appreciation," Nicoletto said. "But that isn't what it's about for us, we just want to educate people. We just want more understanding of what we do. We don't just give water, we are there to prevent injuries and take care of the athletes."

# Breaking down the Women's Final Four

By Brian Davis  
The Dallas Morning News (MCT)

After two weeks filled with mid-major upsets and the promise of parity, traditional powers are the only ones left standing in the women's NCAA Tournament. Four teams with four vastly different stories and styles will converge in Cleveland at the Final Four.

Tennessee has the star power (Candace Parker) and tradition (17 Final Four appearances).

North Carolina has the motivation and the star, Ivory Latta, wanting to make up for last year's knee injury.

LSU lost its head coach but still has one heck of a center (Sylvia Fowles). Rutgers has no offense, but it can shut down just about everyone else.

"There's a lot of different ways to get the milk in the jug," UNC coach Sylvia Hatchell said.

### LSU (30-7)

Few teams could have done what the Lady Tigers did the last two weeks. Coach Pokey Chatman resigned before the tournament, igniting a program-engulfing crisis. Interim coach Bob Starkey stepped up and guided LSU to its fourth straight Final Four.

Sylvia Fowles, a 6-6 junior, has established herself as the best center in women's basketball during this tournament. She dominated UConn, scoring 28 points and grabbing 15 rebounds in the regional final. Erica White and RaShonta LeBlanc need to feed Fowles all day against Rutgers.

### Rutgers (26-8)

Coach C. Vivian Stringer has pulled off a near miracle. She's led a team with little offensive firepower to the Final Four. The Scarlet Knights average just 65.1 points per game, but they allow only 54.9. First team to 60 may win this national semifinal.

Rutgers' defense is keyed by Kia Vaughn and Epiphany Prince. Vaughn averages 2.7 blocks and 9.5 rebounds per

### watch the GAMES

- LSU vs. Rutgers 6 p.m. CDT on Sunday (ESPN)
- Tennessee vs. UNC 8:30 p.m. CDT on Sunday (ESPN)

game. Prince is among the national leaders in steals per game (2.6). If Matee Ajavon can score another 20 points like she did against Arizona State, Stringer would be ecstatic.

### WINNER: LSU

### Tennessee (32-3)

You couldn't really appreciate Mississippi's speed until you saw the Rebels wipe out Oklahoma. Watching Tennessee neutralize Ole Miss' speed and athleticism was impressive. The Lady Vols are the best overall team remaining.

It's not just the Candace Parker show. Sidney Spencer and Shannon Bobbitt shoot 40 percent from 3-point range. Alexis Hornbuckle is a solid defender on the wings, and Nicky Anosike (6-4) can defend away from the basket.

### North Carolina (34-3)

Pound the ball inside and good things happen, as the Tar Heels showed in the Dallas Regional final. Erlana Larkins was 12-for-16 from the floor for 29 points. UNC piled up 52 points in the paint while Purdue took 20 3-point shots.

Ivory Latta and Camille Little are solid guards, but this team will succeed because of Larkins, LaToya Pringle and Rashanda McCants. Pringle is a shot-blocking machine who also gets to the free throw line. McCants does a lot of hustle work. She also scored 24 points in two games in Dallas.

### WINNER: TENNESSEE

### SportsCALENDAR Saturday

#### Today

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

UI track and field at Stanford Invitational  
Palo Alto, Calif.

UI women's tennis vs. Montana Memorial gym  
1 p.m.

UI track and field at Stanford Invitational  
Palo Alto, Calif.

UI women's tennis vs. Gonzaga Memorial gym  
1 p.m.

Monday  
UI men's golf at UC Santa Barbara Invitational  
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Intramural 4 on 4 flag football play begins

### Tuesday

UI women's golf at Dixie classic  
St. George, Utah

### Wednesday

UI women's golf at Dixie classic  
St. George, Utah

UI track and field at Eastern Washington Multis  
Cheney, Wash.

### Thursday

UI track and field at Eastern Washington Multis  
Cheney, Wash.

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UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

ARGONAUT

# Lifestyles of the Poor and Studious

University of Idaho Guide to Moscow 2007



Cover art by Paul Tong

## Inside this section:

### Apartments

Before you rent off-campus, learn what to expect from four local experts.

Page 4

### Greek system

A key to being Greek is philanthropy — each house works to help local and national charities.

Page 7

### Family housing

Students with spouses and kids find a home in on-campus apartments

Page 8

### Residence halls

Resident assistants face a daunting but rewarding job as leaders in the residence halls.

Page 10

### Campus map

Pages 12 and 13

### Column

Columnist Travis Galloway gives his advice for finding the perfect place to live.

Page 15

## Vandal Friday Schedule

7 a.m.-8:15 a.m.

Check-in at the Southwest Kibbie Dome entrance

8:30 a.m.-9 a.m.

Welcome and orientation

9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Campus Activity Fair

9:15 a.m.-11 a.m.

Tours of campus, on-campus housing options and Student Recreation Center

10 a.m.-noon

Workshops for students and parents

1 p.m.-5 p.m.

Academic advising and registration for Fall 2007 semester

1 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

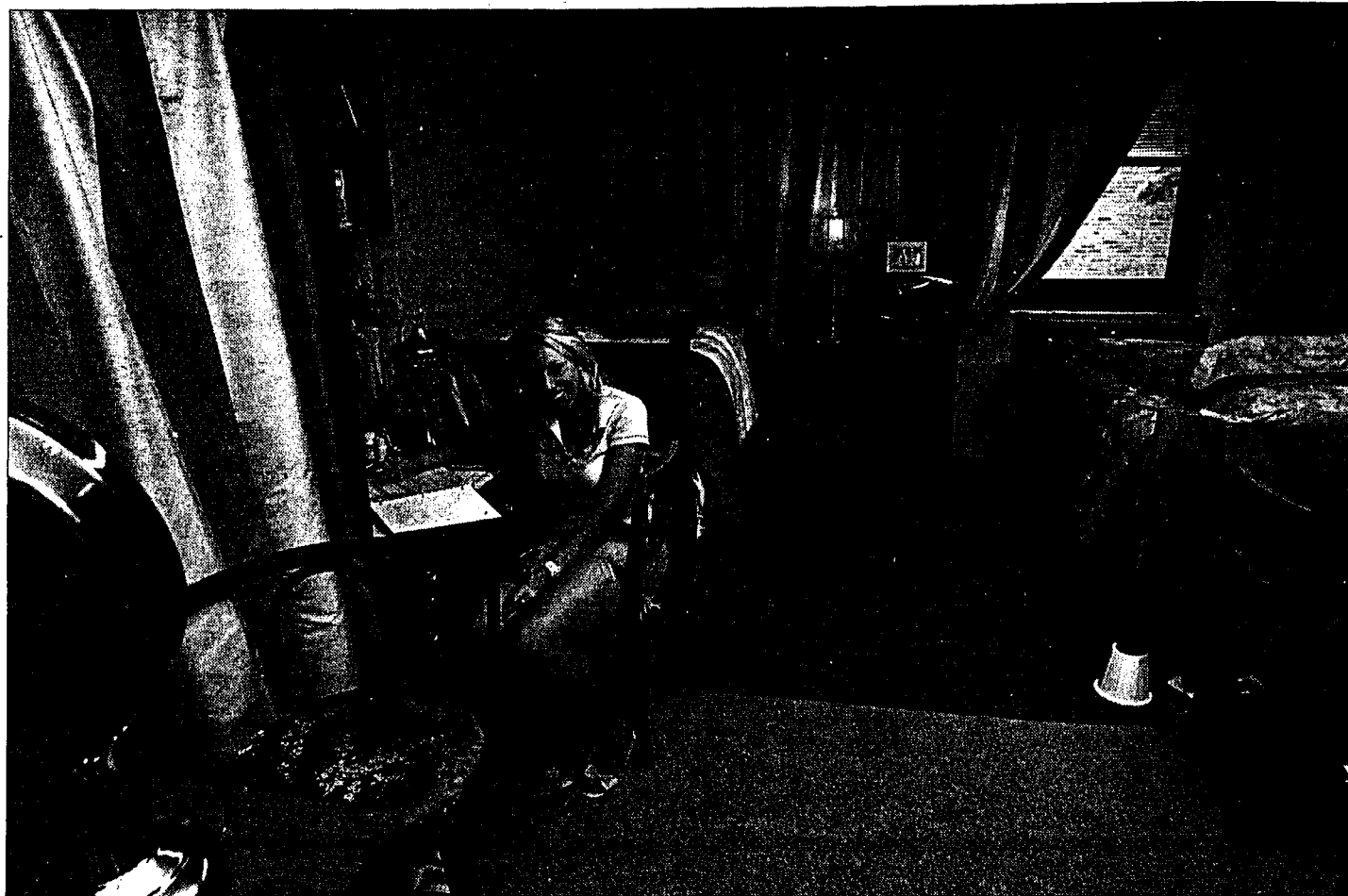
Parents' programs

5 p.m.-6 p.m.

Check in for Friday overnight hosting by residence halls and Greek houses: Southwest Kibbie Dome entrance

## Parking and directions

Free parking for Vandal Friday participants is located in the west lot of the Kibbie Dome. Directional and parking signs will lead visitors to the Dome. Vandal Friday activities are located in the Kibbie Dome, and it is suggested visitors park here. The Vandal Trolley will provide shuttle service around campus. For a handicap parking permit, contact New Student Services at 885-6163.



