



UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO THE ARGONAUT

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The Vandal Voice for 111 Years

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Facing uncertainty

Tension rises as cuts become more of a reality

Reid Wright
Argonaut

Theresa Allen, a faculty member in the math department, and a colleague chat about new job prospects in the narrow hallway outside her worn basement office. A high school in Tacoma is hiring.

"I don't really want to teach high school," she said, suddenly looking distant.

Times of uncertainty have descended upon University of Idaho in the form of a hiring freeze, state budget cuts and the Program Prioritization Process. Many UI faculty are hunkering down to weather the changes and look to the future.

Non-tenured faculty

Allen will likely not be around in August to see her 10th anniversary of teaching math at UI after receiving official notice of termination.

"It's not my idea of a good time," she said.

She said she wants to stay in the Palouse but will look for work elsewhere.

Due to lack of contractual protection, non-tenured lecturers are the faculty hardest hit by the state budget holdbacks.

"There are no planned faculty layoffs for next year specifically related to the Program Prioritization Process," said UI Provost Doug Baker. "However, budget reductions have and may continue to result in layoffs."

Despite the news, Allen remains positive and said she "must keep looking forward."

"I'm a capable person," she said.

"I believe I will find a job," she said.

She said she will miss UI because it is "a good school with

good people."

"The members of the University of Idaho community are really remarkable," she said. "They are so dedicated and really care about the students, the university and the state of Idaho."

Allen said she also enjoyed working for the Department of Mathematics.

"We have a marvelous department," she said. "It has been very carefully managed. I just can't say enough good things about it."

Allen said she thinks the department should be spared from budget cuts because it teaches basic skills to students in other programs.

"I think there are certain departments that are gateways to other departments. I think it is wise to support them."

Six other non-tenured faculty in the department also face likely layoffs.

Allen said she works closely with them and thinks the university will suffer a loss.

"It hurts to see them go," she said.

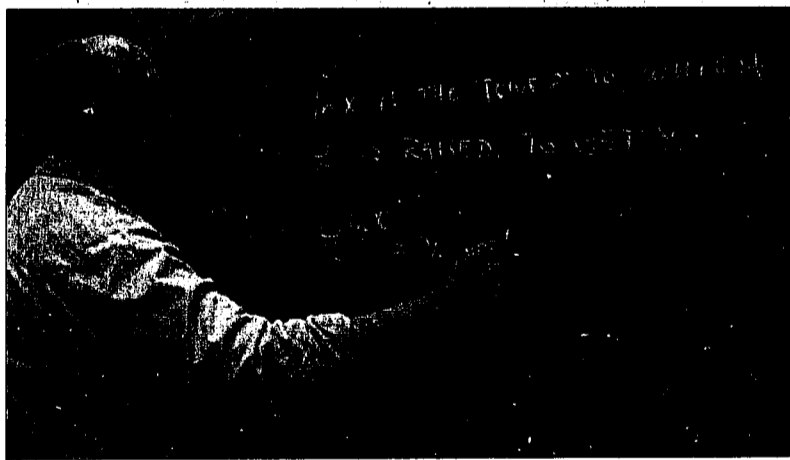
Over the years, Allen has worked to help build the Polya Math Learning Center from scratch. Tears well up in her eyes at the possibility of leaving her work behind.

"It's not my idea of a good time," she repeated quietly.

The impacts of state budget cuts on faculty are slowly changing the paradigms of higher education in Idaho. This became apparent when the UI Faculty Council voted to endorse legislation to allow for the formation of "collective bargaining units" — which would allow faculty to negotiate with the administration as groups, giving them more leverage. Labor unions in higher education are currently not allowed by



Photo illustration by Jake Barber and Alexis Turner



Gary Peterson writes a mathematical equation on a chalkboard in the Polya Lab on March 10. Petersen is one of the non-tenured faculty who faces a possible layoff.

state law.

"This would send a message to the legislature that we're tired of being a beast of burden to legislative budget cuts," said council member Patrick Wilson.

A proposed amendment to the state constitution to allow UI to charge students tuition to fund faculty salaries is another indication of changing times — state funds may no longer be sufficient.

Gary Peterson also copes with a likely layoff. He said it will be hard for him to leave the area because he cares for his elderly mother in Pullman.

He said he will look for work in other fields such as computer science, law and science. Peterson said he would prefer to

"Emotionally, it's taking a toll."

Annette FOLWELL
Communication professor

teach math.

"As time has gone by, I've seen how serious the cuts are going to be," Peterson said. "I hold out hope for the federal stimulus package."

While many faculty hope stimulus dollars will save jobs at UI, it is more likely they will be used for one-time expenses

such as capital construction, said Vice President of Finance Lloyd Mues.

At best, the stimulus dollars could be used to ease the transition of state employees who lose their jobs. However, Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter has spoken out against this.

"We cannot cover long-term, ongoing expenses with one-time money," he said in a March 13 press release. "Salaries and other personnel costs for state employees are a continuing expense. Once the stimulus money is gone, we will be left with the same budget dilemma we have now. The old saying 'penny wise and pound foolish' could not be more appropriate."

See FACE, page 4

Program Prioritization Process

CALS looks to combine programs for efficiency

Christina Lords
Argonaut

Students' options in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences might look a bit different if the Idaho State Board of Education agrees to a new combination of three degree programs and the elimination of three more.

The programs may be consolidated or cut because of the University of Idaho's Program Prioritization Process.

But Jon Van Gerpen, department head of the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department, maintains the changes will have a minimal effect on CALS students.

"I think the impact on students will be very small," he said. "The difference will be, they won't have as many elective credits. They'll maybe have to take two extra required courses instead of taking them as electives. Their choices will be a little less."

The agriculture science and technology, agricultural systems management and the agroecology, horticulture and environmental quality Bachelor of Science programs may be combined into one program with three majors and five emphases.

The Bachelor of Science degree programs in family and consumer

See CALS, page 3

"Without this process, we'd be spreading our teaching resources too thin."

John HAMMEL
CALS dean

For the love of meat

Meat convention aids students in unique passion

Alexiss Turner
Argonaut

Ron Richard cranes his neck to one side as the side door shoots open. Standing in the doorway is a woman, her hair pulled back in a white mesh hairnet. Stained gloves hang from a tie around her waist. Her apron is splashed with pink — blood.

"You want us to cut those steaks into what again?" she asks.

As meat lab manager for Vandal Brand Meats, questions like this reach Richard's desk on a daily basis. He has been in the business for 22 years, working in both fresh and cured meat. On top

of managing the University of Idaho lab, which delivers a large selection of meats across the Moscow area, it is Richard's job to pass on his passion.

Richard teaches anywhere from six to nine students on a semester-by-semester basis. Although they prefer the inside duties of cutting meat to the outside duties, including slaughter, Richard said most of his students are female. He said some can be competitive.

"There's one girl here ... she can do everything I can do," he said.

He said students learn all processes, as well as food safety and United States Department of Agriculture requirements.

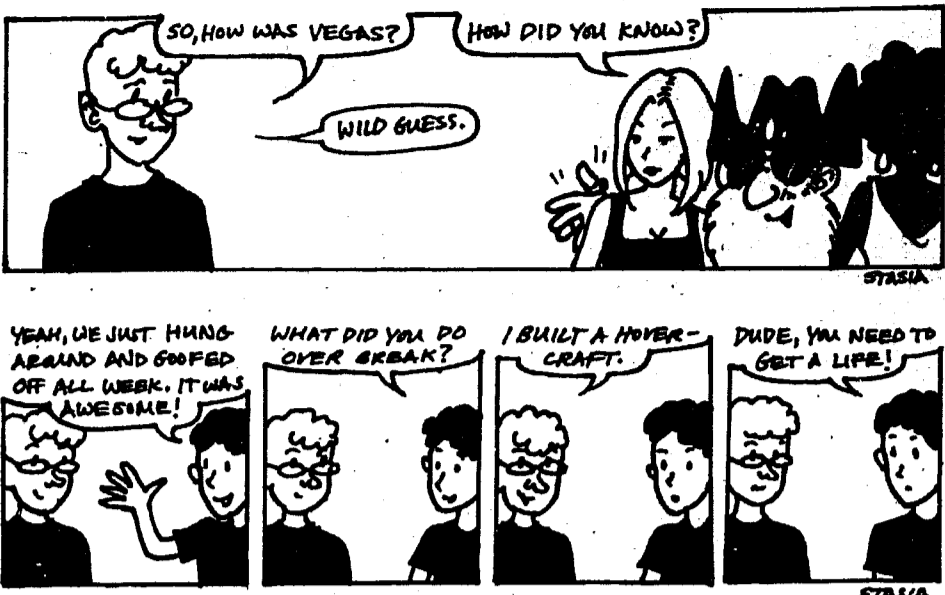
"They kind of get the full breadth of it," he said.

Last week Richard and his students took part in

See MEAT, page 4

Percy the Barbarian

Stasia Burrington/Argonaut



THIS WEEK'S WEB POLL

What are your plans for housing next year?

Have you attended the University of Idaho basketball games?

To vote, visit www.uiargonaut.com
Results will be published in next Tuesday's edition of The Argonaut.

Discover Life

at the Idaho Commons & Student Union

This week's ASUI Vandal Entertainment Films...

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas
March 25 & 26
7 and 9:30pm

The Spirit
March 27 & 28
7pm showing only!

All films show at the SUB Borah Theater
\$2 Students/\$3 Public
Tickets sold at the SUB Info Desk

Speak out: How is your March Madness bracket doing?

Kyle Wesokes
undecided, freshman

"Not doing so well, pretty much just picked the teams randomly."

Tyler Wilson
architecture senior

"So far, it's actually doing pretty good... and I have Duke to win."

Kevin Allen
radio, video technology, and design

"According to ESPN I'm currently in 2,000,000th place. So pretty good, I guess."

Beau Whitney
communication, advertising, junior

"It's doing all right, except for the Cleveland St. vs Wake Forest game."

Tyler Macy/Argonaut

American Red Cross

Blood Drive

Today

from **10:30am** to **3pm**
TLC Lounge

WEB POLL RESULTS

Will the travel advisory affect your plans for Spring Break?

Yes - 3
No - 23

How much do you hate the recent winter weather?

Hate - 16 Neutral - 4
Dislike - 8 Like - 3
Love - 5

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Results will be published every Tuesday.
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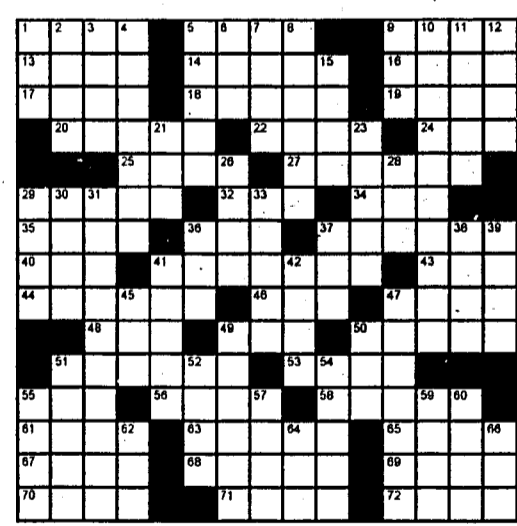
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Friday: 7am-8pm
Saturday: 9am-8pm
Sunday: 12pm-12am

Student Union Hours:
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Friday: 7am-8pm
Saturday: 9am-8pm (will stay open later for programming)
Sunday: 12pm-12am

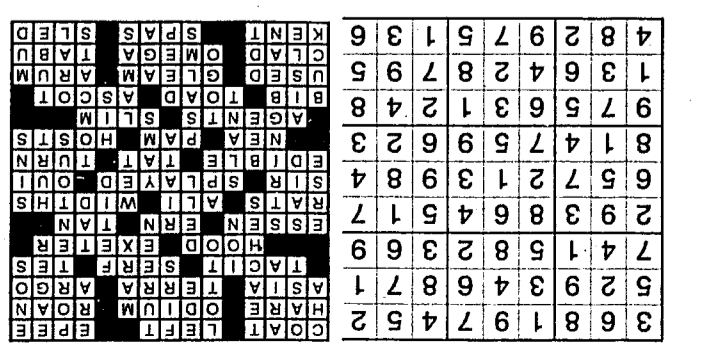
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Crossword

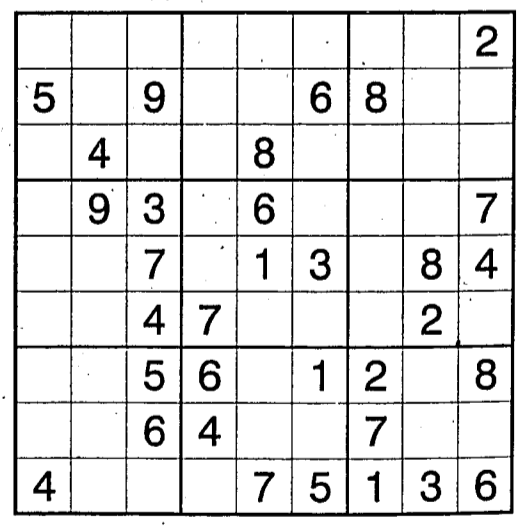
- Across
- 1 Jacket
 - 5 Exited
 - 9 Fencing sword
 - 13 Jackrabbit
 - 14 Loathing
 - 16 Horse color
 - 17 China setting
 - 18 ___ cotta
 - 19 Jason's ship
 - 20 Implied
 - 22 Bondman
 - 24 French possessive
 - 25 Cow!
 - 27 English cathedral city
 - 29 City on the Ruhr
 - 32 Sea eagle
 - 34 Beachgoer's goal
 - 35 Vermin
 - 36 ___ Baba
 - 37 Dimensions
 - 40 Round Table title
 - 41 Spread out
 - 43 Artes assest
 - 44 Like some mushrooms
 - 46 Make lace
 - 47 Zig or zag
 - 48 School org
 - 49 Actress Dawber
 - 50 Emcees
 - 51 Brokers
 - 53 Meager
 - 55 Chest protector
 - 56 Frog
 - 58 Fancy tie
 - 61 Employed
 - 63 Flash of light
 - 65 Starch
 - 67 Attired
 - 68 Alpha's opposite
- Down
- 1 Chinese tea
 - 2 Brewer's kiln
 - 3 Opera highlight
 - 4 Instructs
 - 5 Numbers game
 - 6 Dutch city
 - 7 Conifers
 - 8 Deep dish
 - 9 Victorian, for one
 - 10 Grandiloquent
 - 11 Avid
 - 12 Nephew of Abel
 - 15 Groucho, for one
 - 21 Charged item
 - 23 Malodorous
 - 26 Wooded hollow
 - 28 Little bit
 - 29 Gaelic
 - 30 Remarkd
 - 31 Green vegetable
 - 33 Lasso
 - 36 Copy
 - 37 Rainy
 - 38 Smart
 - 39 Transgresses
 - 41 Bias
 - 42 Tubers
 - 45 Drone, e.g.
 - 47 Male prowlers
 - 49 Sacred songs
 - 50 Not hers
 - 51 Bridal path
 - 52 African country
 - 54 Tibetan priests
 - 55 Stag
 - 57 Abstruse
 - 59 Voiced
 - 60 Toothpaste holder
 - 62 Barneed insecticide
 - 64 ___ Khan
 - 66 Muck



Solutions



Sudoku



Corrections

In the March 10 issue of The Argonaut, in "This week in Moscow culture," the dancers were Japanese, not Chinese.

