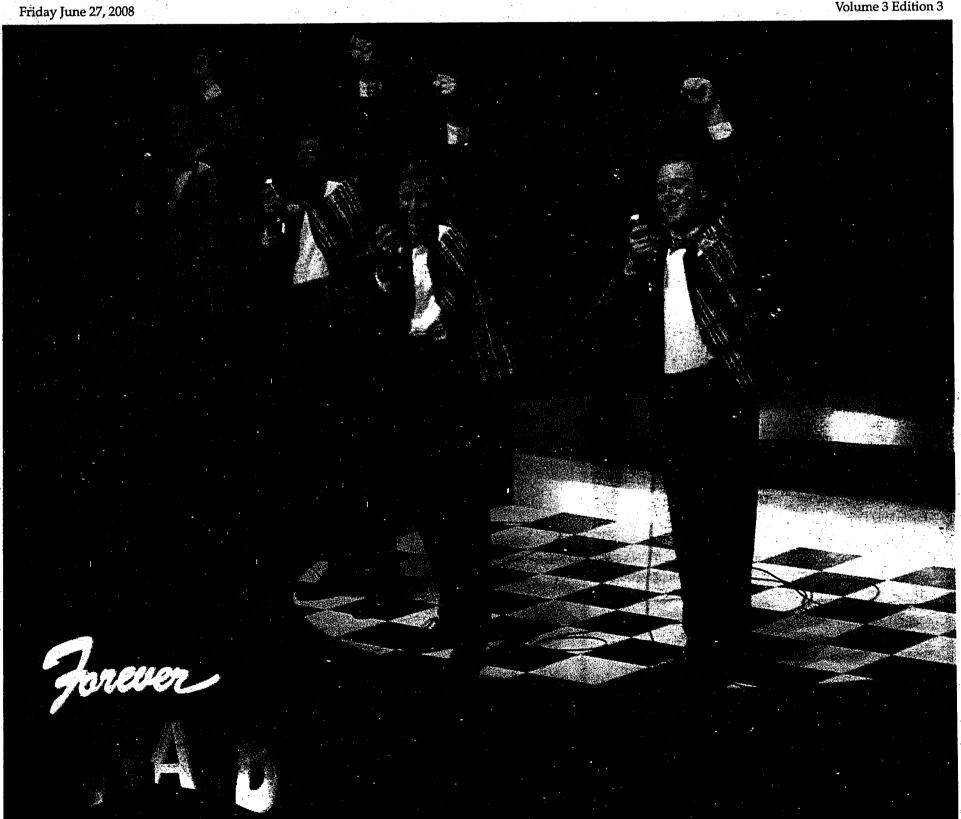
Inside this issue:

Follow the final semester of one of UI's most politically active students

> **Idaho Repertory Theatre** invades the Hartung

> > Volume 3 Edition 3



People We Know





So MY university housing has lead paint. I hope it doesn't give me some kind of cognitive abnorbility.

It's Summer

at University of Idaho **Campus Recreation**

SRC Summer Hours Mon-Fri 6am-9pm Sat-Sun noon-6pm

Climbing Wall Mon-Fri 3:30-8pm Sat 12pm-6pm

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Summer Arg

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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 Tusesday 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.

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by K. Ray Johnson/Argonaut

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craft geek

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If you are interested in advertising in Summer Arg please contact advertising manager

Alexis Roizen at 885-7784 Monday-Friday 1-4 p.m.

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Letters Policy Summer Arg 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 personalties.
- Summer Arg reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and clarity.
- Letters must be signed, include a 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.

Crapo dedicated to oil

On June 10 Idaho Sen. Mike Crapo helped defeat the Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act of 2008 with his partisan no vote. This bill would have amended the IRS Code of 1986 to provide incentives for energy production and conservation and to provide individual income tax relief for people that do so.

On the same day, Crapo again voted no to help defeat the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to consider S. 3044. S. 3044 would have provided energy price relief to American citizens and would have held oil companies accountable for their actions with regard to high fuel prices at the pump.

Clearly, Crapo has his wagon hitched to corporate oil. No senate bill in the future that would cost these mega-billion dollar corporations any money and help regular Americans will ever receive a yes vote from Crapo as long as he is tragically voted to "serve" additional terms in the senate.

> Dick Artley Grangeville

Classifieds

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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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Lights, camera, Plaid!

Tecla Markosky Summer Arg

Four clean-cut dudes flanked in white tuxedos — red carnation boutonnières and all — flitting around a stage washed with a color palette any year in the 80s would envy. They sing, they snap, they wear funny hats. They challenge any notion of masculinity.

And they're from Idaho. The Idaho Repertory Theatre opens this week with "Forever

opens this week with "Forever Plaid," an off-Broadway musical comedy chock-full of paradoxes — men that sing, men in their 20s that sing, men in their 20s in the state of Idaho that sing, etc.

Starting with an evening performance Thursday, members of the Moscow community can enjoy nearly nightly showings of six different productions through the month of July.

The other shows in the IRT lineup are "Twelfth Night," "The Nerd," "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day" and two special one-night performances of "Love Letters" and "Hate Mail."

This year marks the 55th season of IRT on the university's campus and is the longest running professional repertory theatre in the Inland Northwest.

Traveling along a simple but omnipresent plot, the four male characters of "Forever Plaid" manage to weave their simple, but somewhat sad story melodiously with popular hits like "Shangri-La," "Sixteen Tons," "Chain Gang" and "Heart and Soul." Furny but fulfilling, the show features a live band on stage and humor that can be appreciated from ages eight to 80.

"The music is what makes this production unique," said Jo Lacher, director of "Forever Plaid."

"It's a musical review within a play. In this production, the characters are very well developed. It has music, but it has a story. It's set supposedly in modern times about four singers who were killed in 1964 and come back to do a concert they never got to do."

a concert they never got to do."
"Forever Plaid" is Lacher's
directorial debut for IRT. Though
she holds a master's degree in
theater direction, her day job is

see the SHOWS

All evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and all matinees start at 2 p.m.