Kate Clemons sits in her dorm room at Centre College in Danville, Ky., May 12, 2006.

David Perry/Lexington Herald-Leader

# Dorm rooms can go from grim to glorious

By Cheryl Truman  
McClatchy Newspapers

When you get your first look at a dorm room, your instinct might be to run away. You'll probably have four grim walls, most likely concrete block painted in a color suggesting that you've been involuntarily committed; two twin beds that might give off the faintest air of mustiness; and a set of battered desks and chairs.

And from this, you're expected to concoct a cozy little nest that's so alluring you never want to return to Mom and Dad's?

"Pretty much it's a nightmare when you first walk into a dorm room," says Jeff Gawronski of the online retailer DormBuys.com, which offers everything from space-saving gadgets to combination packs of bedding or cleaning supplies for the college student who wants it all selected, collected and ready to go.

Even so, prettifying a dorm room can be a daunting task.

Fortunately, hundreds of thousands of students have done it before you.

Consider the finalists at Centre College's 2006 dorm room decor contest. From silky pink stripes to clean bright corals and limes to an inflatable Tiki doll and matchstick bamboo wall covering, Centre students showed that they can decorate with a lot of imagination — who would think to showcase an inflatable Tiki doll? — and not a lot of money.

Those students take the same steps that any homeowner would when redecorating: Pick your colors, your accessories and

your theme. Then try to figure out a way to tie it all together.

Lexington decorator Beth Harper, aka "The Lone Rearranger," says it's all about covering up the room features you don't like and making a very small space seem more open and inviting.

The solution: color, fabric and light. "You definitely want to do color in everything possible," she said.

Put fabric on the walls and windows — even bedsheets, a fine source of cheap and colorful covering, will work. They can be dressed up with tension rods or Velcro.

An added benefit: Fabric muffles the sounds that ricochet off the block walls. If you don't want to put fabric on the walls, buy a big mirror and lean it against a wall to make the space look larger. And move the furniture against the walls if possible, so you have at least the illusion of a little space to move.

Gawronski of DormBuys.com says that when space is a premium, consider using your trunk as a coffee table, or buying a "mini-mantel" that stretches over the top of the bed and eliminates the need for a bedside table.

Accept that your dorm bed is going to double as a couch. Jazz it up with big pillows — and coordinate bedspreads with your roommate if possible. Add clip-on lights around the room, because you and your roommate will rarely be doing the same thing at the same time.

And, Harper says, that means you guys, too. Even though you might not be threading pink ribbons through wall fabric, you can have a room that is more than

a series of tatty Jessica Simpson posters, a pyramid of Coke cans and a comforter.

More-masculine colors — orange and brown, or black and brown and taupe — make a room look updated and fun without being what Harper calls "froufy."

Here are the steps to getting your dorm room into shape:

- First, cover the walls. Posters are cheap and abundant. And if you've ever seen The Learning Channel's "Trading Spaces," you know that a digital camera, a printer and some inexpensive framing can yield stunning effects on the wall.

- Do something about the floor. Your dorm floor is likely to be some variety of tile or linoleum that has seen years of dormitory furniture dragged across its surface.

- Luckily, carpet remnants are affordable, abundant and sound-muffling. If there's carpet, don't hesitate to put an extra layer of your own newer, brighter and cleaner carpet on top of it. And if you don't want to go the route of full carpet, remember, the neighborhood Wal-Mart carries washable area rugs.

- Light it up. Your standard dorm room probably will include only an aging overhead light and possibly an anemic built-in desk lamp. You can do better.

- Harper suggests freeing up desk space by suspending lights from above the desks. Target and Home Goods sell trendy fixtures that also are fairly cheap.

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## *KUOI-89.3 FM*

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# How not to rent in Moscow

## Four real estate pros offer their tips for finding a home

By Carissa Wright  
Argonaut

Streeter Johnson, a fifth-year senior at the University of Idaho, has been renting a house since last fall. For the four years prior to that, though, he lived in a fraternity house, so he wasn't sure what to expect when he took over a friend's lease. He wasn't alone.

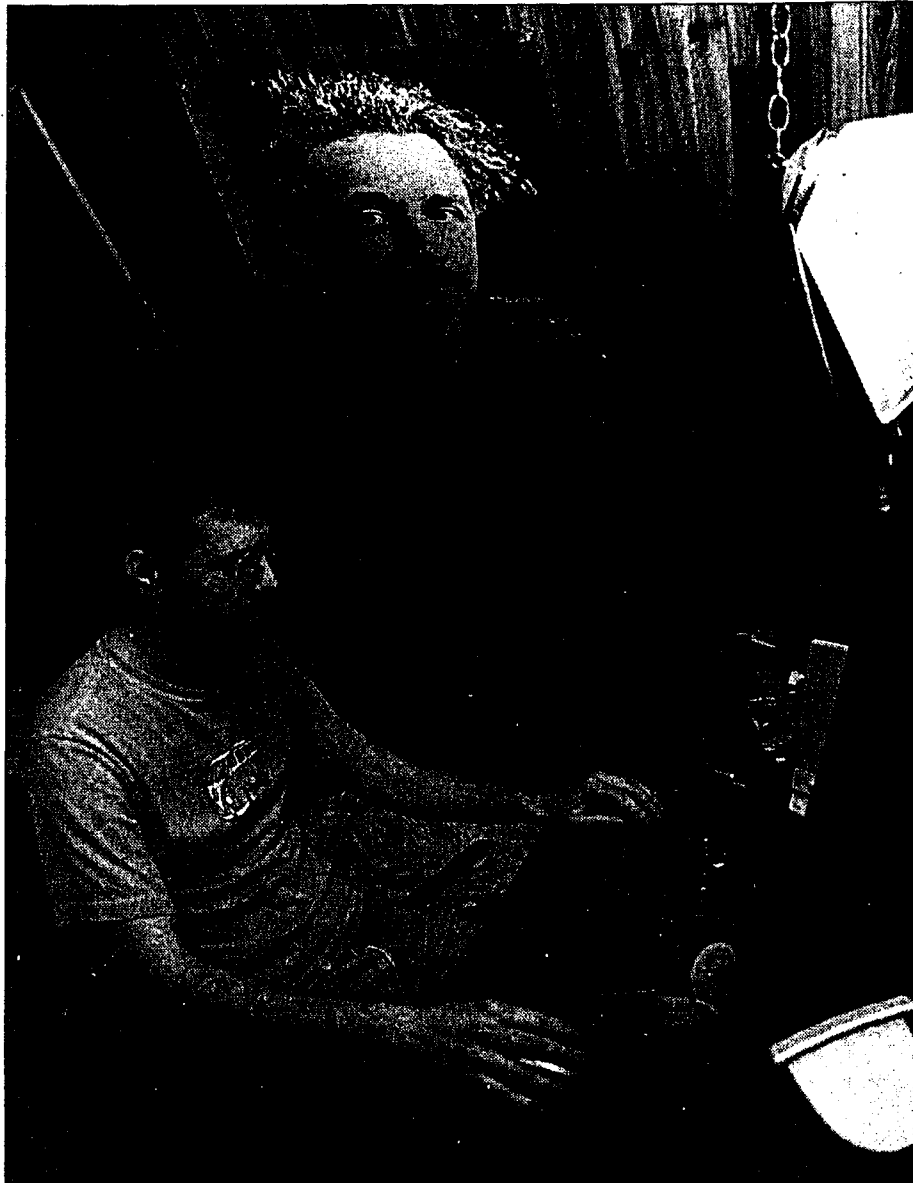
Navigating Moscow's rental market is a seasonal challenge — a swarm of students have already started looking for their next year's residence. They will have to choose from methods as diverse as responding to posts on the ASUI Vandal Trading Post or working with a property manager to find a property they can be comfortable living in. The usual rental questions can sometimes be answered by a little common sense or an especially knowledgeable friend, but some aspects of renting a house or apartment — like realizing you have to pay for water and power as well as rent — are difficult to predict. After working in Moscow for a combined total of 71 years, these real estate professionals have seen it all, and are here to offer their insight for the first-time renter.

### Meet the team

Team Idaho Real Estate, formerly Bennett and Associates, is one of Moscow's most active real estate agencies, with properties from Troy to Lewiston. Owner Mark Loaiza, who recently purchased the company from its previous owner, has been part of Moscow's real estate market since 1997. Kirk Wear, the property manager at Team Idaho, has been in the business for 23 years — mostly in Portland, but in the last three years he's worked in Pullman and, since November of last year, in Moscow. Karl Johnson is currently a property manager for Palouse Properties and has worked in real estate for 10 years, all of them in Moscow. Jon Kimberling, an insurance agent with Farmers Insurance, has worked in Moscow for 28 years since graduating from UI.

### There's something about Moscow

After having worked in Portland, Wear said, a town like Moscow offers a different kind of challenge. Large corporations or nonprofit organizations generally own rental properties in Portland, whereas in Pullman and Moscow, Wear said he feels more connected with the owners, who are most often private individuals. Every city is different, he said, noting that even



File Photo

Mechanical engineering senior Braden Barrows works at his computer in his apartment on Spotswood Street.

between Pullman and Moscow he sees a marked difference.

"Students pay in general \$100 more per bedroom (in Pullman)," he said, adding that because many students in Pullman come from more metropolitan areas, they also demand more amenities such as a washer and dryer or dishwasher.

