

Not your average

Erin Harty
Argonaut

They are grandparents, pilots, pastors and writers. They live in houses with more than 60 young women and work seven days a week, 24 hours a day. They are University of Idaho sorority house directors — more commonly referred to as house mothers — and they each run what amounts to a small hotel on campus.

"I maintain the house," said Linda McHargue, house director for Kappa Delta. "I keep it safe, from the boiler room to the roof. I am kind of like a plumber and a maintenance person and a lawn person — I am all of that."

Every sorority on campus has a house director who is responsible for maintaining the facility. Each building's requirement is different, but all directors live in the sorority house in small living quarters provided for them. Some of their responsibilities include contacting maintenance workers, doing payroll, enforcing the curfew for male guests, stocking kitchenettes with breakfast foods, overseeing staff and ensuring the safety of the members.

Ali Ryder, a senior double major in public relations and clothing, textiles and design, said she is not sure everyone in the Pi Beta Phi house has a full appreciation of what House Director Pam Berdit does.

"She does a lot more than everyone thinks," Ryder said. "I think a lot of the younger members don't know what is Pam's responsibility and what is someone else's responsibility. If something is not done, they say 'Pam's got to do this,' but it's not really her responsibility."

Ryder said if all the girls knew the extent of Berdit's job, they would have more respect for her position.

"Somehow people need to understand and learn everything Pam does," Ryder said.

Berdit, 60, said every house on campus has different rules and responsibilities for the directors. House directors are required to do different tasks, depending on the sorority. House corporation boards, made up of alumni from the sorority, hire the house directors as well as set their job descriptions. The house directors are not housekeepers — they're more like innkeepers who oversee the daily running of the house.

"Yesterday, I ran to Tri-State and bought three vacuums," Berdit said.

Berdit has a diverse background. She has worked in interior design and spent 20 years as a pastor with her husband. Berdit has a small home across town she refers to as her cottage and tried to make her living quarters in the sorority feel just as warm and comfortable. She brought her own dining table and still finds time to date — adhering to a

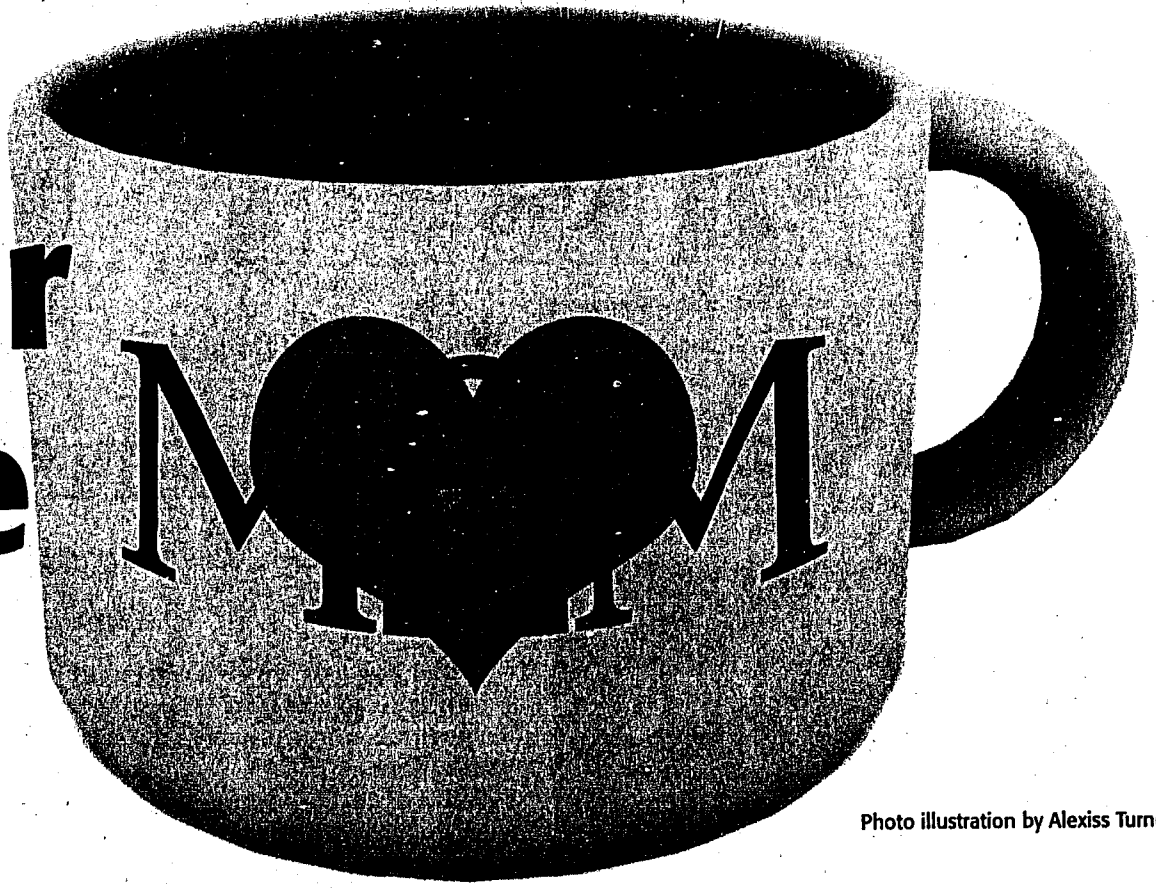


Photo illustration by Alexis Turner

"They don't need a mom. The job is to keep the house running the way they want, security for the house ... making the guests feel welcome."

Jan
HINRICHS
Alpha Gamma Delta house director

self-imposed curfew.

Not all the sorority houses on campus have curfews for women, but they all have "man hours." These times are set to restrict when men can be in the house.

McHargue, 63, has been at Kappa Delta for four years, and a house director for 10. She said she can be tough, especially when it comes to men visiting the house. With 20 years of law enforcement background, she said she is a very security-minded person.

"If (male guests) get in here and they are drunk, I get them at the door and say, 'You're not welcome here,'" McHargue said. "I think there was one guy I actually said, 'And don't come back.'"

Not a 9 to 5 job

McHargue is one of the few house directors who live in the house year round. She stays through summer and cleans the large house,

which is a striking comparison to her own small living quarters. Most of the house directors at UI have homes in and around Moscow where they spend their breaks and vacations. Each house director has school breaks and holidays off, as well as two days a month, where they are expected to have a substitute if they won't be in the house overnight.

Jan Hinrichs, the oldest of the house directors at 76, said she thinks it's important in this job to find time to do things for yourself. Like other directors, Hinrichs moonlights, working at Precision Engraving two days a week.

"If you didn't do something else, this would become your whole life," Hinrichs said.

Hinrichs has been a house director for 15 years at UI, first at Alpha Gamma Delta. She has been at Gamma Phi Beta for 12 1/2 years, the longest of any of the current directors on campus. Hinrichs, who is divorced, has four children, 10

See MOM, page A7

SBOE: we're not talking

Lianna Shepherd
Argonaut

The Idaho State Board of Education has become mute in regards to the presidential search at the University of Idaho.

At Thursday's SBOE meeting, held in the Idaho Commons Clearwater room, board president Milford Terrell requested no one question either the board members or members of the search committee about UI's quest for a president. According to Terrell, "they are not eligible" to discuss the issue.

"There is no response at time, as we're in negotiations," Terrell said.

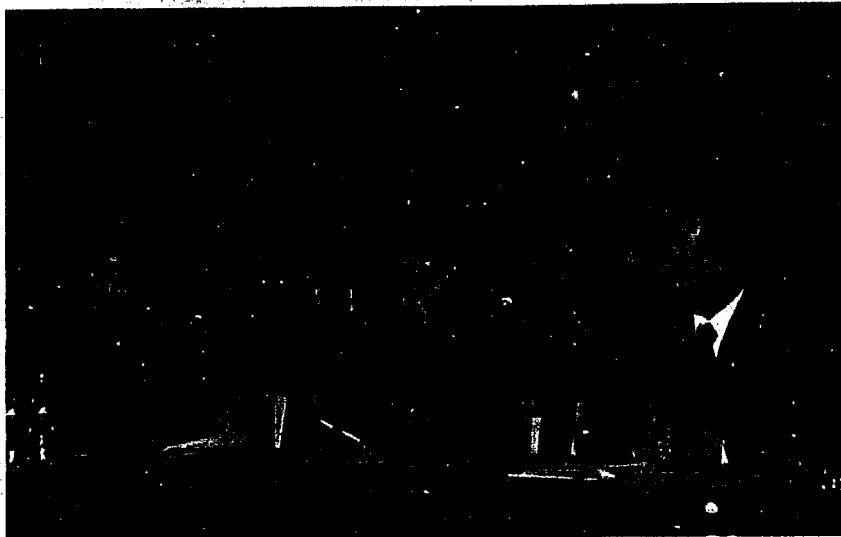
This didn't stop Lee Shellman, a member of the Vandal Boosters, also known as the Vandal Scholarship Fund, from expressing his hopes for the future.

"I think we've been pretty vocal about our desire for Duane Nellis, but what's really concerned us is the nature of the process," he said.

Last month, Nellis turned the job down after Idaho's SBOE rejected his salary request.

"It's believed that Nellis withdrew because he wasn't being offered enough money ... I don't think that should stop us from getting a top notch president," Shellman said.

According to The Associated Press, boosters have explored raising private funds to supplement presidential pay. This tactic has been used in Idaho to lure coaches but would require a state policy change.



Steven Devine/Argonaut

The State Board of Education met to discuss the future of the university presidential election in the Clearwater Room inside the Idaho Commons Thursday.

Shellman appeared before the board to request it consider separating the UI Board of Regents from the SBOE.

As a representative of the boosters, Shellman expressed a group concern over the presidential process, particularly the lack of university affiliates involved.

"We feel that (separating the SBOE from the board of regents) would be beneficial to the university," Shellman said. "But we think it's too big a job for the SBOE to head up all the universi-

ties within the state and do a job we think is being overlooked out here."

Shellman requested his recommendation be considered by the SBOE, and although there was no further discussion, a letter from the boosters to Idaho representatives was entered into the record.

Shellman said he believes Nellis is the candidate to back. He cites his experience as the second-in-command at a land-grant institution, his roots

See TALKING, page A7

ASUI announces new leadership positions

Erin Harty
Argonaut

University of Idaho students voted in record numbers this week to elect a new ASUI president, vice president and eight senators.

Kelby Wilson and Ashley Cochran were elected the new president and vice president with 43 percent of the vote.

"The real work begins now," Wilson said. "We are going to try to hit the ground running."

Cochran said she was excited about the results and glad the three-week campaign is over.

"I am going to start working with Kelby to get our cabinet ready," Cochran said. "We will start building on the platform of our campaign."

Wilson and Cochran's campaign promised to develop more service-learning opportunities for UI students and to create a more effective ASUI by evaluating programs to determine what works and what should be discontinued. They also proposed a request for innovation project in ASUI to get more students involved and allow everyone to have a voice.

Current ASUI President Garrett Holbrook said he was happy with the course of both the campaign and the election.

"The students are in great hands," Holbrook said. "Kelby has experience working amid a fiscally tight situation."

Holbrook said he is proud of the candidates and the way the whole campaign and election went.

"I think it was one of the cleanest and fairest elections we have had in a long time," Holbrook said.

The election featured 17 candidates for senator and three tickets for president and vice president. Holbrook said this could have contributed to its success.

"We had a great turnout (for votes), the second most

See ASUI, page A7

Percy the Barbarian



THIS WEEK'S WEB POLL

Warmer weather has come. What will you spend your weekends doing?

Did you vote in the ASUI elections?

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

Mom's Weekend MOM & ME AT THE SRC

Moms Work Out Free w/ Student
Free Wellness Classes
Discounted Climbing
Special Mom & Me Zumba Class
Friday at 4:30pm

Intramural Sports

UPCOMING EVENTS ENTRY DUE

Track Meet	Apr 22
Frisbee/Golf	Apr 30

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FOR MORE INFO AND TO SIGN UP:
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Get ready for a summer of whitewater with this great trip.

Trip: Apr 18
Cost: \$50 Incl gear
\$30 no gear

WOMEN'S GRANITE POINT CLIMBING

Head out and enjoy a day of climbing in the scenic Snake River canyon.

Trip: May 2
Pre Trip: Apr 30
Cost: \$15

campusrec.uidaho.edu/outdoor

CAMPUS RECREATION

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University of Idaho campusrec.uidaho.edu

CampusPROFILE

Christine Dixon

Environmental Science Program Academic & Administration Services Coordinator

What part of environmental science do you like the most? The students, of course; they make me worry less about the future of this planet.

What about advising do you enjoy? Watching young people from all over the world come here and grow and change over the four years (or more) I know them. Listening to their stories. Also, giving advice to people who occasionally listen to me.

What is your least favorite word? can't
How would you describe yourself in one word? optimistic

What was your favorite subject in high school? Government - I'm fascinated by politics.

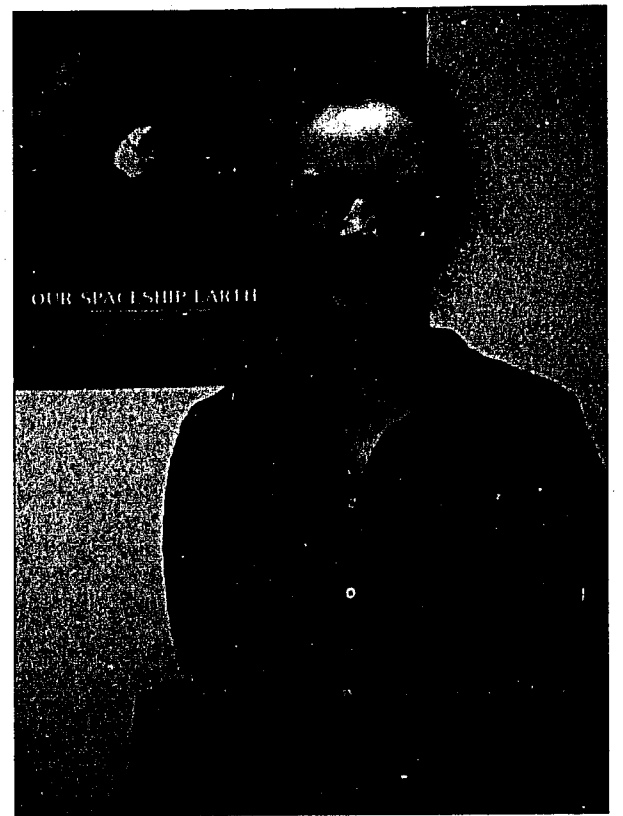
What time period would you like to live in? I would have liked being a young adult in the first half of 20th century if I could have gone to New Guinea with the anthropologist Margaret Mead.

What is your favorite band? Johnny Clegg and Savuka from South Africa.

What is your fondest memory? Besides life with my family generally, being on the island of Crete when I was 20: eating octopus, drinking ouzo with breakfast to be polite, sleeping under the stars on the top floor of a house that lost its roof in WWII, swimming in the Mediterranean, hitch-hiking to see the ruins of Knossos. I recommend it to everyone.

What is the best advice you have ever received? People should just do their own jobs. Don't worry about how others do theirs, just do the best job you can. Margrit von Braun told me that.

What would you do with a million dollars? Save some of it for my grandchildren's education.

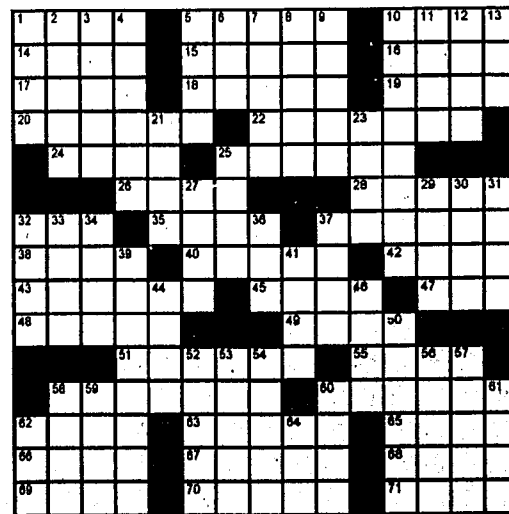


Jake Barber/Argonaut

Give some it to the Nature Conservancy and some to Simba and Koi Tirima to spread around in Kenya as it would probably go further there. Visit some of the alums from all over the world who have returned home to Armenia and India and Tajikistan and New Zealand and Peru and all sorts of places to see where they came from and how everyone turned out.

Crossword

- Across**
- Word of regret
 - Humdingers
 - Type of cook
 - Underclassman, for short
 - Broker
 - A house is one
 - Taj Mahal site
 - Rocker
 - News item
 - Fancy dog
 - Knockout
 - Dagger
 - Obstruct
 - H. H. Munro AKA
 - Stogy
 - Retirement plan
 - Egyptian river
 - Advisor to Nero
 - Wood file
 - Bum down
 - Hindu frock
 - Debuts, briefly
 - Not bad
 - Crimson
 - Shirt dirt
 - Inert gas
 - Brown
 - Baseball stats
 - Garnish
 - Shrimp relatives
 - Threesome
 - Mine passages
 - Tide type
 - Charged particles
 - Armored vehicles
 - Bakery item
 - Spouse
 - Plant disease
 - Augmented



- Down**
- Quickly, in memos
 - Brand symbols
 - Griller's protection
 - Sunglasses, to some
 - Macrame
 - Disgust word
 - Slightest
 - Oneness
 - Play a banjo
 - Talk show participants
 - Dressing gown
 - Afr. ruler
 - Favorite
 - Gaunt
 - Riviera city
 - Grain tower
 - Young foxes
 - Equipment
 - Land measure
 - Forsy
 - Sword lily
 - Spout off
 - Movie dog
 - Energy unit
 - Brogan
 - Oxidp
 - Ice cream holder
 - Burden
 - Portal
 - Subtlety
 - Roofing material
 - Aromatic wood
 - Fibbing
 - Fine-tune
 - Ophidian
 - Malay canoe
 - Slangy negative
 - Attention getter
 - Hastened
 - Curry of Chile
 - Boxing decision

Sudoku

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

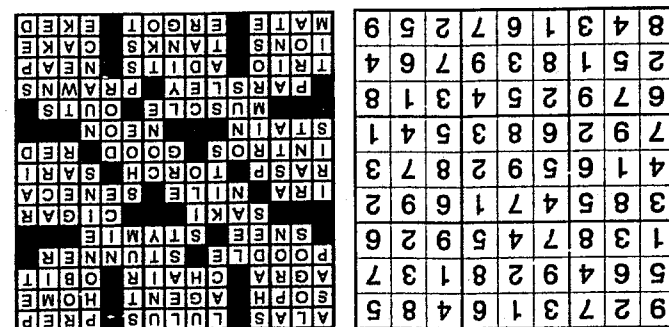
Corrections

In the Tuesday edition of The Argonaut, in the "Web poll Results," we reported more people preferred Macs to PCs, PC actually was more preferred.