The story "Master's program set to go" should have said on Feb. 17, Mark Hoversten sent an e-mail to faculty in the college that stated telling students about personnel changes and financial matters to encourage anger was "unacceptable."

Also, the college may be adding a sixth year to the architecture program. Hoversten said he hopes students will have to opportunity to continue their involvement with landscape architecture at the university.

Find a mistake? Send an e-mail to the section editor.
Contact information can be found on page 5.

Moscow hosts Supreme Court justice



Jake Barber/Argonaut
Chief Justice of the United States John Roberts speaks at the 2008-09 Sherman J. Bellwood Lecture Series in the Student Union Building Ballroom on March 13.

Lianna Shepherd
Argonaut

When you're in your 70's, an eight-hour car ride can be an ordeal. But that didn't stop Chet and Margaret Harrison from coming to see Supreme Court Justice of the United States John Roberts at the University of Idaho.

"We live just outside of Boise, and we've both spent our entire lives in Idaho," Chet Harrison said. "We were both excited to hear Justice Roberts was coming, and when I told Margaret she said we were going just so we knew we went."

Around 1,200 people attended the 13th Bellwood Lecture March 13. A standing room-only crowd made up of students, faculty, community members and visitors filled the Student Union Building.

Margaret Harrison said she was glad she came early and was able to get a seat in the SUB Ballroom instead of the overflow seating.

"It would have been a shame to come all this way to watch him on a screen," she said.

The Harrisons said they also attended the Boise rally for President Barack Obama during the presidential race. Although

neither of them considers themselves particularly politically involved, they said it's rare for influential national officials to come to Idaho, and they want to take advantage of every possible opportunity.

"I didn't love his speech, but I did enjoy the question and answer part," Margaret Harrison said. "How often do people get to question a Supreme Court justice?"

Freshman Jenna Noges said she was also riveted by the question and answer segment. Although she has taken classes in political science, she said actually knowing how justices feel about the nature of their work made a difference in how she understood the role of the judicial branch.

"It sometimes feels like the Supreme Court has the most power in government," Noges said. "Maybe they do, but it didn't seem like Justice Roberts felt that way and maybe they don't have as much control as I thought they did."

Roberts said the role of the court

wasn't to determine what is good or bad, but to "say what the law is."

"I don't approve of flag burning, but it's protected under the law," Roberts said. "Determining what is morally just and right is not my job, my job is the application of the constitution."

When Noges heard about the lecture, she postponed her Spring Break road trip so she and her friends could attend. She said the level of Secret Service in the building surprised them when she arrived as well as the crowd of people, especially students.

"I knew I was a dork for saying, 'Hey, I'll put off Spring Break to go to a lecture,' but it was nice to see I wasn't the only one," Noges said.

This year is the 100th anniversary for the UI College of Law and the Bellwood lecture served as the kick off event. Other lectures will be held throughout the semester and will be open to the public. Future topics will consider both Internet and Native American law.

"Determining what is morally just ... is not my job, my job is the application."

John
ROBERTS
U.S. Chief Justice

University gains positive turnout in Navel ROTC competition

Spencer Garrison/Courtesy photo

David Stickley carries Jonathon Trost as part of the Combat Fitness Test during the Northwest Navy Competition March 7 at the University of Utah. The University of Idaho and Washington State University joint Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps took first place at the competition.



Dara Barney
Argonaut

The Northwest Navy Competition turned out to be a successful event for the University of Idaho and Washington State University joint Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps.

"We trained hard beforehand and did well overall in the competition," said Andrew Haacke, UI NROTC assistant physical training officer.

The competition took place March 7 at the University of Utah.

"We ended up taking first place," he said.

The team also did well in the Physical Readiness Test, he said.

"In the PRT, we did as many sit-ups as we could do in two minutes, as many push-ups as we could do in two minutes, and a one and a half mile run," he said.

Haacke said he particularly enjoyed the NNC banquet, where the awards were announced.

"That was the point when I realized how our hard work paid off," he said.

Nicholas Castle, a NROTC member, also commented on how the team did well in all areas of the competition.

"We won volleyball for the sixth

year in a row," Castle said. "The basketball team had their third win in four years."

This year, the competition had a new event, the Combat Fitness Test.

"The CFT was a 800-meter run on a golf course, carry ammunition cans with 30 pounds of sand in each can and do lift presses with them," Castle said. "We also completed an obstacle course where we carried another member over our shoulders, completed high crawls and low crawls, and a grenade course."

It was designed to simulate things that could happen in combat, he said.

"It really showed our camaraderie as a team when we worked (to) accomplish our goals, then met them," Castle said.

He said it was great to go out there and compete.

"One of our goals was to do well in the CFT, and because of our training, we did perform well," he said.

Castle also said it was great the other teams from other colleges could see the UI/WSU joint NROTC do well. He said there was a "definite spirit of competition."

"We dominated in the CFT," said Andrew Ginnetti, battalion executive officer.

CALS from page 1

sciences education option and the range and livestock management, which is shared with the College of Natural Resources, may be closed.

The only master's degree proposed for cuts in the PPP in CALS is the Master's of Science degree in veterinary sciences.

The PPP is a way for UI to increase financial and academic efficiency.

Van Gerpen said the changes may be confusing to some agricultural systems management students because they see or hear the word closure and think they won't be able to be involved with the degree program anymore.

The program currently has approximately 40 students.

"It is true that the program may be eliminated," he said. "But it's also true that we're recreating a new program. We're not getting rid of agricultural systems management. We're simply renaming it. It will just be organized differently."

Van Gerpen said he has communicated with current students confused by the new proposals, and sent an e-mail to all agricultural systems management students to help them understand what is happening with their degree programs.

"I think they see that we've sent this piece of paper to the State Board of Education that says we want to eliminate that program," he said. "But that piece of paper was immediately followed by another piece of paper stating we wanted to recreate another program in agricultural systems management."

By recombining the program, the college will be able to save money by not having

to a fill a vacant faculty position, Van Gerpen said.

"Everybody has been understanding," he said. "With the economic situation driving it, I think people are disappointed about losing that faculty position because it won't be filled. But everyone recognizes the climate we're in right now."

John Hammel, dean of CALS, said many of the changes proposed by the PPP are because of low enrollment numbers within those degree programs. He said creating a new combination of programs for the agricultural systems management program is a way to still offer the material to students.

"It's true those programs had low enrollments,"

Hammel said. "But there is a need for people to train in these areas. Doing away with it all together would be unwise."

The new combination will still allow for the basic core information students need to be offered at UI, he said.

Re-evaluating the types of

courses offered within CALS and reducing duplication within the degree programs will improve the college's efficiency, Hammel said.

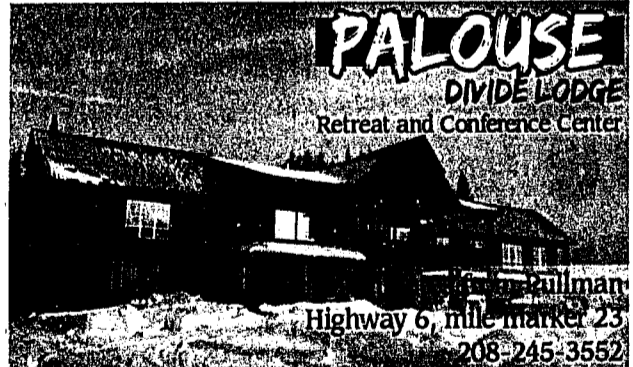
"Without this process, we'd be spreading our teaching resources too thin," he said.

Van Gerpen said the proposed changes will make

the program easier to defend financially.

"We have a lot of irons in the fire right now ... to add on to everything else that we do," Hammel said. "But you have to march through the process ... the big thing we need to do is to move forward one step at a time with no steps backward."

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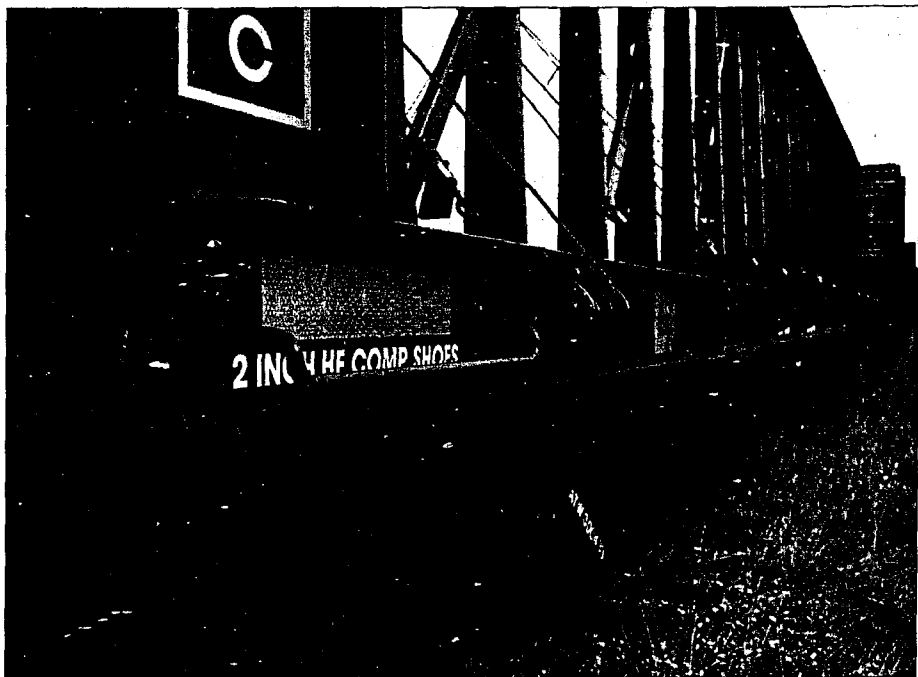
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WORN DOWN



Cars from the now defunct Camas Prairie Railroad collect dust and weeds just outside of Lapwai. The railroad was in operation from 1889 to 1998 and was known for its many wooden trestles that carried the track through the canyons and hills of the area. Jake Barber/Argonaut

MEAT from page 1

the annual Northwest Meat Processors Association convention, a four day grouping of seminars complete with a cured-meat competition.

Richard was one of the judges. He said each entry is judged not just on flavor, but also appearance and workmanship. Of the 13 categories involved in the competition, Richard said the main goal of this year's convention is ham.

Richard said many companies have struggled with ham production, and the competition is designed to bring quality to their production. An entry can be docked points for taking on the wrong shade of pink, which can mean there is a flaw in processing. By making note of these points, Richard said companies can re-evaluate their process and make corrections.

"We go over all the aspects of why and how you get there," he said. "We give them options."

Richard said the convention is organized to pinpoint areas that are lacking.

"If there's something we don't do well as a team," Richard said. "We jump on it."

Because of the economy, many seminars revolve around the idea of getting the most out of dollars spent. Richard said most of the convention is devoted to teaching producers and their students the ins and outs of meat production.

Senior Kim Thayer said attending the convention is a great way to network and gain access to good internships.

Thayer's interest in the meat industry spawned from her participation in Future Farmers of America. She said most people are accepting of her chosen profession.

She has worked at Vandal Meats for three years. Thayer said her favorite part of the job is making sausage because of its complexity. Although she does not work in the slaughterhouse, she said she has been allowed to take a turn at the large meat saw.

"It's getting to do something a lot of people don't," she said.

She said handling the saw can be difficult.

"Sometimes we have to take \$7 to \$8 steaks and turn them into hamburger," Richard said.

FACE from page 1

Peterson said he was surprised when announcement of his layoff came, but he knew his position as a non-tenured faculty was vulnerable and tenure-track faculty should be preserved.

"My perspective is that it was the right decision," he said. "We were told this is how it would be."

The tenured

Jay O' Laughlin has been at UI for 19 years and weathered financial storms before.

His job in the College of Natural Resources is protected by tenure status — which means he cannot be cut unless he does something to warrant being fired.

The Idaho State Legislature currently supports his research work in energy policy. But the very thing that protects his research now may put it at risk in the future.

"I'm in a special program," he said. "We're a little concerned because we stick out. We don't know what next year will bring."

O' Laughlin said he understands the need for the Program Prioritization Process.

"I think given the economic climate, it is necessary," he said. "The real hard part is that program cuts are permanent."

He said PPP is not unprecedented at UI.