Tickets for all of the shows are \$18 for adults and \$13 for students and youth. For tickets, call the UI Kibbie Dome Ticket Office at 885-7212 or the Idaho Repertory Theatre Office at 885-6465.

as an academic adviser for at the Academic Advisement Center.

"It's a nice break," she said.
For three weeks, she's locked
herself in the Hartung Theatre
with little use of air conditioning
surrounded almost exclusively



Eric Peterson/Summer Arg
The off-Broadway musical comedy "Forever Plaid" opened this week
at the University of Idaho's Hartung Theatre.

by men. Life could be worse, Lacher said.

When the curtain lifted Thursday night, Lacher's job was done.
Come Saturday, she'll jet out of the Palouse for five weeks in

Ireland, where she'll study Irish theatre and music.

"The timing worked out perfectly," she said. "It was a great opportunity and a great show. The timing couldn't be better."

RUNNING ON EMPTY

Making art with spatulas, pans and plates

Combine two cups of boredom, one cup of poorness, two tablespoons of intrigue, a dash of skill and a whole lot of Alexis. Mix well and serve immediately.



Alexis Roizen
Summer Arg
argonaut@sub.
uidaho.edu

My sister once told me that the only way she gets through cooking for five people every night is thinking of it as an art — just another way to create something besides using a canvas and paints.

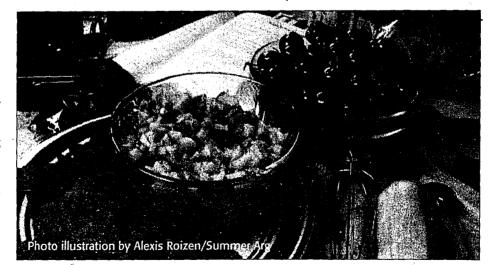
I fook this thought, and with nothing else to do, started to make my own art.

I have never been one to cook. In high school, if my mom didn't cook a dinner one

night I didn't eat anything that I couldn't eat straight out of the bag. This philosophy carried over when I went to college. I added things cooked in a microwave to the list of things I would eat since we didn't have one for most of my life.

My freshman year I avoided the traditional 15 pounds of extra insulation. I avoided it by 4 pounds. Not a lot but I'll take it. I knew I needed to start cooking.

I added it to my list of things to do for



myself — that highly ignored list called New Year's resolutions.

I bought cookbooks and spent money on filling my fridge with fresh fruits, veggies and meats. I went to the Co-op thinking spending a little more on food might make me more likely to cook it. Every time, without fail, I threw 80 percent of the food away.

Not a way to save money, especially when I have to make up for it by eating

at Arbv's.

Not having anything to do was my jump-start. I spent some free time going through different cookbooks so that I could find one that had a lot of recipes that looked quick, cheap and tasty.

My other trick is only buying what I need for one meal. Sounds expensive but when you spend 20 bucks at the store and don't have to go back for another two days, it saves \$20-30 on eating out.

Beyond the art of cooking is the art of presentation. I had a teacher that said 70 percent of your work is about your detail to presentation.

I think about my colors and my arrangement and how to serve — a green salad with red onion, orange carrots and chicken with mango-jalaneno salas

with mango-jalapeno salsa.

The color combos on my plate create art.
I can see my food hanging in the Museum
of Modern Art between Andy Warhol and
Ansel Adams.

I also try to be a graceful cook, always thinking that I am on Rachel Ray or Oprah.

What a place to get to, from hating cooking to looking forward to it. But Oprah will have to call back, and Rachel will just have to steal my recipes, because I don't think I want to be the next Wolfgang Puck.

Cooking has been a New Year's resolution of mine for three years, and this summer I can finally cross it off.

The same four things have been on that list. The others left are regular exercise, which comes from getting a dog; losing weight, accomplished by the regular exercise with the dog and the healthy cooking; and becoming more responsible with money, which I might be able to cross off at the end of the year.

Damn, I'm on a roll. All that's left is the dog.

Final g'by

Outgoing UI President Tim White and family say 'farewell' in SUB sendoff

Meagan Robertson Summer Arg

The University of Idaho Student Union Building Ballroom was decked in black and gold Wednesday evening as the community gathered to say farewell to departing President Tim White.

White, his wife Karen, and their young son Logar received words of encouragement and good luck from the students, faculty, alumni and friends who attended the goodbye event.

The night featured a slideshow and video with highlights from White's tenure at UI and guest speakers who presented the family with gifts and awards for their accomplishments:

White and his family will leave UI on Monday, when he will take the chancellor posi-tion at the University of California, Riverside.

White said that what he'll miss most will be the students.

"I will miss their energy, their creativity and their aspirations," he said. "They really have love for this place and affection for their campus."

White said that his advice for the incoming interim president, Steven Daley-Laursen, dean of the College of Natural Resources, is to remember what matters most.

"Remember that high quality really does matter, and that integrity really does matter, too," he said. "He should have patience and stamina and stay focused on the students.

Daley-Laursen said that he will miss three main things about White.

"First, I will miss his principled approach to decisions," Daley-Laursen said. "Second, I will miss his smarts, his intellect and his brightness. And third, I will miss his incomparable level of energy that he has brought to the univer-

ASUI President Garrett Holbrook said that White had an incredibly open office, and that he would invite students in to visit him anytime.

"It's sad that the new group of freshmen won't be able to experience his leadership," Holbrook said.

The night ended with Karen White extending her heartfelt thank you to the community and saying that she

"It's sad that the new group of freshmen won't be able to experience his leadership."

Garrett Holbrook

ASUI President

would miss Moscow, UI and the people in the area with all of her heart and soul.

"Everybody had been so supportive," she said. "It's like an amazing extended family, and I am grateful for the whole town.'

Karen White said she loves Moscow and will never forget the memories she has made

Tim White said that as the 16th president at UI and the first family of UI words can't describe what the experience means to him.

He said that they will continue to follow UI, and that they will visit and look in on the campus from time to time.