Find a mistake? Send an e-mail to the section editor.

Contact information can be found on page A8.

Solutions



Students bring flow to those in need

Kelcie Moseley
Argonaut

Alex Edstrom knew early on that the senior project he chose wasn't going to be "typical," but it didn't take long to discover just how far from typical it would be.

Edstrom, Kara Eby and Manuel Diaz-Gonzalez were three members of a senior project team that designed an irrigation system for a farm in Las Pilas, a northern region of El Salvador, during Spring Break. The group, called Idaho International Irrigators, targeted an area that would bring irrigation water to more than 80 farmers in the region.

The team worked in conjunction with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, an institution that provides funds to third world countries for infrastructure building, and CATIE, an organization based in Costa Rica that worked with the group to design the irrigation system.

Diaz-Gonzalez, a native of Puerto Rico and the irrigation expert for the team, said they started the project with zero data and little to design on.

"Everything was an obstacle," Diaz-Gonzalez said.

The team worked closely with Jan Boll, University of Idaho director of Waters of the West, and Erin Brooks, a professional engineer. After many months of trying to dig up data and design a system, with landscape sight unseen, the team went to El Salvador and started working.

The average farm size in El Salvador is three acres, Diaz-Gonzalez said, and farmers are lucky to earn \$6 a day. Poverty rates are close to 46 percent in the northern region of El Salvador. Everything they have is invested in their farms, where they grow cabbage, tomatoes, strawberries and avocados.

They use no machines to operate the farms — everything is done by hand. Their irrigation system was previously inefficient and ill-managed, consisting mostly of small canals and ditches. The crude

design caused small periods of drought during the dry season, costing farmers valuable time and resources to plant crops.

Edstrom said, with an efficient irrigation system, they could have water during the latest part of the year, "which is great, because they've never had that before."

The team said the farmers were initially resistant to the idea of an irrigation system watering for them.

"It was difficult to explain to them why we were doing things," Diaz-Gonzalez said. "I had to explain to them several times a day that it was going to work."

Looking at every detail of topographic maps, making flow calculations and helping farmers learn better ways to manage their systems were just some parts of the team's job. They worked 12 hours a day for three days and said they were happy with the result overall, even if the farmers were unhappy with the change.

One of the pipelines was even sabotaged at one point when someone threw a boulder on top of it, Edstrom and Eby said.

"I think the appreciation will come in the future," Eby said. "It's just going to take some time."

Brad Beckman, the electronic media specialist for UI and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, traveled with the team to take pictures and film a documentary of the project. He said he was impressed with the team's ability to take charge and handled their responsibilities like professionals.

"They hit the ground knowing what they needed to do," Beckman said.



Kate Kucharzyk/Argonaut
University of Idaho students Manuel Diaz-Gonzalez and Steve Schneider, visiting El Salvador during Spring Break, prepare for the flow measurements through conductivity test. Diaz-Gonzalez and Schneider mixed in salts added afterward to the stream to run a mass balance experiment.

"There were a few twists and turns and a few adjustments, but they rolled with that perfectly."

Edstrom said the biggest thing he learned from the project was management styles, and he enjoyed seeing the execution of the project itself.

Eby said being flexible was a valuable lesson for her, and both agreed that learning what can and can't be

controlled was important as well. "You know, being engineers, we're control freaks," Edstrom said.

The irrigation system is part of a five year \$461-million project in El Salvador. An external evaluation of how efficiently the system is working will be conducted by MCC in May, and the group said it is up to MCC what will happen next.

SenateREPORT

Approval of Agenda

Sen. Zack Arama added Resolution S09-06 to the agenda.

Open Forum

Juan Corona, director of diversity affairs, gave an update on the newsletter he is creating about multicultural events. This newsletter will be sent out to the living groups.

David Church from the Inter-Fraternity Council updated ASUI on the new Greek adviser who was hired. He will begin May 1. Church also said IFC is working with the Panhellenic Council on purple parking passes, and all complaints can be directed toward them.

Marie Fabricius, ASUI director of athletics, updated ASUI on the issue of tailgating. She is working with the athletic office to figure out a

way to guarantee tailgating and provide a beer garden again.

She also asked ASUI to look for students who have a lot of Vandal pride and may want to take her position.

Presidential Communications

President Garrett Holbrook said he would meet with Fabricius on the tailgating issue. He explained how tailgating is currently done and how risk management is trying to move the time tailgating can end to kick off.

Holbrook said Parking Services is trying to raise residential parking passes by 34 percent and urged everyone to attend the open forum on the issue Thursday.

He announced Art Week was going on and said student-designed masks will be displayed

in the TLC all week along with other events including free cookies.

Holbrook said he met with UI president and vice-president of finance to minimize harm to students on fees. He said the full fee list will come out soon.

"We've done everything we can from my end to try and accommodate students," Holbrook said.

He explained S09-31, the bill to transfer \$15,000 to Vandal Entertainment for Final's Fest. He said it would help pay for the concert and other events. This year they have gotten some cast members from Reno 911 to come and do some comedy. Any money left unused will be allocated to reserve funds.

Holbrook mentioned resolution S09-06, denouncing the increased fee for loads more than 18 credits. He said the process on this is not finalized yet, and there is

still room to provide exemptions.

Unfinished Business

Bill S09-29, a bill updating the current ASUI Rules and Regulations' current operating procedures, was passed after amending lines 28 and 29.

Bill S09-30, a bill updating the Rules and Regulations to add an ASUI Radio Coordinator as a position in the ASUI communication department, was passed after discussion.

New Business

Bill S09-31, a bill transferring \$15,000 from the

general reserve to the ASUI Vandal Entertainment Board, was sent to finance.


Resolutions

Resolution S09-06, a bill denouncing the \$251 fee for every credit more than 18, was considered and passed.

— Erin Harty

"A fair result can be obtained only by fully stating and balancing the facts and arguments on both sides of each question."

Celebrating
Darwin's Bicentennial:
Intelligent Design and Science
Professor Michael J. Behe
Author of Darwin's Black Box and Edge of Evolution



In celebrating Darwin's Bicentennial Professor Michael J. Behe, Lehigh University, has been invited to speak on:

Answering Objection to Intelligent Design in Biology
WSU CUB Auditorium, 7pm Thursday, April 23rd
and
The Science of Intelligent Design
U of I SUB Ballroom, 7pm Friday April 24th

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Donors honored with UI Tag Day

Greg Connolly
Argonaut

It takes a significant sum of money to construct a building like the Albertson School of Business, something many students might not realize.

"We, as students, would not be able to enjoy some of the everyday luxuries without gracious donors," said Lauren Armstrong, president of the Student Foundation.

The group is running the first annual Tag Day, an event designed to show University of Idaho students and faculty the impact donors have on the university.

"We had some people go to a conference in November," said Annual Giving Program Coordinator Josie Herold. "Queens University in Canada had a tag day, which was very successful."

Herold has been working with three other people in the Advancement Office to design the tags and research which buildings should be tagged.

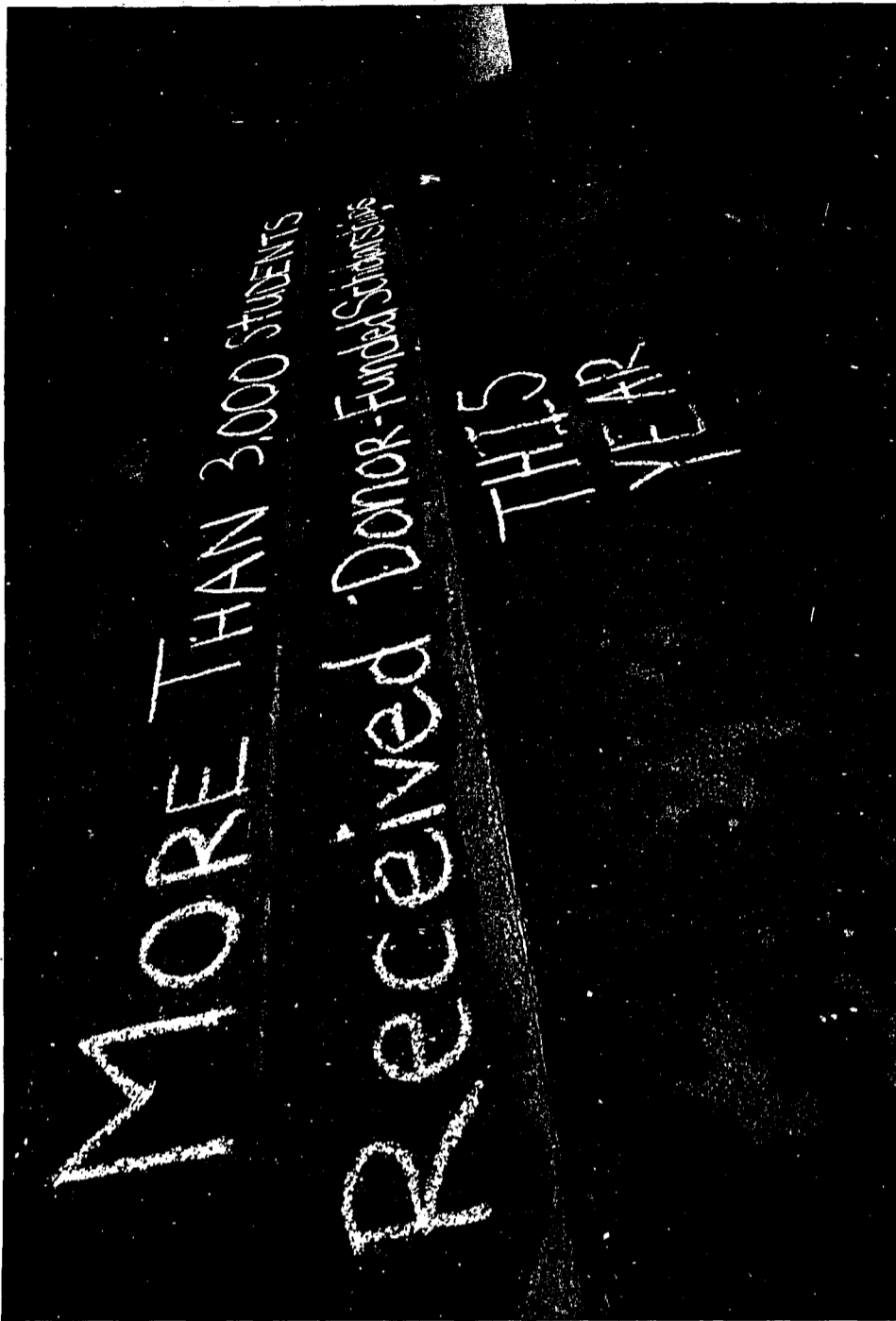
"We've also worked with financial aid to find students getting private scholarships so that they can wear stickers," Herold said.

Herold said the tags went up this morning and will remain hung through the weekend. The Student Foundation also chalked sidewalks and sent out campuswide e-mails to make sure the word got out, Herold said.

A large banner was hung between the Student Union Building and the UI Bookstore to make people aware of the event.

Tag Day is set for Friday so it can coincide with Mom's Weekend, Herold said.

The Student Foundation has a booth set up in the UI Bookstore today, where senior class gifts can be purchased. The se-



Nick Groff/Argonaut

Alexis Olson, an English, political science and international studies major with a Spanish minor, "tags" steps out front of the Student Union Building Thursday afternoon. Tag Day is designed to raise student awareness about the monetary impact donors have.

nior class gift is a tassel, and the proceeds from the sales go toward any UI affiliated program or club. The minimum donation is \$20.09.

The tags are bright yellow and have the amount of money donated to the building in large type printed across them, Herold said.

"The Albertson Building has a \$14 million price tag and was built using

only money from private donations," Herold said.

There are also tags on the Idaho Commons, the Teaching and Learning Center and the Vandal Athletic Center, the latter of which received \$5 million in private donations.

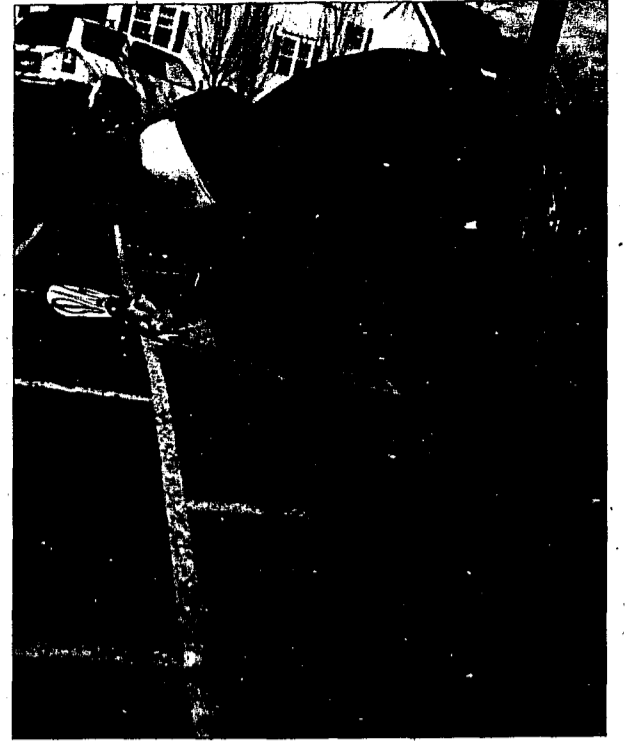
"Our goal is to make Tag Day an annual event," Herold said.

She said in the coming years, she would like to see smaller items from do-

nors tagged for the event.

According to a press release, tags for scholarship students can be picked up in the SUB, where coffee and doughnuts will be served.

Herold and the other annual giving program coordinators also run Vandal Connect and handle some direct mailing operations for UI. In addition, they also work with the Student Foundation.



Jake Barber/Argonaut

Freshman Eric Pline from Phi Delta Theta prepares the stencil for the new Turtle Derby corner painting outside his fraternity house. The derby starts at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Frat reopens in time for Turtle Derby

Lianna Shepherd
Argonaut

Christmas Eve 2008 marked the beginning of a difficult time for the Phi Delta Theta fraternity after their house flooded for 24 hours due to a faulty sprinkler system.

Although the fraternity's president, Samuel Russell, said the group has adjusted well to living in the dorms, they are eager to re-enter their house next fall.

"We've stuck together through this, and we're actually expecting our numbers to go up next year," Russell said.

The insurance after the accident was enough to cover all the plumbing, electrical and interior damage as well as some exterior work. Incoming freshmen will be able to enjoy new carpets, desks and cabinets in the fall.

"You used to hear people complaining because our insurance premiums were so high," he said. "They're not complaining anymore."

Pi Delta Theta's 40 active members have been living in the Wallace Complex after the 4 inches of standing water forced them out of their house. Russell described it as "a communal thing" and said the adversity has caused them to bond closer together.

"We do a lot of brotherhood events like painting," he said. "Plus, the rest of the Greek com-

munity has been really supportive, inviting us to events and parties."

What the fraternity most looks forward to is eating a good meal and decorating the house, Russell said. Although he said it's been fine living in the Gooding Wing of Wallace, there are certain aspects of dorm life to which he never fully adjusted.

"The bathroom thing was an issue ... I got my own room, but I still had to walk into someone else's room every time I had to use the toilet — that was awkward," Russell said. "I think everyone's looking forward to having that privacy back, but even that's got a good aspect to it ... it makes you more thankful for what you have."

Although Phi Delta Theta hasn't moved into their house yet, Russell said the house would still serve as the location for the annual Turtle Derby.

"Last year, we were able to raise \$4,000 for operation education, and we're looking to do even better this year," he said.

The Turtle Derby has become a staple at the University of Idaho's Mom's Weekend. Greek houses race turtles for various local charities.

The Turtle Derby is a free event that starts at 11 a.m. Saturday in front of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity on Elm Street.

"In some ways, this will be a great way for us to kick off our re-introduction to Greek Row," he said.

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Zac Efron
17 AGAIN
PG-13 Daily (4:30) 7:00 9:30 Sat-Sun (11:40) (2:00)

STATE OF PLAY
PG-13 Daily (3:50) 6:40 9:25 Sat-Sun (1:00)

CRANK HIGH VOLTAGE
R Daily (4:50) 7:20 9:50 Sat-Sun (12:20) (2:40)

ANNAPOLIS
G Daily (4:00) 6:20 8:50 Sat-Sun (11:10) (1:30)

OBSERVE & REPORT
R Daily (5:00) 7:30 9:55 Sat-Sun (12:10) (2:30)

FAST & FURIOUS
PG-13 Daily (4:40) 7:10 9:40 Sat-Sun (11:30) (2:10)

Adventureland
R Daily 9:00

MONSTERS ALIENS
PG Daily (4:10) 6:30 Sat-Sun (11:20) (1:40)

I LOVE YOU, MAN
R Daily (4:20) 6:50 9:15 Sat-Sun (11:15) (1:50)

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Longboarder hurt after fall

Lianna Shepherd
Argonaut

Longboarder, Alecia Riley, fell down the Seventh Street hill Thursday after losing her balance. Riley was transported to Gritman Medical Center after long boarding with a few of her friends. Jordan Little and his brother Seth Little said Riley isn't an experienced longboarder and although

medical personnel told them her injuries weren't life threatening, "she was pretty banged up." "She was doing fine at first, but I think she over-estimated how long it actually was," Seth Little said as he rubbed his cheek — a splotch of Riley's blood had dried there. "They had to stabilize her spine, and they said she suffered some head trauma. Her eyes began swelling up al-

most immediately, I think that's part of the reason it looked so bad." Emergency medical personnel at the scene were unable to comment but said they believed she would be all right. Jordan Little said he was worried about his friend's health but also concerned how people would react to the news that another long boarder had been injured.

A longboarder ran into a truck April 6 while attempting to enter a Sixth Street intersection. Jordan Little said after the incident police began cracking down harder on longboarder and he and his friends "are sick of being hassled." "We don't like being treated like we're stupid, sometimes accidents happen," he said. Senior Kyle Smith de-

scribes himself as an avid longboarder but said he's tired of hearing about issues that involve longboarders. "It's a two-way street," Smith said. "Longboarders need to consider where they are and what they are actually doing, but cops need to help us out ... a lot of people on this campus longboard and they need to be protected like any pedestrian."

Smith said he has experience being hassled by police, but he's trying to do his part not to contribute to the problem, but rather part of the solution. "I think there's a stigma about wearing helmets, like it's really uncool, and you look like a goon," he said. "But I've clipped my head a couple times, and now I figure I'd rather look like a goon than look like a vegetable."

Analysis oddities emerge in Idaho Legislature

John Miller
Associated Press

BOISE — As what is now the second-longest Idaho Legislature in 119 years hit its 95th day, quirks are emerging almost hourly in an institution that's jealously guarded its reputation over the years as an enclave for eccentrics. Take this week's House debate on Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter's bill to reform Idaho's 62-year-old system of doling out liquor licenses by quota.