"A number of years ago, (the College of Natural Resources) had to consolidate all of our doctorate programs," he said. "Now instead of six master's degrees, there will be one. It does appear that five degrees are going away ... but really the effects are minimal."

O' Laughlin said state budget cuts are affecting faculty.

"It puts pressure on people to find more resources," he said. "I think it puts a premium on research ... but research money is becoming more difficult to get. Sources at the national level are becoming more competitive."

He said competing for national research dollars was difficult at UI because of limited resources.

"We don't have the numbers of faculty or the facilities," he said. "That's why prioritization is important."

Overall, O' Laughlin said he felt his future at UI is relatively secure.

"My job is unique," he said. "It was created by the

state legislature. As long as we're providing, we'll be OK. My plan is to continue to work hard ... I think the main concern is non-tenured faculty."

Affected by the PPP

Annette Folwell is a tenured Professor of Communication — a fledgling degree program that will likely be cut as a result of PPP.

"I'm trying to focus on the future," she said. "Focus on what we will be rather than what we are."

While members of the UI administration say the process of cutting unproductive degree programs is unrelated to cost savings, the financial nature of the PPP came into question at a March 3 Faculty Council Meeting when Kathy Aiken, dean of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences, told the council there was simply not enough funding to continue the program.

Folwell also voiced her concerns at the meeting.

"I believe the Faculty Council did listen," she said. "I just think it was inevitable."

Folwell said she felt Aiken was open and honest about the process, but was not so sure about the upper administration.

"It makes me nervous," she said. "It seems like it's a done deal. It doesn't seem like an open conversation."

Dealing with the process has increased Folwell's advising workload, she said, and caused stress to faculty members.

"Emotionally, it's taking a toll," she said. "It's like that whenever there's uncertainty."

While tenured faculty are mostly protected from layoffs, there is an exception in the State Board of Education code that allows tenured faculty to be let go if their program has been cut. A one-year advanced notice is required.

Folwell said she is not too concerned with losing her position and is trying to focus on moving on.

"My colleagues have been very supportive," she said. "Eventually, it will allow me to focus on more research."

The new faculty

Nancy Deringer is a new faculty member at UI. She is excited about the changes she wants to bring to her department — family and consumer sciences — such as a certification program that would allow students to become accredited finan-

cial counselors.

"It will make students more marketable," she said. "It's wonderful. I love working with students."

Deringer said she chose the area because she thought it was a good place to raise children and likes the "progressive thinking" of the community members.

As a new hire, Deringer said she is a little worried about losing her job, but hopes her hard work will keep her from being expendable. She said she is grateful for the level of administrative transparency at UI and the Request for Innovation process.

"Your voice can really be heard here," she said. "It's great that they asked for input. You don't really see that anywhere else."

Derrin said she had worked with Baker before becoming a teacher and appreciated his honesty.

"I got to see the provost in action," she said. "He's really open to new ideas."

Deringer's husband teaches at Washington State University. She said his salary and benefits were "a better deal," but she would not work at WSU herself because they did not have the same program.

"(WSU) is not as transparent right now," she said. "We've got all our (reports) online. My direct superiors are wonderful, they are very supportive."

A recent vote by the Faculty Council supported the elimination of Bachelors in family and consumer sciences education program. Deringer said she worries the decision may have been too drastic.

"I can see that we need to streamline programs," she said. "But maybe we're moving too fast."

The financial future of the university — contingent on that of the state — remains uncertain. With 6 percent of state funds being withheld from the current fiscal year and 7 percent planned for next year, it all rests on shaky state tax revenues.

Baker said the administration would continue to plan ahead as much as possible and keep the faculty informed of updates.

"We tried to be as open as we can with the faculty," he said. "And as soon as we know anything about the budget, we've been communicating that out. The president sent out e-mails to everybody as soon as we get information from the governor ... We'll just continue to be as open and candid as we can."

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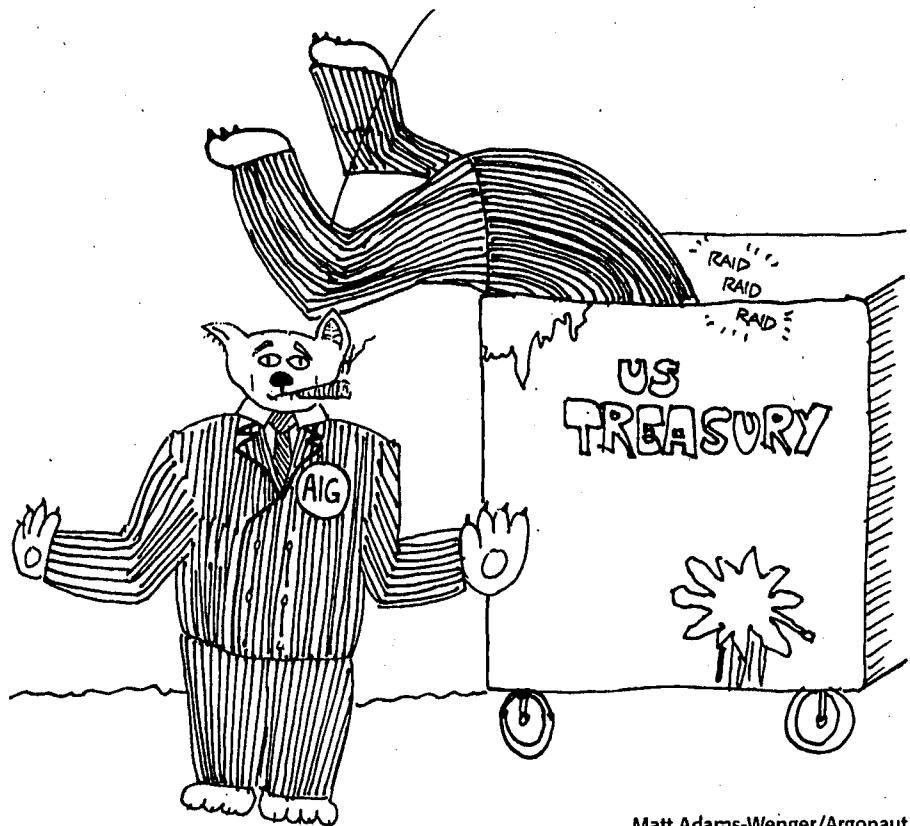
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JUST, UH... JUST TRYIN' TO FIND YER 40(K)'S FOR YA!
NOTHIN' MORALLY OUTRAGEOUS GOIN' ON HERE!



Matt Adams-Wenger/Argonaut

OurVIEW

Return to pride

Vandal men's and women's teams deserve praise

In a climate where there is seemingly little to celebrate at the University of Idaho, a common sense of pride and excitement can be found in the success of this season's men's and women's basketball teams.

The strains of state-mandated budget cuts are already taking a toll on the university. The extended presidential search has had recent complications with another candidate dropping out of the race. Possible faculty and staff layoffs loom in the not-so-distant future. The university's Program Prioritization Process has added an unfortunate stress to an already-taxed administration and student body.

Throughout the series of bad news, the Vandal basketball teams have been improving and bringing back an enthusiasm to Idaho Athletics.

It has been a welcome reprieve to support and celebrate two hard-working Idaho teams when so many other difficult issues face the university.

The women's team, which was picked to finish dead last in a pre-season coaches poll, went 13-15 overall to secure a tie for third place in the Western Athletic Confer-

ence. The team's coach, Jon Newlee, was honored as the WAC's Women's Coach of the Year.

The men's team, also selected last in the WAC's preseason coaches poll, went on to become the third seed in the WAC Tournament and recently won its first postseason game since 1982.

But more importantly, for the first time in years, the team gave Vandal sports fans something to be truly excited about — an enthusiasm that spills over into other aspects of the university.

The atmosphere at home games in the Cowan Spectrum is much different than that of seasons past because of the dedication of UI players, coaches and student fans.

Idaho coaches Don Verlin and Newlee and the athletes should be commended for their contributes to UI athletics and the atmosphere of the university as a whole.

The university community may not always be able to agree on every aspect of the institution or the direction it is going, but athletics are something that can continue to bring us back to a mutual sense of who we are and always will be — proud Vandals.

— CL

BEYOND THE SHEETS

Best to resist bad ideas

Meeting someone you may be interested in can be difficult. There are countless dating services available ranging from being set up on a blind date by a friend to dating Web sites. While many have found great success with Internet-based services, I must confess a new Internet forum has me not only nervous but also a bit petrified by the potential outcomes.

I have often visited Craigslist for multiple reasons (I find the Rants and Raves section hilarious

and also utilize it for the best yard sale listings during the summer months). However, during a recent exploration of the Web site, I was shocked by the frequency of requests for anonymous sex hookups.

While I understand there is a certain sense of security by posting without using any personal details, this also contributes greatly to the danger. Answering a faceless sexual advertisement leaves you with little to no information about

whom you are going to have sex with.

Let us break it down danger by danger. First of all, consider the location. If you agree to meet with a stranger at his or her home, you have no guarantee you will be coming back after your adventure. While there is a bit of good fortune in proximity of residences in the area (if you have to scream, chances are someone will hear you), this good fortune is negated by many homes outside of the residential areas where, as the saying goes, "No one can hear you scream." Agreeing

See IDEAS, page 6



Chris Bidiman
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MailBOX

Editor's note: the following two letters are responses to Benjamin Ledford's March 13 opinion column, "Secularism is atheism in a sheep's clothing."

No conspiracy here

Mr. Ledford claims universities promote atheism by not integrating God into the curriculum. This is logically fallacious — arguing that things are either black or white is designing a false dilemma. I have never seen a University of Idaho professor attempt to discredit monotheism — neither should professors be espousing religion at public universities. UI students and faculty are of many religions. I am fairly certain there is not an atheist conspiracy in our educational system.

David Lee
sophomore, business /
human resources management

Secularism for a reason

In March 13's Argonaut, a column states that in university curriculum, "Secularism is atheism in a sheep's clothing." The argument is nonsense in swaddling clothes.

Galileo Galilei was Catholic, but he made a

secular argument for heliocentrism. The Catholic church decided his observations were "atheism in sheep's clothing" and placed him on house arrest for heresy.

Sir Isaac Newton was intensely religious. But if you crack open the "Principia," you will notice it is a thoroughly secular work (no, "Heavenly Bodies" is not a religious term). Is gravity atheistic? Is the inverse square law a blasphemous equation? Is that what Jesus meant to tell us when he walked on water?

Classes are taught from a secular perspective because they cover secular subjects. Where does God fit into the study of mathematics? Should engineering students be required to pray for the efficacy and efficiency of their design projects? Should statistics professors introduce the "Bayesian destiny" and "divine will" methods after they cover linear regression?

Of course, there are many areas where discussion of religion is appropriate and necessary. History, music, art, literature, etc., are often driven or inspired by religion. But religion can and must be kept out of innately secular subjects.

If you think Jesus is the core of every single subject in academia, then there is a fine liberal arts college in Friendship Square that would love to have you.

Christopher Dennis
senior, materials science and engineering

Off theCUFF

Quick takes on life from our editors.

The south

I spent Spring Break in North Carolina and was introduced to Harris Teeter. If you've heard of this grocery store, you're ahead of me. I start giggling like a wee girl every time I talk about it. Call me immature, but it sounds like something inappropriate in a heavy Scottish accent.

— Sydney

Spring Break findings

One: everyone on a plane owns a BlackBerry. It must be a contractual agreement to fly. Two: churros may be the most delicious thing on this planet — nay, in the entire solar system. Three: women from California have huge wedding rings. And when I say huge, I'm not talkin' "shiny ooh ahh how pretty" big. I'm talking "kill a man in a bar fight, instantly drown you if you end up in any major body of water" gargantuan.

— Christina

Sorry, America, my bad

Fifteen AIG executives have agreed to return their bonuses, and although it's the right thing to do, it must be awkward for them. It's kind of like putting cookies back in the jar with everybody watching. You still feel like a cookie-hogging jerk, even though you didn't get to eat any. It's just wholly dissatisfying. I feel bad for those rich, rich, uncomfortable, rich men.

— Kevin

Cruising

As I drove back from break, I discovered something car companies are now doing to new cars to boost safety ratings — they are making cruise control turn off automatically when you turn on the window wipers. When I turn on cruise control, I want it to cruise 'til I tell it to stop.

— Jens

Everything black is racist

Apparently, there was some kid in Oregon who wanted to wear an Obama mask as part of a talent competition — he was going to do a spoof rap he saw on YouTube. His principal won't allow him to wear the mask because it's "offensive," and he won't specify in what way. If it was a Bush mask, I doubt it would be a problem, but since our president happens to be black, we can't make fun of him. This mentality isn't part of the solution — it's part of the problem.

— Lianna

Sweet, sweet Interweb

I tend to take my amenities for granted until breaks hit, and I enter the technology-deprived cave that is my grandma's house. There's no computer, no Internet and no DVD player. Call me a spoiled brat of Generation Y, but I can't handle it. Although, trying to steal Wi-Fi from the neighbors is good for my finesse, as I am not able to balance on one foot and check my connectivity at the same time.

— Alexis

Will it come back?

As I am trying to get a B.A. in journalism, I am required to take a bunch of foreign language classes. I chose Russian, and I thought I was doing pretty well. After Spring Break, though, it seems like everything has left my brain. I've taken three semesters of Russian, but after a week of break, I can hardly introduce myself anymore.

— Jake

Stretched too thin

I see the university is soliciting \$20.09 donations from graduating seniors in exchange for a special tassel at graduation. It's to "give back" to the university. That's funny, because I just read that graduating seniors will have a worse time than usual finding jobs this year. Yes, here are your 20 bucks — do you take unemployment checks?

— Holly

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 Christina Lords, editor in chief; Sydney Boyd, managing editor; and Holly Bowen, opinion editor.

Letters Policy

The Argonaut welcomes letters to the editor about current issues. However, The Argonaut

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- 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:
The Argonaut
301 SUB, Moscow, ID, 83844-4271
or arg-opinion@uidaho.edu.