"Thank you for believing in me, and thank you for believing in yourselves," he said.



Eric Peterson/Summer Arg Tim White's son Logan shouts the University of Idaho Fight Song at the president's farewell Wednesday afternoon in the Student Union Building Ballroom.

Religion should be studied, not feared

In this Judeo-Christian nation, religion is all around us. And

Today's textbooks often refer to Pilgrims as people who travel to faraway lands, completely leaving out the fact that they sought religious freedom. Teachers stut-ter and swiftly change the subject when children ask religious questions in the classroom.

One can't ask a Mormon amigo or Episcopalian pal what sets him arg_opinion@sub. or her apart from other Christians without a look of dread, fear and shock.

What's so scary about religion? Most teachers have an underlying fear that they will break the

First Amendment if they mention religion to their students. Their

worries are justified because plenty of parents would love to protest a school district that supports an employee soiling the beautiful God-fearing child they have created.

What many teachers don't understand, though, is that they may not preach, but they may instruct. Reading the Bible in class is solidly legal and constitutional so long as no discussion is made in reference to one's personal beliefs.

Sending children into the world without any knowledge of religion, a now-taboo subject, is setting them up for social, voca-

Kelsey

Husky

uidaho.edu

tional and political failure.

To teach creationism via Intelligent Design in school is to hurt, offend and confuse our diverse nation.

To offer, if not require, a world religions class in public schools is to enlighten our children.

Even if one is atheist to the deepest core of his or her being, knowing about religion would be helpful in the very least to make sure one is not being tricked or otherwise taken advantage of.

Let's be frank here. Most Christians have no idea what they actually believe in.

Before President Dwight D. Eisenhower took office in 1954, Christians had a decent-enough grasp on their religious beliefs. It's when he took office - and included "one nation, under God"

to the Pledge of Allegiance and changed the nation's motto to "In God We Trust" — that American Christians lost their knack for

Bible study and intellectualism were traded in for Jesus this, Jesus that. Suddenly, the only requirement needed to get to heaven, in the opinion of many Christians, was having a connection with God and Jesus, not knowing exactly why they should have this said connection.

Can they list the Ten Commandments? How many books of the Bible can they name? Can they name at least a few of the Twelve Apostles?

Moreover, how many Americans can name the world's five major religions? What about their holy texts? What religion refers to the Pentateuch for guidance?

To teach only the Bible in the classroom is selling students

We're at war with a Muslim country, yet most students know nothing about their way of life or beliefs. They are taught that women are treated horribly and forced to wear garments that cover them from head to toe without being taught why this is happening. By barely touching on the subject of world religions, American schools are automatically instilling a holier-than-thou mindset in our young.

Religion isn't going anywhere. Faithful or not, one should get his or her head out of the clouds, join the real world and learn about the biggest element that

unites humanity.

DIARY OF A FANTASY GEEK

A fan's worst nightmare

As an entire organization, the Seattle Mariners have officially hit rock bottom.

The organization has had a history of losing and poor decision making. What

makes this year's Mariner collapse different from past futility was the high expectation level.

Fans were excited coming off a surprise 2007 second-place finish. Season-ticket sales were up and pundits in the national media were predicting the team to win the AL West.

This Mariner team is probably the most disappointing, underachieving ball club I can remember. They will probably become the first team in baseball history to lose more than 100 games with a payroll exceeding \$100 million. That's truly pathetic.

Nothing has gone right. You've seen the games. Ichiro Suzuki isn't even hitting .300 this season. His lifetime .331 average is tops in baseball among current players. He's never had a season below .300 possibly until now. But hey, that's the tip of the iceberg in terms of this

There isn't one player on the entire roster having anything close to a career year, and the pitching staff is a nightmare. Oh, and please don't get me started on Richie Sexson. That's another column on its own.

What do teams do during a severe baseball crisis?

They usually blow the whole thing up and start over. This is clearly what the Mariners have begun doing over the last couple weeks. Let's hope it continues.

The front office has done what was expected — firing general manager Bill Bavasi and team manager John McLaren. Obviously both those guys needed a Greyhound bus ticket out of town.

Near the halfway point on this disgusting season I would certainly hope the team will begin a freakish GM and managerial search. Fans don't want a lameduck season. This team needs to

begin next season now.

Johnny

Ballgame

Summer Arq

argonaut@sub.

uidaho.edu

In order to do that, the most important positions within the organization — GM and manager — need to be

Right now there are plenty of legitimate candidates to take over as manager. There are a few guys that come to mind

Bobby Valentine, Buck Showalter, Joey Cora, Willie Randolph and possibly Bryan Price. Each appear to be possible

successors to interim manager Jim Riggleman.

I think Valentine would be an excellent fit for this team. He's an upbeat, rah-rah guy that could do nice things for a young team, which is what the Mariners will soon become. Valentine took the Mets to the 2000 World Series and had success during the 1990s with the Texas Rangers.

He's been managing in the Japanese League over the last few years and won the Japanese Series in 2005 and is beloved across that country. With the large Japanese Mariners fan base, I think Valentine would be an excellent choice to get this team on the right track again.

The problem doesn't entirely lie with the front office or coaching positions. Of course, the players are at fault, too.

I don't expect too see next season's opening-day lineup look anything similar to what it is now. In the last years of their contracts, Sexson and Raul Ibanez will certainly be gone.

The Mariners should trade Ibanez this season to a team looking for a solid left handed bat. Sexson is obviously un-tradable. Nobody wants him.

Don't be surprised to see the team trade one of its stars — Ichiro, Erik Be-

In order to get top young prospects in



Seattle the team may have to part with

one or more of its best players.

Most Mariner fans I know have given up on this season, as have I. What the fan base must do for the next three months is hope the team begins its rebuilding process sooner than later and begin to convince its fans that winning is on the way - eventually. I think we all want to see new blood in the front office.

Bavasi completely wrecked this thing and now we're in need of someone to come in and fix it.