Currently, a single license is allowed for every 1,500 residents of cities; Otter's plan would have given cities and counties the right to issue licenses to restaurants and hotels as they saw fit. That prompted one lawmaker, Rep. Russ Mathews, R-Idaho Falls, to raise the specter of McDonald's restaurants across the state seeking licenses to sell Jack and Cokes and Long Island iced teas alongside Happy Meals and McNuggets.

Mickey D's customers, Mathews feared, would "be able to get a little nippy instead of a happy toy." The measure was soundly defeated. You know something is a little topsy turvy when neighboring Utah, with America's largest population of tee-totaling Mormons, just a month earlier had passed state's most sweeping liquor law reforms in 40 years, but Idaho decided to stick with a system promoting "temperance and morality" that came into existence two years after GIs returned from World War II. The weirdness doesn't

stop there. Rep. Jeff Thompson, another Idaho Falls Republican, is pushing a bill to shield companies from civil liability if they pass policies letting employees store their guns in their cars while at work. One of the arguments Thompson used to win the bill's 51-19 passage in the House on Monday was that Cabela's Inc., the big Nebraska-based sporting goods retailer that's one of America's largest firearms outlets, prohibited its own employees from leaving their weapons out in the rig while they were at work. Thompson said Cabela's needed an incentive to reverse course.

It turns out Thompson didn't have his facts straight. Cabela's has no such policy. "Despite reports to the contrary," Cabela's spokesman David Draper told The Associated Press on Thursday, "we do not prohibit employees from lawfully possessing, carrying or storing firearms in vehicles on company property. We apologize for any misunderstanding and have clarified the intent of our policies with our employees."

"If a person, of his own free will, wants to use marijuana, I question whether the government has any propriety in telling him he can't."

C.L. "Butch" OTTER
Idaho governor

Thompson told the AP somebody from the National Rifle Association, which is behind his bill, had told him otherwise. "It was my understanding they (Cabela's) had that policy," he said Thursday. "We are re-searching that."

Thompson's "guns in cars" bill is the eighth piece of firearms legislation to cross Idaho lawmakers' desks this year. Other bills oppose federal firearms licensing, forbid the state from taking away residents' weapons if martial law is declared, and give state parks manager authority to tell campers not to shoot their guns off.

Until now, it seems parks manager had little clout to tell people to stop popping off rounds within a few yards of the neighboring Winnebago. "I realize this is important to some people," Sen. Kate Kelly, D-Boise, said at a Senate hearing Thursday where Thompson's measure was cleared for floor debate. "But I'm questioning whether the people's business and the money we spend needs to be spent year after year (on gun bills). I just hope we don't have to do this

again next year." Sen. Kelly: Don't hold your breath.

The odd atmosphere permeating Idaho state government in the 2009 Legislature's waning days is illustrated perhaps most tellingly not by who was among the 2,500 gathered Wednesday in a park across from the Capitol building for the national "Tax Day Tea Party," but by who wasn't there.

While fired-up speakers railed against big government, taxes, the Federal Reserve, abortion and perceived attacks on "America's Judeo-Christian heritage," Otter, a man who has built his political career as one of Idaho's biggest, baddest big-government haters, was nowhere in sight.

Odd for Otter: After all, wasn't he one of just three U.S. House members in 2001 to vote against the Patriot Act? Didn't he veto raising Idaho's drinking age to 21 as lieutenant governor in 1987, because he thought it was an unfair federal mandate? And wasn't this the guy who told Reason magazine in 1978, "If a person, of his own free will, wants to use marijuana, I question whether the government has any propriety in telling him he can't."

So where was Otter on Tax Day 2009, as scores of Idahoans, fed up with Washington, D.C.'s fiscal sloth, were outside the Republican governor's offices with placards proclaiming, "Somali Pirates? How 'bout those pirates in Congress?"

"He was meeting with his accountant," said his press secretary, Jon Hanian.

Local/BRIEFS

Accessibility coming to Garden

Two volunteer sessions will create raised garden beds so people with disabilities can use the Moscow Community Garden. The Center on Disabilities and Human Development and the Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute are helping implement the gardens from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. tomorrow and on Saturday, May 2. Volunteers are encouraged to go and help set up the nine new garden beds. For information, call 882-1444.

Students participate in economic summit

Four hundred high school students will participate in the University of Idaho's International Economic Summit from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday April 22 at

the Event Center in Worley. The summit is a global trading simulation in which close to 100 teams from northern Idaho will compete. The students will act as economic advisers to countries, helping them to deal with issues such as AIDS and pollution.

The Event Center is located in the Coeur d'Alene Casino. The organizers of the event are looking for volunteers. To volunteer, contact Roger at 667-2588.

Eric Bown Trio to perform

The Eric Bown Trio will perform at 8 p.m. today at Bucer's and 2 p.m. tomorrow at the Wawawai Canyon Winery in Pullman. Admission is free, but the band will be accepting donations to help fund their upcoming DVD shoot. The trio served as the house band for the 2009 Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and is known for playing jazz that features piano and organ. For information, call Troy Robey at 509-592-7554.

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CampusCALENDAR

- Today**
- 7:30 p.m. Hartung Theatre
 - Outdoor Art Noon Outside Idaho Commons
 - Women Against War, War Against Women 4 p.m. TLC 249
 - Die Fledermaus 7:30 p.m. Hartung Theatre
 - Gene Dowling Tuba Recital 7:30 p.m. Lionel Hampton School of Music
- Saturday**
- Celebration of Teaching 9 a.m. Idaho Commons, Clearwater and Whitewater Rooms
 - Student Recital 1 p.m. Lionel Hampton School of Music
 - Student Recital 4 p.m. Lionel Hampton School of Music
 - Die Fledermaus

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Thousands rally at 'tea parties'

Shannon McCaffrey
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Whipped up by conservative commentators and bloggers, tens of thousands of protesters staged "tea parties" around the country Wednesday to tap into the collective angst stirred up by a bad economy, government spending and bailouts.

The rallies were directed at President Barack Obama's new administration on a symbolic day: the deadline to file income taxes. Protesters even threw what appeared to be a box of tea bags toward the White House, causing a brief lockdown at the compound.

Shouts rang out from Kentucky, which just passed tax increases on cigarettes and alcohol, to Salt Lake City, where many in the crowd booed Republican Gov. Jon Huntsman for accepting about \$1.5 billion in stimulus money. Even in Alaska, where there is no statewide income tax or sales tax, hundreds of people held signs and chanted "No more spending."

"Frankly, I'm mad as hell," said businessman Doug Burnett at a rally at the Iowa Capitol, where many of the about 1,000 people wore red shirts declaring "revolution is brewing." Burnett added: "This country has been on a spending spree for decades, a spending spree we can't afford."

In Boston, a few hundred protesters gathered on the Boston Common — a short distance from the original Tea Party — some dressed in Revolutionary garb and carrying signs that said "Barney Frank, Bernie Madoff: And the Difference Is?" and "D.C.: District of Communism."

Texas Gov. Rick Perry fired up a tea party at Austin City Hall with his stance against the federal government, as some in his U.S. flag-waving audience shouted, "Secede!"

In Atlanta, thousands of people gathered outside the Capitol, where Fox News Channel conservative pundit Sean Hannity was set to broadcast his show Wednesday night. One protester's sign read: "Hey Obama you can keep the change."

Julie Reeves, of Covington, brought her Chihuahua Arnie, who wore a tiny anti-IRS T-shirt. "I want the government to get its hand the hell out of my wallet," Reeves said.

The tea parties were promoted by FreedomWorks, a conservative non-profit advocacy group based in Washington and led by former Republican House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas, who is now a lobbyist.

Organizers said the movement developed organically through online social networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter and through exposure on Fox News.

While FreedomWorks insisted the rallies were nonpartisan, they have been seized on by many prominent Republicans who view them as a promising way for the party to reclaim its momentum.

"All you have to be is a mildly awake Republican candidate for office to get in front of that parade," said Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform.

The movement attracted some Republicans considering 2012 presidential bids.

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich planned to address a tea party in a New York City park Wednesday night. Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal sent an e-mail to his supporters, letting them know about tea parties throughout the state. South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford planned to attend two tea parties.

"There is no such thing as so-called free money and that includes stimulus," Sanford told several thousand

people outside the statehouse in Columbia, S.C. "Paying down debt is an old American theme and never a bad thing."

There were several small counter-protests, including one that drew about a dozen people at Fountain Square in Cincinnati. A counter-protester held a sign that read, "Where were you when Bush was spending billions a month 'liberating' Iraq?" The anti-tax demonstration there, meanwhile, drew about 4,000 people.

In Lansing, Mich., outside the state Capitol, another 4,000 people waved signs exclaiming "Stop the Fiscal Madness," "Read My Lipstick! No More Bailouts" and "The Pirates Are in D.C." Children held makeshift signs complaining about the rising debt.

More than 1,000 protesters gathered outside a downtown federal building in Salt Lake City despite the rain and snow. Kate Maloney held a cardboard sign that read "Pin the tail on the jackass" with a picture of Obama on a Democratic donkey.

Other protesters also took direct aim at Obama. One sign in the crowd in Madison, Wis., compared him to the anti-Christ. At a rally in Montgomery, Ala., where Twisted Sister's "We're Not Gonna Take It" blared from loudspeakers, Jim Adams of Selma carried a sign that showed the president with Hitler-style hair and mustache and said, "Sieg Heil Herr Obama."

Still others talked of their children's futures. In Washington, D.C., Joe Hollinger said he took the day off to attend the protest with his 11-year-old daughter.

"I'm concerned about the incredible amount of debt Congress is going to put on our children," Hollinger said, pointing to his daughter's sign, which read, "Congress get your hand off my piggy bank."

Obamas made \$2.7 million last year

Sharon Theimer
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, millionaires from his best-selling books, made \$2.7 million last year and paid just under one-third of their adjusted income in federal taxes.

While the income, mostly his, was far more than the U.S. median household income of about \$50,000, it was quite a decrease from the \$4.2 million the Obamas made in 2007.

Both years, nearly all of the earnings came from Obama's best-selling books. "Dreams from My Father" and "The Audacity of Hope" — brought in about \$2.5 million in royalties last year, according to copies of the returns released by the White House on Wednesday, the federal filing deadline.

Obama earned \$139,204 as a Democratic senator from Illinois last year before leaving his seat after winning the November election. Michelle Obama received a salary of \$62,709 from the University of Chicago Hospitals, where she was an executive.

The couple's total federal tax came to \$855,323. That was 32 percent of their adjusted gross income of \$2,656,902.

The Obamas overpaid by \$26,014, and elected to apply that amount to their 2009 taxes.

The couple's federal tax deductions included about \$50,000 in home mortgage interest.

They reported contributing \$172,050 to charity last year, including

\$25,000 each to the CARE international relief agency and the United Negro College Fund. That \$172,050 represented about 6.5 percent of the family's adjusted gross income. That percentage is roughly two to three times the national average for household donations to charity, according to the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.

The Obamas gave a total of \$1,400 to five churches. In contrast to 2007, they gave nothing to the Trinity United Church of Christ. Barack Obama was a longtime member of the church, and gave it \$26,270 in 2007, but resigned from it and cut ties with its pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, after Wright made incendiary comments that became a campaign issue.

The Obamas' total Illinois income tax was \$78,765, their state return showed.

The White House also released Vice President Joe Biden's tax returns. Biden and his wife, Jill, earned \$269,256 last year.

The Bidens' main sources of income were salaries from the Senate, Widener University, Delaware Technical & Community College and royalties from the audio rights to the vice president's memoir, "Promises to Keep."

According to tax returns released by the vice president's office, the Bidens paid \$46,952 in federal income taxes and \$11,164 in Delaware state income taxes. They donated \$1,885 to charity.

Biden served in the Senate from 1973 until Jan. 15 of this year.

President seeks action from Cuban dictator

Ben Feller
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — President Barack Obama asked Havana to make the next move to improve U.S.-Cuba relations, saying Thursday that he needs to see signs of changes on the island before he makes any more overtures.

President Raul Castro responded hours later that his government is willing to discuss any issue with Washington, as long as it's a conversation between equals and Washington respects "the Cuban people's right to self-determination."

"We have sent word to the U.S. government in private and in public that we are willing to discuss everything — human rights, freedom of the press, political prisoners, everything," Castro told leaders at a summit in Venezuela.

Earlier this week, Obama lifted restrictions on visits and money sent to Cuba by Americans with families there — steps he called "extraordinarily sig-

nificant" for those families, and a show of good faith by the U.S. government that it wants to recast the relationship.

But he reiterated that the U.S. won't unilaterally end its trade embargo against Cuba, even though the policy is widely seen as a failure that has complicated U.S. relations throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

Obama said a relationship frozen for 50 years "won't thaw overnight," and that Cuba can show it wants to move forward by lifting its own restrictions on Cubans' ability to travel and to voice their opinions.

He spoke at a news conference after meeting with Mexican President Felipe Calderon, who called the U.S. embargo a failed strategy. Asked what the U.S. should do on Cuba to improve its image across Latin America, Calderon said "we do not believe that the embargo or the isolation of Cuba is a good measure for things to change."

But Obama says Cuba

needs to reciprocate to his overtures with actions "grounded in respect for human rights."

Castro, who took over the presidency from his older brother Fidel last year, did not mention Obama's comments specifically — and stopped short of promising any action.

"We're willing to sit down to talk as it should be done, whenever," said Castro, who also condemned decades of efforts by Washington to undermine the Cuban government. "What's going on is that now ... whoever says anything, they immediately start (talking about) democracy, freedom, prisoners."

Castro called for the release of five Cubans imprisoned in the U.S. after being convicted of espionage, and denounced U.S. funding for opponents of his government.

"I'm confirming it here today: If they want the freedom of those political prisoners, who include some confessed terrorists, Guatemalans and Salva-

dorans who were tried and sentenced ... free our prisoners and we'll send them to you with their families and whatever they want — those so-called dissidents and patriots."

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez hosted Castro and other close allies for talks to show a united front in their first encounter with Obama on Friday at the Summit of the Americas.

Chavez called the U.S.

position a "show of disrespect."

"If that's the way it is, what more can we expect from the rest? Nothing," Chavez said. "I hope we're wrong, but they'll be the ones who will have to show us — not with tales and speeches."

Before Obama spoke, a similar message was sent by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in Haiti.

"We stand ready to discuss with Cuba additional steps that could be taken," she said. "But we do expect Cuba to reciprocate."

"We would like to see Cuba open up its society, release political prisoners, open up to outside opinions and media, have the kind of society that we all know that would improve the opportunities for the Cuban people and for their nation," she said.

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MOM

from page A1

grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and even holds a pilot's license.

Hinrich said living in a house with 75 women is a challenge for her and the sorority women.

"I swear, living in a group this large, you better have a lot of humility and as many courtesies as you can drum up," Hinrichs said, "Because if you can make a success living here and liking it, where could you not go?"

Most of the interaction between the house directors and the sorority women happens during meals. Directors stock the kitchenettes with breakfast items the girls prepare themselves, but lunch and dinner is an all-house affair. Some houses have family-style dinners, some do a buffet walk-through and the majority of houses have at least one formal sit-down dinner a week where the tables are set with proper china and silverware, and food is served by men from various fraternities who work at the houses a few hours a week.

As a sign of respect, house directors are seated and served first. Meals are a chance for house directors to see the women interacting and speak with them about their day.

"I think that one aspect keeps that whole traditional family idea in place," Berdit said.

Hinrich said she takes time during dinners to talk to the women in her house about etiquette and dining, pointing out the differences from when she herself was a member of a sorority.

"(I tell the girls) the first thing you need to know is that if it is in a brown bag and pushed through a window it's not fine dining," Hinrichs said.

First time's a charm

Christine Brehan, who at 38, is the youngest house director, said dinner was the first experience she ever had at Delta Delta Delta or any sorority. She saw an advertisement for the house director position last year and underwent a phone interview. Not long after, she was invited to have dinner with the sorority.

"I was so freaked out because I was picturing all these perfect little blond robots, and they were so down to earth and so fun and funny," Brehan said. "I was just surprised because they were just so unexpected."

Brehan said she was worried she was too young for the job. She has never been married and does not have children of her own.

"Half the time I feel like I am channeling my own mother," Brehan said. "I find myself saying things like, 'Where is your coat?'"

Brehan had big shoes to fill in Tri Delta after the previous director, Sallie Snyder, retired. Snyder was a Tri Delta herself and their house director for four years. She was very active in the sorority activities.

Brehan said having a new director in the house was a difficult transition for some of the members who had become familiar and comfortable to the way Snyder had run things.

"I think it's hardest on the seniors," Brehan said. "I am nothing like Sallie, which isn't bad, it's just

different."

Since it is only her first year on the job, Brehan said she was hesitant the first semester to express herself when she didn't feel respected. She said her cook even told her to "grow a pair."

"I think it didn't occur to them (Tri Delta women) that things were going to be different," Brehan said. "I think they were ... expecting everything to happen as it always did. Sallie was so good at making things happen without anyone noticing."

R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Being respected by the sorority members in their respective houses is important to the house directors.

"There are times when I haven't (felt respected)," McHargue said. "I think every house mom feels that way. You can't please everybody, you can't do it."

During her first semester as director at Alpha Gamma Delta, Carolyn Ashby, 51, said she had one instance where she thought "this is either going to make me or break me."

"I went into the kitchenette, and the dishes were from one end of the kitchenette to the other end, and there was dirt all over the floor and the trash was overflowing," Ashby said. "I put a note up that said, 'This is disgusting, no one is having dinner until this is cleaned up.' I went to the store and came back, and there were four girls in there cleaning away, and it was all cleaned up by dinner. We haven't had a problem since."

Ashby graduated from WSU with a master's degree in student affairs administration. A car accident three years ago made it hard for her to continue her job at WSU, so when she saw the advertisement for the house director, she thought it would be more laid back. Ashby said now she knows you have to be ready for anything.