"Half the time, kids don't even ask what the rent is," Wear said. "They just say, 'We'll take it.'" According to Wear, this is because many students depend on their parents to pay rent.

In Johnson's time in Moscow, he has noticed that though the tenants are younger than usual, for the most part, they are just as responsible as other tenants.

"When property managers from non-college towns hear that our tenants are 70 percent college students, they panic," Johnson said. "Our experience has been that students' behavior as tenants is not much different than other tenants."

Students tend to be higher-energy, he added, but student tenants and non-student tenants have about the same percentage of late rent and property damage. Primarily, Johnson said, students are just inexperienced.

Wear concurred. "In many cases, these are the first rentals these kids have lived in," he said. "It's a learning process."

To help that learning process along, all four men offered advice for first-time renters.

### Reading the lease

Though it seems like common sense, it needs to be said: If something in the lease is troubling, you should decide whether you can live with it before, rather than after, signing anything.

"Renters need to read the lease and know that they're agreeing to everything it says," Johnson said.

Though what's in the lease is there

for a good reason, parts are negotiable. Any problems with the lease should be discussed with the property manager, and a compromise may be reached. If, for example, you'd like to lease the property for nine or 10 months instead of the usual one-year arrangement, ask about leasing options. Many property management companies have a shorter lease available, with slightly increased rents during the months you occupy the property.

"We want to make it convenient for tenants to lease the property," Johnson said.

"(The lease) is a binding contract," Loaiza said, "and we will enforce that contract." Loaiza suggested asking questions about anything you don't understand or getting an attorney to read it over. The lease defines in detail the renter's rights and responsibilities, he said. After signing the lease, these will not change, so anything you can't live with should be discussed before signing.

### Communication is key

Because a major pastime of many college students includes the casual disregard of some state and federal regulations, many student tenants tend to see their landlord as a distrusted enemy. Loaiza said that shouldn't be the case and that he's there to cooperate with the tenant. Wear put it a little differently.

"Don't fear the landlord like they're some extension of the police department," he said.

Most landlords are OK with tenants paying rent a few days late if they inform the landlord ahead of time. Of course, there should be some actual reason for the delay.

"We're not trying to make money on late charges," Wear said.

The Palouse Properties policy is \$3 every day the rent is late. According to Johnson, the company has set the late fee so low because they are not trying to make money off the extra charges — there just has to be some sort of consequence so that rent isn't late for months at a stretch.

The landlord also needs to know if some part of the property needs to be repaired.

"Don't expect problems to solve themselves," Wear said.

If a fist-sized hole mysteriously appears on the wall, you should call your landlord and have it fixed immediately. You'll risk losing part of your security deposit, but if you ignore the problem, you risk even more damage and a loss of even more money.

### Taking care of the place

Most leases include a clause stating that the tenant is responsible for returning the property in the

condition it was rented to them, minus regular wear and tear. The problem comes in defining what constitutes "regular wear and tear."

Johnson said he would consider a reasonable number of finishing nails or tacks in the walls wear and tear, but Christmas lights strung along the ceiling that scorched the paint would not be. Palouse Properties looks for misuse, abuse or neglect of the property when judging how much of the tenant's security deposit to return.

Accidents are not an excuse for damage, Johnson said, adding that even if you didn't mean to damage the property, you are still responsible for paying to repair it.

"There's a feeling that's more and more prevalent these days is that if anything bad happens to you, it's not your fault," Johnson said. "People still have to take responsibility for themselves and their assets," which includes the property they're currently occupying.

According to Loaiza, damage to the property often occurs outside the house. A lot of students come to him looking for a house rather than an apartment, but he said that what a lot of students don't know is when you rent a house, you rent the lawn, too. It can be a shock for students to realize that they have to buy a lawnmower or weed eater on top of everything else, Loaiza said.

Wear said most of the time, any damage done to the property is usually due to neglect.

"There's no great level of maliciousness," he said. "Just a lack of someone taking responsibility."

## Is insurance worth it?

Over winter break, the water pipes at one of the properties Johnson manages froze and burst when they thawed, causing damage to the carpet. Unfortunately, the tenant had some of his possessions stored on the floor, and they were also damaged. The property insurance covered the costs of cleaning and replacing the carpet, but the tenant was on his own as far as his personal property.

"The owner's insurance does not cover (tenants') personal possessions," Johnson said. Renter's insurance does.

"Virtually everyone that rents should have renter's insurance," Kimberling said. "I'd be hard-pressed

to think of a situation where you wouldn't want to have it."

Most insurance agencies, he said, offer renter's insurance policies running from \$100-150 yearly. Some policies can even be packaged together with auto insurance, saving even more money. Additionally, renter's insurance covers personal liability in case of accident.

"When you think about it from a risk-management standpoint," Kimberling said, "it's a lot easier to contemplate spending \$10-12 a month on insurance than having to replace all of our own property."

An alternative to renter's insurance is being added to your parents' homeowner's insurance policy. However, this is only an option if you haven't completely moved out, and the policy will only cover 10 percent of what your parents are insured for — generally 70 percent of the value of their home. Renter's policies offer a minimum of \$20,000 coverage for the contents of your home. To get the same coverage through your parents' insurance, their house would have to be worth almost \$300,000.

"Most students speculate that it costs a lot more than it does," Kimberling said, adding that some of his policies can start below \$100 a year — a fraction of what it would cost to replace everything you own. "Students underestimate how much it would cost to replace all their possessions."

## Some final thoughts

Renting in Moscow boils down to one thing — you absolutely must read, understand and take accountability for all parts of your lease. If you take care of this detail, everything else falls into place. You'll know what happens if you don't pay your rent on time. You'll have answered every question that might come up during your first month's stay. You'll understand how the property manager defines "wear and tear." You'll have water and power as soon as you move in, because you will have already planned to get the utilities turned on and paid up.

Oh, and get renter's insurance. In the unfortunate event that a catastrophe befalls your new home, you can rest easy knowing that your stuff can easily be replaced.

# Respect thy apartment neighbor

By Tim Engle  
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

Dear guys in the apartment on the top floor,

Welcome to the building.

And now that we have the niceties out of the way, did you two know you're not the only people who live here? Surprise! And there are a few other things we need to tell you:

Fun as it must be to toss beer bottles from your balcony down to the street, it's time to face reality: You're not living in the frat house anymore. And no doubt you want to unwind when you get home from work at 2 in the morning, but playing "Black Magic Woman" over and over at top volume really isn't cool. Most of us actually have to sleep at night.

Next time you're having a party (tonight, right?), please ask your friends not to park in spaces reserved for residents. Also, if you'd like to avoid having the police show up again, try inviting your neighbors.

Don't leave your laundry in the washing machines or dryers for hours after it's done.

Don't run the vacuum after, say, 10 at night. Or, in your guys' case, don't throw bowling balls at the wall then. (Or whatever it is you're doing.) Don't run up the stairs late at night.

Don't put a bunch of junk or trash outside your door. It's not very sanitary, and sometimes it smells bad.

Standing out in the hallway smoking isn't

## getting to know YOU

It's always a good idea to know your neighbors, and that includes neighbors in an apartment building.

"This is a community where we want people to know each other and feel comfortable," says Kara Haney, community manager at CityView in North Kansas City. "We really try to have functions to get people knowing each other because it makes it a lot easier."

If that guy across the hall is blasting his music, you could complain to the manager. But if "that guy" is Paul, whom you met when he moved in, it's probably not a big deal to ask him to turn it down.

There are other benefits of knowing your neighbors: They can keep an eye on your place when you're away.

exactly taking it outside. Your smoke rolls right under other people's doors.

Really, all we're talking about is common courtesy here.

Now that we have all that out of the way, when's the party? What can we bring?

Sincerely,  
Your neighbors

P.S. Those obnoxious wind chimes, those aren't yours, are they?

List 5 Student Health Services areas • When is the SHIP enrollment/waiver deadline? • Who provides the services at the Student

## Welcome Vandal Friday

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ment/waiver deadline? • Who provides the services at the Student

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## it's all greek TO ME

For information about going Greek, visit the Web site [www.students.uidaho.edu](http://www.students.uidaho.edu) and click on Greek Life.

Quick facts to consider when choosing whether Greek life is right for you:

- Close to 1,800 students live in the UI Greek community, 500 of whom are freshmen.

- The average cost of Greek living is \$5,000 per year for a fraternity and \$5,500 per year for a sorority. The cost includes membership dues and room-and-board costs. In addition, most Greek organizations include lodging and meals within this fee.

- UI has 19 fraternities and nine sororities

### Fall 2006 Academic Report

- All-Greek average GPA: 2.96
- All-sorority average GPA: 3.17

- All-fraternity average GPA: 2.80

- All-residence hall average GPA: 2.93
- All on-campus students average GPA: 2.95
- All on-campus women average GPA: 3.12
- All on-campus men average GPA: 2.81

### Spring 2006 Academic Report

- All-Greek average GPA: 3.05
- All-sorority average GPA: 3.21
- All-fraternity average GPA: 2.92

- All-residence hall average GPA: 2.96
- All on-campus students average GPA: 3.00
- All on-campus Women average GPA: 3.14
- All on-campus Men average GPA: 2.86

\*Information obtained from University of Idaho Greek Life Web site

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# Greeks give back to community

By Shanna Stalwick  
Argonaut

When it comes to philanthropy and community service involvement among the Greek community, Greek adviser Adrien Wright estimates that about 95 percent of Greeks are willing to volunteer — and do it well — to raise money for national organizations and contribute to community clean-up.

