



*Summer*  
**ARG**

JUNE 8, 2011

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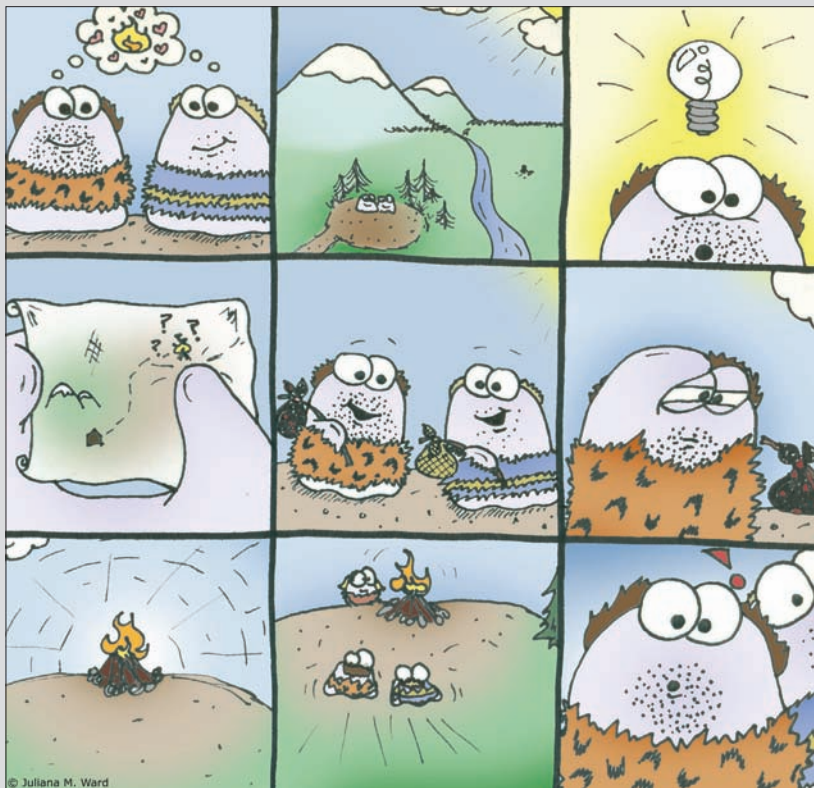
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*uiargonaut.com*

COVER PHOTO BY  
Steven Devine | Summer Arg

# BLOB WORLD

Juliana Ward  
Summer Arg



6.8.2011

*meet me at  
the Idaho Commons*

## Planning an Event?

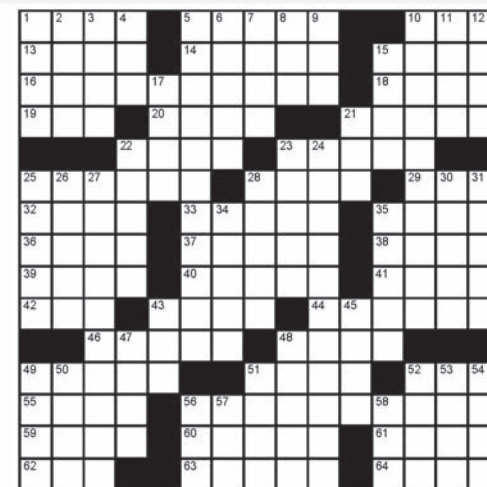
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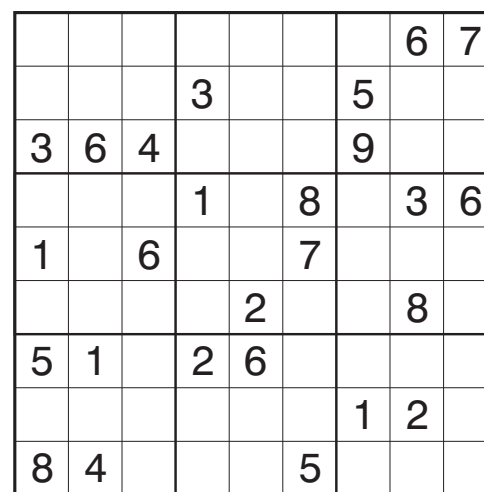


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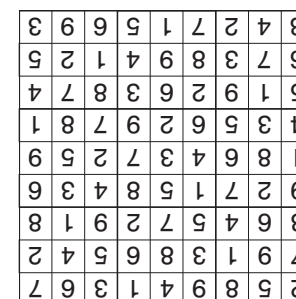
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## ‘2/3 THE VALUE OF A VANDAL’ CAMPAIGN STRIKES INTEREST

Kayla Herrmann  
Summer Arg

During the past few years Idaho has made budget cuts affecting college enrollment, and because of that Associated Students of Boise State University President Brandie VanOrder said the state owes BSU \$10.3 million.