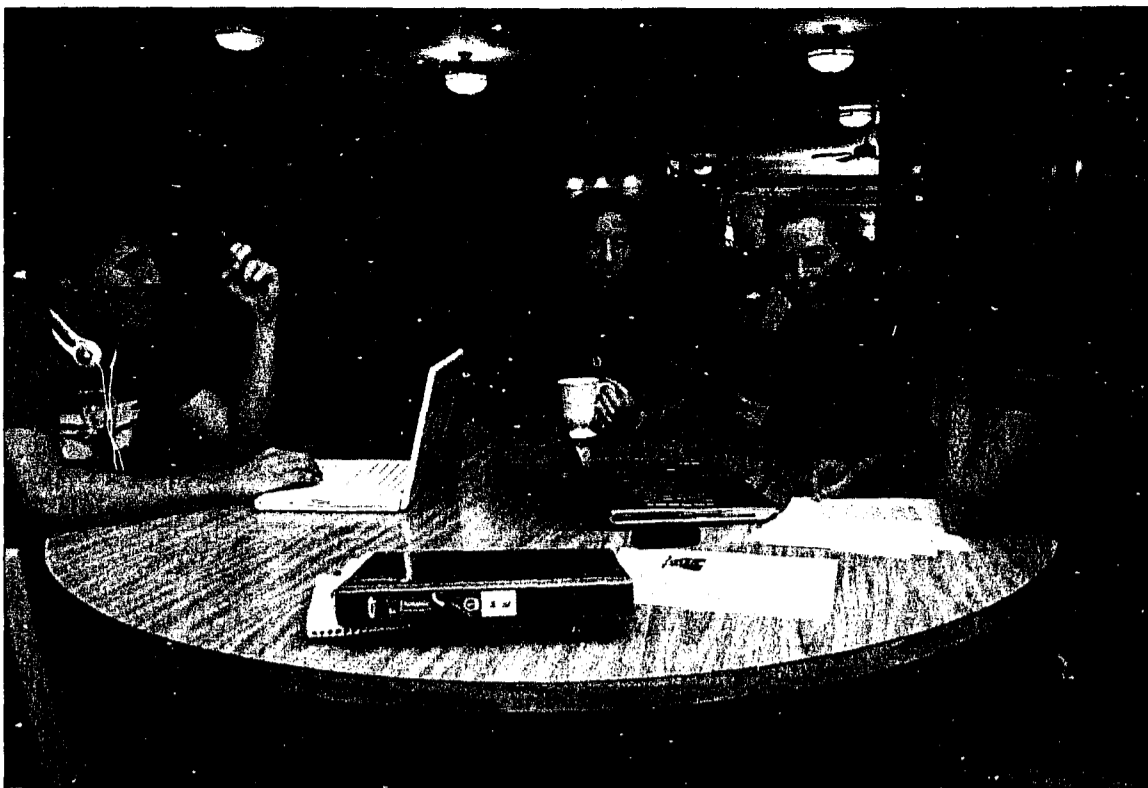
"You never know when there is a knock at the door," Ashby said. "One night at 10 p.m. they came banging at my door, 'Miss C, Miss C, the stall fell off the wall in the bathroom.' I went in the bathroom and the stalls, the dividers, had fallen off the back wall and crashed down. It was still attached to the back wall in two spots. The president (of the sorority) was on the floor yelling, 'Get me books, get me books.' They were propping it up with old textbooks."

The members living in the sorority aren't without responsibilities. They have chores, such as keeping their areas clean and vacuumed. Houses regularly schedule all-house cleanings where all of the members will spend a few hours together cleaning the whole house.

"The girls need the ownership, I think that's what chores do," Berdit said. "They also need to be able to get an education, so chores, hopefully we keep them down to a minimum. We have a house man-

"I was so freaked out because I was picturing all these perfect little blond robots, and they were so down to earth and so fun and funny."

Christine BREHAN
Delta Delta Delta house director



Jake Barber/Argonaut
Pi Beta Phi house mother Pam Berdit, second to right, sits at a table in her sorority house with Heidi Ness, right, Alicia Amberg, second to left, and Doug Anderson, left, from Delta Sigma Phi.

ager who is one of the girls, they work on those things within their executive board."

Hinrichs, who is called "Miss H" by the women in her house, said house directors, even though the women in the sorority often call them house moms, are not there to parent, but to be a resource.

"They don't need a mom, the job is to keep the house running the way they want, security for the house ... making the guests feel welcome," Hinrichs said.

Hinrichs and Berdit said some parents think they have more influence over the girls than they actually do. Hinrichs said it is all responsibility without any authority.

"Usually a freshman mom or dad will say to me, 'If you think 'Susie' is doing something she shouldn't, will you put her in line?'" Berdit said. "And I say, 'Honey, that is not in my job description.'"

Just because the house moms don't parent the women, they said they still have moments where they feel like a mother.

"There's times when I have to come in (to my room) and shut the door," Ashby said, "because I am frustrated with them, they'll leave messes or they're just getting on my nerves. I say, 'time out,' and I just come in here and shut the door."

Brehan said she feels the same way at times and goes for a long drive when life in the house starts to frustrate her.

"I get in my car and I am like, 'I can't be in this house anymore.'" Brehan said. "It's like, you know, any other mom who gets trapped with her kids."

When the house directors do

get overwhelmed they have one another to talk to. The house directors at UI get together once a month for lunch and to share ideas.

"We have a real good relationship," Ashby said. "We are friends."

Ashby said last May, once school was out, they all got together at a cabin on Whidbey Island and "let their hair down."

Apart from some of the more hectic times associated with a living situation of more than 60 women, there are times when the house directors get to observe life on campus and talk with the girls.

Becki Graff, a senior business and economics major, said Brehan has taken the time to get acquainted with the women and is really approachable.

"She's kind of in tune to what is going on in our lives," Graff said.

Hinrichs said she sometimes sits down with the women, to watch television or a movie. She said while she enjoys the women's company, she doesn't always understand or like the shows and

movies they watch.

"Our movies ... were musicals ... and you never saw Fred Astaire say to Ginger Rogers, 'Do you want a beer?'" Hinrichs said.

McHargue said she has built lasting relationships with the women in her house and gets wedding invitations from some of them. She said they often come back to visit her when they are in town.

"This is the first year in the years I have been doing this I have not had any girls get married," McHargue said.

Despite all the time they put into their jobs and the small living spaces, Hinrichs said most house directors enjoy what they do.

Brehan said the job is nothing like she imagined it would be, yet she learns something new every day she works with the women in her sorority.

"It's kind of indescribable," Brehan said. "It's nothing like what you would expect. I am constantly amazed at it and sometimes the stereotypes hit spot on, but most of the time they surprise me."

ASUI

from page A1

in the past 20 years," said Garrett Holbrook.

This year 1,942 students voted in the spring election.

Results in the ASUI Senate election were close, with Samantha Perez receiving the highest number of votes at 42 percent. The other senators elected are Sophia Tsai, Patrick Bradbury, Bryan Stafford, Grayson Stone, Chris Doman, Laura Ann Clark and Sean Erickson.

Perez said she ran a good campaign and was excited to get started.

"It felt great to be on the top," Perez said. "I wasn't really expecting it."

While eight new senators were elected, there were nine other candidates who didn't make the cut.

Marc Boisvert, who was 37 votes away from a Senate seat, said he didn't have some of the resources he wanted to campaign like the other candidates.

"I had two tests this week," Boisvert said. "If I had more time, it would have made a big difference. I also didn't have any budget. I didn't have the money for big posters."

There were sighs of disappointment among those who lost, but the mood was cheerful as everyone congratulated the new members of ASUI government.

TALKING

from page A1

in the Northwest, and an academic record that includes a Ph.D. from Oregon State in geography and research analyzing the Earth's land surface, which has drawn more than \$3 million in grants.

The rollercoaster nature of the presidential

selection process began with the formation of a search committee in June 2008. Former UI President Tim White left the university after four years to serve as chancellor at the University of California-Riverside. In January the SBOE announced five possible candidate to take over the position, only two finalists remain in the running — Don Burnett, dean of the University of Idaho Law School and Larry Penley, former president of Colorado State University.

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Matt Adams-Wenger/Argonaut

OurVIEW

No light task

New ASUI members have their hands full

As of Wednesday, the University of Idaho has some new leaders. All the candidates in this semester's ASUI election should be congratulated for the student participation they inspired — the second-most it's been in 20 years with 1,942 votes.

Student involvement is something our university's leaders have always worked to develop, and it shows a notable accomplishment that UI's student body is beginning to care. But our new leadership should not forget the heavy responsibilities they now face.

Because the 8 percent raise in student fees requested was not fully allotted — only 6.5 percent was approved — there are hard budget decisions to make. The university as a whole is and will be undergoing significant changes in the next year due to the financial crisis, and our newly elected government needs to strongly represent the students during this time.

Current ASUI President Garrett Holbrook has worked diligently during his term, especially in regard to the budget cuts and student fees, and his dedication should be matched in the next year,

because things aren't getting easier.

In the past, many candidates have made campaign promises that are forgotten after the ballots have been cast. Among this year's platforms were the hopes to make campus safer, improve communication between students and ASUI and give students accurate representation.

Kelby Wilson, ASUI president-elect, said specifically, he wants to expand service learning and ensure student fees are spent appropriately.

If the promises made during the campaign are carried out, UI's students will see a better campus next year despite hard times. Our newly elected leaders should remember the promises they made to the students who voted them into office, the responsibility they have to the students and the influence of their actions and decisions.

It is no light task to lead a university. To work for any student body is not something just to put on a resume. Take the new power, hold true to campaign promises and make a difference.

— SB

Changing the tax mantra

If death and taxes are the only two inevitabilities in life, then I sure hope the former causes much less pain than the latter. Then again, taxes just may be the death of everyone.

Doing my taxes when first asked to proved to be a difficult task. It was even more frustrating when the results came back with me owing money. The second and third attempts also showed me owing the federal government around \$50.

To say I felt bamboozled would be an understatement. I sat there and wasted my time filling out paperwork to find out I had to pay money to a government that would in turn put it into a stimulus package to help out taxpayers like me. It seemed completely asinine.

After an extremely unhelpful phone call to the IRS and further reflection about how idiotic the tax system is, I became

resigned to the fact I would have to seek professional tax help despite the fact I made less than \$100 a month on average.

Of course, the expert was able to find loopholes that now mean I will receive a tax refund, but after fees, I will barely have enough money left to afford a bargain-bin DVD at the local superstore. I will buy my copy of "Son-in-Law" starring Pauly Shore with the refund, but I will not be happy about it.

I showed the tax guru the documents I filled out and asked him where I went wrong. The response was rather alarming, because he said I did nothing wrong, but I just did not fill out enough of the tax return right.

The United States tax system is the equivalent of a back-alley, three-card

See MANTRA, page A10



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Obama impresses in short time

Politicians are so accustomed to us feeling cheated, when a prominent one promises anything decent anymore, we brush it off as a scam or at least unrealistic. Which probably explains why so many have accused President Barack Obama of talking the talk but not walking the walk — in fact, at least on foreign policy, he's done both.

I'm going to assign people's unfair, untimely and unjustified jumping of the gun in the form of comments that suggest Obama is popular but ultimately weak (think Peter

Wegner in "Commentary") as a result of this mentality. After all, when was the last time a politician promised something and then did it to most of his electors' satisfaction? I'm hard-pressed to remember one.

But at this point, I'm faced with a president who, on international affairs, is doing what I voted him in to do, and I couldn't be happier. What he has achieved is mind-blowing when one considers the current American and worldwide political environments. Obama goes to a Muslim



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country — Turkey — woos it and re-assures almost the whole Arab world we don't hate them, and we're not out to get them. He speaks of their Islamic roots respectfully, not admonishingly, like every single one of his predecessors.

He reconciles feuding European leaders. He carves a path for possible reconciliation with Russia, whom we had unnecessarily provoked, and elicits gestures of goodwill from Iran (President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad declared he's open to "constructive dialogue" with the U.S.), toning down what had become an insane pitch of jingoistic rhetoric towards that

See OBAMA, page A10

Off theCUFF

Quick takes on life from our editors

Murphy the man

When a conductor has to have emergency surgery two days before the opening night of a theater production, usually, things fall apart. But thanks to Michael Murphy, who is learning the score in about a day, "Die Fledermaus" will not go up in flames. You're a hero, professor Murphy — it's not an easy thing you're doing. Your pit orchestra thanks you, sir.

— Sydney

Muthaf---in' voicemail

Rapper Lil' Jon recently bought a new cell phone, and his new number is apparently the same as Miley Cyrus' old number. Since then, dozens of people have probably experienced the following: "Hello?" — "Ye-yah!" — "Uh, is this Miley?" — "What?!" — "I said, 'Is this Miley?'" — "What?!" — "Um, I can call back later." — "OK!"

Life is silly.

— Kevin

Busted

The saga of the two stupid Domino's employees and their food contamination gets even better. Of course, they've been fired. And it turns out, the woman in the videos is a registered sex offender who is prohibited from being alone with anyone younger than 16. Maybe these videos were just a way for her to express her juvenile urges without, you know, being arrested. Oh, wait.

— Holly

It's not hip

I keep seeing commercials for the new Nissan Cube. If you haven't heard, this is a car that's even boxier than the Scion xB or Honda Element. Why is it these ugly things are so popular? And why do I see, more often than not, the older crowd driving them?

— Alexis

Creativity

I discovered Wednesday that I hate creative people, because I realized I am not. It seems I can only absorb other people's ideas and combine them. Why can't I pull cool ideas out of thin air? I know I am pouting. I guess that is something that I am good at.

— Jens

Huey Lewis and the ...

Do you know today's news? Hear about a new movie coming out? Know the ranking of your favorite baseball team? How about what's happening with Mexico's drug wars or the U.S. federal stimulus money? If you answered yes to any of these questions, thank the media. I'm tired of being looked at as a pre-evolutionary mongoloid or worse than a used car salesman because I want a job that lets people know what is happening in their world.

— Christina

Not an answer

At the State Board of Education meeting Thursday, the board issued a loud "no comment" when it came to questions about the UI presidential search. Not only is this completely unacceptable, it properly reflects the secretive and self-destructive nature of this body. This is a real issue — stop closing your eyes while you wish it would go away. We won't stop caring, we won't stop digging and we demand answers.

— Lianna

Could this be true?

If you don't pay your exorcist, can you be repossessed?

— Levi

So long, and best wishes

This is the last week at the Photo Bureau for our adviser, Dan Bickley, and I just wanted to let him know all the photographers say thanks and wish him the best of luck. See ya, man. You'll be missed.

— Jake

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

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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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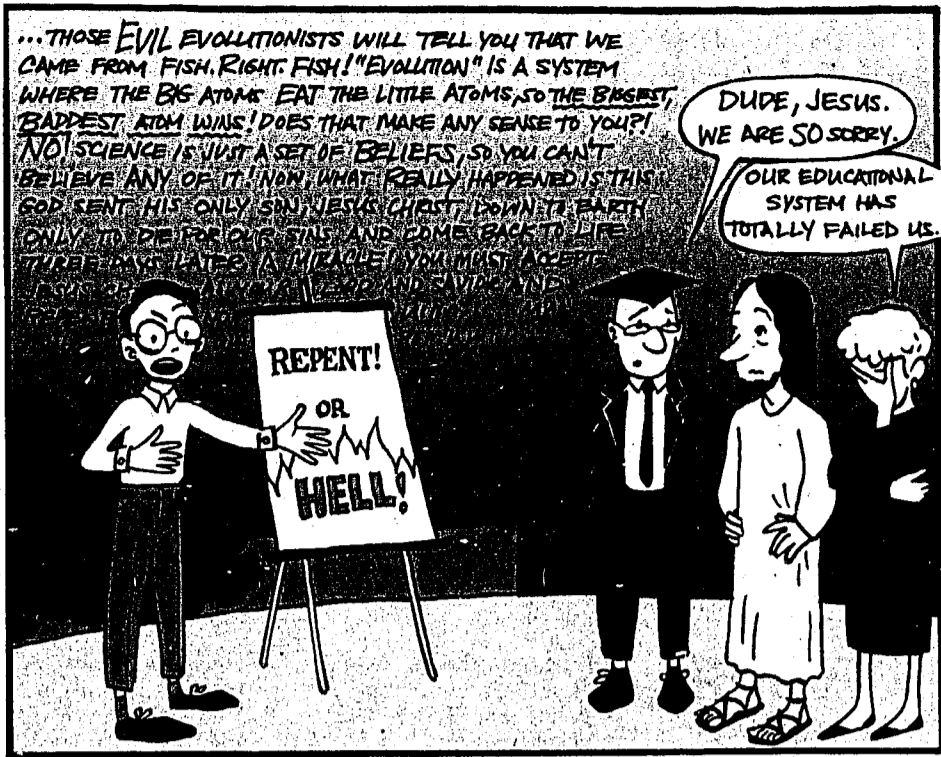
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UI STUDENT MEDIA BOARD

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.



Stasia Burrington/Argonaut

Myth of creating jobs

It's easier to catch people's attention if you've got a theme. The theme of this recession is "jobs." It's all we hear about: losing them, looking for them, protecting them and, most of all, trying to create them. Creating jobs is a noble goal but doesn't help if your methods are all useless.

We are usually given three methods by which we can create jobs: 1) through government programs and investment, 2) by "spreading the work" and using the most labor-intensive techniques in the workplace and 3) through increased consumer spending.

All three methods are myths.

Whenever we're wondering why or how something helps the economy, we have to ask ourselves if it produces any additional wealth. We have to ask, "Does this make the country more prosperous and how?" This is especially important to do with "job creation," because it is easy to make it look like you have created additional jobs when in fact you've created nothing. As reasonable people, let's test each method.

Method 1: Does government investment create new wealth? Government employment programs look like they're adding wealth to the economy, because it's easy to see a million dollars being spent, but it isn't easy to see where it came from. However, we can't ignore the fact the money being spent to build our roads or educate our children used to belong to taxpayers and was collected from them. So, does government investment create new wealth? No. Every dollar spent by Uncle Sam to "create a job" in transportation, education or public service is a dollar less that somebody has to spend "creating a job" in retail, manufacturing or services by buying something he or she needs. After all is said and done, nothing is added to the economy.

Method 2: Many people seem to think any task that requires lots of workers is automatically a "jobs program." If

we use workers in a factory, instead of machines, we will create jobs. If we sort all our mail by hand, we will create jobs. If we make sure a different union worker is hired to do each minor task, we will create jobs. But do any of these things create additional wealth? No. Jobs aren't free — the money to pay these new employees has to come from somewhere. If "spreading the work" actually worked, why not give up on freight trains and instead hire hundreds of thousands of people to carry grain on their backs? It would require a lot of work, but nobody would be any richer afterward, and the economy wouldn't be any further ahead.

Method 3: We have been taught it is necessary to maintain high levels of consumer spending in order to keep the economy afloat and create jobs. Does

spending our money instead of saving it make us more prosperous? Of course not. If you save your money, it is still available to be spent whenever it is needed, and in the meantime, it can be used by banks and investors to finance new businesses and endeavors (people who actually are producing additional wealth for the economy). Let's think about it for just a moment. We are told the government needs to take our tax dollars and give them to banks so the banks won't fail and ruin the economy. Yet at the same time, we are told if we put our money in the bank ourselves instead of running out to spend it, the economy won't recover. Does that make any sense? Could it be saving is actually good for the economy, and increased consumer spending doesn't really create jobs after all?

Of course, the picture is not all negative. There actually are ways to add wealth to the economy through enterprise, innovation and high productivity (hard work), but none of the methods we're being sold are going to do it, and while they're busy doing no good, they may actually do some harm.



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Parking fee hike necessary

Carl Root
Special to The Argonaut

A new fee structure, designed to accommodate long-range transportation improvements and parking and transportation operations, is being proposed. The change, supported by a long-range plan and last year's fee proposal recommendations, is needed to sustain operations and services. Effective organizational planning, accurate budgeting and forecasting and prudent management of funds is crucial at all times but especially so in light of the current economic downturn.