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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.

Almighty science

There has been a growing perception that once a position is proclaimed the scientific answer to a given problem, any opposition is instantly branded as backward-minded religious ideology, and political decisions must be based on science and nothing else. At least it seems to be like this in the ongoing debate over embryonic stem cell research.

President Barack Obama fulfilled a campaign promise earlier this month by issuing an executive order overturning an executive order made by former President George Bush several years ago. The White House hailed this move by Obama as "restoring scientific integrity to government decision making." So, what was at stake?

Stem cell research is a type of biological study that may hold the answer to curing several different ailments, including paralysis. While few can argue with the potential benefits of such research, one type — embryonic stem cell research — runs into complications, because to carry out the tests, an unborn baby must be aborted. While this is currently legal, obviously, a large portion of the population has a problem with it.

Bush decided to take a neutral stance and simply stop funding the research that was creating a demand for aborted fetuses. Just as the federal government allows but does not fund abortions, under Bush, the government allowed embryonic research but did not pay for it.

In fact, after Bush limited the funding, scientists discovered induced pluripotent stem cells. Scientific jargon aside, this discovery allows scientists to use adult cells instead of cells from unborn babies. Quite simply, the morally gray issue of stem cell research brightened to a nice shade of white. Both sides were happy. Stem cells were available for research, and embryos did not need to be destroyed.



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Now, Obama has thrown the issue back to a sea of gray. Slightly more disturbing than his action are the president's words. The executive order itself justifies the action because there is a "broad agreement in the scientific community that the research should be supported by federal funds." If this is automatic approval for funding, the president should know there is a broad agreement in my apartment I need a plasma screen supported by federal funds. Just because a group of scientists wants more money doesn't mean they deserve it.

More alarming is the emerging belief any opposition to this research, or any other form of scientific study, is part of a "war on science." This term, used by the president and countless commentators, apparently describes when an individual stands up to the consensus opinion. Ironically, the battle lines of this war are drawn very similarly to that of the War on Terror. You are either on the side of science and cannot criticize it, or you are against science and are some sort of nut. Why can't you support science but question

some of the more dubious applications of it?

The president also mentioned that his decision removed politics out of the realm of science. Only, it didn't. Bush worked to get politics out of science when he stopped the funding. Any use of public funds is inherently political. By extending funding to embryonic stem cell research, Obama merged science and politics.

The biggest problem here is the president's assumption that science has all the answers. Please don't take this as a denial of the possibilities of scientific research. Stem cell research has the possibility of curing many different diseases, but pretending nothing else matters except science is a mistake. The infamous Tuskegee experiments, where the government studied the effects of untreated syphilis on poor, black Americans, may have led to effective treatments for the disease, but that did not justify what the government did to the test subjects. Obviously, a large portion of the population doesn't consider embryos to be on the same level as grown adults, but many do. On a decisive issue like this, the government should remain neutral.

Let's remember, when dealing with sensitive issues like embryonic stem cell research, we must weigh the ethical and moral aspects just as much as the scientific, and if public money is involved, the political as well. I hope the president understands this. He mentioned the moral and ethical aspects of bank bonuses on "The Tonight Show" last week.

Don't believe policy pundits

Bernard Lewis, a respected foreign affairs writer, wrote an article that gave a summary of the risks to the United States presented by various societal and political factors within the Middle East.

As I was reading, though, I felt a familiar twinge of annoyance at the constant drone about how no progress will be made in the region without more representative government.

Although it's hard to disagree, I can't help but feel there is a nefarious effect the mutual admiration society of endless specialists has on the overall debate about our foreign policy in that part of the world.

But why? After all, most countries in the region have despotic forms of government that rule, it seems, largely through fear and repression. The popularity of alternative political movements that tap into populist anger at the lack of economic opportunity, the collusion of their government with the United States or the inability to strike at Israel (Hamas, Hezbollah, the Muslim Brotherhood), is also a good indicator the regimes in Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia are teetering on the brink.

But we must also remember that much of what props up these regimes is our very own U.S. of A. As they are mostly either secular or happy to sell us their oil, we have every interest in keeping these governments friendly and to help them stay in power. If that means using brutal police repression with our training and weapons, so be it. And if it means we have to stifle an indigenous, grassroots popular alternative (that inconveniently happens to be Islamic in nature) that is often democratically elected, then so be it.

Now, we know well just because a group can exploit populist anger in an immature political environment and gain electoral success does not mean it isn't bad: Hitler was elected democratically. But maybe the picture of an intelligencia whining constantly about how bad the current regimes are, knowing full well they are largely through our support, along with the demonizing of the only meaningful political alternative as bloodthirsty terrorists, creates a catch-22 situation for the people of the Middle East. Not that they care about our approval, but it still looks extremely arrogant on our part.

And this arrogance isn't just nauseating — it has real world consequences that affect the course of our foreign policy, something that in today's world has an even greater impact on our economic and physical safety. Moreover, the mindset this type of smugness creates is one that has gotten us into trouble time and again throughout our long and ugly history of meddling in other countries' affairs. A perfect Middle Eastern example is Mossadeq, a fighter for democracy in Iran in the 1950s who went up against our buddy the Shah and who was assassinated by the CIA. That got us the 1979 Islamic revolution, the sting of which we still feel today. Had the smarty pants in their ivory towers not insisted on branding Mossadeq a communist — a term that can now easily be replaced with "Islamic fundamentalist" — we might not have fostered a resentment that allowed an actual radical theocracy to sweep power.

These emerging Islamic parties are not choirboys. Their rhetoric is often hateful, and much of what they advocate is reprehensible. But we must not be led by the nose by our pundits, who have the potential to point in the same wrong direction we've been going in for decades.



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IDEAS from page 5

to meet at a location you have never been to before (especially if you have to be given directions) increases your chances of going missing. There is always the flip side of allowing this person to come to your residence. There is a bit more security with this, but not much. You are inviting a complete stranger into your home, probably late in the evening, and chances are you are home alone (you live alone or your roommates are gone, which is why you feel compelled to host this encounter), yielding a similar scenario.

Next, there is the important aspect of negotiation. It is not only sexually responsible, but also necessary for all parties to discuss and agree on what will and will not occur during this rendezvous. The problem with using the Internet for all communication is anything could be said to get you to agree to meet up. Without being too much of an alarmist, the world is filled with dishonest people who will agree to any limitations you suggest while trying to convince you to remove your pants. This happens all the time, not just with anonymous Internet hookups (although they are quite prevalent). Furthermore, if this person does not respect you enough to be honest during the initial negotiation, there will be no respect for limitations during the actual encounter.

Since I am already talking about dishonesty, do not overlook the aspect of exaggeration or plain lies. Using the Internet allows a person to present any characteristics desired, with little regard to the truth. I could say I am a 19-year-old Catholic schoolgirl or a champion wrestler, and there is no way to prove me wrong.

The point is, many people will lie to obtain what they want. Even when a picture is provided, there is no guarantee the picture is the person you are actually talking to

(it took fewer than two minutes to find an image for both of the personas I suggested earlier).

This also relates to disease history. A recurring statement in many of the ads I viewed was "drug- and disease-free." Where is the proof for this? Again, a person can say whatever he or she wants or thinks you need to hear to achieve the ultimate goal. If someone really is DDF, you can always ask to see the documentation proving this claim. I realize this sounds a bit odd and may kill the mood a bit, but the fact is, when a person is tested for various diseases, there should be written documents stating the test occurred and the result. Even if the person can provide this, be cautious. There is clearly a history of anonymous sex partners, and some diseases take months before they appear on a test. This is especially important if you see the quantity of advertisements promoting unprotected sex along with the quantity of requests for group sex.

The point is, you are responsible for your health and safety. While you may feel an overwhelming desire to have sex, you do not have to put yourself at further unnecessary risks and dangers. If you agree to meet with someone you saw an ad for, at the very least, meet in a public place first to see if the two of you are not only compatible but also if you feel safe. Also, tell a trusted someone where you are and give a timeframe for the meeting.

If you are meeting at 9 p.m., have someone call at a certain time to make sure you got home safely. Trust your gut responses during this time. Your subconscious is better at picking up on things than you are.

If you feel uncomfortable, anxious, unsafe or just have an overall bad feeling while meeting in public, it is not going to get any better when you are in private, and this is your indicator to not progress any further. No one knows you better than you, and you need to trust that.

Have fun, be safe and make wise decisions.

Post-break rehabilitation

The Battalion, Texas A&M

This week, much of the student body will be reeling from the week of drunken debauchery that is Spring Break. Here are a few ways to beat the curve and make sure you're back to normal in time for class.

1. Sober up. It may take hours, days or all week, but it's probably a significant amount of time. Though a few dozen tequila shots each night worked well at the beach, it may not be as wise back in civilization.
2. Put a few wet rags in the freezer. Nothing feels better on terrible sunburns that cover your body. If you don't have one, you didn't do Spring Break right. Better luck next year.
3. Hop on the scale, and behold the terror. You might be surprised what a few hundred beers, or even a week of mom's cooking, can do to the midsection. Now you can relive your week of craziness on the treadmill one pound at a time.
4. Burn the evidence. If you got a little crazy on Spring Break, leave no trace behind. Delete pictures, swear friends to secrecy and wear long sleeves to cover up your new naked lady tattoo. Whether you washed up on the wrong beach or took Cory Morrow's slogan, "Let's Get Naked," a little too seriously, play like the CIA, and keep things quiet. If anyone talks about the stupid things you did, up the ante and ask them if that new rash below the belt cleared up yet.
5. Look at your bank statement. This may help with the sobering up. Gas money, booze and late-night McDonald's add up fast. Knowing what you spent is always a good idea.
6. Go through your sent text messages. You will quickly discover this is the hardest part. For one, it will fill you in on any new or newly ended relationships. The fires of romance burn hot on Spring Break, and you'll want to know about your new significant other.
7. Read the news. If you were at the beach, on the slopes or in another country, odds are you missed something. While you were out impressing the ladies with your ability to ingest mass quantities of beer, someone might have invented a flying car. It would be a shame to miss something like that, so check out CNN.
8. Go to the doctor for a checkup. Between public toilets, encounters with the opposite sex and drinking after strangers (beer bong drinkers, that's you), there's a good chance you have picked up something nasty. It's time to admit those red bumps might be more than jock itch.
9. Last, but not least, pat yourself on the back — you made it through another Spring Break alive.

The Argonaut Classifieds

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For more information on jobs labeled Job # ###, visit www.uidaho.edu/sfas/jld or SUB 137

For jobs labeled Announcement #..., visit the Employment Services website at www.hr.uidaho.edu or 415 W. 6th St.

Employment
Part Time, flexible hours. Kiosk selling, fun events. Generous high commission. Students, everyone may apply. Job good for Marketing and/or Journalism students. Earn approximately \$1050/ month. 509-338-2829, ask for Kaye, Lewiston Morning Tribune, Moscow-Pullman Daily News

Employment
Palouse Empire Gymnastics is interviewing for Fall '09. Energetic, responsible coaches needed for gymnastics, tumbling and cheer. 208-882-6408, 810 North Almon Moscow, ID 83843, palouseempire@verizon.net, www.palouseempiregymnastics.com

Employment
University of Idaho Still need a job for Summer? University Housing is hiring 35-40 full-time, M-F, Day shift, Summer Custodians. We start May 18th and end August 21st. Rate: \$6.75/hr. to start with an increase to \$7.50 in July. Visit www.hr.uidaho.edu; Current Openings, Temporary and/or Student Announcement or call 208 885-6675 for paper application. Must be at least 16 years old to work. AA/EEO

UI Extension 4-H Youth Development Internships. We are seeking undergraduates interested in youth-related careers to gain field experience working with youth

Employment
in the 4-H program. Generally, college credit will be allowed and interns will be paid a stipend of \$400/week for up to 10 weeks. Internship opportunities of varying lengths are available in several Idaho locations. More information can be found at www.extension.uidaho.edu.

Earn \$100. The WSU/UI WWAMI Medical Education Program is looking for HEALTHY MALE SUBJECTS to be patient models for the first year medical student's physical exam course. MALE SUBJECTS needed for MALE GENITAL AND RECTAL EXAMS. Please respond via email to wwami.

Employment
pullman@wsu.edu Please follow instructions at this website. You will be contacted by phone, within 3 weeks, if selected.

Earn \$50. The WSU/UI WWAMI Medical Education Program is looking for HEALTHY FEMALE SUBJECTS to be patient models for the first year medical student's physical exam course. FEMALE SUBJECTS needed for BREAST EXAMS. Please respond via email to wwami, pullman@wsu.edu Please follow instructions at this website. You will be contacted by phone, within 3 weeks, if selected.

Employment
Landscape Laborer Job # 941 Install sprinkler systems and some landscaping (planting plants, laying fabric/felt, spreading rock, sand or mulch, raking dirt). Must have driver's license, own reliable transportation to and from work, strong back and be a hard worker. Rate of pay \$8.00-\$12.00/hr DOE Hours/week: 40 Job located in Pullman

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Dreaming in music and dance

Jordan Gray
Argonaut

A sports theme may evoke images of football players, basketballs and baseball diamonds, but when the theme gets handed to a group of dancers and drummers, the result is something dreams are made of.

"Dancers Drummers Dreamers" is the result of a collaboration among dancers, percussionists and composers to create an evening of short pieces that feature the strengths of all three. Under the direction of professor Dan Bukvich, professor emerita Diane Walker and the addition of professor Greg Halloran in 2002, the show has been making its debut with new pieces every year since 1991.

"It's pretty much unique," Bukvich said. "No place would an undergraduate get to do this and put that work out on stage."

The majority of the choreography and the compositions come from University of Idaho students, though they don't have to

be dance or music majors to participate or contribute to the show.