"Some people do it like nobody's business," Wright said. "And some people have to pull teeth to get (members) to pick up a highway."

Wright said that for anyone considering joining a Greek chapter, they should evaluate their interest in contributing to the four main pillars a Greek organization is built upon.

Philanthropy, where individuals volunteer their time, money and labor to benefit a community or its institutions, make up one post, Wright said. Other areas of emphasis include high academic standards, leadership experience or pursuit, and brotherhood and sisterhood.

"They're extremely helpful when someone asks for help," Wright said.

She recalled the immediate volunteer response from three fraternities when it was brought to their attention that a local resident needed help painting a house.

"They're really eager to respond," she added.

Some of the organizations that UI Greeks contribute to include the Ronald McDonald House charities, the Court Appointed Special Advocate Association, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, Service for Sight, Camp Fire USA and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

This past fall, the members of Sigma Chi fraternity raised nearly \$3,500 for the Children's Miracle Network, auctioning themselves off to the highest bidder during the fraternity's annual Date-a-Sig auc-



Elizabeth Nau helps the Delta Delta Delta turtle, Myrtle, while Natalia Ferris does the same for the Alpha Phi turtle, Mr. T, at the Phi Delta Theta Turtle Derby in 2005.

File Photo

tion.

"A lot of the bigger groups are the funniest to watch and usually raise the most money," said Sigma Chi philanthropy chairman Brian Proctor.

The auction takes place during Derby Days, a week-long philanthropy event that includes skits, banners and field games that all UI sororities participate in.

About seven Sigma Chi members are designated to serve as coaches to one particular sorority throughout the week as they participate in a nightly derby hunt to accumulate points in their search for the Golden Derby.

The Children's Miracle Network is a nonprofit organization that raises funds

for children's hospitals throughout North America. According to the organization's Web site, the network has raised more than \$2.7 billion since its founding in 1983.

In 1992, Sigma Chi alum and Football Hall of Fame member Merlin Olsen introduced Children's Miracle Network as Sigma Chi's suggested philanthropy. Today, Derby Days is the primary philanthropy through which this national fraternity has contributed more than \$1.3 million to the network.

The Gamma Phi Beta sorority hosts several fundraisers each year to raise money for their philanthropic cause, Camp Fire USA, an organization that

puts on camps for children across the United States. Their fundraisers include a basketball tournament, spaghetti feed and, a silent auction during UI's Mom's Day weekend.

"People in our chapter just enjoy volunteering," said Katie Sisson, the Gamma Phi Beta president. "Giving back to a specific organization just gives you a little more push, a little more drive."

Philanthropies are not the entire reason students choose which house to join, but it does play a role, Sisson said.

She added that her sorority, along with the entire Greek community, tries to get involved in other houses' philanthropies as well as their own.

"Their all for a really good cause — something that's needed to be given back," Sisson said. "The Greek system really supports each other. I think that when a whole bunch of sororities and fraternities get together, we can make amazing impacts and change."

As far as the other aspects of Greek life, Proctor said there's a downside and an upside.

"If you really like your privacy, that might be a reason to shy away from it," he said. "There are people everywhere."

On the positive end, Proctor said, this alternative living arrangement allows members to interact with and adapt to a multitude of personalities and lifestyles.

"It really just teaches you how to live and work with all kinds of people," he said.

A member's affiliation with the chapter's national organization creates ties to individuals across the nation, Wright says, one aspect that makes joining a Greek organization more binding than other housing options.

"It's not better or worse than the residence halls, but what's (different) about Greek life is the lifetime commitment and lifetime membership," Wright said.

## In going Greek, Hispanic students embrace their roots

By Elizabeth Llorente  
The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

HACKENSACK, N.J. — Clad in shirts that displayed their fraternity letters, the young men filed into an empty classroom to assemble boxes for their annual clothing drive.

As other frat brothers arrived, the men greeted them with a hearty embrace and their secret handshake.

But this wasn't just another fraternity at Montclair State University in Montclair, N.J. It was la fraternidad Lambda Theta Phi, one of dozens of Hispanic Greek organizations in the country.

As the number of Hispanics

in higher education has risen over the years, so has the number of students who turn to an age-old college staple — fraternities and sororities — but ones that embrace their ethnic roots.

"I wasn't interested in joining a Greek organization that was mostly social — a lot of parties, drinking. I liked Lambda Theta Phi because it focused on culture and academics. I felt like I could relate to them more," said Johnathan Gaugler, who attends Montclair State University.

The membership numbers of many Hispanic fraternities and sororities are minuscule compared with mainstream Greek organizations. The Hispanic fraternities claim as few as 30 stu-

dents. Many have only a handful of members at any one time; every now and then, some have even had only one member, if that.

A few reasons are that college attendance rates among Hispanics are low, many Hispanics commute to college from home — not leaving much opportunity for participating in campus activities — and Hispanic Greek groups often lack the resources of mainstream organizations.

But their individual membership numbers belie the growth that Hispanic fraternal organizations have seen in just the last decade. More than 30,000 people are members of Hispanic fraternities and sororities, triple the number of the early 1990s, according

### ui multicultural greek CHAPTERS

Multicultural Greek chapters on the UI campus include:

Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity, Gamma Alpha Omega, Iota Psi Phi and Lambda Theta Alpha sororities

to the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations.

Gus Garcia, a founding member of Lambda Theta Phi, the nation's first recognized Hispanic fraternity, recalled how daring it actually was to start the organization at Kean

College in 1975.

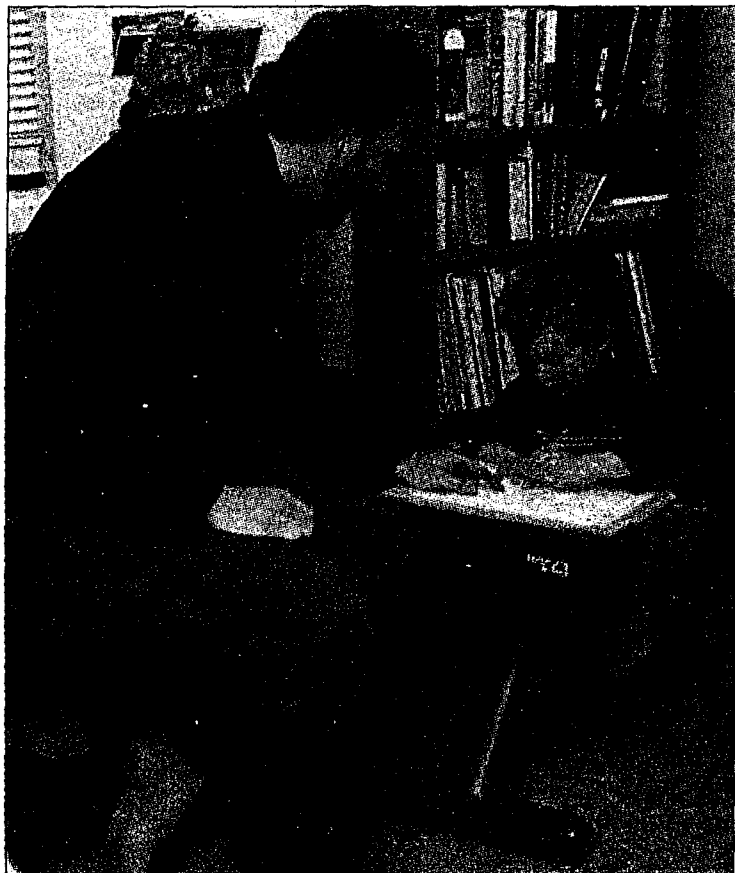
The birth of Lambda Theta Phi, Garcia said, "was a rejection of a 90-year-old Greek structure that was black and white, but didn't have room for others."

Many Hispanic Greeks credit their organizations with making a difference in their decision to attend college.

A 2004 study by the Pew Hispanic Center in Washington, D.C., found that Hispanic undergraduates are half as likely as white undergraduates to attain a bachelor's degree.

"I can honestly say that I wouldn't have stayed in college if I hadn't joined a Hispanic fraternity," said Jose Acosta, a Montclair State alumnus.

# Families find community on campus



Kentaro Murai/Argonaut  
Tony Pastrama plays in his office with his son Phoenix in a three-bedroom family housing unit Tuesday on Taylor Street.

By Tara Roberts  
Argonaut

Carey Scott is a nontraditional student who is married with four children, all under age 5. When he started going to school at the University of Idaho, he needed a good place for his family to live.

"I wanted an affordable three-bedroom place near campus that wasn't a slum," he said.

UI family housing fit the bill. Scott and his family have lived in the South Hill Apartments for the past two years, and he says they like it.

"(My kids) like playing with the other kids. We've got the playground literally right outside the door," he said. "(My wife) likes being able to make friends with the neighbors and having kids for the kids to make friends with."

Scott, a second-year history major, likes South Hill's proximity to campus, where he works and takes classes.

Andrea Schumaker, a junior agricultural education major, moved into family housing after getting married in December. She said she and her husband, Will, like living there, too.

"I like the affordability of it

because it's on campus, so we don't have to drive," she said. "We also like the part of our living where we get free Internet and phone, which is in the cost of rent, which is cheap."