VanOrder said the dollar amount is two-thirds of the rate University of Idaho students receive in state funding.

In response to the state not allotting BSU the same amount of funding as UI, ASBSU presented a campaign titled “2/3 the value of a Vandal?” in hopes of increasing awareness in the community, VanOrder said.

“The campaign is not meant to imply that we are upset with U of I. What we have a problem with is that the state, according to its own policies and formulas, owes Boise State approximately \$10.3 million in Enrollment Workload Adjust-

ment funding,” VanOrder said. “It really isn’t about who gets more money, it is about the inequity.”

Keith Ickes, UI executive director of Planning and Budget, said one issue is that BSU’s enrollment increased substantially in the past five years, during a period of time when Idaho didn’t have money to fund the surge in enrollment.

“This argument that BSU receives two-thirds less funding has nothing to do with UI, it has to do with the fact that the state couldn’t fund them. If the state did it right they would be equal to UI,” Ickes said.

BSU currently has the lowest per-student funding in the state

at approximately \$2,422, followed by Idaho State University at \$2,592, Lewis Clark State College at \$3,213, and UI at \$3,593.

Although Boise State said they would like to see equitable funding for all Idaho students, Ickes said that the enrollment formula is based on the demands of various courses.

“The formula recognizes more expensive classes to teach. For example, a senior course in mechanical engineering would be weighted differently than a freshman course in history,” Ickes said. “Using the state’s weight factor, one credit in history in the formula would equal one credit, but one credit in a senior 400 level engi-

neering class could be eight credits in the formula.”

UI currently teaches a higher percentage of students in science, technology, engineering and math than Boise State and the enrollment formula takes into account the level of courses students are taking, Ickes said.

“Due to the fact that BSU’s six-year graduation rate was approximately at 24 percent they have a large portion of credit hours at a lower division level, and because of UI’s higher graduation rate we have a higher percentage of students in upper division courses, so we get more credits in the formula from that,” Ickes said.

see **VANDAL**, page 11

### Remembering a Vandal

Derek Arnold, who graduated in May from the University of Idaho with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science, died June 2 from cancer. Arnold was a member of Theta Chi fraternity and worked at the Alehouse for the last four years. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday at Valley Shepherd Church of the Nazarene in Meridian, Idaho. To read the full obituary, visit [uiargonaut.com](http://uiargonaut.com).

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# SHADES OF GRAY

Bears raise a paw for education

**Kelli Hadley**  
Summer Arg

Heidi Keen holds up a dark gray square and Myka, one of the bears she works with every day, touches it gently with her nose. On one side of the protective fence, Keen makes a clicking

noise with an instrument in her hand and slides an apple slice into Myka's eagerly awaiting mouth. Keen holds up a light gray square and Myka bats at it with her paw, receiving another click and more apples in exchange.



Photos by Steven Devine | Summer Arg

Students and faculty in the Washington State University Bear Research, Education and Conservation Program are examining Grizzly bears closely, and training them to recognize and differentiate between various gestures and props.

Keen, a graduate student working toward a Ph.D. in the Department of Animal Sciences at Washington State University, works with a dozen bears as part of the WSU Bear Research, Education and Conservation Program. It was established in 1986 when WSU researchers became interested in bear research and conservation — Program Director Charles Robbins had worked with elk, moose and other large mammals but said he wanted to work in something more “exciting.” At the time, the federal government was looking for someone to establish a captive bear program and study their nutrition, so Robbins said it was the right idea at the right time.

The research at the center covers topics ranging from basic medical science to field ecology, and is done by faculty and graduate and post-doctoral students.

“They’re largely about, ‘How do bears get really fat in the fall (and) hibernate for five months without developing diabetes, without developing hardening of the arteries and coronary disease? ... How do we maintain healthy populations of bears in Yellowstone or various areas of Alaska?’” Robbins said.