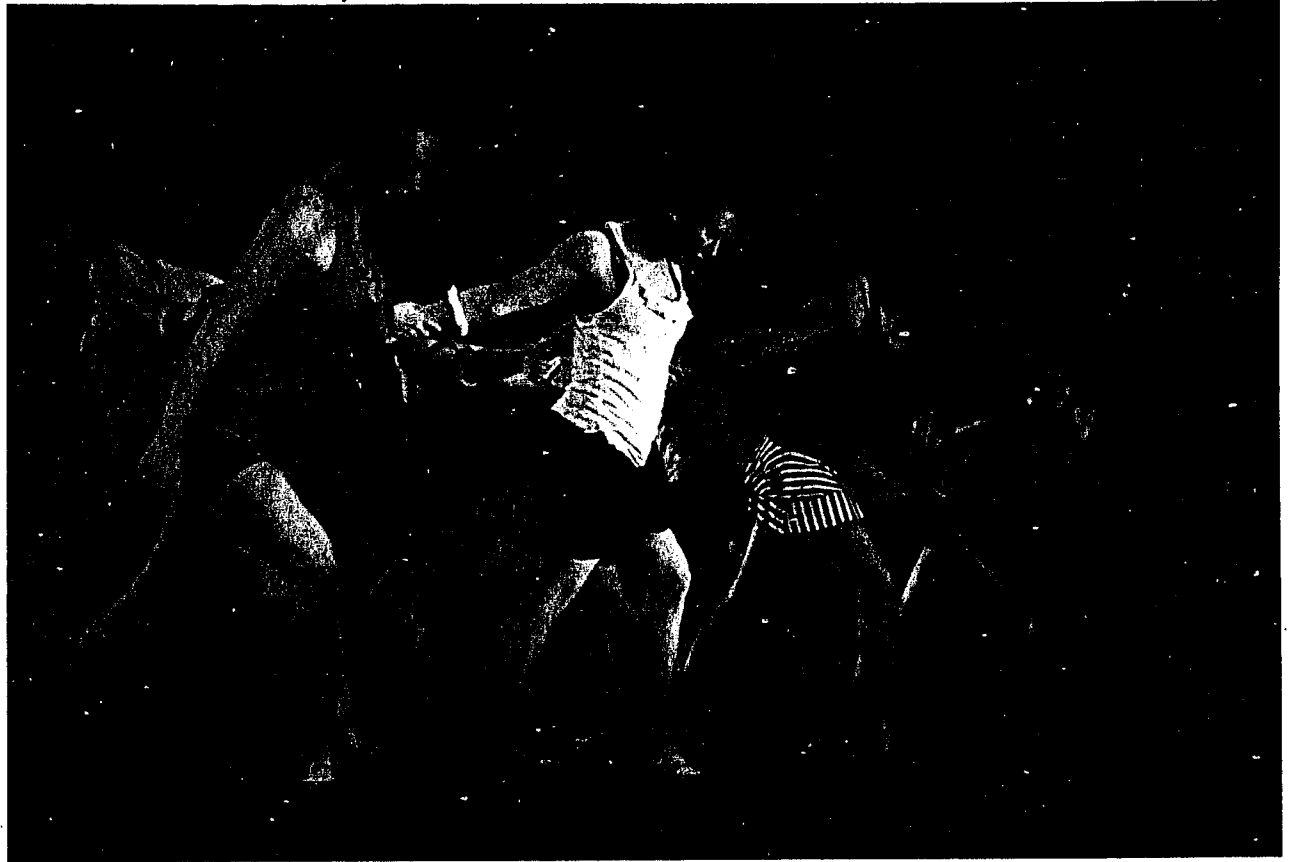
"We started working with the composers and the choreographers back in December," Halloran said.

Halloran is in charge of the dance side of the show, with Bukvich taking the music side and Walker blending the two aspects together.

There are about 20 pieces in this year's show, each one under five minutes. About 90 UI students and community members are involved in the show. Halloran said backstage is just as choreographed as the main show, with short comedy bits helping to cover the movement of instruments and props. Bukvich said they do have "some quality control" over the show's content.

"It's a family show," Halloran said. "It's meant to be highly entertaining. It never stops. Every piece is short, so if one isn't necessarily your cup of tea, chances are within three minutes something you're really going to

See DANCE, page 9



File Photo

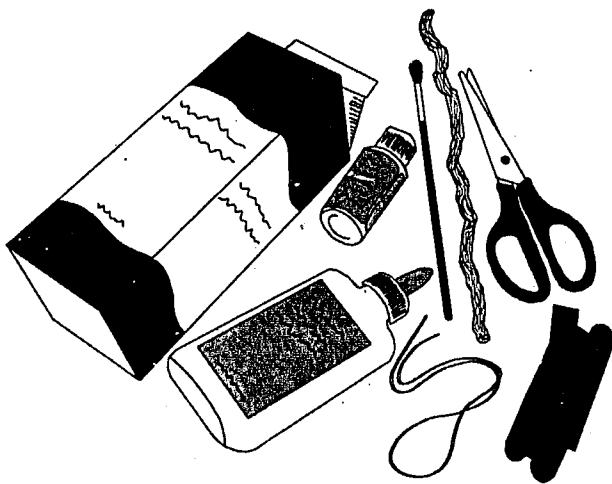
Dancers perform in the 2008 "Dancers Drummers Dreamers" in the Hartung Theatre. This year, DDD will take place Thursday, Friday and Saturday. DDD incorporates dancers, percussionists and composers from the University of Idaho.

MUSINGS OF A CRAFT GEEK

Recycling fun, even for the birds

Springtime is pretty fantastic. There's a lot of rain, it isn't too hot yet, a general sense of happiness fills the air and all the birds come back from their treks south for the winter.

While it's great to get re-acquainted with our feathered friends, it can also be a nuisance if your neighborhood birds do what mine do - hang out in the gutter above your apartment in the mornings and make a lot of racket. So in an effort to be a little more environmentally friendly and kind to the birds, here's a guide to making a birdhouse that's so cheap and easy, a child could do it.



What you'll need:

- One milk carton - the larger the better
- Glue
- Scissors, X-acto knife, a box-cutter or some other kind of cutting device
- Non-toxic acrylic paint
- Popsicle sticks
- Birdseed
- A twig or branch
- A string for hanging - something thick and sturdy, like twine or yarn
- Masking tape (optional)

Step one:

The first thing to do is prepare the milk carton. Make sure it's clean and dried completely. Once that's finished, glue the top opening closed. If the carton has a little twist cap near the top, just ignore it completely. If it's bothersome, it can be cut off, but otherwise just position it on the backside of the birdhouse.

Step two:

Decorating the birdhouse is the best part, aside from watching the birds come and enjoy it. Paint the carton any desired way, from wood patterns to funky shapes and drawings. Just remember, a hole will be cut in the carton, so don't paint anything that will be upsetting to cut.

If you're really trying to go for the classic birdhouse appearance, masking tape really helps achieve the look. Just place rows of tape around the carton from bottom to top, making sure to let the edges overlap. Paint over them and you've got yourself a pretty classic looking birdhouse. Let the paint dry and move on to step three.

Step three:

Making the entrance to the birdhouse is easy enough - just cut a large hole in the middle of one of the carton sides. Make the hole large enough a bird can access the inside, but not so big it takes up the whole side.

Another suggestion is to make the exact same sized hole on the backside of the carton. It's important to measure out and plan where the holes will go and how big you want them, because once they're cut, they're cut for good.

Step four:

Now that the birdhouse is essentially finished, add some perches for the little birdies. Poke two small holes even in height, on the two sides of the carton, and push a branch or twig through.

It's OK if you can see the perch branch on the inside. If that method isn't to your liking, a branch, popsicle stick or dowel can be glued to the outside of the carton, but just remember that it needs to stay there and be sturdy enough to hold a bird's weight.

Step five:

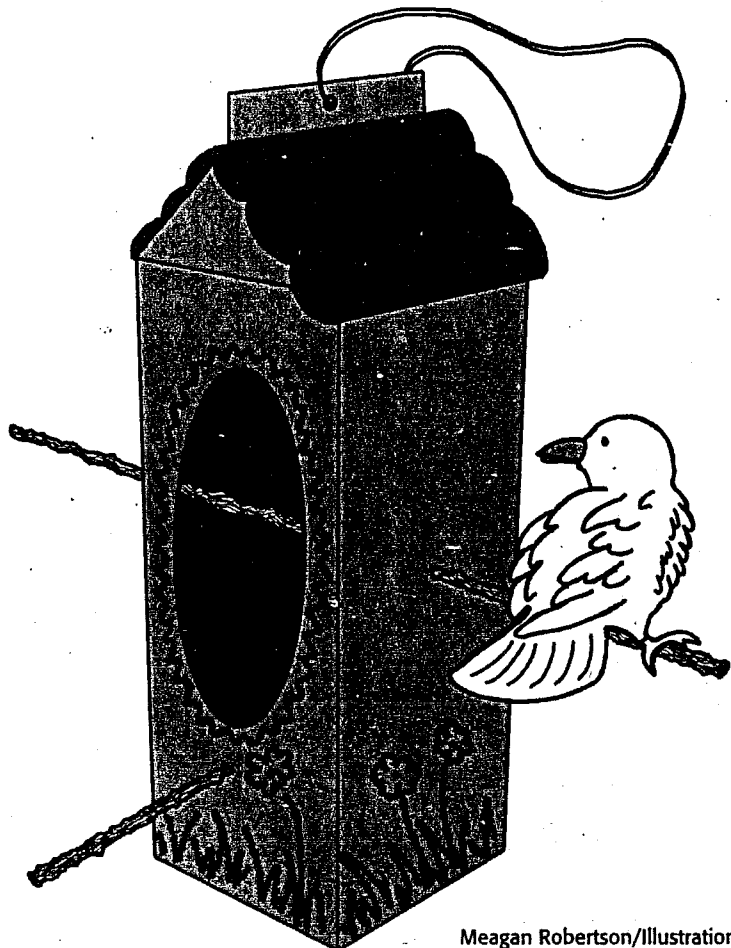
Now, there are just some finishing touches. Poke a hole in the top (now glued shut) part of the carton and thread the string through. Remember the string needs to hold the birdhouse and the birds that will come visit, so don't use something flimsy like thread.

A fun thing to do is to glue popsicle sticks onto the top of the birdhouse. They look like shingles and make the feeder look more like an actual birdhouse. Make sure to add the "shingles" after the string has been put on top, that way there isn't a fight to get it through the glued popsicle sticks.

Fill the feeder up with birdseed, hang it up and enjoy. Birds aren't going to come flocking to it immediately, but over time the little creatures and the environment will thank you for it.



Meagan Robertson
Argonaut
arg-arts@uidaho.edu



Meagan Robertson/Illustration

UI film fest showcases native culture

Megan Broyles
Argonaut

Every year, the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre hosts a wide variety of film festivals, but only one showcases the rich, vibrant and often forgotten Native American culture.

Sapatq'ayn Cinema, the University of Idaho's Native American Film Festival, presents work that is acted, directed and/or produced by Native Americans. The festival has run annually for seven years in Moscow, exposing the university community and larger Palouse population to the unique and individual works of art created by America's first inhabitants.

"Sapatq'ayn," pronounced "suh-pot-kine," is a Nez Perce word that is a verb meaning "to display" and a noun meaning "motion picture."

Jan Johnson, the festival's director, said the events start with a ceremonial opening at the Kenworthy. The festival begins on Wednesday with the Palouse Falls drumming group, along with Horace Axtell, a Nez Perce tribal

elder. Axtell received the National Medal of Arts in 2008 and will lead the audience in a song and prayer. Guest filmmaker Sonya Rosario and former Chief of the Kootenai Tribe Amy Trice will be attending Wednesday's opening night. Rosario, an Idaho native, directed a featured film in the festival about Trice and her decision to declare war on the United States government in the 1970s called "Idaho's Forgotten War." The festival's lineup is solid after the ceremonial first night.

A film about the first American prima ballerina and a PBS series about native history will fill Thursday night's time. "Frozen River," a motion picture that received acclaim as the Sundance grand jury prizewinner in 2008 and also nominated for two Academy Awards for Best Actress and Screenplay, shows Friday night. Saturday wraps up the events with a duo of introspective pieces about being a Native American in different environments.

"(Sapatq'ayn Cinema is) always free and open to the public," Johnson said. "Come to learn more about the Native American experience and to learn about your neighbors."

UI senior Rylan Clark said he was surprised that an event like the festival would be without cost to its audience, considering its value.

"This is a great way to introduce a cinema that I wouldn't have the opportunity to see otherwise," he said. "Culture can be spread through different venues."

"Culture can be spread through different venues."

Rylan CLARK
UI senior

Room for foodies in Moscow

Restaurants bring culinary heart to Moscow

Lianna Shepherd
Argonaut

The movements of Chef Nick Pitsilionis are both deliberate and swift. In one callous and red hand he holds a long sharp knife, in the other a white package. The bleached paper is gone almost as soon as it is visible. The soft pale flesh of halibut rests coolly on the butcher block while his fingers cradle its side in preparation to fillet. He inhales, his face falls and his brow knots together.

"Damn it," he said slamming the knife against the cedar of the table.

He lifts the fish roughly, all previous care gone, analyzing it with his eyes and nose. His fingertips caress the flesh, his nostrils flare as he scrutinizes the surface. The kitchen becomes filled with the heavy smell of a fish market, he groans and begins to re-wrap the package.

"We can't serve this, I won't put out anything that's not the highest possible quality," Pitsilionis said.