Benefits such as the nine play areas, low rent and nearness to

campus are what draw students to family housing, said Leah Andrews, UI Residences marking and recruitment coordinator.

"You've got the proximity and community of college with a community of married couples and families with children," she said.

Family housing, which includes the South Hill and South Hill Vista Apartments, serves students who are married, have children, are enrolled in a graduate or law program or are older than 25. Students with dependent parents or other dependents are also welcome.

Lindsey Overstreet lives in family housing with her husband, and is also the resident director for on-campus apartments and family communities. She said family housing can be a great environment for nontraditional students and their families to adjust to college life.

Because nontraditional students often have different priorities from their classmates, they

sometimes have trouble relating to them, Overstreet said. In family housing, they find a support network.

"I've really seen that those students, because they share those same trials, support each other through that," she said.

Children of nontraditional students can also find support in family housing, Overstreet said.

"It's probably hard on the kids that Mom and Dad have homework," she said.

"And to be around other kids who understand that Mom and Dad have to go off to class, it's something that helps nor-

**"(My kids) like playing with the other kids. We've got the playground literally right outside the door."**

Carey Scott  
family housing resident

malize it."

Overstreet and apartment community assistants organize activities to bring families together, such as barbecues and ice skating outings. For adults, they host seminars covering topics like what to expect in graduate school and how to buy your first home. Many of these events take place at the community center, which is available free to residents for events like parties and potlucks.

Schumaker said she appreciates that the programming, like a recent tax help seminar, is relevant to married students.

See FAMILIES, page 15

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# What housing costs

## Family housing:

### South Hill Apartments monthly rates:

- One bedroom: \$549 for less than 12 months, \$499 for 12 months, \$389 for 24 months
- Two bedroom: \$569 for less than 12 months, \$519 for 12 months, \$399 for 24 months
- Three bedroom: \$649 for less than 12 months, \$599 for 12 months, \$489 for 24 months

### South Hill Vista Apartments monthly rates:

- Two bedroom: \$619 for less than 12 months, \$569 for 12 months, \$449 for 24 months
- Three bedroom: \$704 for less than 12 months, \$654 for 12 months, \$539 for 24 months
- There are four-bedroom units, but they are not readily available.

Water, sewer and garbage are included in family housing rent.

## Graduate residences and on-campus apartments

### Graduate Student Residences monthly rates

- Residence B: \$559 for less than 12 months, \$509 for 12 months, \$449 for 24 months
  - Residence C: \$541 for less than 12 months, \$491 for 12 months, \$439 for 24 months
- GSR apartments are open only to single graduate students. They are studios with on-site laundry facilities and computer lab. All utilities are included.

### Elmwood Apartments monthly rates

- One bedroom basement: \$585 for less than 12 months, \$535 for 12 months, \$419 for 24 months
  - One bedroom: \$600 for less than 12 months, \$550 for 12 months, \$439 for 24 months
  - Two bedroom: \$759 for less than 12 months, \$709 for 12 months, \$599 for 24 months
- Elmwood Apartments are open to married couples or single students and roommates 21 and older. Water, sewer and garbage are included.

To learn more about UI apartments and family communities, visit [resnet.uidaho.edu/housing/FutureStudents/AptFamilies/famApts.html](http://resnet.uidaho.edu/housing/FutureStudents/AptFamilies/famApts.html)



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University of Idaho



# Ins and outs of being an RA

By Jeremy Castillo  
Argonaut

They walk the halls looking for trouble to prevent — or maybe just a friendly face to talk to.

They're resident assistants, a hallmark of residence hall life at the University of Idaho.

Beyond handing out toilet paper and enforcing the rules, RAs also try to get their hallmates to make friends with one another.

"RAs are crucial in building and having a respectful community," said Cori Planagan, assistant director of Residence Life for University Residences.

Some RAs try to form bonds through social programs. Joe Behre, Graham Hall's eighth-floor RA, threw a Super Bowl party in his hall's lounge.

"That was definitely a fun one," he said. "We rented a projector, bought a bunch of pizza and bought some chips. Everybody just crammed into that lounge and watched the Super Bowl. It was really, really fun to have everyone around."

Jackie Martinko, RA of Scholars Hall, also tapped into her residents' inner sports fans. During the last Olympics, she made a bulletin board tracking what medals every country won.

"The residents really enjoyed that," she said.

Martinko even created her own program called "Become a Kid Again." For this, she buys coloring books and crayons for her residents to temporarily bring back their inner child.

Sometimes forming friendships is as simple as turning an ordinary event or mundane chore into a social event.

Rachel Muscarelli, an RA in Ethel Steel House, took her residents to One World Cafe to drink coffee, do homework and bond. Alice Graden, RA of Wallace's Targhee Hall, said her hall has "trash parties," during which a big group will take stuff to the Dumpsters together.

Such events help RAs connect with their residents and shed a positive light on their residence hall experience.

But like most jobs, there are negatives: pranksters barricading their doors with lounge furniture, residents jokingly tack-

ling poster-size pictures of their RAs above their beds before room inspection or locking their RAs in the trunk room.

But a bigger downside is their daily lives being interrupted without warning: a crying resident knocking at the door at 3 a.m., drunk students stumbling down the hall, conflicts between roommates getting out of hand.

"You're on-call 24 hours a day to a certain degree," Behre said. "I'd say that's the worst part. You never know when you're going put your school life on hold for an hour or two."

One downside Eric Turner, French Hall's fifth-floor RA, pointed out is the job's reputation.

"It's like living in a fishbowl," he said. "No matter where you go, you're the RA. When my residents go to

WinCo, they're like 'Why is my RA working here?' ... It's not really a job, it's more of a lifestyle."

But sometimes, duty requires going beyond anything mentioned in the job description.

When Turner learned of UI freshman and French Hall resident Angie Cabrera's fatal car crash in January, he said he was shocked and his heart sank.

"I heard about it when I was in Boise over break about three days before I came up here for spring training," he recalled. "A lot of people knew. Word travels fast through MySpace and Facebook."

Though the news hit home, Turner had to stay a strong role model for his hall.

"I had to compose myself," he said. "Whether they admit it or not, (residents) kind of look up to the RAs in situations like that."

Turner created a memorial on French Hall's bulletin board. An 8-by-10 portrait of Cabrera was the centerpiece, with smaller pictures encircling it on a backdrop of black butcher paper with yellow fabric along the borders and gold lettering. There was also a basket of silk flowers and blank greeting cards for Cabrera's hallmates to send the family.

At first, Turner was scared the tribute wouldn't be well-received, possibly offending people. But that wasn't the case.

"The board was perfect," said Sara Hanson, French Hall

member and one of Cabrera's best friends. "Eric handled it really well. He was upbeat but knew what we were going through."

Though an extreme example, Cabrera's death showcased why RAs need to be there for residents. While not every scenario requires them to go an extra mile, availability is key to the job.

That's why University Residences put a 16-credit limit on RA's course loads. Though there are exceptions, the cap was set to help them balance time between duty and classes.

"Any more and their schoolwork and RA work will suffer," Planagan said.

RAs are required to keep a 2.5 GPA, semester and cumulative. They must also possess strong communication skills, which are essential for filing the required paperwork.

"There's a lot of report-writing for RAs," Planagan said. "General Reports document anything that's going on (in the halls). It's really important to have clear writing skills for that because they can be used in judicial cases. If we have the police involved, we need to have good documentation of what happened."

"We have Community and Connections reports they write every two weeks. Those are fairly writing-intensive. They talk about the programming and other interactions they have in the halls."

RAs are also required to have been a UI student for at least one semester. This ensures they're able to tell residents about resources around campus as well as the Moscow-Pullman area.

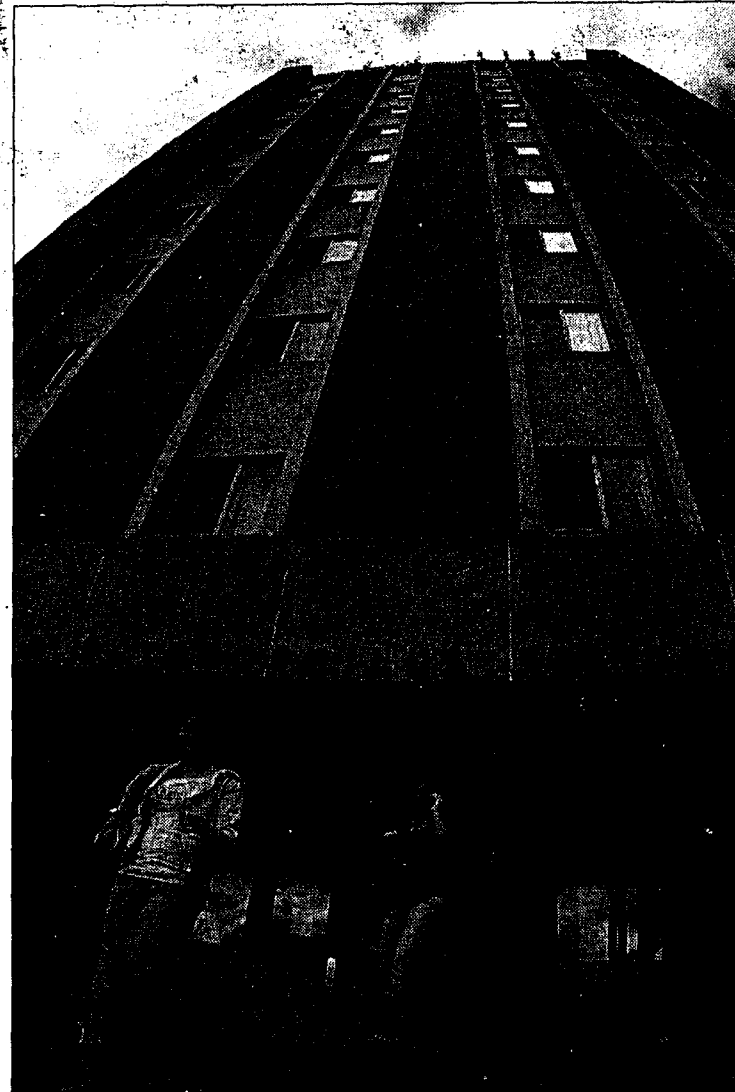
Behre made a bulletin board displaying the schedules and stops of the Moscow Valley Transit and Wheatland Express bus systems. This is to help his residents know how to get around town, especially if they don't own cars.