A long-range plan and fee proposal has been developed to help Parking and Transportation Services at the University of Idaho address economic challenges and meet the future transportation needs of the Moscow campus. The proposal was derived and based on the information gathered through the Transportation Plan Update process and through concerted planning efforts within Parking and Transportation Services during the last year.

Transportation planning and research efforts launched last year identified parking fees at UI as historically, and currently, too low

to sustain an effective and safe campus transportation system. While Parking and Transportation Services has taken steps to reduce operating expenses, the department has assumed the additional expense of annual snow removal.

To sustain the parking system and generate sufficient revenue to meet future campus needs and improvements endorsed by the Transportation Advisory Group, a correctional upgrade in parking fees must be assessed to users over the next four-to-five years. The \$74 Residential (Green/Silver/Purple) permit price has been identified as too low compared to the Commuter (Red) permit, which currently is \$144. Our priority is to keep commuter lots (Blue) affordable while correcting the rates for residential student permits to equal that of commuter students by the year 2014.

Parking and Transportation Services is a self-sustaining organization without the support of external funding. Financial planning proformas have provided an accurate long-range financial planning tool for use in computing fee bases and correcting undervalued and/or inequitable permit pricing. The Transportation Plan has

identified needed improvements, and it is important to begin efforts now to ensure the campus transportation infrastructure will meet future needs. The full proposal outlining recommendations, operation costs, financial forecasting proformas and proposed projects identified to meet future transportation needs (including pedestrian safety improvements) can be viewed at www.uidaho.edu/parking.

We realize fee increases may be viewed negatively when enacted during an economic downturn. However, the gradual fee increase over a five-year period will improve the safety and quality of the campus transportation system for its users. No one is certain what vehicle use will look like in the future, but we do know effective transportation systems and infrastructure for pedestrians, bicycles and transit will be important. Even with a fee increase, UI's parking rates are reasonable and, in fact, can be compared favorably to those charged at other universities. We encourage you to examine the plans underway for improvement.

Root is the manager of UI Parking and Transportation Services.

FEMINIST FRIDAY

Amazon's glitch

Web giant's mistake: censorship in disguise?

Amazon.com was the cause for a lot of controversy last weekend. More than 57,000 books suddenly disappeared from Amazon's rankings because of "adult" content and caused uproar as the affected titles were predominately books with gay, lesbian and feminist content. Rape survivor advocacy books were affected as well. Yet heterosexual "adult" books such as "Playboy: The Complete Centerfolds" by Chronicle Books, which features pictures of more than 600 naked women, remained ranked.

The Associated Press reported that Craig Seymour, author of a gay memoir, "All I Could Bare," noticed his sales rank had been dropped back in February and then was restored after Amazon had told him his book had been "classified as an adult product."

The "adult" category is excluded from some searches and bestseller lists and affects the visibility and sales of books.

The missing books were brought to attention largely thanks to Twitter. Authors noticed their books had been removed from the sales rankings on Amazon, and within hours, hundreds of people were expressing their outrage, confusion and concern on Twitter. The social media service became the hotbed of theories, links to breaking news stories and petitions.

By Sunday evening, an Amazon spokesperson stated the entire situation was a "glitch." The spokesperson said the problem was due to "an embarrassing and ham-fisted cataloging error" and ensured there was no new policy regarding "adult" titles, yet a number of titles affected by the "glitch" remain without sales rankings.

The company said a broad number of categories were affected, including health, mind and body, reproductive and sexual medicine and erotica. The company also acknowledged the glitch not only affected the sales rank of books, it also removed books from Amazon's main product search.

Bloggers and Tweeters aren't buying the glitch explanation and continue to accuse Amazon of modern book-burning and blatant censorship.

Some conspired the apparent glitch to be a homophobic, misogynist campaign on Amazon's part to censor the products

available to readers. When products are labeled adult, the titles lose their bestseller ranking, which shows how well one title sells compared with another and affects the books' sales.

I find it highly unlikely Amazon would selectively remove more than 57,000 books because of certain homophobic or misogynist beliefs. Still, one can't help but wonder how a leading and sophisticated e-tailer company could let a "glitch" like that happen and not respond to the public outcry for two days.

The "glitch" has obvious anti-queer, anti-feminist motives, which is the reason behind the uproar and theories.

While the autobiography of Ellen Degeneres, for example, was de-ranked, Ron Jeremy's autobiography was not. Other titles, such as James Baldwin's "Giovanni's Room" and Annie Proulx's "Brokeback Mountain," were also among the queer-theme books that lost their sales ranking.

Jessica Valenti's "Full Frontal Feminism" was also classified as an adult product despite the fact that her book is targeted at teenagers. On her Web site, feministing.com, the most highly trafficked site for progressive women, Valenti wrote:

"Last night, after finding out about the Amazon craziness, I immediately called my editor, Brooke Warner, over at Seal Press. She spoke to their Amazon rep today, and he told her it was definitely not a glitch," she wrote. The Amazon rep said Amazon has been experimenting with the way they dole out content specifically so people who are searching won't run into links to products that might be offensive. "It's all about sales for them, and it's not about censorship."

Apparently, feminist and gay books are offensive, but 600 naked women in Playboy isn't nor is a title like Nicolosi's "A Parent's Guide to Preventing Homosexuality," which was unaffected by the glitch.

Whether it was a technical glitch or someone tampering with the system, Amazon has got to step it up and come out with some queer and women friendly statements.

A "glitch" like this, whether intended or not, carries strong anti-gay and anti-feminist messages and deserves an apology, not just an explanation.



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Is my bed too comfortable?

"I don't know very much, but what I do know I know better than anybody, and I don't want to argue about it ... My mind is not a bed to be made and re-made." — James Agate

In recent opinion columns, we are advised by one author (Benjamin Ledford) not to trust economic deadbeats (even though the author has previously stated he is not an economist) and to be wary of statistical claims (and then proceeds to advocate for a specific one). I combine and extend the author's statements — we should not trust opinion writers who cherry pick statistical claims.

Regarding the economic deadbeat article: the author's question is essentially, "Why do we entrust the U.S. government to manage our money, as they have mismanaged it regularly in the past?"

- Some questions:
- What are the limitations of alternatives to our existing government? How can we get to these "states," and how do we monitor our progress?
 - Who is this government we should blame? Is this government not a government of the people and by the people? Should we not blame ourselves? And, in and of itself, how is blame helpful?
 - Additionally, why just blame the Democrats in the examples provided? Didn't we have a Republican president for 20 of the past 32 years? Didn't Republicans own the House of Representatives from 1995-2007 and the presidency for 20 of the last 28 years?
 - Perhaps most importantly, "Why should we expect a more ideal government or society?" Hasn't history shown us all human groups evolve based on new social or environmental landscapes? Isn't any entity attempting to represent diverse stakeholders going to find it difficult to balance all their interests? And if they don't, then why should certain stakeholders receive special treatment? Isn't our government a tool that was created before the invention of modern problems, and its structural features are resistant to change?

Regarding the recent article on the "past" problem of gender pay inequity, the author stated: "I often hear claims made — even statistical claims — which I find hard to believe ... I find the claim of (gender) pay discrimination hard to swal-

low because I could not imagine any of the employers I have had acting in such a way at all, let alone doing it consistently or to a significant degree ... Thankfully, I do not have to wonder about these (gender pay inequity) claims anymore, because it turns out pay discrimination between the sexes is not the problem some would make it out to be. (Let us) ... focus our efforts on real problems."

The author has apparently not experienced gender pay inequity, and these claims do not appear to be "believable" in his world view. And, in violation of his recommended statistical skepticism, he cherry picks one statistical claim that happens to support his world view — in the social sciences, we call this a confirmation bias.

The author responded to the strong opinions concerning this opinion: "There was a relatively low amount of personal opinion in the (previous) column, and the strongest statements of opinion were those condemning pay discrimination when it is discovered."

Of the roughly 555 words in the author's article, 355 were stated opinion, and 200 words were about the study. However, the context of the quoted research was for the express purpose of supporting the author's opinion. In a follow-up, the author brushes off any responsibility regarding critiques of the research that he cited — that it should be pointed at the researchers. However, the author "legitimized" the research by choosing to argue for its premise instead of other premises, and we can critique his judgment in this matter. While it's true the author did soften his message by mentioning instances of pay discrimination should be rectified, the thrust of his argument was that a statistical claim supported his beliefs, therefore gender discrimination is a no longer a problem.

Having an opinion is simple. Having well founded, robust arguments is difficult. I encourage the opinion authors at The Argonaut not to argue simply, but to argue well, as was done in Leontina Hormel's recent critique of Ledford's work. Writing well is difficult. I encourage you to keep up your efforts on behalf of the reading public, even if it should draw criticism such as my own. And please consider the liberating act of remaking the bed — I'm happy to occasionally help out.

Craig Watt is a graduate student in the Department of Conservation Social Sciences and is the former president of the Graduate and Professional Student Association at the University of Idaho.



Craig Watt
Special to The Argonaut

MANTRA

from page A8

Monte game. In appearance, it looks legitimate, but those with a better understanding of how the system really works know what a con it is.

In essence, the government is hoping to pick off marks who either unwittingly pay taxes that are unnecessary or reap the benefits of people not receiving their full refund. The public has a false sense of security when it comes to filing tax returns on their own.

It is in equally poor taste for companies to rake in substantial profits for helping the unknowing citizen try to relieve the yoke of the federal tax system. I am not saying these organizations should not be paid, but the government, not the average citizen, should foot the

bill for these services.

The people of America never approved of an income tax, but if the government deems it necessary, then the process should be thoroughly explained to every man and woman being taxed.

No taxation without representation was one of the cornerstone principles on which the United States was founded. While representation is no longer an issue, maybe it is time for American citizens to take up a new rallying cry.

No taxation without education should be what people push for in today's America. It is time the government is forced into explaining how the IRS truly works or reforming the system to make it easier for the population to understand.

It is useless to have representation if no one being represented understands how taxation works. I know I would be more than willing to trade in one of my congressmen for a little tax help once a year.

OBAMA

from page A8

country. This is huge, folks. Never in my wildest dreams would I have expected the man I filled in the little box for on the ballot would do so many things right on the issues I cared most about. But perhaps what causes me to be so enthusiastic about our new president is what causes others to find small-minded and altogether lame ways to take shots at him, usually to no useful end. Just look at the barrage of criticism before and after his European jaunt calling on him to "follow-up with action"

or warning him he would "test the limits of popularity" (French President Nicolas Sarkozy has to get his name in the paper somehow). There's an automatic assumption in these that the president's only positive contributions are due to his charm and good looks, not his brains or hard work. That would be ridiculous, of course, since he's so young and "inexperienced."

But his short record so far has proved he's experienced in something. Now, understand that I think his achievements are great given the domestic and worldwide political context he does them in — if I were handed a perfect world, I'd expect him to do

certain things differently. It can also be argued that his maiden voyage yielded little real success if we alter the criteria. He got little commitment from other NATO powers on an increased Afghan troop presence and did not significantly alter Sarkozy or German Chancellor Angela Merkel's reticence on economic stimuli.

But again, I judge his achievements by considering the context in which they were made, and my verdict is favorable. So, amid all of the nay-saying in the media, I feel I need to give the man a little love for the already Earth-shattering work he's managed to do.

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MOON DAY

JOIN US FOR BBQ

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the grove

A Gem State gem

Local jewelers find passion in work

Alexiss Turner
Argonaut

When Sandra Hardgrove met her husband 33 years ago, she expected a rock on her finger — not to be standing in half a million dollars worth.

The room sparkles like a disco ball, even in the dim light. Strings of stones run down the walls between cases of crystals on rotating discs. Diamonds glimmer under spotlights. A square, glass table in the middle of the room keeps pointing fingers out and colorful gems in, each section boasting a different color of the rainbow.

Standing beside a display case of several oval-shaped beauties, Hardgrove eyes them and laughs.

"Mother nature is quite amazing," she said.

It's true, the Hardgroves have a hobby — and it's the best a girl could have.

The couple opened their first gem shop, "Rock Art," in 1984 in a space of just 18 square feet. At the time, Hardgrove said an 18-inch industrial saw used to cut rock took up most of the area.

Potentially valuable rocks or rough rock, Hardgrove said, are scavenged then cut into desired shapes. He said, when the couple isn't in the shop, they're in the desert hunting down new specimens.

Although they have no formal training, Hardgrove said she and her husband spent the first decade of their marriage at gem shows around the U.S. showcasing their findings.

Once the couple tired of the rigors of traveling, they decided to start a business. They settled in California and Iowa before moving to Lewiston. Hardgrove said she was

most attracted by the size of the town.

"We'd rather be in a place like this," she said.

Hardgrove said customers normally come in with some idea of what they are already looking for. She said the range of requests is wide.

"I brought rap jewelry to Lewiston, Idaho."

Jacqueline FORSMANN
Goldsmith

"Some people will hear about a stone and they have to have it," she said. "Others are just looking for a birthstone."

Goldsmith Jacqueline Forsmann said most customers want a stone or setting they have seen on TV or in a magazine. She said it is important for the store to keep up with changing fads.

"If someone wants it, there must be some movie star out there or in a soap opera," she said.

When long chains and other "bling" became a fad in recent years, Forsmann said she scouted incessantly to find those items and bring them into the shop.

"I brought rap jewelry to Lewiston, Idaho," she said.

Many times customers will come in with their own stones, old or new, and request a new setting or design. Forsmann works with all customers to assure they get what they're paying for.

"It's really important to talk to them and draw a picture," she said. "There's nothing worse than having their face drop when you show them the (finished product)."

Forsmann said some customers come in with an idea and don't realize it is out of their price range.

"You have to narrow things down," she said. "At some point, you have to get to that delicate bottom line."

Hardgrove said stones are priced based on color, clarity and the quality of the cut. More expensive

See JEWELERS, page B4.

TAKING THE STAGE



Jake Barber/Argonaut

The cast of the play "The Secret Garden" poses during rehearsal Thursday at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre. The play, directed by Roger Wallins, will be featured this weekend, during Mom's Weekend, and next weekend along with the musical "Die Fledermaus," which will be performed at the Hartung Theatre.

Secret gardens, bats and Elvis

Jordan Gray
Argonaut

One tells a tale of bats and infidelity, the other tells of children who mimic their elders. The two plays, while worlds apart in style, are bound to bring laughs during their Moscow premieres.

"Die Fledermaus" and "The Secret Garden" will both open this weekend, just in time for community members and theater aficionado mothers to enjoy the shows.

"Die Fledermaus," which translates to "The Bat," is a production of the University of Idaho Department of Theatre Arts, the Lionel Hampton School of Music and the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences.

"You would think with a title like

'Die Fledermaus' it would be really hoity-toity and very operatic, and it's not," said director and undergraduate vocal student David Lee-Painter. "It's really silly and funny, and it goes by in an eye blink."

The play, originally composed by Johann Strauss II in 1874, is set in the '50s for the UI production.

"It's kind of an 'I Love Lucy' caper," Lee-Painter said. "It's a revenge story. The plot is simple enough that frequently, productions are set at different times and places — it's full of all sorts of fun."

The premise is all of the characters end up at a party, where Rosalinda Eisenstein's husband hits on her in disguise, one of his friends gets revenge on Eisenstein for dressing him up as a bat while drunk and by the

end of the second act, they all end up in jail. The work is an operetta that Kristian Bucy, who plays Rosalinda Eisenstein, explained.

"Operetta is your bridge between musical theater and opera," she said. "You have to have the acting ability, the dancing ability — you have to be a triple threat in music theater but have the pipes of an opera star."

Because of the singing requirements, performers take an opera workshop class to help them prepare for the production.

Bucy had nothing but praise for costumers, lighting and other backstage personnel who have helped create the comic book-style look for the show.

See GARDENS, page B4



Timothy Mooney: keeping Moliere alive

Anne-Marje Rook
Argonaut

Timothy Mooney is keeping Moliere alive and funny as ever. With his one-man performance, "Moliere Than Thou," Mooney has travelled all over the U.S. and Europe to preserve Moliere's wit and humor.

Mooney views Moliere as the second-best playwright to ever have lived, behind only Shakespeare, and has translated and re-written 15 Moliere plays and incorporated them into his 90-minute one-man act.

Some of Moliere's humor and wit had been lost in previous translations, but French professor Sarah Nelson said Mooney has managed to keep the humor and verse in his translation. Last summer, Nelson

attended the American Association of Teachers of French in Belgium where she saw Mooney's performance and has since been the contact to bring him to University of Idaho.

Nelson suggested the performance to Core Director Jean Henscheid, who in turn thought it would be fitting for the Runstad Lecture Series.

"Moliere is interdisciplinary, personified," Henscheid said. "He draws on so many cultures and so many disciplines. The idea we could expose students of all majors to a renaissance man like him was perfect."

Nelson has worked hard to spread the word about this one-man act.

"I really want people to show up, because it's a very entertaining show,"

she said. "It's well done, very entertaining and informative. It's social commentary — funny criticism of Moliere's society — but it works for today's society, too."

In the performance, Mooney appears as Moliere himself, adopting his complex language and witty commentary. "Moliere Than Thou" revives the age of Louis XIV and the beloved plays of the "French Shakespeare." The play explores relations between man and woman, master and servant and pokes fun at the rich and the pompous.

"People generally find it much better than they thought it would be," Nelson said.

Nelson said in his mind, Mooney is Moliere. Moliere himself struggled to make a liv-

ing as a playwright and spent 12 years on the road. Mooney has been doing it for six years and plans to do it for six more.

Nelson said Mooney tours around the U.S. twice a year, once each semester.

Mooney's performance has won numerous awards and recognitions.

A reviewer for The Orlando Fringe wrote: "A delight for all those who appreciate the barbed satire and slyly nuanced language in Moliere's classic skewerings of the rich and pompous."

Henscheid said she wants students to come because the play is "funnier than heck."

The play will be at 7 p.m. Monday in Administration Auditorium. Admission is free.

Courtesy Photo

MOM'S WEEKEND CALENDAR

FRIDAY

3-7 p.m. Check-in and pick up brunch and dinner tickets, totes and general information at the University of Idaho Bookstore by the Student Union Building. Alumni are invited to stop by and pick up a free gift.

6-9 p.m. The UI Dairy Club and the College of Agricultural and Life Science Ambassadors' Wine and Cheese Tasting will exhibit cheese and Vandal sausage, followed by a silent auction in the Student Union Building Silver and Gold rooms. Admission is \$14 for one ticket or \$25 for two tickets at the door.

7 and 9:30 p.m. The movie "Mamma Mia" will be screened at the Student Union Building Borah Theater. Tickets are \$3 for general admission and \$2 for students.

7:30 p.m. "Die Fledermaus," a comic opera, will be performed at the Hartung Theatre. Tickets cost \$11 for adults, \$9 for seniors and \$7 for UI students, faculty and staff. Tickets can be purchased by calling 885-7212 or by visiting the university's theatre Web site at: www.uitheatre.com.