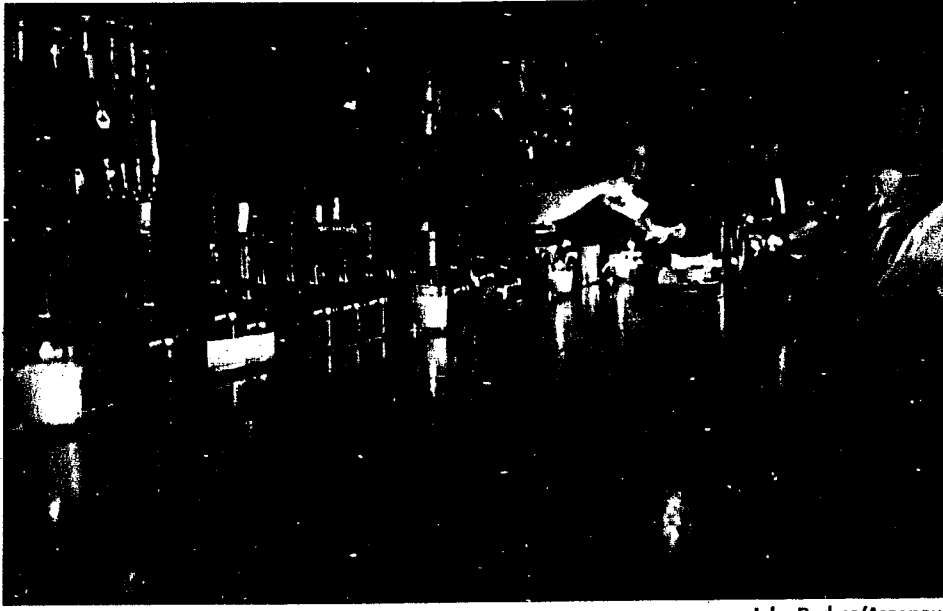
As the executive chef of Nectar, Pitsilionis said the essence of fine food lies in the ingredients used. He knows the origin of almost every ingredient in his kitchen and is proud that a majority of them are local. Eaton's Beef, C&L Butchers and Elizabeth Taylor's are only a few of the area resources Nectar refers to throughout the year.

"The season limits us, but when it comes to spring we exploit whatever we can get," Pitsilionis said.

During the Farmers Market, Pitsilionis said Nectar's menu fluctuates the most. Like many of Moscow's chefs, the market is raided May through October to ensure use of the freshest fruits and vegetables.

"The summer makes us all craftier as cooks," Pitsilionis said. However, with less produce available in the winter, Nectar chooses ingredients like truffles and imported cheese.

"What we try to do is elegant comfort food," Pitsilionis said. "Just a few good ingredients keeping everything simple and straight



Jake Barber/Argonaut

One appealing aspect of the local restaurant Nectar is that customers can see their food being prepared and build a more personal relationship with their server.

forward."

Sterling Ealantien, Nectar's sous chef, worked for three years at The Red Door before coming to Nectar. He said he believes people who have worked both in the front and back of the house fare better overall, and Nectar's unique design — which allows people in the restaurant to see into the back of the kitchen — allows the customers to observe both.

"There is a real interest in the culinary world nowadays, especially when you see shows like 'Top Chef,' which are really popular," Ealantien said. "People enjoy seeing how restaurants work and where there food comes from ... plus, you know they don't mind checking out the eye candy back here."

Only one of the cooks in Nectar have actually attended culinary school, and that was for one semester. The rest, Ealantien said, learned from "the school of hard knocks." Starting as dishwashers and moving their way up the culinary ladder until they became cooks themselves.

Pitsilionis, who describes himself as a Greek-Alaskan, began in his family's restaurant. There they ran an Italian-American place where he grew a deep affinity and appreciation for fish.

"There is a classic story about another famous French chef who killed himself because the fish didn't come in on time," Pitsilionis said. "I'd never go that far, but I understand where

his head was."

In California, he attained his French technique and although his food has Greek leanings, the French influences are integrated into every aspect of the menu.

"It's in the braising, the sauce making, the brouillade," Pitsilionis said. "A lot of our food and takes time and some of it requires extensive prep work but we do it because we want those flavors to be there."

West of Paris is an entirely different animal. This fine dining-style bistro is known for classic French cuisine across the board. Each dish is plated and presented as a work of art, and although the cost is intimidating, everything is designed to evoke a dining experience.

"You have two types of diners," said David Foucachon, son of executive chef Francis Foucachon and manager. "You have those who want something to eat and those who want something to savor. Day to day, most people settle for something quick and convenient to eat. When they come here, it's to savor."

Fouchacon said West of Paris has tried to allow it's menu to accommodate both types of diners by offering items alacarte or allowing guests to "capture the French experience," by trying their three to eight-course meals. The eight-course meals take between three to four hours to eat, Fouchacon said.

Francis Foucachon began as an apprentice in France

when he was 16. Although he worked as a minister for 28 years, David Foucachon said his father was drawn back to cooking when he opened his restaurant in Moscow. He said the rural nature of the area makes produce and meat easy to get, although it is difficult to obtain certain specialty items.

"In real estate they say the three most important things are location, location, location," Foucachon said. "In food it's ingredients, ingredients, ingredients."

In France, open-air markets are available year-round and things like truffle oil are relatively easy to come by. However, Foucachon acknowledged that since the growing popularity of television shows like "Top Chef" and magazines, ingredients that were once tough to come by are now making their way into grocery stores.

"It's been a cultural change," Foucachon said. "There is a larger interest in gastronomy, and I think people are really beginning to appreciate the role of food in their lives."

The hits, revisited

Gus Simpson
Argonaut

"Punk Goes Pop Volume 2" is the latest in Fearless Records' "Punk Goes ..." franchise of cover compilations, which over the years has included such installments as "Punk Goes Acoustic," "Punk Goes '80s" and "Punk Goes Crunk."

Although the album is entitled "Punk Goes Pop," most of the bands featured belong more in the post-hardcore/screamo/emo genre that's so popular right now, especially among 14-year-old sexually androgynous tight-pants-wearing scene kids.

Regardless, the album has several songs that are actually quite enjoyable in a guilty-pleasure sort of way. It is interesting to see how closely the bands try to stick to the original styles of the songs in their interpretations.

On one end of the spectrum, Breathe Carolina's cover of the Miley Cyrus hit "See You Again" is, if anything, even more effeminate than the original version, despite the random low-pitched growls hidden underneath its electro-pop beats.

At the other end of this spectrum, August Burns Red's version of Britney Spears' classic, "Hit Me

Baby One More Time" is barely recognizable, losing itself in a flurry of double kick, chugging guitars and heavy metal growls.

One of the standout tracks is Chiodos' rendition of "Flagpole Sitta" by Harvey Danger. Although not the strongest cover on the compilation, something about the way Craig Owens snarls the pre-chorus line, "And when I feel a bit naughty, I run it up the flagpole and sing," never fails to elicit chills.

An album like this will be received differently by different groups of people. Those who are fans of the original songs will probably feel alienated and offended by the way other artists have butchered their favorite songs.

On the other hand, fans of the bands performing the covers will be enthusiastic to hear these songs redone in a way they will actually enjoy, and will see it as a musical middle finger to fans of cheesy pop music.

In-between, there are those who are mildly amused by a band like Mayday Parade covering "When I Grow Up" by The Pussycat Dolls, and this is where most listeners will find themselves.

"Punk Goes Pop Volume 2" is by no means a groundbreaking album, but fun nevertheless, as long as listeners will look past their pretension.



Various Artists
"Punk Goes Pop Volume 2"
Fearless Records
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C+

FrontRowBRIEF

LAKE to play at Nuart

LAKE, an Olympia-based indie pop band, will perform at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Nuart Theatre. Tickets are \$5 in advance, available at www.stereopathicmusic.com until midnight tonight, or \$7 at the door. The band's latest album, "Oh, The Places We'll Go," is out now on K Records.

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STUDENT FOUNDATION

Last word on 'The L Word'

Anne-Marije Rook
Argonaut

Earlier this month, "The L Word's" sixth and final season came to an end and it was, in one word, disappointing.

The series finale wrapped up a six-year run of lesbian drama, love and life in a sloppy, unsatisfying fashion.

"The L Word," a Showtime hit series revolving around the lives of a group of tight-knit lesbians in trendy West Hollywood, has pushed boundaries and comfort levels since its pilot debuted in 2004. For the first time in American TV history, heterosexual characters were in the minority among the lesbian, bisexual and transsexual characters.

Since its start, "The L Word" proved successful and became one of Showtime's most popular series. In addition to lots of girl-on-girl action, the show offered earnest social commentary on contemporary gender-identification issues.

The end was announced in March 2008 and came, in my opinion, three seasons too late. While the first three seasons were a hit, the fourth and fifth seasons had their moments, but lacked quality writing overall. The sixth and final season was wrapped up in a mere eight episodes, bringing the series total to 70 episodes.

The sixth season began with a shock as character Jenny Schecter (played by Mia Kirshner), was found dead floating in a pool. The following episodes lead up to resolving the murder mystery and stage motives for each character to want Jenny dead. Since the first season, Mia Kirshner did a wonderful job being the

most despised character on the show, and to see her go brought little sadness.

This season, Jenny became the toxic, destructive source of all conflict and drama, making every character a prime suspect in her murder — that is, if it was a murder. As the plot unfolds, one wonders if it may have been a simple accident or a suicide.

Upon finding Jenny dead, the leading ladies are taken to the station for questioning. As the cars pull up to the station, the women walk one by one in a glamorous fashion toward the camera, looking devious as the end credits roll and the theme song plays, leaving upset "L Word" fans with a stunned "WTF?" feeling.

But the open-ended mystery may be part of a bigger plan. A pilot has been shot for a spin-off series called "The Farm," starring the character Alice Pieszecki (Leisha Haley) in a women's prison. Producer and writer Ilene Chaiken has yet to hear from Showtime if the spin-off will get a green light.

Despite all of its faults, "The L Word" was a TV milestone bringing visibility to lesbian, bisexual and gay stories never before seen. Beyond the drama and eroticism, the show brought forward TV's first deaf lesbian, gay parenting, the implications of the military's don't-ask-don't-tell policy, addictions, biracial identity, a regular transsexual character, bisexuals of both genders, drag kings and queens, breast cancer and more. Over the past six years, the show took on a lot and for the most part, did it well. In the end, it deserves credit for having the guts to be the first in so many ways.



"The L Word"

Season finale: "Last Word" Showtime



DANCE from page 7

enjoy is going to come on stage."

The show can most readily be compared to "Stomp," though the founding dates prove DDD came first.

"I try to explain it to people, to people who work at other schools, and I just don't know where to start," Bukvich said. "Yeah, it's a dance concert, but it's musicians performing on stage, sometimes as dancers."

Kristen McMullin, a music education graduate student, has been participating in DDD for seven years.

"I really enjoy doing something that's musical, but also something that incorporates so much movement into it," McMullin said. "And it's just interesting to do something that's groove-based. My primary instrument is flute, so we don't do that many groove-based pieces."

Longtime fans of the show can expect to see some new revivals of old favorites.

"Some of our classic drummers' ensemble pieces ... have new and very interesting musical accompaniments, some of them mixed to totally new pieces," Bukvich said. "So it's kind of been fun to revisit for us, because you know five, six or seven years ago, they were great just by themselves, (now they) have these cool musical accompaniments that make them like new pieces."

DDD is set to take its show on the road. After the UI shows have finished, the performers will give a show at Lewiston High School.

"We hope to tour more in the future," Halloran said. "Our goal is to ... tour all of Idaho and represent UI."

With an eclectic mix of talent, ideas and people, DDD makes dreams come to life on stage.

"Be ready to be entertained," Bukvich said.

"Dancers Drummers Dreamers" will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday. There will also be a matinee at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are available at the UI Ticket Office or through TicketsWest.

IT TAKES TWO



Sarah Bloomsburg, left, and Geoff Keller dance during Sunday night's ballroom dancing event at the 1912 Center in Moscow. The 1912 Center ballroom dancing night happens about once a month during the school year, and usually attracts 40-60 dancers, according to Bloomsburg. Along with hosting the event, Bloomsburg also teaches several dance courses at the University of Idaho.

Jake Barber/Argonaut

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QuickHITS

Vandals in action

Today
Men's golf — The team will be wrapping up its play at the Duck Invitational in Eugene, Ore. Play started Monday and will run through this afternoon.

Thursday
Football — Spring football practices begin in Moscow. Starting time is to be determined.

Friday
Track and field — The team will compete in the Stanford Invitational in Palo Alto, Calif. The meet runs through Saturday and time is to be determined.

Vandals to watch

Kashif Watson
Men's basketball



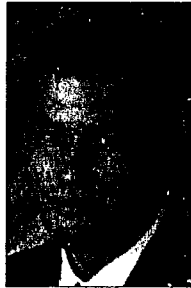
Watson was instrumental for the Vandals in securing the team's first post-season win in more than a decade. Watson scored 13 points, 7 assists and 1 steal in the victory over Drake University. Watson was given the duty of guarding Drake's best offensive player, Josh Young, and while he did manage to score 18 points, Watson held him to 0 of 8 from the field in the second half.

Kayla Mortellaro
Women's golf



Mortellaro was chosen the Western Athletic Conference Golfer of the Week after tying for eighth in her first tournament of the spring, last week's UNLV Spring Rebel Invitational. The award is the second of Mortellaro's career. She then went on to grab her first collegiate tournament victory with a one-stroke decision over Texas A&M's Lauren Johnson and Osaka's Nanae Shinzato at the Dr. Donniss Thompson Invitational.

Trevor Morris
Men's basketball



Morris continued his hot shooting streak against Drake putting up a game-high 16 points on 4 of 7 3-point shooting. The Vandals played their second round game of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament Monday.

Did you know ...

The University of Idaho men's basketball team is the last Western Athletic Conference team playing in any sort of post season tournament.

Vandals by the numbers

1982 The men's basketball team scored its first post season win since 1982 with its win over Drake University.

33 By participating in Monday's game against Pacific, men's basketball players Mac Hopson, Kashif Watson, Luciano de Souza, Brandon Wiley, Trevor Morris and Terrence Simmons set the single season record for games played at 33.