Looking at what the job entails, some might ask why anyone would want to become an RA.

Though University Residences offers RAs free room and board, the department and RAs agree that shouldn't be the sole motivation.

"If you do it for that, you're doing it for the wrong reason," Graden said. "And you're going to burn out really fast. ... Some people get tired really fast. It's a stressful job."

Despite the difficulties,



Kentaro Murai/Argonaut

Students head off to class Wednesday at Theophilus Tower. The tower has five coed halls on 11 floors.

many RAs believe the work has just as many benefits.

"I love helping out the residents," Martinko said. "When I was an RA in the Tower, I helped freshmen transition from high school to college. This year, it was about getting to know them and getting them involved in campus activities and different programs."

Graden had some advice to pass on to students who are thinking about becoming an RA.

"Do it if you're looking for a new experience and if you're looking to help people. It's a really eye-opening experience," she said.

For other RAs, it's a one-year job. While some leave for personal reasons or to move off campus, others quit to focus on school and advancing their future careers.

"In addition to being a psych major right now, I'm also a pre-med student," Behre said. "Getting into med

school in America today is really, really competitive. My adviser asked me how is being an RA helping me with my long-term goals. I told him it helps me work with people and my organizational skills. He said, 'That's great, but it's more important to know your biology and your organic chemistry.' ... I spend a lot of time working as an RA, and I think I do a pretty good job at it, but I need to focus on my schoolwork a lot more."

For those who are returning to the job next year, perhaps the biggest challenge will be leaving the hall they spent a year getting to know. For others, it's just one of the balls of duty.

"When I left McCoy Hall, they all had to leave," said Martinko, who was a Tower Mentor her sophomore year. "(But) a lot of the girls moved into Scholars Hall with me, so it wasn't that hard of a transition."



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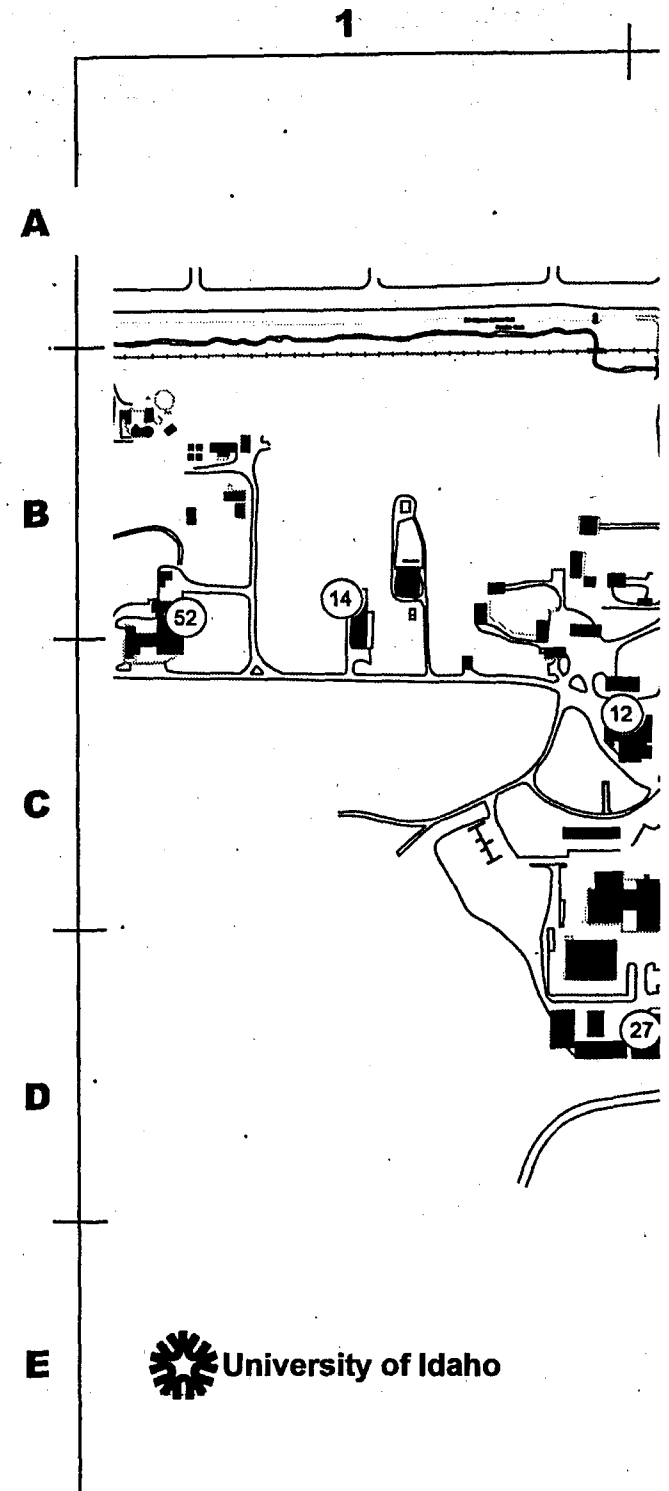
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# University of Idaho campus map

## Map key

1	Administration Bldg.	D, 3	56	J. A. Albertson Bldg.	D, 3
2	Ag. & Ext. Education	B, 2	57	J. W. Martin Lab	B, 2
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6	Alpha Gamma Delta	E, 3	61	Kappa Kappa Gamma	C, 4
7	Alpha Gamma Rho	C, 4	62	Kappa Sigma	D, 4
8	Alpha Kappa Lambda	E, 4	63	Kibbie-ASUI Activity Center	D, 2
9	Alpha Phi	C, 4	64	LDS Institute	D, 4
10	Alpha Tau Omega	C, 4	65	Library	C, 3
11	Alumni Center	E, 4	66	Life Sciences South	D, 4
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14	Aquaculture Wet Lab	B, 1	69	McConnell Hall	B, 3
15	Archie Phinney Hall	C, 3	70	Memorial Gym	D, 3
16	Art & Architecture	C, 3	71	Menard Law Bldg.	C, 3
17	Art & Architecture East	D, 4	72	Mines Bldg.	C, 3
18	Art & Architecture Interior Design	C, 3	73	Morrill Hall	C, 3
19	Art & Architecture North	D, 3	74	Music (Hampton) Bldg.	D, 4
20	Art & Architecture South	D, 3	75	Native American/Migrant Ed. Ctr.	C, 3
21	Art Studio, Graduate (GAS)	E, 4	76	Natural Resources Bldg.	C, 3
22	Beta Theta Pi	C, 4	77	Navy Bldg.	C, 3
23	Bookstore & Post Office	C, 4	78	Niccolis (Home Economics) Bldg.	D, 4
24	Buchanan Engineering Lab	C, 3	79	North Campus Center	A, 4
25	Business Technology Incubator	E, 5	80	Office of Development Bldg.	E, 4
26	Campus Christian Center	D, 4	81	Phi Delta Theta	C, 4
27	Campus Mail / Surplus	D, 1	82	Phi Gamma Delta	D, 4
28	Campus Police Substation	A, 3	83	Phi Kappa Tau	C, 4
29	Carol Ryrrie Brink Hall	C, 3	84	Physical Education Bldg.	D, 3
30	Continuing Education Bldg.	E, 4	85	Pi Beta Phi	C, 4
31	Delta Chi	D, 4	86	Pi Kappa Alpha	E, 3
32	Delta Delta Delta	B, 4	87	Poultry Hill Warehouse	C, 2
33	Delta Gamma	C, 4	88	Power Plant	B, 3
34	Delta Sigma Phi	D, 4	89	Radio-TV Center	E, 3
35	Delta Tau Delta	C, 4	90	Renfrew Hall	C, 3
36	Early Childhood Center	D, 4	91	Ridenbaugh Hall (Music Annex)	E, 4
37	Education Bldg.	D, 3	92	Safety, Environment Health &	B, 2
38	Elmwood Apartments	C, 4	93	Shoup Hall	B, 3
39	Engineering Research Lab	B, 2	94	Sigma Alpha Epsilon	D, 4
40	Engineering / Physics Bldg.	C, 4	95	Sigma Chi	E, 3
41	Executive Residence	E, 3	96	Sigma Nu	C, 4
42	Facilities Services Center	C, 1	97	South Hill Apartments	D, 4
43	Farm House	E, 4	98	South Hill Terrace Apartments	E, 4
44	Food Research Center	C, 3	99	South Hill Vista Apartments	E, 4
45	Gamma Phi Beta	C, 4	100	St. Augustine's Catholic Center	C, 4
46	Garage / LES Shop	D, 2	101	Steele House	E, 4
47	Gauss-Johnson Engineering Lab	C, 3	102	Student Health Center	D, 4
48	Gibb Hall	C, 4	103	Student Recreation Center	B, 3
49	Golf Clubhouse	E, 3	104	Student Union Bldg.	C, 4
50	Greenhouse, 6th Street	B, 2	105	Swim Center	D, 3
51	Hartung Theatre	C, 2	106	Targhee Hall	E, 4
52	Holm Veterinary Science Bldg.	B, 1	107	Teaching & Learning Center	C, 3
53	Human Resources & Procurement	C, 4	108	Theophilus Tower	B, 3
54	Idaho Commons	C, 3	109	Theta Chi	C, 4
55	Industrial Education Bldg.	D, 4	110	Wallace Residential Center	B, 3



## SpeakOUT Why did you choose your current housing?



**Why:** Build long lasting friendships — Always something to do — Great way to get more involved with events and activities on campus — Meet a variety of people — Great networking.