It's going to be a new Mariners era, which is sad because this past era completely flopped and the team is in a worse

position than before Bavasi got there.
That's baseball — Mariners baseball

REDNECK SUMMER

'Didn't he retire?' and other NASCAR rumors

Mark Martin did not race in Sunday's Save-Mart 300 at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif. If you last watched a NASCAR race three years ago, this would not surprise you. You would have seen Martin sitting in a custom-built rocking chair next to fellow retiree - and now on-air personality for ESPN -Rusty Wallace.

Martin supposedly retired after the 2005 season, his last with the Roush Fenway organization. He went out the same way he ran most of his career: running toward the front but never quite able to reach the top.

If he had stayed retired, he

would be remembered as one of the best drivers never to win a championship at NASCAR's highest level. Even Wallace won a Winston Cup — barely.

Retirement has not suited Martin well. He isn't alone, however. He's just the poster child for hanging out longer than he said he would.

Past champions Bill Elliot and

Terry Labonte show up every once in while and the same is expected of Dale Jarrett. Jarrett's "final" race was the Sprint All-Star Challenge back in May. So far he has kept

his promise.

The difference between Martin and the others is that any time Labonte or Elliot — or Jarrett, if he comes out of retirement - is that one past champion per race has a guaranteed spot in the field. If Martin quits for real and wants back in, the car he races will have to be in the top 35 in points or he will have to get in on his

qualifying time.
For Labonte and Elliot, this would be a problem. For Martin, it isn't and that's another difference between him and those other guys. Martin, at age 49, is still competitive. He still runs at the front of the pack when

he races and contends for wins. He almost pulled off the biggest victory of his career in the 2007 Daytona 500.

Kevin Harvick beat him by less than a second and it served as just another example of Martin's en-tire career. He can climb the mountain but when it comes to reaching the summit, he's always a few feet short.

Martin is running a limited schedule this season. When he isn't behind the wheel of the Dale Earnhardt, Inc. No. 8 Army Chevy Impala SS, Aric Almirola is. Almirola came up through the

Joe Gibbs developmental system and runs well when he gets the seat time.

This week's rumor is all about Almirola and that precious seat time. Taken by itself, the rumor that Almirola will be the full-time driver in the No. 8 car for 2009 is nothing special.

He's earned it and DEI isn't going to fire anyone else. Martin has been a huge asset for that team, but it is time for him to step aside and let the younger guys have their shot. So no big deal, he's retired, right?

Not so fast. There is a part two to this rumor.

Part two involves Hendrick Motorsports. Sound familiar? A DEI driver rumored to be moving to Hendrick? This time, the rumor is Martin taking over the No. 5 car currently being driven by Casey Mears.

Poor Casey. I like him. He's a good guy, he's something of a legacy — ever hear of a guy named Rick Mears? — and he a legacy keeps getting jerked around.

Yes, he's only won one race, but since he reached NASCAR's top ranks, he's been in four different cars with two organizations. He hasn't been with the same crew long enough to really make a connection, and it shows. Now he might be the odd man out again and his options are getting slimmer.

If Martin takes over the No. 5 car for a full season — and possibly makes a real run at a championship instead of just screwing around — and Mears needs a ride, I have a few suggestions.

Option one: Richard Childress Racing's new No. 33. Mears would fit well with Harvick, Jeff Burton and Clint Bowyer. He'd have less pressure on him, and the Childress organization seems better at nurturing drivers instead of demanding

Option two: If another rumor comes true and Tony Stewart gets the new RCR car, Mears could-jump in the Gibbs No. 20. He'd be teamed up with former mate Kyle Busch, too. This isn't likely because if Stewart leaves, first crack at his car belongs to Gibbs prodigy Joey Logano.

Option three: Lots of B-list teams will be looking for drivers

See **RUMORS**, page 11



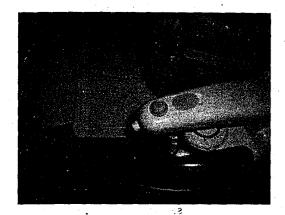
TJ. Tranchell Summer Arg argonaut@sub. uidaho.edu

MUSINGS OF A CRAFT GEEK

Use beads to win over a gamer's heart

Meagan Robertson Summer Arg

Maybe when you were a kid you played with the infamous Perler beads. These quite boring, plastic, tube-shaped beads can be made into some ugly jewelry or something even better. The beads are traditionally placed on pegboards and then ironed, causing the beads to fuse (or melt) together into one solid colorful mass. I recently discovered that the best things to make with the Perler beads are classic eight-bit and 16-bit video game characters. These little characters can be made into magnets, hung on the walls, rearview mirror in your car or anything else you feel like doing with them.



What you'll need:

Perler beads

These are pretty cheap and can be bought at any craft store or even at Wal-Mart. They usually come in buckets of 5,000 for \$10, or in smaller kits with specialty pegboards.

Pegboards

Most kits come with these, but you'll probably want one that's square-shaped. The best are the huge ones that lock together. You'll more than likely need just one, but it's better to have extra space on your board than to run out.

A piece of ironing paper

To prevent the beads from melting straight onto the iron. This comes with the beads.

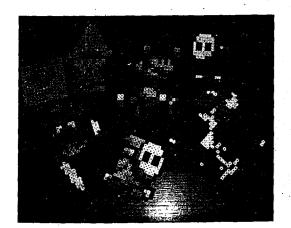
An iron

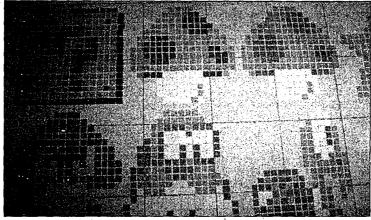
Any size or kind will do

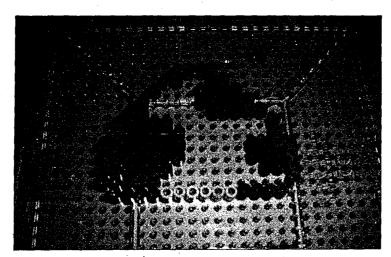
A flat surface

Or any other oven-safe tray

An image of your favorite character from an old video game









Step 1:

Find your image.