1 Idaho has won one post season game this season. It is one more than any other WAC basketball team.

Tigers end UI tourney run



Kate Kucharzyk/Argonaut

University of Idaho guard, Kashif Watson, jumps to the basket during a basketball game with Cal State Northridge on Feb. 21. The Vandals lost to the Pacific Tigers 69-59 in the College Insider Tournament Monday.

Levi Johnstone
Argonaut

After losing its first round Western Athletic Conference Tournament game to Louisiana Tech, the Vandals men's basketball team continued its best season in more than a decade when it played Pacific in the second round of the CollegeInsider.com Post Season Tournament.

The Vandals (17-16, 9-7 WAC) faced off with Pacific (21-12 10-6 Big West Conference), a team that had lost just four games at home all year and were 5-2 in non-conference home play.

The Vandals couldn't give the Tigers their fifth home loss as the magic disappeared, and the team fell 69-59.

"They did a good job," Idaho coach Don Verlin said. "I thought their inside guys just wore us down from the start."

Pacific will go on to play Bradley University in the semi-finals of the CIT.

Most University of Idaho students missed the Vandals first post-season win since 1982 when the team beat Drake University 69-67 in Memorial Gym due to Spring Break.

"I mean, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity playing in the post season," Idaho guard Trevor Morris said. "You've just got to take advantage of it."

The CIT is making its inaugural run, and had the Vandals won out, it would have been the first time since the 1991-92 season the Vandals had won 20 games in a season.

"I've been to the post season the last 10 years, not as a head coach but as an assistant coach," Verlin said. "We won one time. Post season wins don't come very often, and it's great."

It was a story of two halves as the Vandals and Tigers slugged it out going back and forth for much of the first. The Vandals went into halftime down just two points at 31-29.

The Vandals remained close in the half but lost the rebounding battle 18-13 which led to nine second-chance points for Pacific.

Mac Hopson scored 12 points, 4 rebounds and 2 assists.

Pacific extended its lead slowly but surely over the second half, and the Vandals couldn't find an answer on defense as the lead grew to 13 with just more than eight minutes remaining.

See BEST, page 12

Women sweep East Coast

Scott Stone
Argonaut

Spring Break was well-deserved for the women's tennis team which spent four days introducing itself to the East Coast — sweeping its competition with four wins and no losses.

The trip started with the University of Cincinnati where the Vandals pulled out their sixth consecutive win of the season 4-3.

The Vandals swept the doubles matches then fell behind in singles to tie the match 3-3.

"We played very well in doubles to start the match," Idaho coach Tyler Neill said. "We battled back and forth with Cincinnati in each of the doubles matches, but came out on top in each of them."

The match came down to the No. 2 position between Idaho's Daniela Cohen and Cincinnati's Jenny Rowen, which went into the third set where Cohen squeaked out the 7-6 win to seal the victory for the Vandals.

"There (were) numerous times I thought Daniela was down and out, but she just kept battling back," Neill said. "There was tons of pressure on Daniela, but she kept battling and pulled it out in the tie-breaker. To fight off match points with the overall match on the line is very impressive."

It didn't end with Cincinnati. The next day, the Vandals took on Robert Morris University and West Virginia, where they put on a show and came away with a couple of wins.

Robert Morris was little trouble for the Vandals. After sweeping all three doubles matches all with scores of 8-0, the Vandals went on to dominate in the singles matches.

See SWEEP, page 12



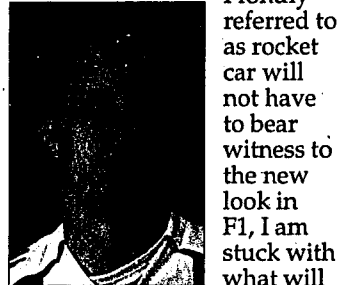
File Photo

University of Idaho tennis player Silvia Irimescu from Bucharest, Romania sends the ball back to Washington State University's Ekaterina Kamenkova during a singles match Jan. 17 in Pullman. The lady Vandals won four matches over Spring Break, placing them 12-4 overall.

Consistency given red light

It was a sad week for the automobile. First, Formula 1 scrapped the points system to determine the driver's championship, and to top that befuddling announcement, my beautiful passenger car died in the less-than-sexy location of Sacramento, Calif.

While the 1997 Ford Escort



Cheyenne Hollis
Argonaut
arg-sports@uidaho.edu

I fondly referred to as rocket car will not have to bear witness to the new look in F1, I am stuck with what will probably be the poorest season in racing history. The F1 governing body ratified a rule change to be implemented this season that will crown the champion as the driver who ends the season with the most wins. Previously, the champion was the driver who accumulated the most points at the end of the season. Points were awarded for finishing in the top seven.

I found out this information in a one-paragraph blurb in the Eugene Register Guard in Cayonville, Ore. When I went to open my laptop to try and get more information, I was prompted that my battery was dead. It would be a sign of things to come.

F1 itself is hardly a draw in the United States, but this rule change could affect the sporting landscape for all sports, not just F1. This a continuation of the experiment to determine if society is willing to accept a flash in the pan as champion as opposed to the consistent entity that goes unnoticed most of the year and is perceived as boring.

Rarely in sports does the daring cavalier upstart conquer all to emerge as champion. Instead, the more experienced, well-versed team can use grit and craft to overcome youthful exuberance.

See LIGHT, page 12

Vandals earn All-American honors

Kayla Desjarlais
Argonaut

Two University of Idaho women's track and field team athletes earned All-American honors at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships March 14 in College Station, Texas. The national meet was hosted by Texas A&M.

Juniors Mykael Bothum and KC Dahlgren earned their first career All-America honors when they competed in their first NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

"It's very exciting because it's been a little while since the women have had representation at the NCAA championships," Idaho coach Yogi Teevens said. "It was really good to have a couple girls go in there and finish as All-Americans in their first

NCAA meet."

Dahlgren had been tied for 16th in the NCAA for women's pole vault prior to the championships. She had snuck in the competition as the final qualifier for the event and cleared 13 feet, 7.25 inches to finish in a three-way tie for sixth place in the women's pole vault. Dahlgren would have had to improve her height by more than eight inches to defeat champion Kylie Hutson, a junior from Indiana State, who won with a height of 14-3.25.

"I came in at the bottom of the list, so I said, 'I've got nothing to lose, so I'd better just go all out,'" Dahlgren said. "I just had to go one height at a time and not worry about anything ahead. I was setting small goals and accomplishing them one at a time without worrying about the big picture."

Dahlgren has had a strong indoor season, earning her first career women's pole vault title at the Western Athletic Conference Championships this year and improving her standing from last season where she was ranked 23 in the NCAA with a 13-0.75 vault.

Bothum threw 53-1.5 to take seventh in the women's shot put. Repeat champion Miriam Kevkhisvili of the University of Florida threw 58-6.5 to win the event. Bothum had showed promise entering the competition as she ranked fifth in the NCAA in the event and earned the WAC title earning, school record-breaking 55-0.75 toss this season.

See HONORS, page 12

Griffey blasts home run in Spring Training

Ken Griffey Jr. finally managed to hit a home run in Spring Training on Friday.

Before Friday's blast off on Milwaukee's Lindsey Gulin, Griffey had been batting just .105 with no home runs. While it shows Griffey is able to hit a long ball off a Triple A pitcher, things are not looking good for him.

After joining the White Sox at the trade deadline last season, Griffey hit .260 with three home runs in 131 plate appearances. Over the offseason, there was the usual "I'm feeling great" spiel older free agents are so notorious for after surgery, but until his "great feelings" translate into meaningful production at the plate, Griffey's return to Seattle looks like it may be a bust.

The Houston Astros got a bargain in signing Ivan Rodriguez to a \$1.5 million,

one-year contract. There's virtually a zero downside considering the low amount of money they've committed to Pudge as he committed only five errors in 930 innings between Detroit and New York last season.



Greg Connolly
Argonaut
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Still, Rodriguez's bat is a bummer. Until he left Detroit he managed to hit for average, posting a .295 batting average with five homers and 32 RBI's in 82 games. But once he joined the Yankees, it got real ugly. The transition to the National League may slightly ease his troubles at the plate, but it's safe to say he'd be out of a job if he wasn't still proficient defensively.

The Washington Nationals signed lefty reliever Joe Beimel to a one year, \$2 million contract. The 31-year-old southpaw is fresh off three good seasons in Los Angeles but still couldn't find a job

until mid-March.

Beimel's signing seems pointless much in the same way Adam Dunn's was. It might win an extra game or two, but at this point it's all but certain the Nationals won't be contenders in 2009. If the Nationals plan on contending within the next five years, their best bet is through smart drafting and gradual development of rookie talent, not signing a player like Beimel for two years.

At least Dunn's signing might bring more fans to the ballpark to see him hit some home runs.

Andrew Jones was demoted to the AAA affiliate of the Texas Rangers after striking out 14 times in 34 at-bats in Spring Training. It seems he's slowly regaining his swing as he's managing to hit .258 at the moment with a couple of home runs in only 34 plate appearances.

It's true Spring Training numbers are more meaningless than anything else,

especially in a case like this, as Jones has been facing a lot of pitchers with skills that vary from AA to the majors. Texas saw Jones as a low risk contract, and since he's not killing the ball, what do they have to lose by demoting him to the minors? He may still prove to be a viable option in the event of injuries once the season begins.

Jonathon Niese and Freddy Garcia are gone, leaving the fifth starter position in the New York Mets' rotation wide-open for Livan Hernandez. After posting truly ugly numbers in 2008 — a 13-11 record with a 6.05 ERA and a measly 67 strikeouts in 180 innings pitched — Hernandez has managed to stay afloat in the Mets' Spring Training camp.

While he may start the season with the big league club, it wouldn't be much of a surprise if he were replaced by either a prospect or a trade as numbers like his don't translate well to the New York teams.

Big names rule this NCAA tourney

Ben Walker
Associated Press

Only one severe tumble so far, and that was Blake Griffin getting flipped onto his back. Other than that scary sight, make this NCAA tournament a monster's ball.

Defending champion Kansas. Big East bombers Louisville, Connecticut and Pittsburgh. The Tobacco Road twosome. Tyler Hansbrough and a bevy of All-American big men, Jim Boeheim and a bunch of coaches with rings.

No room for the little guy at this party. Siena, Butler, Cleveland State? Not a George Mason among 'em.

A year after every No. 1 seed reached the Final Four, so much for parity in men's college basketball: for the first time, the top three seeds in every region advanced.

Hardly an upset, hardly anyone upset at the selection committee.

"I'm not an expert, but I thought this year, for some reason, it seemed the easiest to pick 64 teams," said Villanova coach Jay Wright before Monday's practice. "I thought it was pretty clear this year more than most years. When you look at how it's ended up, I think they proven to themselves they did a very good job."

So did any fan who played the chalk in their pools. It worked for President Barack Obama — he correctly picked 14 of the 16 teams still competing.

Griffin picked himself off the floor and helped the Sooners hammer Morgan State. Oklahoma and its star now are surrounded by power teams from proven conferences.

"The teams that are all on top ... have done a good job being the teams they've been all year and haven't given up anything," Griffin said.

At No. 12, Arizona is the lowest seed left. Other than that, it's No. 5 Purdue.

And once again, March Madness becomes a tale of two tournaments: the first weekend is for the bracket busters, then it's time for bruising matchups.

All those early forecasts this event was wide open? North Dakota State, East Tennessee State and Morehead State gave good accounts, up to a point. But going into the round of 16, it's more like invitation only.

Sure, Louisville lost to Western Kentucky earlier this season, Syracuse fell to Cleveland State and Gonzaga lost to Portland State. That was before the calendar flipped to this month of mayhem.

"It's a little deceiving, because there were a lot of close games," said Gonzaga coach Mark Few Monday. "A missed shot here or there and another team could have broken through."

Few said he thought the pod system, which rewards top seeds by letting them play closer to home, was a factor in them advancing. He likes the concept, especially after the fourth-seeded Zags, from Spokane, Wash., opened the tournament in Portland, Ore.

Schilling retires after three World Series titles

Howard Ulman
Associated Press

BOSTON — From bloody sock to bum shoulder, Curt Schilling rarely left the Red Sox spotlight.

On the field, the husky right-hander pitched through pain to help end the club's 86-year championship drought in 2004 — then contributed to another World Series title three years later.

Off the field, the opinionated observer appeared at a congressional hearing on steroids use and campaigned for former President George W. Bush.

From a Thanksgiving dinner in 2003 at his Arizona home where Boston general manager Theo Epstein lured him back to the team that drafted him in 1986 to his retirement Monday, Schilling made his mark in a city of demanding fans.

"I think in the end, we really didn't need to sell it," Epstein said Monday. "The Red Sox were perfect for him, because he likes the big stage, the history of the game. He likes to be the center of attention. It was a good fit."

Schilling enriched that history throughout a career that began with Baltimore in 1988 when he retired the first major league batter he faced, Boston's Wade Boggs, on a groundball. He threw his last pitch in 2007, a ball on a full count to Colorado's Todd Helton in Game 2 of Boston's World Series sweep.

A shoulder injury and surgery sidelined him for all of 2008. Then, at age 42, he had to weigh long hours of rehabilitation against the alternatives — spending more time with his wife and four children and focusing on his

video game company.

So Schilling, a free agent, scrapped his idea of possibly signing with a contender in the second half of the season.

As successful as he had been in 20 years of pitching for Baltimore, Philadelphia, Houston, Arizona and Boston, as competitive and driven as he was on the mound, he had stood on it for the last time.

The \$8 million, one-year contract he signed before the 2008 season was his last.

"It is with zero regrets that I am making my retirement official," Schilling wrote on his blog. "The things I was allowed to experience, the people I was able to call friends, teammates, mentors, coaches and opponents, the travel, all of it, are far more than anything I ever thought possible in my lifetime."

Schilling pitched brilliantly in Game 6 of the 2004 AL championship series against the New York Yankees just days after surgery to suture a loose tendon to his right ankle.