Keen’s research evaluates environmental enrichment and attempts to measure the psychological impact of items given to

animals in captivity. She said zoos measure the effectiveness of an enrichment item solely by changes in an animal’s behavior. However, these changes don’t take into account psychological impact or how much animals enjoy an item they receive.

“For example, if you give them a ball with food in it, it might be enjoyable at first and then it would potentially wane over time. So I’m trying to see if we can evaluate from that perspective of enjoyment rather than just changes in behavior,” Keen said.

As part of Keen’s research, she puts different items out for the bears to enjoy, such as extra food or a cowhide, and then evaluates their happiness with what Keen calls a cognitive bias task.

“If you’re optimistic or pessimistic is the way we think about it in the humans,” Keen said. “For this task, they’re trained to do a nose touch to one light or dark gray cue, and the other they do a paw touch to. And then one is associated with a larger reward, making it more positive than the other. Then shades of gray that are in between are presented and if they use the behavior that would usually get them the

bigger reward, that’s considered a measure of optimism.”

Keen said her hypothesis is that when the bears receive an enrichment item they enjoy, they respond more optimistically than they would when receiving an item they enjoy less. She said similar studies have been done on other animals, but she is the first to do it with bears. She said the WSU facility provides an ideal environment because having multiple bears allows more statistical power.

Teaching the bears to understand the gray square experiment is called shaping, which Keen said is a common training technique.

“If they’re sitting in front of you, they will start to raise that paw, and if it comes one or two inches off the ground, you click and reward that,” Keen said. “After they understand that, ‘OK I have to lift this paw up,’ you ask them to lift it a little higher and a little higher. Thankfully bears are pretty curious and it’s kind of like teaching your dog to do a high five.”

Keen said it took less than 10 minutes for the bears to learn to do a nose or paw touch, but to learn to differentiate between col-

**“We have eight trained bears and they’re somewhat like humans.”**

**Charles Robbins**  
Program director



ors and understand the task took the bears anywhere from 15 to 45 days. There are currently 12 bears at the center, which is an average number since there are six pens and no more than two bears are housed in a pen at one time. Robbins said half of the bears were born at the center while the other half, including their parents, came mostly from the wild in Montana and Wyoming.

“They or their moms brought them in too close to people and some agency decided it was just too dangerous, that they had to be removed, so we get phone calls and zoos get phone calls about, ‘Can we provide a home for some bear?’” Robbins said.

In terms of funding, Robbins said the program gets support from WSU, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, state game departments, private donors and from a donation box set up at the center for visitors.

Robbins said the bears all have their own personalities in addition to their favorite foods, friends and games. His favorite bear is Myka,

one of the more docile grizzlies at the center.

“She’s a subordinate bear and she’s just a get-along type of bear — she doesn’t want to cause any problems,” Robbins said. “There’s four bears we’ve hand-raised, and we’ve invested thousands of hours with those bears training them so we can go in with them ... There’s some bears here under certain circumstances we can go in with and might be considered our friends, but there’s other bears here that were brought in from the wild and they don’t want anything to do with us, they would hurt us if we tried to go in.”

Robbins isn’t the only one to have a favorite, he said everyone does and they know what makes the bears happy and sad from the hours spent with them.

“So there’s dominant and subordinate bears...” Robbins said. “We have eight trained bears and they’re somewhat like humans. Seven of them are right-handed but one of them is left-handed, and you just don’t realize those types of quirks that other animals besides humans have.”

# Growing close in a garden

Moscow Community Garden is affordable and accessible

**Elisa Eiguren**

Summer Arg

The Moscow Community Garden is a place where college students and community members work side by side to cultivate fruits, flowers and vegetables.

“It’s about a place that is affordable and accessible to anyone who wants to garden,” Moscow Community Garden Coordinator Nancy Hampel said.

The garden was created in 2000 as a project of the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute and the Emmanuel Lutheran Church that owns the land. In November 2010, management of the garden transitioned from PCEI to the Moscow Community Garden Advisory Board. The board was established by Emmanuel Lutheran Church and is comprised of three church members and five volunteers from the community. When the church asked for volunteers for the advisory board, Hampel said she was excited about the opportunity to be more involved.

“It’s really exciting because I get to handle everything from the money to the rabbit (that eats the plants in the garden),” she said. “We’re working at marketing the garden and connecting with the community.”