Try doing a Google search on your favorite character and pick the best picture you can find. I tend to have a special spot in my heart for Mario or Link—anything classic Nintendo. The goal here is to see each individual pixel, because each bead is going to be like a pixel when you put them on the pegboard. Try zooming in on the image before you print it out.

While the image may seem blocky, that's exactly what you want. Make note of the colors you'll need, especially if you're printing in black and white. If you are printing in black and white, make sure you'll be able to tell where the different colors go in your image. Try coloring on the paper or making a key for reference.

Step 2:

Get your beads ready.

Make sure that you have each color you think you'll need and enough of each individual shade. Running out of one particular color that you need sucks, so try to plan ahead.

Step 3:

Start placing your beads on the pegboard.

Remember, each pixel, or block on the image, represents an individual bead. For some designs it may be easier to draw lines on the image, like a grid, to break it up. Start on one side or in one corner and work through the image slowly and carefully. Be cautious to not knock over any of the other already-placed beads. As you add more beads, you should start to see the image on the pegboard more clearly. If you feel like your fingers are too clumsy, try tweezers.

Step 4:

Iron away

Carefully cover the beads with the ironing paper in preparation for the ironing. You'll want to place the iron flat on top of the beads and paper, and slowly move across the surface for a minute or so, but not for too long because they will melt into plastic goo.

Make sure to check to see if they've fused together without completely melting by setting the iron aside and carefully lifting the paper. If all the beads stick, you're in the clear. Once the beads have cooled, just peel the paper off and flip it over, and repeat the process on the other side. If your beads don't fuse all the way, no worries, just place the paper back onto them and try the ironing process again quickly.

Now you've got some totally awesome video game characters all made out of little plastic beads. Make pins, magnets or whatever you like. Give them to your fellow geek friends or keep them all for yourself.

Bleeding blue in a red state

Holly Bowen Summer Arg

Paul Alvey manned the College Democrats table like a lone maverick.

Because a blood drive table took his ideal location next to the south entrance to the University of Idaho's Idaho Commons Food Court, he placed his table in a dark corner a few yards away. The reduced traffic gave him time to read the newspaper, and he held the outstretched broadsheet high in front of his head. In the food court, students running for ASUI positions spoke with microphones to the few people who were interested enough to ask them questions. It was difficult to hear what anyone else was saying.

Despite the poor location, Alvey was in good spirits, greeting the few people who did approach his table with a variation of "Hey buddy!" regardless of the party's gender. He thoroughly and hurriedly recited a list of upcoming events and club meetings, and he offered his own contact information on a Larry Grant campaign business and

His title was "campus outreach organizer."

The table was covered with campaign literature for the Democrats running in statewide and national elections. It was obvious Alvey favored Grant—he offered a huge stack of black-on-white bumper stickers that read, "LARRY GRANT for U.S. CONGRESS."

A middle-aged man who approached said, "I want one that says, 'No More Shrubs."

Alvey laughed.

The table was also home to pastel blue and yellow poster-boards held up like picture frames with stands made of Huggies diaper and pizza boxes, with information about Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, but more for Obama. Alvey defended this decision by saying Clinton's post-or-board had a better picture.

er board had a better picture.

Despite a student enrollment of 10,654, UI's cample is a black hole of political culture. Despite ring one of the most conservative states in America, Republican activism in Moscow is not appared. As of spring semester, the College Remarks were inactive and individual students

were taking little initiative to promote their favored candidates.

On the liberal side of the political aisle, a few students were working to change Idaho's culture of conservatism. When Moscow residents saw fliers or heard radio advertisements for local Democratic candidates, chances are Paul Alvey was at least partly responsible. The 26-year-old political science graduate was easily one of the most politically active students on campus during the 2007-08 school year, working closely with both the Latah County Democratic Party and local and state candidates for public office.

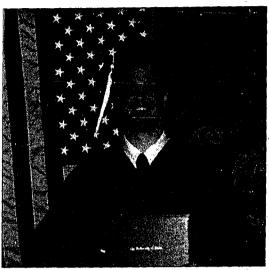
Alvey is somewhat of an anomaly. The third of seven children of two Republicans, he grew up in Firth, a small town of about 400 people in southeastern Idaho. He is a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is married, has a little boy and admits that his Mormon friends sometimes give him a hard time. He makes fun of them for watching "Fox Noise," his favored nickname for the Fox News Channel.

Alvey was not always a Democrat. In the 2004 presidential election, he voted for George W. Bush, and jokingly said his current "political activism is penance" for that vote. When he explained it, his voice hesitated with a slight air of embarrassment. He said Bush had the charisma that Democratic Sen. John Kerry did not.

"At the time, I thought that George W. Bush was a lot more likable than John Kerry," he said. "I don't know. John Kerry was extremely intelligent, but at the time I thought it was important to like your president. It wasn't much about politics at all. Honestly, I was pretty ignorant back then about politics."

Alvey said his parents are respectful of his political views. He said they are not activists, only voting every four years.

"I'm 26, so they don't try to sway me," he said. "But they recognize that I'm more informed than they are, and they respect my stands on various things. Obviously, they agree with a lot of my philosophies. They're just, I guess, ignorant Republicans in the past, you know? So, I just try to keep approaching them."



Courtesy photo

Paul Alvey at his May 2008 graduation.

Alvey is a self-described "big Obama supporter." When the Illinois senator was facing scrutiny for anti-American comments made by his former pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, he gave a response speech about race in America. The speech was extensively covered in the media. Alvey's face lit up with pride when he recalled the time his mother called him to ask about Obama and his speech.

"She's not interested enough to listen to a 45-minute speech by him," Alvey said. "But she'll listen to a five-minute synopsis from me."

Alvey originally intended to use his political science major as a springboard to go to law school. That changed when he began studying politics, and he found his "passion." He attributed his conversion to liberalism to the progression of his studies.