7:30 p.m. The Intoleristas, a Moscow group, presents "Roy Zimmerman-Real American: Funny Songs about Ignorance, War and Greed" at the 1912 Center on Third Street, across from Moscow High School. Tickets are \$10

at the door, but limited to 250 audience members. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. For details visit <http://www.moscowcares.com/wingding> or email intoleristas@moscow.com.

8 p.m. One World Café on the corner of Sixth and Main street in downtown Moscow will host two live performances Friday and Saturday. Friday, local band Full Circle will play at 8 p.m. Saturday night, Curt Krause will perform. One World Café features different musical acts throughout each month. The schedule can be found at the Café or at its Web site at <http://www.one-world-cafe.biz>.

SATURDAY

8 a.m. The Kappa Kappa Gamma sponsored Key for a Cure Fun Run will start at Memorial Gym by the library and Teaching and Learning Center. The run costs \$17 with a T-shirt and \$10 without.

9:30 a.m. The Student Union Building Ballroom on Deakin Ave. will host a brunch featuring the University of Idaho Jazz Choir. Tickets cost \$15 per person.

10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Moscow Food Co-op presents Bike Fest. The morning starts with a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Latah Trail at 9 a.m., a bicycle booty hunt at 10 a.m. A bicycle swap-and-sell will take place from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. At noon, there will be a ribbon cutting for the new bike racks at the Co-op to start live music by the Moscow Volunteer Peace Band. Bicycle repairs by Follett Mountain Sports and Paradise Creek Bicycles will also be available during this time. All Bike Fest events will be held at the Co-op on Fifth Street in downtown Moscow.

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Palouse Patchers will hold their 29th Annual Quilt Show, "Nature's Magic," at the Latah County Fairgrounds across from Safeway and the Eastside Marketplace. There will be a quilt raffle and display as well as refreshments. The cost is \$3 per person, payable on site.



Attendants at the 12th annual Moscow Hemp Festival look over the different goods for sale on April 19, 2008. This year the event will take place Saturday at East City Park. File Photo

10 a.m. Moscow Hempfest will be held starting at 10 a.m. Saturday in East City Park for the 13th year. Featured guests will include Rep. Tom Trail (a hemp advocate), Chubbs Toga, the Oolongs, Luau Cinder and Sugar Cane and Outpost.

11 a.m. The Phi Delta Theta fraternity will host its annual Turtle Derby on Elm Street between the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority and the Phi Delta Theta fraternity houses. There is no cost to watch the turtles race, but the event is a philanthropic fundraiser with entertainment and an auction.

1-3 p.m. University Residences will sponsor a free social at the Living Learning Community by the Student Recreation Center.

1-3 p.m. The Organización de Estudiantes Latino Americanos and the Lambda Theta Phi Latin fraternity will host a traditional Latin lunch, Noche de Cultura Latina and Loteria, a Mexican form of bingo. The events will be held at St. Augustine's Catholic Center on Deakin Street, across from the Student Union Building. Lunch is offered between 1-3 p.m. and Loteria from 3-5 p.m. The price is \$9 for food and \$5 to play Loteria and is payable at the door. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the game.

4 p.m. The Lionel Hampton School of Music will host Flute Fest in the Recital Hall. Flute Fest features Idaho music students showcasing their instrumental

talents. The event is free. The School of Music is located at 1010 Blake Ave. in Moscow. For information, contact the LHSOM at 885-6231.

6-9 p.m. A Dueling Pianos performance and dinner will be held at the Student Union Building Ballroom on Deakin Street, across from the University of Idaho Bookstore. Tickets cost \$25 per person.

7 and 9:30 p.m. The movie "Mamma Mia" will be screened a second time at the Student Union Building Borah Theater.

7-10 p.m. Mix, a martini bar in the Eastside Marketplace, will be holding an evening of martini tasting and an auction of art created by Moscow community members. Final bids will need to be placed by 9 p.m. The event's proceeds will benefit an HIV program called Inland Oasis. Mix is in the Eastside Marketplace, but tickets are available prior to the event at Safari Pearl in downtown Moscow.

7:30 p.m. "Die Fledermaus" will be performed a second time at the Hartung Theatre.

8 p.m. Curt Krause will perform at One World Café. The Café features different musical acts throughout each month. The schedule can be found at the Café or at its Web site at <http://www.one-world-cafe.biz>.

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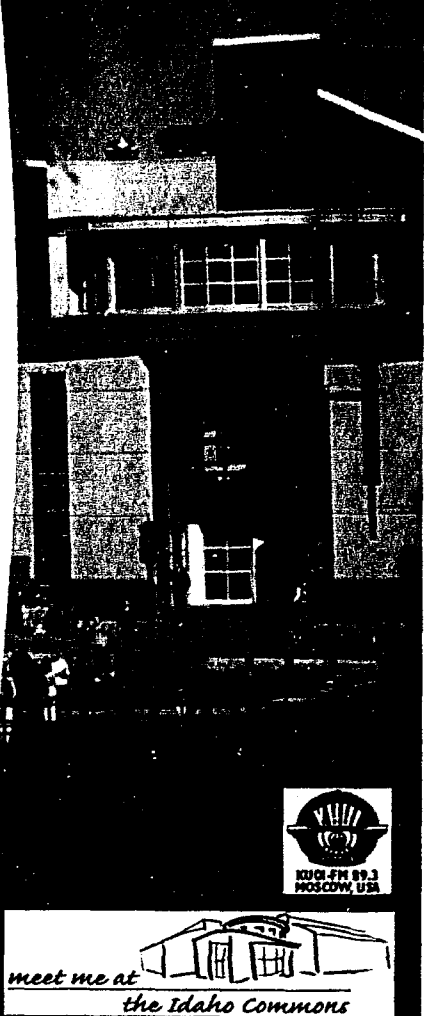
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SUNDAY

Noon - 5 p.m. Palouse Patchers will hold the second day of their 29th Annual Quilt Show, "Nature's Magic."

2 p.m. "Die Fledermaus," a play, will be performed a third time at the Hartung Theatre.

2 p.m. "The Secret Garden," a play, will be performed in the Kenworthy Performing Arts Center. The play will also be featured at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

	Commons HOURS	SUB HOURS
Monday - Thursday	7am - midnight	7am - midnight
Friday	7am - 8pm	7am - 8pm
Saturday	9am - 8pm	9am - 8pm
Sunday	10am - midnight	10am - midnight

Dollhouse: The best show you aren't watching

Meagan Robertson
Argonaut

Spring always brings new mid-season shows — some survive but most don't. This year FOX brought something different to the table: a drama about a group of people who are brainwashed



"Dollhouse"

and then re-programmed to be whatever their customer wants them to be. Welcome to Joss Whedon's "Dollhouse."

Eliza Dushku, most famous for her role as Faith in one of Whedon's other hit series, "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," stars as Echo, one of the dolls who is used most frequently. During the show's short run, Echo has been a midwife, a hot girlfriend, a replacement for a deceased wife, a thief and a kidnapping negotiator among many others, all before returning home to the Dollhouse at the end of the night to be, well, brainwashed and boring.

What really sells this show is its creativity. Every episode features something different, as Echo is needed for a new whack-job assignment that will typically put her in some sort of danger. While it's a "mission of the week" kind of show, it still follows the main plotline of trying to figure out what the Dollhouse is, where it came from and why it exists and why Echo is so important. She's not like the rest of the dolls — at all.

Oh, and there's also an ex-doll, Alpha, who's a psychopath and went on a murder rampage, killing everyone around Echo except for her. No big deal. Oh, and there's an FBI Agent getting mysterious tips while he tries to solve the puzzle that is the Dollhouse. Oh, the drama.

Unfortunately, this fantastic show will probably face cancellation. Nine episodes since it's Feb. 13 premiere earlier this year, "Dollhouse" has been roughing it in its late Friday night time-slot. Ratings haven't been fantastic, but a lot of people do enjoy the show — not that it matters anyway, as tons of awesome shows (like "Pushing Daisies") are canceled with little explanation.

If you're already a "Dollhouse" fan — keep watching so it will stay on air, preferably during its regularly scheduled time. If you're a Whedon fan who's curious — definitely check it out. It's worth the 55 minutes you'll spend on the couch. To everyone else — this is the program to watch. While the series starts out a little slow, each episode shows more and more development and improvement. So hopefully, it will live on for a second season and hopefully, on a different night.

"Dollhouse" airs at 9 p.m. Friday nights on FOX. New episodes return April 24.

NOW YOU SEE IT ...



Magician Nate Staniforth performs a magic trick with a piece of string as the audience gathers around him Wednesday in the Administration Building Auditorium. Jake Barber/Argonaut

It's time for Bo the Dog's book

Leanne Italle
Associated Press

Now that Bo has his paws firmly planted in the White House, let the marketing begin.

A small Virginia publisher is racing out the first picture book for kids featuring the precious little Portie, with the pup on the cover in his colorful lei.

How'd they do it so fast? After all, Bo just made his official debut Tuesday.

"I would suggest that I've got some inside Washington information, but that wouldn't be entirely

truthful," said the author, Naren Aryal, who is also the publisher and CEO of Mascot Books in Herndon.

Aryal said Thursday he began writing a generic Portuguese water dog story about two months ago after the Obamas seemed to have their dog choices down to a Portie or a Labradoodle to accommodate first daughter Malia's allergies.

Bo himself was inserted last minute and some fresh White House traditions like first lady Michelle Obama's new vegetable garden were incorporated to make the book more Obama specific.

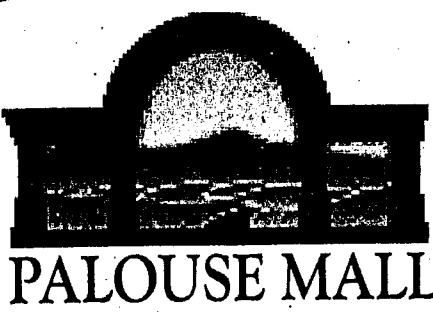
The illustrations are digital, speeding up the process to get "Bo, America's Commander in Leash" out in less than a week.

Mascot Books, with six employees, specializes in titles about school and professional sports mascots. For the Bo book, the company already has 50,000 preorders, with a healthy first print run of about 100,000 planned, Aryal said. The book, which retails for \$14.95 and is aimed at kids 4 to 10, will be sold through major retailers and should be out in about five days, he said.

In the story, illustrated in-house by Danny Moore, the energetic first dog is the narrator and takes readers on a tour of the White House. He plays basketball with the president and shares White House rituals like the Easter Egg Roll. Fact boxes with tidbits about the history of the White House itself and a collage of famous pets are included. Did you know John Quincy Adams kept an alligator there?

A tuckered Bo curls up on a bean bag bed for a well-deserved rest at the end, Aryal said.

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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

The Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre seeks a responsible, detail-oriented House Manager. Responsibilities include web site maintenance, inventory control, building upkeep, film projection, & customer service. Computer proficiency required. Previous theater or cinema experience a

Employment

plus but will train the right person. Must be able to work nights & weekends, 12 mos, approx 20 hours/week. Send resume, letter of interest, & contact info for 3 references to Julie Ketchum, KPAC, P.O. Box 8126, Moscow, ID 83843. 208-882-4127. Application deadline April 24, 2009.

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Employment

do light maintenance for a restaurant building and grounds. Duties include vacuuming, taking out garbage and cardboard boxes, cleaning and stocking bathrooms, scrubbing and mopping kitchen floors, etc. Must be available to work 5 nights a week on a regular basis, able to lift a full 55 gallon garbage can as needed. Rate of pay: DOE Hours/week: 15hrs/wk evenings Job located in Pullman

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Employment

physicians, and staff. Follows directions, work schedules, procedures, methods and instructions with regards to the use of specific supplies and equipment. Other duties as assigned. Must have the ability to read and understand product labeling and comprehend simple mixing measurements as well as the ability to understand specific verbal or written instructions and procedures. No experience required. Prefer previous knowledge of hospital cleaning techniques. Rate of pay: Highly competitive Hours/week: W-Su 7am-1:30pm approx 30 hrs/wk Job located in Moscow

Announcements

RUMMAGE SALE: Huge assortment of furniture, clothes, household items, toys. Pay what you can. Most items not priced. First Presbyterian Church, 405 S. Van Buren St., Moscow. Fri 4/17 5-8:30pm, Sat 4/18 8am-noon.

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GARDENS from page B1

"The ensemble is what makes this show," Bucy said, "because without the ensemble, there really isn't any point in doing this."

As for some of the extra bits of fun Lee-Painter talked about, he said Elvis would be making an appearance.

"If you have Superman, Playboy Bunnies, Atomic Girl, the Lone Ranger, on and on and on and on, all in one show, it's going to be one heck of a show," Bucy said.

The second production available for theatergoers this weekend is "The Secret Garden." Based on the children's story, the play follows Mary Lennox, who is shipped to live with her reclusive uncle after she is orphaned. Finding a hidden garden and her uncle's invalid son, Lennox finally begins to find her way in the world.

"I was looking for a family-friendly show," said Roger Wallins, the director. "It's clean, it's morally uplifting."

The play also gave Wallins a challenge in his second time as a director, his first being director for "The Velveteen Rabbit."

"The script didn't have a lot of humor in it," Wallins said. "One of the things I had to do was find a way to add some humor to the story, so that this very positive story would also be appealing to a wide variety of people in the audience."

Wallins did this by adding stage business, such as the actions of the Sowerby

children, who help draw Lennox out of her shell. One is a compulsive cleaner while another mimics everything the housekeeper does.

This version is a musical, although Wallins said it was different than the Broadway version. Wallins also called the production a learning experience.

"What we're doing is teaching people how to use the light board, how to use the sound board," he said. "So they're learning something about a field that they may not have been able to have experience in. And now they are getting that experience and maybe some of them will follow up."

Wallins kept a hypothetical family of four in his mind as he set ticket prices for "The Secret Garden."

"Just in general, it's a good idea to do what we can to enable individuals and family to come out to live theater," Wallin said.

"Die Fledermaus" will be featured at 7:30 p.m. April 16-18 and 23-25 in the Hartung Theatre. Matinees will be at 2 p.m. April 19 and 26. Tickets are \$7 for students and faculty and \$11 for the public. They can be purchased at the Kibbie Dome Ticket office, at theatre.com or at the door.

"The Secret Garden" will be featured at 7:30 p.m. April 17-18 and 24-25 in the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre. Matinees will be at 2 p.m. April 19 and 26. Tickets are \$8 for the public, with a youth and senior price of \$6. They can be purchased in advance at Bookpeople or a half hour before the performance at the door.

Talent contestant stuns crowd

Ben McConville
Associated Press

BLACKBURN, Scotland — Susan Boyle lives alone in a row house with her cat Pebbles, a drab existence in one of Scotland's poorest regions. She cared for her widowed mother for years, never married and sang in church and at karaoke nights at the pub.

Neighbors knew she could sing, and now — what with YouTube, Twitter and countless blog postings — just about everyone else does, too.

Since wowing the judges on the TV show "Britain's Got Talent," the frumpy 47-year-old, who says she's never been kissed, has gained celebrity fans and millions of admirers.

"I did this for my late mother," the unemployed Boyle told The Associated Press at her home in this scruffy Scottish village Thursday. "I wanted to show her I could do something with my life."

And that she did — as well as showing a thing or two to the show's smug judges, who include Simon Cowell of "American Idol" fame.

When she mounted the stage for Saturday's broadcast, her frizzy gray-tinged hair curling wildly and a gold lace dress clinging unflatteringly to her chubby frame, Boyle looked the antithesis of the American idols Cowell normally anoints.

She was greeted with giggles from the audience and eye rolls from the notoriously acerbic Cowell. The audience chuckled in embarrassment as she wiggled her hips awkwardly.

Then she opened her mouth. Launching into "I Dreamed a Dream," from the musical "Les Misérables," her soaring voice drew startled looks and then delighted smiles from Cowell and the other judges. The audience leapt to its feet to applaud.

More than 11 million people watched Saturday's show, but Boyle's instant success is due as much to new media as to the power of television,

with a clip of her performance posted on YouTube by the show's producers drawing nearly 13 million views. Not to mention the skillful packaging of the segment, a mini-opera of underdog triumph.

In the past few days, Boyle has appeared on TV around the world. Her fans include actors Demi Moore and husband Ashton Kutcher who flagged the performance on Twitter, as well as Oprah Winfrey, who has invited Boyle onto her show. Interview requests have poured in.

To friends and neighbors in Blackburn, a community of 4,750 people 20 miles west of Edinburgh, it was not surprising that the talent of a local treasure should finally be recognized.

"Susan can't help herself. She just sings whenever she can sing," said Jackie Russell, manager of Blackburn's Happy Valley Hotel, where Boyle sings karaoke amid the slot machines and beer-stained carpet. "We weren't surprised by her talent, but we were surprised by the reaction around the world."

Boyle herself seems ill at ease with her newfound fame. At her modest, government-subsidized home Thursday, she seemed more at ease making tea for visiting TV crews than answering questions about her life. She did mug for the cameras, however, crooning into a hairbrush.

"It has been surreal for me," Boyle told the AP. "I didn't realize this would be the reaction, I just went on stage and got on with it."

Boyle's hardscrabble story has only added to the emotional tug of her tale.

The youngest of nine children of a devout Roman Catholic family, she grew up in one of Scotland's most deprived areas, a district blighted by unemployment, crime and social problems. The area has suffered since the local British Leyland car plant shut down in the 1980s.

In an irony not lost on local residents, the Happy Valley Hotel sits on

the grimy main street, close to a liquor store and boarded-up shops. "It's a bit of a joke, isn't it... There's nothing to be happy about around here," said Susan Williams, a 23-year-old fan of Boyle's karaoke performances there.

As a child, Boyle had learning difficulties, struggled in school and was bullied by other children. At 47, she still is.

"She is often taunted by local kids. They think she's an oddball, but she's a simple soul with genuine warmth," neighbor Stewart Mackenzie said. "Not many people these days are devoutly religious or would spend their time devoted to their parents to the point they'd find themselves a spinster."

A keen amateur singer, Boyle performed in church choirs and school plays and was a regular on the karaoke circuit in Blackburn and the nearby town of Bathgate. She has said her mother, Bridget, encouraged her to enter "Britain's Got Talent" — but it was only after her death that she plucked up the courage to do it.

"Everyone here knew she could sing, and we were always saying, 'You should go in for talent competitions,'" Russell said. "She devoted her life to her mother and father, and when her mother died a couple of years ago she realized it was her turn."

On Saturday night's show, the first of a new season, Boyle told viewers she had "never been kissed" and drew smirks from the judges when she said she wanted to be a professional singer like Broadway legend Elaine Paige.

After she knocked their socks off, judge Piers Morgan said her "stunning" performance was "the biggest surprise I've had in three years of this show." Judge Amanda Holden smiled, nodded and clapped. Cowell called her singing "extraordinary."

"I can hardly remember what happened on the night as I had my eyes closed most of the time," Boyle said. "It really didn't dawn on me what was happening."