There are 33 plots in the garden and most are 20 feet by 20 feet, but a few are 10 feet by 10 feet. The garden is also handicap accessible and has raised planting beds for people in wheelchairs or with other physical disabilities. Gardeners pay a yearly fee and receive access to water, tools, manure and compost, Hampel said. Although there is an assortment of plants in the garden, she said the most common are vegetables such as tomatoes, zucchini and lettuce.

The Moscow Community Garden is an organic and sustainable garden, which means chemicals and pesticides are not allowed and gardeners are encouraged to reuse materials. Hampel said gardeners are encouraged to bring food items such as coffee grounds and egg shells to be used as compost. Cayenne pepper is a natural alternative that is used as a pesticide, she said.

“Organic gardening is about really working on building soil over the years so you have really healthy soil and really healthy plants,” she said.

Hampel said one responsibility of the advisory board is to help new gardeners learn by connecting them with experienced gardeners. A group of 18 University of Idaho international students are taking advantage of the opportunity to learn about organic gardening practices through the Scholarships for Education and Economic Development Program.

Lubia Cajas, co-trainer of the UI SEED program, said it is funded by the United States Agency for International Development and managed by

## More Info:

The Moscow Community Garden is located at 1050 West C St. For more information contact Nancy Hampel at [MoscowCommunityGarden@gmail.com](mailto:MoscowCommunityGarden@gmail.com).

Georgetown University’s Center for Intercultural Education and Development. SEED is a two-year program, and Cajas said she hopes the students share their culture and appreciate the experience while also learning about the environment.

“Improving the environment starts individually,” Cajas said. “But we also need to encourage others, that’s the only way we can help the environment.”

Angel Tiburcio, a student from the Dominican Republic, said the community garden is an opportunity for the students to work together as a team. Although Tiburcio has an agricultural background, he said organic gardening is a new concept for him.

“We use chemicals and pesticides in my country,” Tiburcio said. “In the garden you don’t use those and the plants still grow healthy. Organic gardening is something I will take back to my country.”

UI student Esptefany Hernandez is also from the Dominican Republic. Hernandez said she is enjoying her first experience with gardening and hopes to take the knowledge she learns back to her community. Her goal is to teach people about the importance of taking care of the environment, and develop projects to clean the river and plant trees in her community.

“I am here because I made a commitment with my community and country and myself,” Hernandez said.

Cajas said the opportunity for the students presented by the garden is a way to combine the cultures of developed and underdeveloped countries. The knowledge they learn about organic gardening practices and other ways of caring for the environment is something the students will take back to their countries, Cajas said.

Hampel said the advisory board is working to schedule potlucks and open-mike nights at the garden. They are also planning to put benches in the garden to encourage visitors.

“It’s about bringing people from the whole community here,” she said. “People are welcome to come, and visit and just walk through.”



Photos by Steven Devine | Summer Arg

Students in the UI SEED program prepare soil in the Moscow Community Garden to plant seeds. The organic gardening practices they are learning is part of their training in the two-year SEED program.



# 'Nourish' your muscles

Elisa Eiguren  
Summer Arg

Nancy Burtenshaw and her husband Mark McKinney knew they wanted to own both food and yoga businesses, it was just a matter of which one they would open first.

"We have been planning for two years and then the space came available so we decided to open Nourish," Burtenshaw said. "But this isn't the only business we are going to own."

Nourish Yoga officially opened May 21. Burtenshaw said Moscow is an ideal community in which to open a yoga center because although the area is rural, the energy of the universities makes it viable. Their business also fits into the locally owned scheme of downtown, McKinney said.

"We really feel like this is a very athletically driven population," McKinney said. "We're small, independent . . . It's not a chain."

During the construction of Nourish, Burtenshaw said they utilized local businesses for purchasing materials. Nourish was also designed with green and renewable products, such as bamboo floors, clay paints and dual-flush toilets in the bathrooms, McKinney said. Burtenshaw and McKin-

ney are not only owners, but also instructors and teach several classes at the University of Idaho Student Recreation Center, as well as Nourish.

Nourish offers 24 classes each week at various times throughout the day. McKinney said instructors meet participants at their level of experience to further their knowledge of yoga postures and physicality.