The procedure was repeated before another outstanding outing in Game 2 of the World Series sweep of St. Louis as Schilling led Boston to the title in his first season with the Red Sox after he was acquired in a trade a few days after Thanksgiving.

In both games, blood seeped through his sock.

"I think people will definitely remember that, but I would say three championships is a pretty big deal," said Yankees outfielder Johnny Damon, a member of the 2004 Red Sox. "It was a nice career. The writers will think about it in a few years if he's Hall (of Fame) material. He definitely took advantage of what he was given."

The bloody sock from the World Series is now in the Hall of Fame.

"It was freezing, raining, cold as hell, and the guy just had open surgery on his ankle," Boston designated hitter David Ortiz said. "A lot of people come up to me and ask me, 'Hey, he was bleeding for real?' I'll tell you what, man. He showed me a lot of guts. I had a lot of respect for Curt."

Schilling finished with a 216-146 record and a 3.46 ERA. He is tied for 80th on the career wins list and his 3,116 strikeouts ranks 15th overall. He won more than 20 games three times from 2001 through 2004.

All that may not be enough for him to get to the Hall of Fame.

But there's much more on his resume: an 11-2 postseason record, the best of any pitcher with at least 10 decisions, with a 2.23 ERA in 19 career starts. He also was co-MVP of the 2001 World Series with Randy Johnson while in Arizona.

Then there was his focus. Red Sox manager Terry Francona rarely spoke with him the day he pitched. "The surlier, the better," Francona said. "The few times where he did speak, I remember thinking, 'He's not ready to pitch.'"

Schilling's shoulder injury came to light early in February 2008 when he disclosed on his blog that he and the team disagreed about the best way to treat it. He preferred surgery while the team wanted him to rehabilitate it in hopes of having him pitch that year.

Eventually, both sides agreed that surgery was best and he had it on June 23.

"I talked to him about a week ago," Dr. Craig Morgan, who performed the operation to repair his

right biceps tendon and labrum, said Monday. "He said his shoulder felt fine. He's just enjoying being with his family. And the other thing he told me was he wasn't quite sure he wanted to put the time commitment and do four to six hours of exercises every day, which is what's required to come back to pitch."

Schilling was 9-8 with a 3.87 ERA in 2007 when he spent seven weeks on the disabled list with shoulder tendinitis. But he was 3-0 with a 3.00 ERA in the postseason.

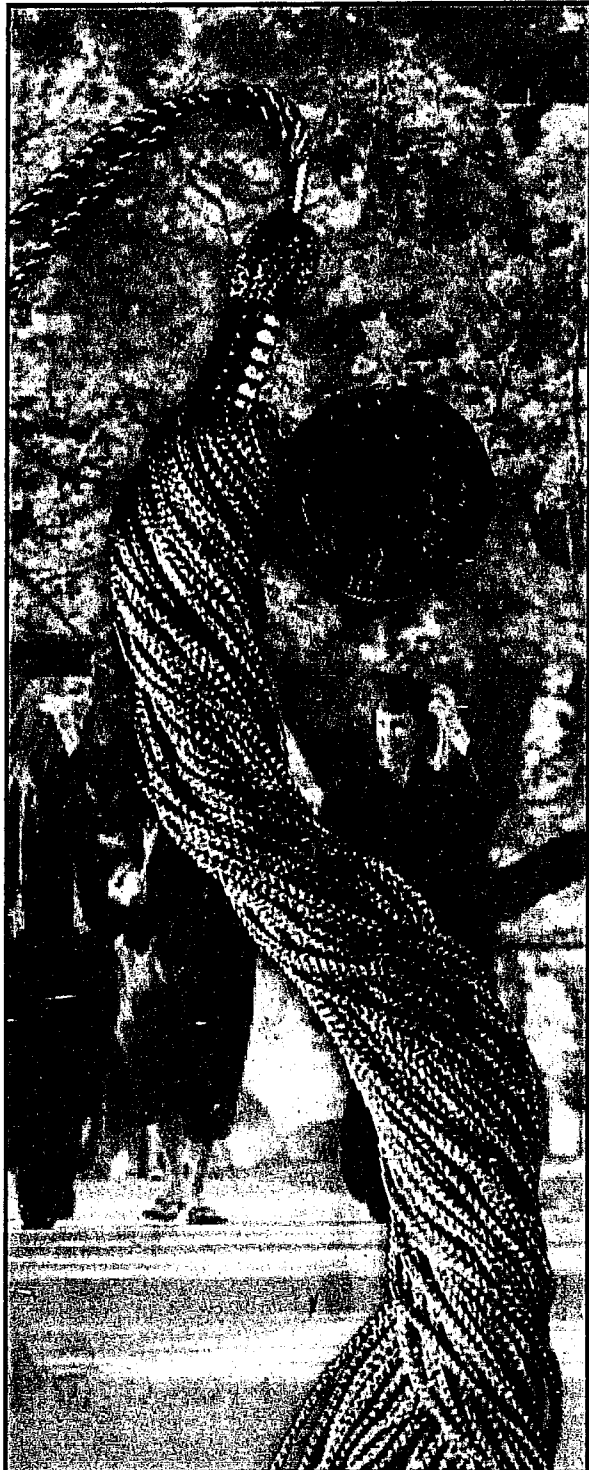
"(He) never backed down from any challenge," Epstein said. "One of the things people didn't realize about Schilling is that he was really motivated by fear. Fear of failure."

He wasn't afraid to express his opinions.

In July 2007, he said on HBO's "Costas Now" that the refusals of Barry Bonds and Mark McGwire to address speculation about steroids use are tantamount to admissions. Last September, he said during a radio appearance that former teammate Manny Ramirez "was always kind and nice for the most part, but he'd show up the next day and say, 'I'm through with this team, I want out now.'"

Now Schilling is out — leaving behind a distinguished career and moving on to a life away from the spotlight.

"The game was here long before I was, and will be here long after I am gone," he wrote on his blog. "The only thing I hope I did was never put in question my love for the game, or my passion to be counted on when it mattered most. I did everything I could to win every time I was handed the ball."



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LIGHT

from page 10

The Tampa Bay Devil Rays (I refuse to call them by any other name) could not overcome a solid but unspectacular Phillies team, and the San Antonio Spurs and Detroit Pistons seemingly overcame flashier more exciting opposition on a yearly basis.

These are just more recent examples — history is littered with cases such as the Fab Five and the mid-'90s Indianapolis Colts as upstarts who could not quite reach the top of the mountain when facing a strong constant opponent. Yet if this ploy by F1 is a success, sports could slant the playing field in favor of the underdogs under the guise of competitiveness.

F1 has now placed an unhealthy premium on the flashiest accomplishment in the sport: a first place finish. The tactical nuance that made watching F1 a joy is gone because only one spot on the grip matters, and that is first place.

This first-or-bust focus may level the field for the season championship, but it also renders a majority of the field useless for each individual race. Jockeying for position toward the end of a race

will be eliminated because the difference between a fifth and sixth place finish is nominal.

Of course, the point system will come back into play should two or more drivers win the same amount of races but relegating the points system to a tiebreaker adds little incentive for drivers to push harder if they have no shot at winning the championship.

The decision to switch the way the driver's championship is awarded in F1 will not shake the foundation of sports, however, it does continue to cheapen what it means to earn the title of champion.

There is something to be said about being consistent. It may not be what people want to see, yet it should not be punished because the public finds it boring.

My small mid-'90s forest green four-door passenger car was not the most exciting automobile to ever be assembled, but it got the job done. It was a consummate model of consistency.

Being successful on a consistent basis is one of the hardest things to accomplish in sports. It is easy to teeter between monumental success and unmitigated failure, because it requires reaching one at the expense of

the other.

Society remembers the winners and even the losers in most cases, but never the teams in the middle. People will always remember the exotic and rare cars on the road and the jalopies that are barely drivable, but your average car is the one that goes unnoticed by most.

Those unassuming cars are the ones that are the most reliable and probably deserve more acclamation than are given. I am not asking for a ticker-tape parade for my fallen Ford Escort but some deserved acknowledgement for those things that are consistent would be a start.

F1 basically spat in the face of consistency to accommodate reckless teenage abandon. Teenagers seemingly accomplish what they set out to do in style or fail in a blaze of glory. The only reason they accept anything in between is because of their parents.

My car may not be missed, and the traditional F1 championship will be something only the sport's purists gripe about. This week saw the end of two eras — one personal and one sporting. At least now I have more time to reminisce about how I miss the old rules of F1 as I am walking around everywhere.

HONORS

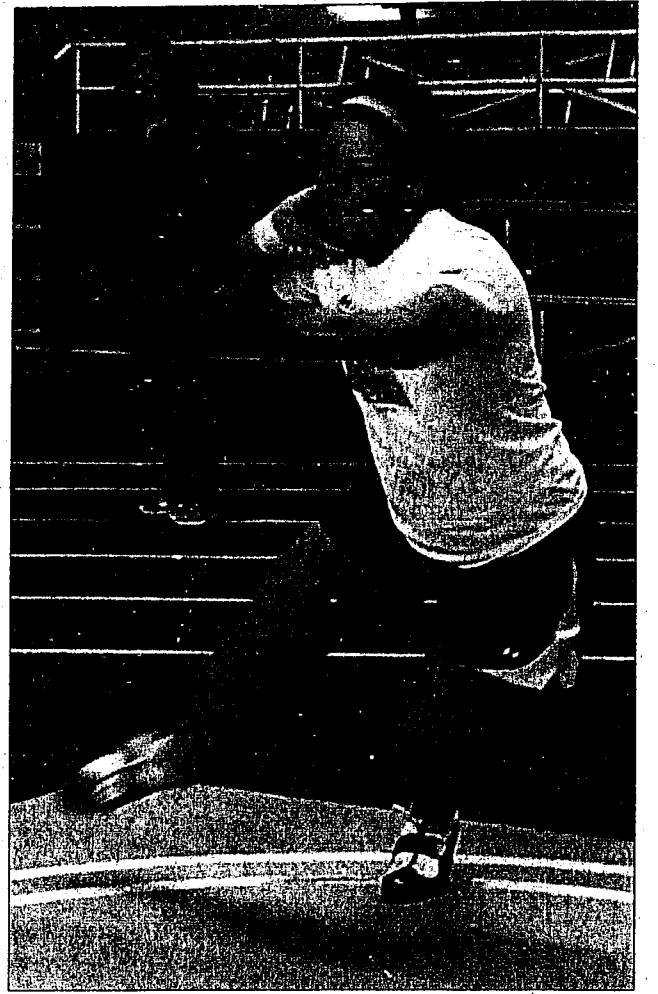
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"I knew she'd go All-American," Idaho coach Julie Taylor said. "Mykael is an incredible athlete and she competed very well."

Taylor said Bothum's grasp of a particular shot put technique is responsible for a lot of her success. Bothum had transitioned release approaches from "glide," where the athlete faces away from the throwing area and directions straight across the throwing ring to, "spin" where the athlete turns across the ring to release the shot put.

Bothum and Dahlgren's performances added four points to Idaho's team score to tie the team for 45th in the NCAA. The last time Idaho had two women's competitors at the NCAA indoor meet was in 2005 when Manuela Kurrat took third in the pentathlon and Tassie Souhrada took sixth in the high jump.

The national meet marks the end of the indoor season. Bothum and Dahlgren will resume practice with the rest of the track and field team as they prepare for the outdoor season. The first outdoor competition will come March 27-28 at the Stanford Invitational.



Kayla DesJarlais/Argonaut
Thrower Mykael Bothum practices shot put in preparation for the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. Bothum took seventh in the competition with her 53 feet, 1.5 inch throw. She was one of two Idaho competitors who earned All-America honors in the Championships.

TOURNEY

from page 10

Pacific scored 36 points in the paint and out-rebounded the Vandals by eight.

"When they went on their run they were getting rebounds," Verlin said. "We didn't get enough turnovers on defense

either."

The Vandals were able to claw their way back into the game, cutting the lead to seven points on a 9-3 run.

It wasn't enough as Pacific scored four straight and pulled away for good.

"We had a fantastic year," Verlin said. "This team battled all year long. In 365 days we've come a long way, and I'm really happy with the first year, and

SWEEP

from page 10

In the four, five and six positions the Vandals won in two sets, all with scores of 6-0, 6-0, leaving RMU scoreless.

In the one, two and three positions RMU managed to win a couple sets, but were no match for the Vandals who again picked up all three wins in the second set.

"We played well and were focused throughout the match," Neill said. "We competed strong from start to finish."

Later that afternoon, the Vandals took to the court again against West Virginia, but managed to get through it with a 4-3 win.

"West Virginia is a tough team with a lot of depth," Neill said. "I'm impressed with how our team played, especially given it was our third match in two days."

As if the Vandals hadn't played enough, they hit the court one last time where they took on Georgetown University. The match was delayed three hours because of poor weather, but once they resumed play, the Vandals cleaned house.

The match started with singles, and af-

ter the Vandals took a 5-1 lead and secured the win, they agreed it wasn't necessary to play doubles and the Vandals went home with their ninth consecutive win.

"We jumped on Georgetown early in the singles matches and got up big in most of the matches," Neill said. "Today was one of those days when everyone in the lineup brought their 'A' game."

With the four wins the Vandals now sit at 12-4 overall.

The men's tennis team also squeaked out a nail-biter over the break beating the University of Montana 4-3.

After losing the doubles point the Vandals tied up the match 3-3, and left the fate of the match in the hands of Idaho's No. 6 player Tim Huynh.

Huynh's match against Montana's Carl Kuschke came down to a tiebreaker, and when the dust cleared the Vandals had clinched their tenth win of the season to sit at 10-5 overall.

"It really came down to the wire," said Director of Tennis Jeff Beaman. "Huynh pulled it out in a tiebreaker to clinch the match."

Beaman said Huynh played the best tennis of his career to earn the victory for the Vandals.

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