JEWELERS from page B1

cuts, like faceting — which makes the stone resemble a diamond — are more expensive than a basic oval shape.

"There's an art to it," she said, "... it can be done poorly, and it can be done well."

Hardgrove said cutting the stone can be a task. Once stones are cut to a workable size, they are put into a capping machine, which grinds the stone into a desired shape. A capping machine resembles a sewing

machine with a set of grinding stones attached to it from rough to delicate intensities — or grits.

Stones are put through the capping process using the roughest grinders first. As the grinders become more refined, the stone becomes more susceptible to polishing. Polishing is done much in the

same manner as capping, but with handheld grinders.

Hardgrove said some rocks grind faster than others because of their mineral makeup.

Standing over a case of gold and silver, Hardgrove said customers have a lot to choose from.

Stones can be attached to set-

tings through pronged settings or bezels, a piece of gold or silver that surrounds the stone.

Hardgrove said settings are made by cutting sheets of gold or silver into strips and bending the wire-like strips into the desired shape. She said the process requires steady hands.

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QuickHITS

Vandals in action

Today
Track and field — The Vandals will split forces for the Mt. Sac Relays as some athletes will compete in Walnut, Calif., and others will compete in Azusa, Calif. Starting time is to be announced, and the meet begins today and runs through Saturday.

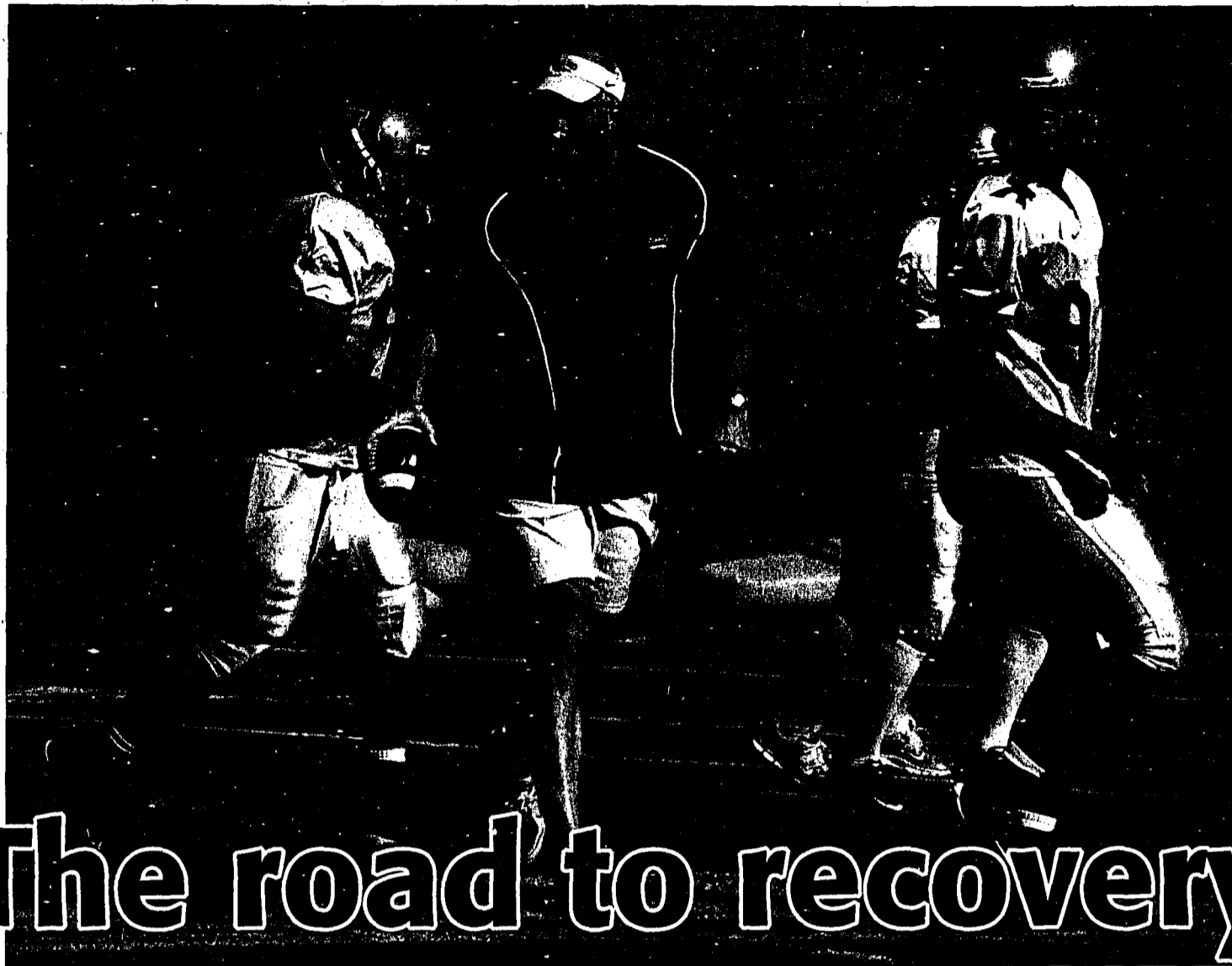
Women's tennis — The team will travel for matches against Fresno State and Hawai'i. The matches start at 1 and 6 p.m. in Las Cruces, N.M.

Saturday
Men's tennis — The Vandals will remain home for matches against Seattle University at 9 a.m. and Lewis-Clark State College at 4 p.m.

Women's tennis — The team will resume play when it takes on New Mexico State University at 9 a.m. in Las Cruces, N.M.

Football — The Vandals will be in action for the annual Silver and Gold game. The scrimmage will start at 10 a.m. on the SprinTurf.

Women's soccer — The team will see its first action as it takes on North Idaho College at 1 p.m. on the SprinTurf.



The road to recovery

University of Idaho football coach Robb Akey yells out drill instructions during football practice Thursday on the SprinTurf. Jake Barber/Argonaut

Vandals to watch

James Rogan
Track and field



Rogan is the only Western Athletic Conference athlete to break the 200-foot barrier in the hammer throw this season. The Vandals will need Rogan's best as they try to defend the hammer throw title at the Mt. Sac Relays.

Elvie Williams
Track and field



Williams took fourth in long jump at last year's 2008 NCAA Track and Field Championships. The team will look for him to duplicate his success and improve in other events. Williams will be competing in the triple jump, 110-meter hurdles 4 x 100 meter relay and the long jump at the Mt. Sac Relays meet.

Did you know ...

The women's basketball team added another recruit from Hawai'i to next year's roster. Two of the Vandals three recruits are from Hawai'i.

Vandals by the numbers

2 The soccer team added two recruits to its team for next season.

16 The women's tennis team has won 16 of its last 18 matches.

4 The track and field team traveled to four separate locations for competitions this week.

Levi Johnstone
Argonaut

University of Idaho football coach Robb Akey is a family man — on and off the field.

Defensive captain Shiloh Keo, who wasn't recruited by Akey, decided to stick around and complete his career as a Vandal, said it was the family-oriented program that made him stay.

"The way he cared for his players really made me want to stick around," Keo said. "Family is very important to me, and he came in with a family mentality trying to bring everyone together."

Akey's road to Idaho took nearly 20 years with stops at Northern Arizona, his alma mater Weber State and most recently Washington State, where he was hired by his former coach Mike Price as defensive line coach.

Price, who also coached at Weber State, said he thinks Akey was a good choice for Idaho football.

"I had him as a player, and I've known him since he was 18 years old," Price said. "He's a tremendous person and tremendous worker, a tremendous husband and friend. He's just the best."

Akey began playing sports at a young age and continued through high school and college.

"I started playing baseball as young as I could," Akey said. "The first time they'd let me play football I did that, so I knew that was something that I might like to do — of course when I

was a pup, I was going to go be in the NFL."

Akey, from Colorado Springs, Colo., played high school football at Wasson High School where he was also a three-sport letterman. After he played under Price

at Weber State, where he was an All-Big Sky selection at defensive end during his senior season and received an honorable mention for the All-American Team for Division II football. He remains the Wildcats' career sack leader.

Akey said it wasn't until he was a junior or senior that he realized football was what he wanted to do for a career.

"When I played at Weber State for coach Price and as I got closer to the end of my career, I couldn't imagine what life without football would be like," Akey said.

"I had taken some education class and some things like that, so I thought being a coach and teacher might be a good deal, but college was more the level I wanted to be at. It was between my junior and senior years of college that I got that figured out."

Price, who now coaches

at the University of Texas-El Paso, said Akey brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the field.

"As far as a football coach is concerned, he's really knowledgeable, he's motivated, he's inspiring, has tremendous enthusiasm and is lots of fun to be around," Price said.

Akey's most successful coaching stint was at Washington State University where he spent eight years. During that time, the Cougars went to the Rose Bowl and the Sun Bowl under Price and a Holiday Bowl in 2003 under former WSU coach Bill Doba.

Akey said the Holiday Bowl victory is one of his greatest accomplishments as a coach. Akey took over the defensive coordinator position after Doba's promotion to head coach.

"The way we beat Texas in the Holiday Bowl, our defense just flat got after them," Akey said. "All the blitzes I called were working, and they did nothing to stop them."

Akey attributes his success in college football to his mentoring from Price.

"He is one person who

has had the most influence, outside of my family," Akey said. "He gave me the opportunity to play college football and to get into the PAC-10."

As a coach, Akey said Price instilled a values system that was much like that of a second family, and it was apparent he genuinely cared for his players as people, not just athletes trying to earn him a larger pay check.

"I look at him and the way he is with players, the way he runs his programs, I just can't say enough nice things about him," Akey said. "When you play for coach Price, you can tell he cares about you as a person not just (as) a player, and I attribute a lot of what I do to him. He's first class."

Akey said he is trying to bring the same family mentality to the University of Idaho.

"I would like to think that some of those good qualities that he had are some of the things we're involved with here," Akey said.

Football isn't the only family that Akey has to focus on. His two sons, Jack and Daniel, are avid sports fans and have begun playing sports at a young age like their father.

"You know, once we got off the recruiting road and up until last week I spent most of my time with my sons," Akey said. "Teaching them, growing them up and being with them are what I

See ROAD, page B8

Vandals continue to compete

Scott Stone
Argonaut

Competition is the name of the game. That's what the Vandal football team is focusing on as it prepares for the third scrimmage of the spring season, the last scrimmage before the Silver and Gold game April 25.

Although the roster is filled and the team seems to have a grasp on what next year's depth-chart may look like, any position is up for grabs, and Idaho coach Robb Akey is making his players earn their spots.

"Competition is the best word in the world. It is an awesome word," Akey said. "That's what we did with our circuits through the winter. We did everything we could to make it as competitive as possible, and we're doing things more with our practices to make them competitive."

Akey said he's happy with the progress he has seen already and said they're going to try to cram in as much as they can in the remainder of the spring season.

"I'm seeing a football team that's competing and that's getting better," he said. "I'm seeing individuals within it that are gaining ground. That's something that happens every day. We're still learning a lot."

See VANDALS, page B7

UI tennis wins home matches

Scott Stone
Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's tennis team has continued to show improvement all season and continued that success at home this week adding three more notches in the win column and surpassing last year's win total.

The women played two matches Sunday against the University of Seattle and Lewis-Clark State College, beating both teams 6-1 and adding win No. 18 to the season. They added another home win against Eastern Washington University on Tuesday 4-1.

"I was happy we managed to pull out the victories, and I think these matches will definitely help our players become tougher going into the final conference matches," said Idaho coach Tyler Neill.

The women have won the last 16 of 18 matches and are looking at an overall record of 19-6 as they prepare for their final four matches of the regular season.

Neill is happy with the way the team is playing but even after three solid wins, he said there are still things that need work.

See HOME, page B7

Track and field team busy as bees

Kayla Desjarlais
Argonaut

After a weekend off, the University of Idaho track and field team will get back to business as it divides its forces, sending athletes to attend several southern Calif. competitions which began Wednesday and will run through Saturday.

Last year, Idaho hit 19 total regional marks and won four individual events.

The packed schedule will provide plenty of opportunity to improve the team's current total of five NCAA Regional qualifiers and continue its outdoor season success as athletes will face some of the best in the sport.

Field athletes started the week's events at one of the largest heptathlon and decathlon competitions in



Nick Groff/Argonaut

Vandal sprinter Sam Michener sprints at the Western Athletic Conference Indoor Championships Feb. 27 in Nampa, Idaho. The Vandals will compete at either the Mt. Sac Relays or The Beach Invitational this weekend.

the nation. Three members from both the men's and women's teams participated in the Azusa Events

See TRACK, page B7

Women's soccer club season begins

Cheyenne Hollis
Argonaut

Winning is normally the desired result for teams in any sporting contest. For the University of Idaho women's soccer club, playing a match is cause enough for celebration.

"It has been a long road just to get to this moment — to be able to play in a competitive match," Women's Club Soccer President Janice Kammler said. "There is still a lot more work to be done for the club to become successful, but we now have a solid foundation."

The club started out with four members, but through networking and word of mouth, the club has enough players to field a team and run practices, Kammler said.

"One of the biggest problems to start with was finding players," Kammler said. "Getting enough players to play was a huge relief, but there was still a bunch of other stuff we had to get done."

The women's club team was founded in the fall, but the original members failed to attend the required meeting, and the club was facing sanctions from the Club Sport Federation, Kammler said.

"When I took over, the club was looking at some serious penalties," Kammler said. "The hard part for us is going to be getting money for the upcoming year, which we need if we want to travel or get equipment."

The club is missing some key elements and is still without a coach, defender Valerie Barry said.

"I was able to find someone who was willing to help us out coaching, but we need someone with some coaching experience in the fall," Kammler said. "Hopefully, we are able to find a coach who can work with us."

Despite the desire to have a coach, the main goal of the women's club team is to have fun on the pitch, Barry said.

"We would like to win, but it is going to be a blast to get out and play against another team," Barry said. "It kind of sucks that we only get to play one game this season, but it is better than nothing."



Steven Devine/Argonaut

The University of Idaho women's soccer club practices on the SprinTurf Wednesday. It has recently obtained enough players to play a game.

er team," Barry said. "It kind of sucks that we only get to play one game this season, but it is better than nothing."

The team is already looking past this to see what will happen in the future with the club, Barry said.

"We are hoping there is a regional league for us to join, because if there is

not we will have to help create one," Barry said. "It is not what we want to do, but we have already put in a lot of work to get to this point, so we might as well take that next step."

Saturday, the team's attention will turn to local foes Gonzaga and the chance to play in their first competitive match.

"I think everyone is excited about the game, and it is a big deal to us," Midfielder Erika Gau said. "We really would like people to come out and support us now and in the future."

Idaho women's club soccer faces the Bulldogs at 3:30 p.m. Saturday on the SprinTurf.

NBC's John Madden retires

Rachel Cohen
Associated Press

NEW YORK — John Madden's last game as a football announcer was a thrilling Super Bowl decided in the final seconds.

The perfect ending to a run as one of sports' most popular broadcasters, now that Madden called it a career Thursday. Yet it didn't fit Madden's style to think about his retirement that way.

"I'm a grinder," he said on his Bay Area radio show. "You just grind and get through it and when it's all over, you think about it. You don't rush into any decisions."

Madden's exuberance for football and blue-collar persona endeared him to TV viewers for three decades. Boom! As sudden as his signature call, he's leaving midway through a six-year contract with NBC's "Sunday Night Football."

"I think his work ethic and passion and love for the game made him apart from everybody else," said longtime broadcast partner Pat Summerall.

Madden said his health is fine, but at the age of 73, he wanted to spend more time with his family. His 50th wedding anniversary is this

fall, and his five grandchildren are old enough to notice when he's gone.

"The thing that made it hard is not because I'm second guessing: 'Is it the right decision?' But I enjoyed it so damn much," Madden said. "I enjoyed the game and the players and the coaches and the film and the travel and everything."

Cris Collinsworth will replace Madden, moving over from the network's studio show, NBC Sports chief Dick Ebersol said. Collinsworth filled in when Madden took a game off last October.

Ebersol called Madden "the absolute best sports broadcaster who ever lived."

Madden traveled by bus because of a fear of flying, and with the two Bay Area teams struggling and not hosting any Sunday night games, he would be on the road and away from his family the entire season.

Not that Madden expects to sit at home all the time. He'll keep using the bus and stay busy with his many endorsements. His "Madden NFL Football" is the top-selling sports video game of all time.

Still, he noted this will be his first season away from the sport since he was a freshman in high school.

Madden was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2006. He began his pro career as a line-backer coach at Oakland in 1967 and was made head coach two years later, at 33 the youngest coach in what was then the American Football League.

Madden led the Raiders to their first Super Bowl victory and retired in 1979. He joined CBS later that year.

He worked at CBS until 1994 when the network lost rights to broadcast NFL games, leading him to switch to Fox. He left Fox in 2002 to become the lead analyst for ABC's "Monday Night Football" and joined NBC in 2006 when that network inaugurated a prime-time Sunday game.

Madden won 16 Emmy Awards and became one of the most recognizable voices in television, mixing high-volume enthusiasm with serious analysis on the telestrator.

"He was so consistently entertaining — that guy you really wanted to have on the couch with you, but larger than life," Ebersol said. "I think people stayed with a rout or a bad game that Madden might have to broadcast in the second half (more) than they ever would have stayed with anybody else."

ClubSports

Men's Lacrosse - The team travels to Boise this weekend to play Boise State and the College of Idaho. Idaho defeated BSU for the first time in the lacrosse team's seven-year history last season.

Women's Rugby - The Black Widows host Beterside of Missoula, Mont., at noon Saturday at the Taylor

Street Field. The team is unbeaten in spring play.

Men's Soccer - The men's soccer team plays Eastern Washington at Cheney, Wash., Saturday.

Baseball - Idaho opens up a three-game series against Boise State with a doubleheader at Airport Field in Lewiston Saturday. The Vandals took two out of three from Idaho State last weekend to open its season.