"I was involved in classroom discussions and stuff, and so I realized my political preferences the more I got talking about the issues (with) the people that were independent-minded about those things," he said. "I think most of my professors were on the liberal side."



Alvey took no issue with the ideologies of his professors. He said the explanation is simple.

"The textbooks tell you that liberals are more open-minded, and conservatives are more closed-minded, so it's expected to find college professors more liberal," he said

Alvey's first foray into the world of liberal politics was in 2006 when he voted for Grant for Idaho's 1st Congressional District seat. Grant, a retired vice president and general counsel of Micron Technology, Inc. — an Idaho-based manufacturer of semiconductors — lost the election to Republican Bill Sali. Sali won by 5 percentage points.

Grant decided to run again in 2008 facing businessman Walt Minnick in the Democratic primary. Minnick, who worked for the Nixon Administration and played a role in establishing the Drug Enforcement Administration, ran against incumbent Republican Sen. Larry Craig in 1996 and lost.

publican Sen. Larry Craig in 1996 and lost.

When the 2008 election season arrived, Alvey needed an internship to supplement his degree.

Alvey was surprised when he called Grant's campaign number, which was immediately answered by Grant himself.

"I expected to talk to a secretary," Alvey said.
"But yeah, he answered his phone, and so I said,
'Hey, I want to volunteer for you, and I could probably get college credit doing it, too.' He was like,
'Let's do it.'"

Alvey described his role in the Grant campaign as "a liaison." He worked with the Latah County Democrats and the College Democrats by attending all their meetings and events. He even went to the Latah County Democrats executive meetings.

"Then, of course, phone calls," he said, shaking his head. "I hate phone calls. I can talk to somebody face-to-face all day long, but talking on the phone—it's too easy to be rude."

More of interest to Alvey was his "boots on the

"T knock (on) doors, I drop fliers, and I volunteer for the local candidates," he said. "Judy Brown, for example, is running for state legislature, so I work with her a little bit.... If I don't have a meeting or an event or phone calls to make, then I'm usually out handing out fliers or knocking doors."

Alvey said he has no problem approaching politicians to offer his support and assistance, all free of charge.

"I go up to them personally, and I say, 'Hey, anything I can do to help, let me know."

Although Alvey cannot personally speak to Obama, he said he wants to do all he can to help the campaign.

listen to him speak, it's just like, wow. He inspires me to be better, you know? He talks about a better America, and he doesn't talk about it like a fairy tale. He talks about it like it can really happen. We can make it happen."

The key to Obama's appeal, Alvey said, is his public speaking ability.

"He gives the kind of motivating speeches that make me want to jump up and go out and knock on everyone's door," he said. "He's really fun to listen to. He's very likable. ... If you think about all of the movements we've had, most of them have been preceded by a great speech. FDR's speech, JFK's speech, Martin Luther King — all of them who inspired movements. They gave great speeches."

Despite his love for politics and being involved in campaigns, Alvey said he has no intention of entering politics as a candidate. He said he wants to get a doctorate from the University of Oregon in Eugene and then teach or do scholarly research in the field.

"It's a field that's always changing," he said. "It's difficult to understand. There's a million different ways to look at it, and it's always changing, so it's challenging and fun."

One of the reasons Alvey refuses to become a politician is the stress it would bring to his family.

"If your family's not willing to go through it, then there's no sense in even trying," he said. "I know my wife wouldn't vote against me, but having her supporting me, being supportive of my decision to run for office, would be important because it's a huge sacrifice for the wife and kids."

Alvey knew he is unique among people his age. Many young adults do not stay informed about politics, much less become involved. He said it is because young adults "don't think that it affects them. Most politicians are 50, 60, 70, and most people that care about politics are that same age."

Another culprit is the busy lifestyle of young

Another culprit is the busy lifestyle of young adults. This was evident in the Idaho Commons at mid-day, as Alvey's table was mostly ignored by busy students going to and from classes. Those who did have time to stay were distracted by the loud voices coming from the ASUI microphones.

"There's so much," Alvey said. "There's so much competing for our time and attention, and we live in a society that's just —" Alvey paused and leaned forward, rapidly snapping his fingers, "— fact pack to be it's easy to not worm about

politics, you know?"

"I go up to

personally,

I can do to

know"

ALVEY .

UI graduate

Paul

help, let me

'Hey, anything

and I say,

them

He said to young adults, the divisive fighting in American politics is "a big headache."

"It's like when your mom and dad are yelling at each other," he said. "You don't want to pick sides. You don't want to go near that."

At the April 9 College Democrats meeting, Alvey

suddenly looked downcast. He had an announcement to make, which he did, albeit quietly.

"My candidate's dropping out tomorrow," he said.

The students in the group became dismayed, gasping with surprise. They had been planning to host a debate on campus. Without Grant, his primary competitor, Minnick, had no one to debate.

"What (Grant) told me this morning," Alvey said, "was he could win the primary no problem."

However, the statewide general election in November would be another story. Grant said he did not have enough money to win that race against Sali, unlike Minnick.

"Walt has the money to compete in the general election," Alvey said. "He has millions of dollars, so he can write

himself checks all day."

Grant's official announcement came the next day.

Alvey did not want the word to be spread until then.

"Larry didn't want the bloggers knowing before the press," he said.

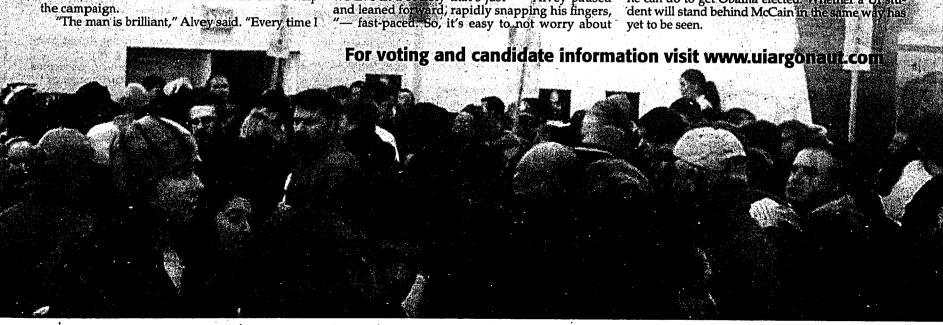
Grant would endorse Minnick.