**Best part:** The life-long friends I've made.  
**Worst part:** Nothing really, I love it!

*Stacey Orlando*  
senior, marketing  
Greek - Delta Gamma

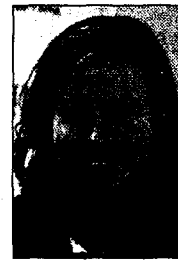


**Why:** I wanted an atmosphere where there were other people around and active on campus. I also wanted ... a place that provided opportunities to lead.

**Best part:** The brotherhood. I have developed many lifelong friends.

**Worst part:** I can't think of anything specific that's bad.

*Tom Purvis*  
junior, journalism  
Greek - Theta Chi



**Why:** It's close to classes, not at home (being from Moscow).

**Best Part:** Community, friends and proximity to classes.

**Worst part:** COST, lack of parking, meal plans.

*Laura Nuxoll*  
sophomore, sociology  
Residence halls - LLC



**Why:** Friends already lived there, heard good things about them, liked the people I met at Vandal Friday and rush, apartment-style living.

**Best part:** Immediate friends, social life, brotherhood.

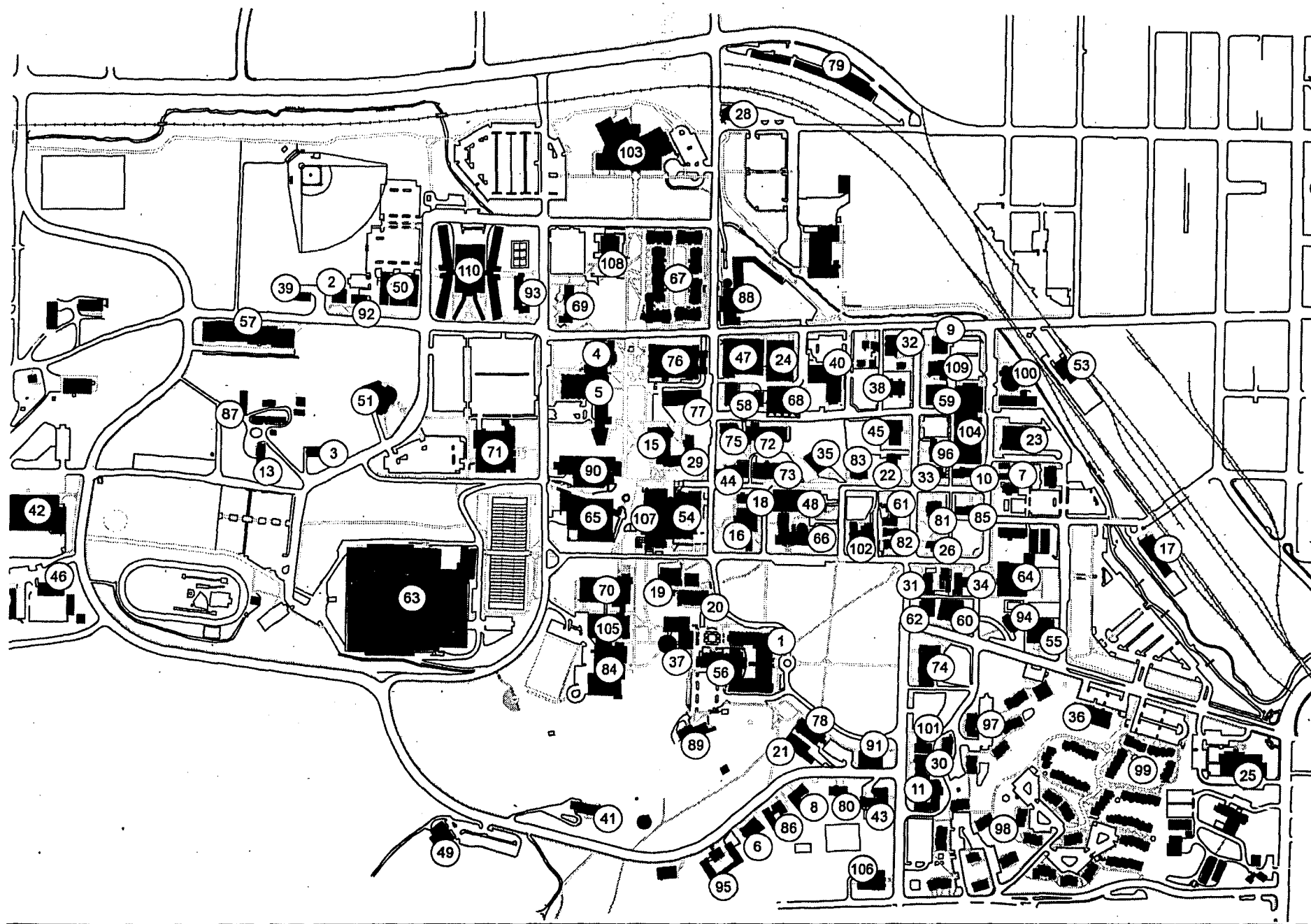
**Worst part:** Distractions.

*Nate Minkler*  
senior, business and  
psychology  
Greek - Sigma Chi

2

3

4



**Why:** It's close to campus and I did not like the dorm environment, so an apartment works for me.

**Best part:** I have my own room. It's pretty quiet and if I get bored I am in walking distance to everything.

**Worst part:** It's far, far away from WinCo and all that stuff.

*Karin Gales  
junior, architecture  
off-campus apartment*



**Why:** So I could meet new people and have less worries of food (due to meal plans).

**Best part:** Great location in closeness to classes and campus.

**Worst part:** When first coming here, if you don't know anyone, it's just a lottery for roommates and it doesn't always work out.

*Garret Lumens  
freshman, architecture  
residence halls - the  
Wallace*



**Why:** I have a lot of friends there living with me and it is really convenient with all of the different activities I am involved with.

**Best part:** It is a great place to make a lot of friends.

**Worst part:** The rooms are a bit small, but if you have a good roommate, it is perfect!

*Brianna Robson  
freshman, accounting  
residence halls - the  
Tower*



**Why:** Convenience and location, where my roommates wanted to live.

**Best part:** Pick who you live with, fairly close.

**Worst part:** Noisy, thin walls, the walk across the street.

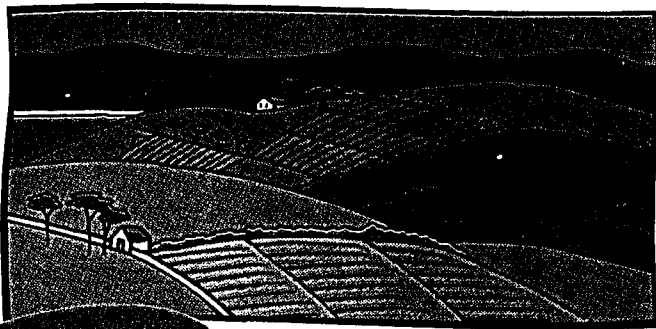
*Brady Anderson  
junior, P.E.  
off-campus apartment*