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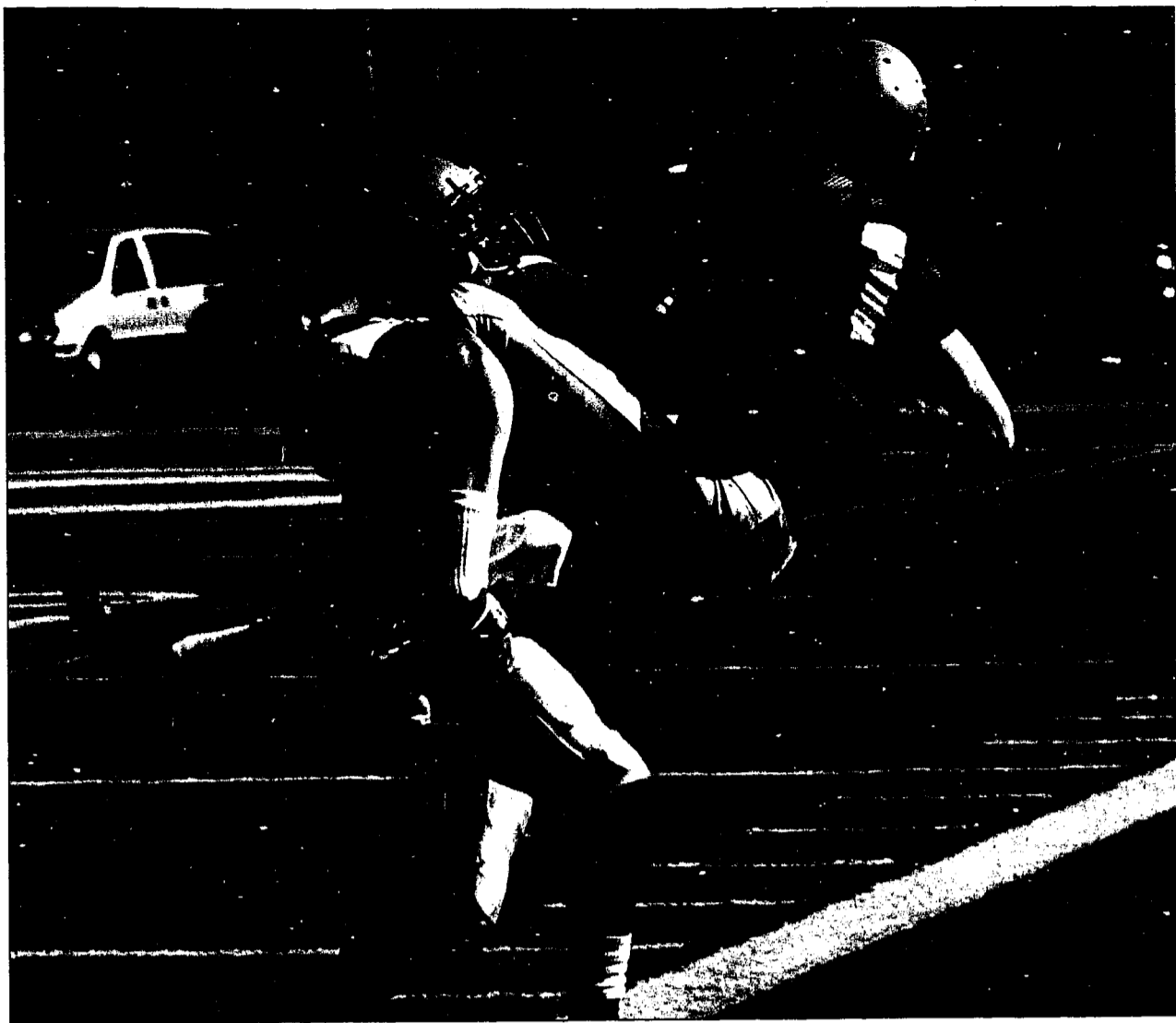
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University of Idaho safety Isaac Butts takes down wide receiver Eric Greenwood during practice on the SprinTurf Thursday.

HOME

from page B5

"In several matches we fell into early deficits and then found it difficult to come back after being down," Neill said. "Most were able to come back, but we need to be able to jump on our opponents early in the match and not make it so difficult on ourselves."

The women play their final four matches of the season this weekend with two matches on Friday and two on Saturday. They will face conference opponents Fresno State, Hawai'i and New Mexico State before boarding a plane to Hawai'i for the Western Athletic Conference Championships.

The men's tennis team also picked up a home win this weekend against Portland State Saturday to earn their 14th win of the season. The men are now looking to surpass a milestone that dates back 25 years.

"We are now looking toward the next few games where we can surpass the 14 match win total for the first time in 25 years," said Idaho coach Jeff Beaman. "It is a mark we are focusing on and another stepping stone for the program."

Saturday's home match was delayed because of morning rain showers, but when the sky cleared up in the afternoon, the Vandals took advantage of their opportunity and beat PSU 7-0.

"It was a rough start because of the weather but everything worked out in the end," Beaman said. "It was a great match to play and it was nice to get to play in the sun."

The Vandals' next three matches will be played at home where they'll look to improve on their 14-9 overall record before heading to the postseason.

The Vandals will face Seattle University at 9 a.m. and Lewis-Clark State College at 4 p.m. Saturday at home.

VANDALS

from page B5

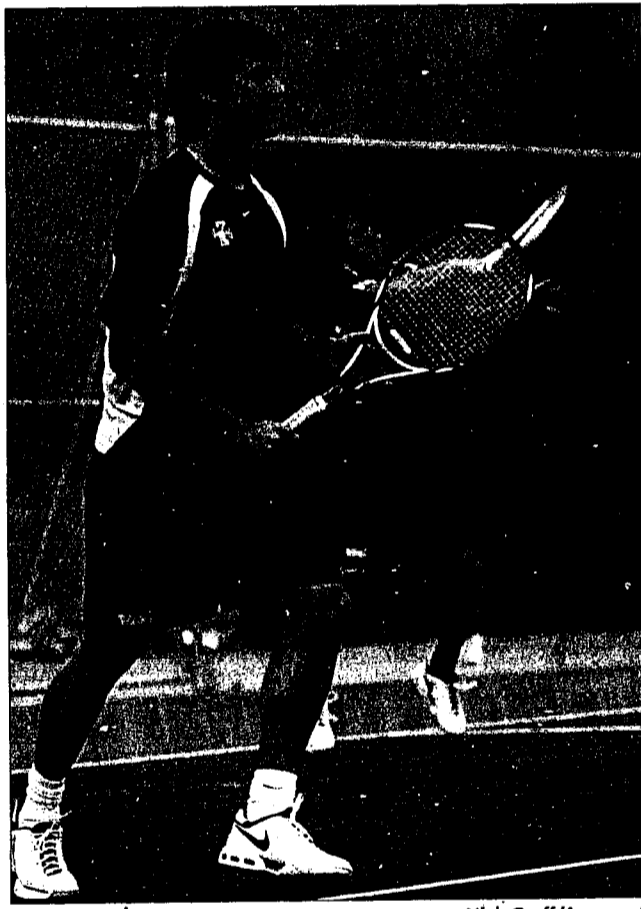
and we've got a lot left to learn and we're going to try to cram it all into the next week and a half as much of it as we can."

Akey said spring football is all about focusing on individual players and seeing what it will take to make them better

football players and so far he's happy with what he's seeing.

"There are things within the core of what we're doing that are getting better," he said. "The biggest thing I'm concerned about is within the individuals within the core... and I think we're accomplishing a lot that way."

The Vandals will hit the field at 10 a.m. Saturday for their third scrimmage of the year.



Nick Groff/Argonaut
Vandal tennis player Artem Kuznetsov, back, returns a Portland State University Viking serve past his doubles teammate, Stanislav Glukhov, Saturday afternoon at the courts behind the Memorial Gym. With the Kuznetsov and Glukhov win, the Vandals rolled to a 7-0 win over the Vikings.

TRACK

from page B5

hosted by Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, Calif. Wednesday and Thursday. Meet results will be posted today.

The rest of the team started Thursday in Walnut, Calif. at the 51st Annual Mt. SAC Relays hosted by Mt. San Antonio College. Nearly 50 Idaho athletes add to the almost 15,000 junior high, high school, community college, university and other champions from around the world attending the meet.

"It's where the best come to compete," Idaho coach Yogi Teevens said. "If you make it into the Mt. SAC Relays, you're usually one of the best athletes in the nation."

Though the meet is considered the premier West Coast relay carnival, individual and field athletes also excel.

Sophomore Paul Dittmer will make his debut in the men's 110-meter hurdles and is one to watch as he set a school-record time of 7.84 seconds during the indoor season at the event.

All-American senior Elvie Williams is competing in the men's triple jump, 110-meter hurdles, and 4-by-100-meter relay and long jump. Williams says the long jump is the "breadwinner" as he placed 4th in the event at the 2008 NCAA Track and Field Championships.

"I have potential to be good in the other events," Williams said. "But it hasn't clicked yet — (my) form sucks."

Last week's Sam Adams Classic was Williams' first competition of the season and he won the long jump event with a 23 3/4 effort.

"I won it," Williams said. "But the jump was weak — what I jumped, I wouldn't want anyone to see it. It was windy and I didn't have competition, the weather was weak."

Williams hopes to im-

prove his marks at Mt. SAC where new facilities, elite challengers and ideal weather conditions set the perfect stage.

"I want to get the long jump record," Williams said. "But if I go 26 (feet) plus I'll be happy."

While Williams seeks a title, the throwers will defend theirs as a Vandal has won the collegiate section of the men's hammer throw for the past three consecutive years. Junior James Rogan will be a strong contender as he is the first Western Athletic Conference athlete to break the 200-foot barrier in the event. Rogan fired off a 200 foot, 7 inch throw last week, effectively punching his NCAA Regional ticket in the event.

Regional qualifiers Matt Wauters and Evan Ruud, both seniors, will also compete in the hammer throw.

Junior Mike Carpenter will lead the men in the pole vault. Last year, Carpenter took down a 24-year-old school record in the event and became the first Vandal to clear 17 feet with a winning 17 3/4 effort.

Athletes will continue to compete amid Olympians, Olympic medalists and world champions as the Mt. SAC Relays conclude tomorrow evening.

While the majority of the team is in Walnut, a handful of hurdlers, throwers and sprinters will participate in the Bryan Clay Invitational at Azusa Pacific University today. It is the first time the UI track and field team has attended the prestigious event.

Tomorrow, the team will shift its focus to fill the field at the Beach Invitational at Cerritos College in Nowalk, Calif.

Senior KC Dahlgren will be one to watch in the women's pole vault as she is tied for the meet record with a 13-1 1/2 vault last year.

The track and field team will return home after the weekend events wrap up and resume practice Monday.

Humiliation in stadium opener

Ronald Blum
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and other stars from the New York Yankees' famous pinstriped past would have been embarrassed.

After an 85-year run in a stadium that was home to 26 World Series champions, the Yankees opened baseball's fanciest and priciest ballpark Thursday with a humiliating 10-2 loss to the Cleveland Indians.

"It felt like we disappointed quite a few people today," said Johnny Damon.

Fans in the sellout crowd of 48,271 and players alike bubbled about unprecedented amenities on a picture-perfect sunny afternoon. New York's hitters then fizzled and its bullpen

came apart in the formal debut of the new Yankee Stadium, a \$1.5 billion monument to the Yankees' wealth and power.

Johnny Peralta broke a one-all tie in the seventh with a two-run double off Jose Veras, and Grady Sizemore hit a grand slam into the right-field seats off Damaso Marte.

By the time Victor Martinez's solo homer capped the nine-run inning, just as the shadow of the famous frieze was about to creep past home plate, angry spectators who paid up to \$2,625 list per ticket taunted the Yankees with chants of, "We want Swisher."

That was a reference to New York right fielder Nick Swisher, who pitched a scoreless inning during a blowout loss at Tampa Bay on Monday.

"It's not how you want to start a new stadium, but one game is not going to make the history of this Yankee Stadium," manager Joe Girardi said.

Cleveland, whose only Series titles were won in 1920 and 1948, enjoyed its accomplishment against a superpower whose \$201 million payroll dwarfs the \$82 million the Indians spent.

"To come in here and do what we did is something we'll always remember," Sizemore said.

On April 18, 1923, Ruth homered as New York opened the original Yankee Stadium with a 4-1 win over the Boston Red Sox. The ballpark, built for \$2.5 million and considered grand at the time, quickly was dubbed "The House that Ruth Built."

The opening of the new house drew a celebrity-filled crowd that wasn't happy with the result.

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ROAD from page B5

what I do when I'm away from football.

He said that Jack is focusing on a basketball career for now but expects him to grow out of the phase.

"You'd think he'd understand that if there isn't a point to the ball, there isn't a point to the game," Akey said. "We held the little guys camp, and we have all these kids out here and we have our players come out. They ask, 'How many of you kids want to play college football?' Every single hand in the camp goes up except my boy Jack, I look at him and he gives me a wink and acts like he's shooting a jump shot. I figure he'll grow out of that though. He thinks he's going from McDonald Elementary to the NBA, that's his goal."

Akey said that he's happy his sons are interested in sports, but sees no reason to push them into a certain one.

"You know if Jack had a favorite sport it'd be basketball. If it were up to Daniel, probably football or baseball or whatever season they're in," Akey said. "They're the ones who have to go do it, not me. I see parents pushing their kids into doing stuff and if they don't want to do, they don't do it. Heck, neither one of them have played football for a couple years, when they're ready to, they will."

Another activity Akey enjoys outside of football is fly fishing. He said while he rarely gets the opportunity to go, it is a blessing when he does.

"I go fishing every chance I get," Akey said. "I've got some buddies and every year in July we go down to Joseph, Ore. We take horses and mules and pack up in the mountains. It's about a four day window that I can count on every year and

that helps get your mind freshened up a little bit."

Akey said while he is trying to get into golf, fishing is still his preferred form of recreation.

"I enjoy playing golf, but I do like fishing more," Akey said. "I am trying to like golf a little more, but I prefer getting into a war with a big old Rainbow (trout) any day of the week."

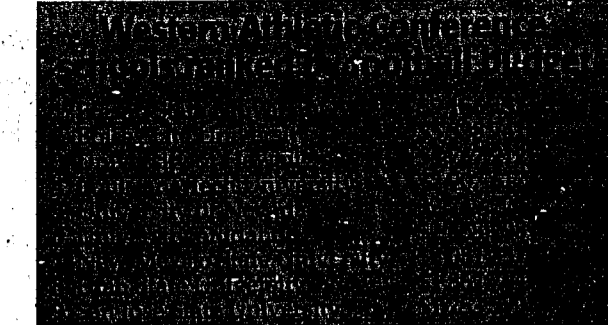
During Akey's time at UI he has amassed a 3-21 record over two seasons. The road to rebuilding the program may look like an unenviable task to fans, coaches and players alike, but Akey has a different way of viewing it.

"It is a challenge, don't get me wrong," Akey said. "I'm not going to pay attention to what we don't have. I'm going to pay attention to what we do have and build it. That's one of the things I learned from coach Price — find the positives about something."

Akey said you can always tell what you're up against in recruiting by what rocks are being thrown at you.

"You know, people saying you're up in Siberia with freezing temperatures," Akey said. "There are all sorts of things that get thrown at us, like this place being up in the middle of nowhere, and that's why I think people perceive (the job) as hard."

Akey said one disadvantage he does have is financially UI isn't on the same level as other WAC schools. While some fans and opponents of the athletic program may scoff at the notion that athlet-



ics needs more money, when compared to other schools in the WAC, the contrast in funds is startling, he said.

"What we've got to work with financially in comparison with the people I'm supposed to beat — now that is a challenge," Akey said. The UI football team was allocated \$2,653,798 for the 2007-08 season.

"I can go sit and look a kid's mama in the eye and tell her I can put her son in a safe environment"

Robb
AKEY
Idaho coach

Akey said the difference in money is nothing new and is similar to that of Washington and Washington State.

"There is quite a difference between what we get up here at Idaho and what they are getting down at Boise State," Akey said.

While the Vandals' budget was more than \$2 million dollars last season, Boise State's budget is nearly double that at \$5,538,741.

Akey said while it is a challenge, it does have a certain advantage as well, and it sometimes works as a filter for incoming players.

"The guy who needs the perfect weather, and it has to be 80 degrees all the time, or he has to have this or he has to have that, or I have to have the bright lights and the

big city, well that guy doesn't have what I want in a football player," Akey said. "Getting a degree and playing football aren't the most important things to him. Those things aren't the most important if he needs a big city and nightclubs. Those guys aren't going to come here, I don't waste my time with them, and we go our separate ways."

Standout safety from the 2008 season, Virdell Larkins, said Akey recruited him during his tenure as a coach at Washington State. Larkins said he loves it here now, but coming from California makes him think Akey may have left the weather forecast out of the conversation.

"The weather, he didn't tell me about the weather when he recruited me," Larkins said. "All he told me was that they had a dome. It was shocking when I got up here. It was like four degrees for a week and all I came with was a hoodie. I had to go buy a bunch of new clothes fast. I was shell shocked."

Akey said a big draw for players is how safe the college community and Moscow are.

"I can go sit and look a kid's mama in the eye and tell her I can put her son in a safe environment," Akey said.

"This is a college town, that nonsense in the cities, our kids can walk out at 11 p.m., and it doesn't matter what time it is, what colors they're wearing or anything. You can't do that in the cities in our country."

Akey said the atmosphere of the Palouse region

is a great draw for football players as well.

"You tell me of a place where you put 12,000 young people and eight miles away there are another 18,000 people," Akey said. "You're telling me those kids aren't going to find a way to have a good time? I mean it's perfect. It's true college. It's easy for me to tell kids what they're coming to."

He also said education plays a large role in players willingness to bear the erratic weather and concept of being in the middle of nowhere.

"You can't find a better education experience," Akey said. "Going to a school with 50,000 people, your general education classes have 250-300 people in them, and you'll never have a class size smaller than that. Here it is 16 to 1. The professors teach the classes and actually know your name. I could go on and on about it, and I think those things really help us."

Akey's first player commitment as a head coach was Eric Greenwood. Greenwood wears No. 1 to commemorate being the first player in a new era of Vandal football and said it was Akey's enthusiasm and family oriented program that drew him to the program.

"I was going on a trip to UNLV, and they had their first meeting," Greenwood said. "I got a call from coach Akey saying he watched my tape and wanted to offer me a scholarship, and at that point, I didn't know anything about Idaho or coach Akey."

It was only after meeting with the staff that Greenwood knew he'd found a home on the football team.

"The next weekend I came to Idaho to meet him and I met with him for like 10 minutes," Greenwood said. "I committed immediately because I knew, I just knew this is where I wanted to be. It was his charisma and enthusiasm. I could tell

the team was like a family and it made me want to play for him."

Greenwood also said Akey has a coaching style unique to college football.

"The energy he brings to the field is great, jumping around and getting hyped up," Greenwood said. "He actually coaches. A lot of coaches you see just kind of watch. He was helping receivers learn to block today instead of having an assistant do it. Little stuff like that is cool to see from a head coach."

UI's recruiting class for the 2009 season consists of 20 players from across the country and Akey said he thinks fans will begin to see the sort of team that the coaching staff wanted to build.

"I expect to see, our kids that we put out there as freshmen and sophomores to start to grow up and play," Akey said. "We're finally going to have some kids out there with game experience, not just red-shirt experience. We played a lot of games with a majority of the kids as freshman and sophomores against juniors and seniors, and we were competitive with them."

Akey said while being competitive is nice, it is the end score that matters and fans should expect to see more wins this season.

"The fact that we were competing isn't enough," Akey said. "But it is building toward success and I think we're gaining higher expectations."

Akey and the Vandals have started spring practice for the 2009-10 season, and Price said bringing Akey to Idaho was one of the schools best decisions and looks forward to the day his protégé can turn the struggling program around.

"I am a huge, huge, huge Robb Akey fan," Price said. "I think he is the best thing that has happened to Idaho (athletics) in years and will continue to be."

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