"(Grant) has a better organization than Walt," Alvey said. "So, he's trying to send people over there (to Minnick's campaign)."

"I'm really upset that it's about the money," he said, explaining that the Democratic National Committee refused to provide matching funds to Idaho's 1st Congressional District candidate. The chances of winning against Sali were too small.

With Moscow cleared out for summer, students looking to become politically active at UI may be out of luck for now unless they look off-campus. Alvey, who graduated in May, said he would finish his remaining 60 hours of internship credit with Larry LaRocco, who is running to represent Idaho in the U.S. Senate.

The big contest to come is in November, when Obama will face Republican Sen. John McCain in the presidential election. Alvey said he will do all he can do to get Obama elected. Whether a UI student will stand behind McCain in the same way has yet to be seen.



Making friends from the folds

Jenny Connerley Special to Summer Arg

Sitting in a small gray chair amid piles of students' dirty sheets, pillowcases and towels is usually where Patty Cass can be found on the University of Idaho campus.

While she's been an employee at the university for 30 years and is an expert at

her job as custodian and laundress, she is even more valuable to her co-workers, the Campus staff and students because of her talent for friendship.

With her quickness to smile and chatty nature, she This issue: Patty Cass has the ability to put people around her at ease.

Thirty years ago, Cass was a young divorcee looking for a job to pay the bills and support her family - she found it at UI. After all that time, she's still here

"I guess I stayed because people here

became my family," Cass said. Although the money isn't good, she likes the benefits, and she has enough to take care of her family. She has two children, now in their 30s and 40s, and four grandchildren.

Aside from her family, she stays because of the students.

"I get to become friends with the stu-dents," she said. "Every year there is a new bunch.

Her favorite thing about her job is the student interaction, Cass enjoys learning about where people come from and what their culture is like. She loves it when a student comes from somewhere like France or Sweden.

"I know I'll never get to travel to places like France, so it's nice to meet students from different countries and learn about them," Cass said.

During the summer, she spends the day washing the linens on campus, mak-

ing up packets of towels and bedding for rooms and setting up rooms for camps.

Cass has been doing this job for a long time and knows what she's doing," Cass' co-worker Errin Patton said. "I can come to her for advice. She's almost like a second mom to me."

This year, they had a few little things added on to the work schedule, but Cass has no complaints. There is a student with a disability staying on campus, and she helps him and cleans for him. Cass also cleans an apartment for a visiting professor.

This year, they also began doing what

she calls team cleaning, where small groups of people make up each team and have a certain amount of buildings to clean and supply linen to each day. Before, they used a system called zone cleaning, where they had a certain area to which they were assigned.

To Cass, the zone cleaning was bet-

ter because she got to know and become good friends with the students in her as-



Jake Barber/Argonaut Patty Cass of custodial services in University Housing folds linens in LLC Building 7.

signed area. She doesn't get that closeness with team cleaning.

As a custodian, she's come across a lot of "nasty" things, but no matter how bad it is, she says she still has to clean it.

"There's not really much I haven't seen in 30 years," Cass said. "Vomit probably has to be the worst."

All around, she says it can be pretty interesting cleaning up after students' messes.

"Kids can be kind of strange," she said.

"You wouldn't want to hear some of the stories I have," she said.

Along with the basic cleaning and dirty laundry, Cass, in a way, takes the place of mom while students are at college.

'Kids are kids wherever they are," she said. "They always need help with something.'

She helps them with everything from getting out grass stains in their jeans and using an iron, to showing them when to use hot and cold water.

Cass has many stories she tells about students she's gotten to know and special moments she's had at her job.

One student came to Cass about ev-

ery three days with his tie. Cass would tie it around her own neck and then give it to him.

Another that comes to her mind was a story of a young man from New York who attended UI.

Every day when she carried out the garbage, he felt bad for her and said he didn't think she should have to carry it. She said he always promised that on the last day of school, he would carry it for her.

"I didn't think he would remember, but he did," she said.

Editor's note: Connerley is student of Scripps Howard, a journalism workshop put on by the School of Journalism and Mass Media.

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Mild-mannered architect, Willum Cubbert is getting ready for his 34th birthday party, when

Mild-mannered architect, Willum Cubbert is getting ready for his 34th birthday party, when he gets a call from Rick Stedman, the man who saved his life in the Gulf War. Although the two have never met face to face, Willum has written to Rick over the years, and has always expressed his undying gratitude and his willingness to do "anything" for Rick to pay him back. But when Rick – an oafish, inept ... "NERD" shows up and becomes the nightmare guest that never leaves, Willum will do almost ANYTHING to get rid of him!

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Summer Arg

...183 days in

Magnetic Fields "Distortion" (Nonesuch)

Standout tracks: "Drive On, Driver," "California Girls"

Stephin Merritt from New York City releases the ninth album credited to the Magnetic Fields — even those who aren't into indie rock might know him as the mind behind several works as the Lemony Snicketsponsored Gothic Archies and Beulah once referenced the just-t like-it-sounds, three-CD "69 Love Songs." With "Distortion," Merritt sought to sound more like the Jesus and Mary Chain than the Jesus and Mary Chain do. He succeeds - the guy appears unable to write a bad song.

Flight of the Conchords, "Flight of the Conchords" (Sub Pop)

Standout tracks: "Ladies of the World," "The Most Beautiful Girl (In the Room)"

The band existed before it's hilarious HBO sitcom, and the songwriting and lyrical craft displayed attests to that. Nearly every song is a loving homage to sometimes radically different genres French yé = yé pop in opener "Foux du Fafa," Marvin Gaye-style political awareness in "Think About It,"-and 60s psychadelia in "The Prince of Parties."