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## Turtle Derby 2007

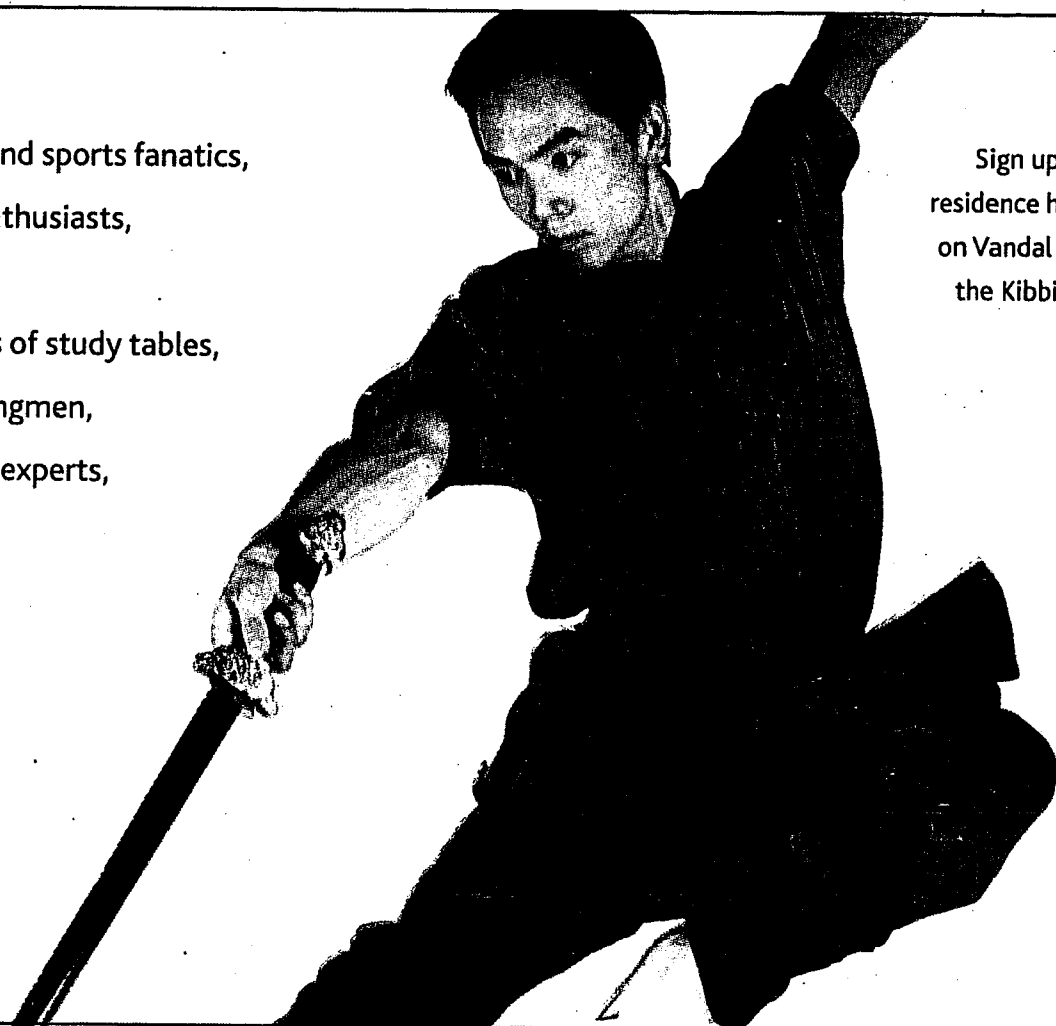
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# It's not where you live, it's who you meet

Student housing at the University of Idaho isn't very complicated. Dealing with landlords and putting up with the people that live with you is complicated. Picking where to live is one of the easiest parts of a college student's life. Well, I should say should be — some people make it hard on themselves, or just pick a bad place to live and don't enjoy themselves. Choosing a good place to live isn't hard. Around here it's pretty easy, since there are no "bad" neighborhoods in Moscow. In my experience here, a bad neighborhood in Moscow is a neighborhood full of townspeople who prefer sleeping at night.

The first consideration in your quest for housing should be your age. If you're an incoming traditional student, you should definitely live on campus your freshman year. The university should require that you do so. Living on campus encourages, and often forces, socialization. Forming social networks in college is a key part of the whole experience. Actually speaking to new people can be hard in our modern "Facebooked" world, so a little forced socialization isn't hurting anyone. Friends are indispensable in college; they'll help socially, academically and for the rest of your life. Which happens to be the idea behind fraternities and sororities, more or less.

Your on-campus experience has two options, the dorms and the Greek system. If you're a freshman, your dorm options are likely limited to the Wallace Complex or the Tower. Hopefully the university will replace both soon, but at least the food is

steadily improving. The LLCs are extremely nice and worth the wait.

Off-campus living is a little trickier, but still pretty easy. When you move off campus, it's a matter of how many friends you're going to live with, then finding a house or an apartment. The number of people you live with and your budget will dictate your options. There are several separate housing areas in town separated by major roads and hills. Taylor Street, directly south of campus, is deceiving but there are a lot of houses and apartments tucked up against the hill. Southeast of Taylor Street on the other side of the hill, where all the streets start with 'L,' is one of two

Meccas of apartment complexes in town. The second is A Street, located north of campus across the Moscow-Pullman Highway. The area below campus, between campus and downtown, is full of old houses that have been converted to apartment complexes or are just old houses. Some have been renovated recently. East of downtown is mostly where the townspeople live, but there are rentals scattered throughout.

Living in a house off-campus can be pretty easy, unless your landlord sucks or you suck as a tenant. When you first move in, take pictures of all the damage you find and send them to your landlord — this will save you trouble in the future. When living in the house, don't damage anything to make life easier for yourself. However, if you so happen to get drunk and put a hole in the wall, you can visit one of Moscow's hardware stores and they'll let you know how to fix it and sell you the stuff to fix it with. Always pay rent on time, or let

your landlord know you can't pay on time and why. Most landlords here are understanding and reasonable.

The Greek system is a world unto itself. Living in a Greek house can be an amazing experience. If you don't know anything about what Greek living entails, you should take the time to learn, especially if you're an underclassman. Fraternity and sorority living is also an education in dealing with people, a skill you'll find is more useful the older you get.

It's not all parties and fun, though. Fraternities and sororities accomplish constructive things, too, and will give you leadership experience you can't find anywhere else. Although I must admit partying has its time and place at the University of Idaho, it's a tradition of which I am quite proud, and proud to say is very much alive.

Moving into a Greek house can be bothersome thanks to the ridiculousness and unnecessary over-complication of the rush process. But you shouldn't let it get to you. It's a matter of mutual selection, but it basically all comes down to which house you like. However, a Greek house isn't just a place to live. Fraternities and sororities are a bit complicated, but if they weren't worthwhile, they wouldn't have such a significant presence on campus.

Well, there it is, the concise guide to student housing. I almost forgot, your choice of housing should also take into consideration how loud of a person you are, and how loud you plan to be. Don't harsh your neighbor's mellow by being loud, unless your neighbor is down with it.

*Note: Travis is a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and currently lives off campus.*



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# Useful tips for roommate success

By Kathleen Lynn  
The Record (Hackensack, N.J.)

To make a roommate arrangement work, "it has to be handled like any other business transaction," says Sylvia Bergthold, who wrote a book on the subject. She and other experts recommend:

- Run a credit check on prospective roommates. Bergthold recommends a company called citicredit.net, which charges \$9.95 for a tenant credit report; a number of other companies also do this for about the same amount. Some experts also recommend asking to see the last several pay stubs and a copy of the driver's license, to verify the roommate's income and identity.

- Ask the prospective roommate to co-sign the lease.

- Agree on how utility bills are to be split. Some people recommend that every roommate just use his or her own cell phone, and don't bother with a land line for the apartment. This way you don't have to worry about splitting phone bills.

- Ask for references, and check them.
- Ask prospective roommates why they are moving, how many times they have moved in the last five years, how long have they have been working at their present job and how many jobs they have had in the last five years.

- Talk honestly about all sorts of lifestyle issues: What time do you go to sleep on weeknights and weekends? How neat are you? Will you bring home dates (or one-night stands) for sleepovers? Do you smoke? Do you drink or use drugs? Do you have pets? Only you know which of these behaviors is a deal-breaker for you.

- Agree on house rules about guests, quiet hours, smoking, cleaning and other chores, whether to share food and household supplies, etc. It's a good idea to put all this in writing and have it signed by all roommates.

## FAMILIES

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Scott and his wife, Ami, took their kids to the family housing Halloween party and to the annual carnival last spring. Overstreet is currently planning this year's carnival. She hopes to include a petting zoo, since the South Hill apartments allow only cats and birds as pets and the South Hill Vista apartments don't allow pets.

There are some downsides to family housing, Scott said. The fraternities near the north side of the apartments can be noisy, and there was a mold problem in some of the South Hill apartments this year. Five buildings will be closed this summer for repairs. Scott's apartment is not one of the ones being closed, but it has had some mold problems. However, he said, University Residences has worked to

improve the situation.

"They have done quite a bit in fixing things up," he said.

Overstreet said maintenance is the main thing University Residences has worked on improving in the apartments. They're also working on playground improvements.

"We're really trying to make the tough decisions that will make the apartments a better place to live," she said. "We're working the hardest to improve making it a clean, safe place."

Another area Overstreet would like to work on in the future is providing couples-only activities for families with no kids.

"Unfortunately, that's probably the group that gets overlooked," she said.

Still, as a married person with no children, Overstreet enjoys seeing the kids at family housing.

"It's fun to see the families interact and to watch the kids grow up," she said. "We've

become close to some of our neighbors, and it's nice to be around someone who understands what it's like to have a family."

Overstreet also said she enjoys the diversity of family housing.

"It's a really diverse community, partially because a lot of international students bring their families with them," she said. "It's really great to look out on the playground and see so much variety and see them all playing with each other and not even noticing."

Scott said that along with fair rent, family housing has provided him with a community at UI outside of class.

"Doing the whole married-with-children thing, I feel like I'm possibly missing out on part of the college experience, like living in the dorms and parties and things," he said. "But coming home to my wife and kids every day is nice."



Kentaro Murai/Argonaut  
Tony and Davina Pastrama play with their son Phoenix in a three-bedroom family housing unit Tuesday on Taylor Street.

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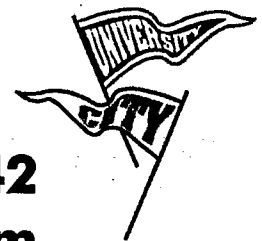
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