Destroyer "Trouble in Dreams" (Merge)

Standout tracks: "Rivers." "Leopard of Honor"

Destroyer's Dan Bejar is more well-known, to date, as a member of the New Pornographers, alongside Neko Case, A.C. Newman and others, but his solo releases are much less lucid and more interesting affairs. The lyrics as ever are indecipherable: In one, Bejar promises that "a woman by another name is not a woman - I'll tell you what I mean by that, maybe not in seconds flat, maybe never." But no matter how opaque, the words and the music are always enchanting and evocative.

Bad Dudes "Eat Drugs" (Retard Disco)

Standout tracks: "Suez," "Eat Drugs"

Alongside No Age, The Mae Shi, Lavender Diamond and HEALTH, Bad Dudes are a group that frequent the downtown Los Angeles — or, in fact, Skid Row - venue The Smell. The five-piece group features guitars that sound like Nintendos and keyboards that sound like math. They're exhilarating, exceptionally talented and they've got a bright future.

Matmos "Supreme Balloon" (Matador)

Standout tracks: "Rainbow Flag," "Les Folies Françaises"

The San Francisco-based duo Matmos is known for being wildly experimental, working with noted experimental artist Björk and, on their own albums, record- > ing that which is not traditionally considered sources of audio pleasant to the ear. On this exceptional work they only perform using synthesizers. No microphones, in fact, were used on the album. (A fun fact: their name comes from the Jane Fonda film "Barbarella," in which Matmos was a living pool of liquid beneath the city on a far-away planet.)

RUMORS from page 6

for 2009. Bill Davis is once again trying to get his second car to a competitive level.

It isn't too late for Gibbs to announce a fourth car. Or Gillette-Everham. We have a lot of time left to see who gets fired.

Option four: This is my favorite. Richard Petty Enterprises — or whatever it's going to be called after the recent fire sale to an investment company — should hire Mears to drive the No. 45. Get Kyle Petty out of the car, permanently and give the team some consistency.

Mears will keep the car in the top 35 and in every race, as long as the engines hold up. Plus it will give Petty a connection to the old days of NASCAR, which is what they've been trying to do all along.

Any way it shakes out, Mears will have a ride and Martin will continue to drive until he collapses.

For all the second places and couldashoulda-wouldas, Martin has never been a quitter. That is no rumor.

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ng a mixtape

Friday, June 27, 2008

Andrew Martineau

This week I've allowed our production director at KUOI, Andrew Martineau, to write my article. I'm still collecting the paycheck, however.

—Marcus Kellis, Music Director

I envy those for whom flirting comes naturally.

If you happen to be one of these lucky people, stop reading now — I hate you. However, based on the dating habits of most KUOI DJs I've spoken to — and all KUOI staff members with one exception, may God damn him — we tend to fall into the category of human beings for whom dating is both awkward and frightening.

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Nevertheless, dating still appears to be a desirable pursuit. Thankfully

DJs possess one tool that gives us the one-up on the general population:
the ability to create a killer mixtape.

The creation of the perfect romantic mixtape is not without its dangers,

difficulties and pitfalls.

This process requires a great amount of planning and strategy — the in-

cubation period for such a tape might easily gobble up an entire weekend.

Based on personal experience, in all likelihood, the end result won't be effective at all. In all likelihood, the girl in question will just think of you as that one guy with a weird/awesome/awesomely weird taste in music. In all likelihood, the girl in question will use the tape as a soundtrack for her and her new boyfriend's makeout sessions—or worse.

Still, whenever I develop an incurable crush on a member of the opposite sex, I turn to the mixtape.

A 12-Step Program

As a mixtape maker, your best friend is Stephin Merritt and the Magnetic Fields' 69 "Love Songs" volumes I, II and III. This is an awesome resource, though it can be awkward if the mixtape receiver questions you about the title of this series of albums.

Read lyrics carefully. I remember sticking Eno and Cale's "Spinning Away" on mixtapes for one girl I dated not realizing the song was about breaking up. As if the title wasn't a give away, right? Anyway, we broke up. Take this as a cautionary tale.

3 Never bare your soul on the mixtape. Just because the song "Galapagos" by the Smashing Pumpkins has (hypothetically) held special significance for you since middle school does not mean the song doesn't blow.

4 Likewise, you don't want to scare her off. Animal Collective is a fine band, and Boredoms is a fine band, but I wouldn't lead a romantic mixtape with either.

5 Ordering is key. Straight-up alternating meaningful, silly, meaningful, silly is hardly the droid you're looking for. Don't group by scene, don't group by region and don't group by date. Order by mood. The mood you're going for is "I want to date this guy." It's a hard one to evoke.

Pay special attention to the final track. If she's stuck with the tape up to this point, now's your chance to seal the deal. I like a Smiths song, or maybe Wilco. Say, "There is a Light That Never Goes Out," or "Sunken Treasure," respectively.

Try to find songs about a girl with the same name. If the girl is named Allison, you're totally in luck (Pixies, Slowdive, Elvis Costello, etc.)

Again, however: Read the lyrics — carefully. For example, if the girl is named 'Nancy,' you probably don't want to go with Beat Happening's "Nancy Sin."

She might get the wrong idea — and who could blame her, you creeper. If her name is Leslie, you're basically stuck with the Decemberists' "Leslie Anne Levine," which is about a corpse.

9 Under no circumstance should you include "Wouldn't It Be Nice," unless you're in middle school or fishing for a restraining order.

10 Don't make it too heavy — this might freak her out. For levity, let me recommend the "The Humpty Dance" by Digital Underground. Actually, never mind about "The Humpty Dance."

11 If you're trying to be clever, and it's more complex than "Squares" by Beta Band followed by "Circles" by Soul Coughing followed by "Bizarre Love Triangle" by New Order, eighty-six it.

12 If you're planning on dating someone with similar high standards of taste, be sure to make her a tape before she beats you to the punch. I've had this happen to me once before and I found the whole experience emasculating, traumatic and confusing. Needless to say, this relationship lasted less than a month.