The two forms of yoga that are most influential in Burtenshaw and McKinney's teaching styles are Power Vinyasa and Anusara Yoga. Power Vinyasa is a physical style that focuses on breathing and mobility, while Anusara yoga stimulates essential goodness, beauty and acceptance, Burtenshaw said. Their personal style at Nourish is a physically strong style, McKinney said.

"Ultimately the goal is to increase strength, balance, mobility and confidence in themselves," he said.

For people who are not interested in yoga, Burtenshaw said they are planning to build a juice, smoothie and tea bar.

"You can come in and have a nutritious drink and be in that environment, even if you aren't into yoga," she said.

Burtenshaw said she and McK-



Mark McKinney | Courtesy

Students and community members go through various moves and poses during their yoga session at Nourish Yoga. There are many different yoga sessions people can attend throughout the day.

inney make a good team because she is passionate about yoga and he has the knowledge and experience to run a business. However, as parents of four children ranging in ages from 11 to 15, running their own business has been challenging.

"I'm super organized and so is Mark, and that's the only way we can nail it," Burtenshaw said.

During opening weekend, Burtenshaw said parenting was minimal but the children were

with them for the event. She and McKinney have designed a schedule for teaching classes and working at the center so that at least one parent will always be present at home. In addition to the classes offered at Nourish, McKinney said they plan to offer a variety of workshops.

"We want to bring in teachers from out of town," he said. "We want to give people here an exposure to all the talent that is out there."

Ultimately, Burtenshaw said she and McKinney would like to establish a retreat center. The center would offer yoga, life coaching and nutritional counseling, but for now they are happy with the immediate success of Nourish.

"We're excited about it," McKinney said. "People are coming in and taking classes. They use the free class and then they buy a pass."

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# YOUR CAR: KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



Photo Illustration by Steven Devine | Summer Arg

Local mechanic Everett Paul and Assistant Manager of the Moscow Les Schwab Tire Center Will Walker suggested people have some basic maintenance done to their cars when planning road trips, specifically checking leaks in the radiator, belts, brakes and oil.

## Joanna Wilson Summer Arg

Imagine spending day three of a road trip waiting for the tow truck driver to find mile marker 435.

If travelers fail to check certain components of their car before a summer road trip, they may not make it home, mechanic Everett Paul said.

Checking for leaks in the radiator, a mass of hoses under the hood of the car, is one important component. The radiator works by carrying a mixture of water and radiator fluid past the engine to absorb the heat. If the hoses are leaking fluid, the car will start to overheat as the cooling liquid is lost.

Paul said the simplest way to check for leaks in the radiator, the gas line, or the oil, is to let the car run for a time in one place. If there are new spots under the car, take it in.

"If you are worried about leaks (in the radiator) take it to a (repair) place," Paul said. "Have them pressurize the radiator."

The extra pressure in the radiator will reveal any hidden leaks, he said.

"If it runs out of water (on the road), your motor gets hot, you probably are not going to make it home," Paul said. "If for some reason it does get hot, you just (stop, turn off the engine, and) open the hood. Let it cool 30 or 40 minutes. Try to find out where it's leaking and tighten a hose if you can."

Paul said the engine will be damaged if more water is added before it is cool. He also recommended rolling down the windows and turning on the heater if the engine temperature starts to rise while driving.

"(The heater) takes more heat from the water," Paul said. "If the water gets too low and the heater stops heating, turn the engine off."

The belts should also be checked, Paul said.

If there are cracks in any of the belts, they should be replaced. If the car has an interference-timing belt, the belt should be changed after about 80,000 to 100,000 miles, Paul said.

If an interference-timing belt breaks, the motor will also break seconds later. Information about whether a certain vehicle has an interference engine can be found online

or in the owner's manual.

Will Walker, the assistant manager of the Moscow Les Schwab Tire Center, said students should also have their tires and brakes checked.

"Take it into the local place wherever they have their tires done, and have them just do a basic check on everything," Walker said. "Like here, we do a six-point inspection ... Wherever they take it, let them know where they're going or how far they're going and have it checked out. And most of the time wherever they take it, that will be free."

Walker said he has seen many student cars that are unsafe because the drivers failed to have the vehicle checked on a regular basis.

"And it doesn't cost anything to come in and have it looked at," Walker said.

The time to replace low-brake pads depends on every car because every car wears

them out differently, Walker said.

"It (also) depends on the trip, if it is a really long trip, or if they are just going up to Seattle and back, or something like that," Walker said. "Usually we try to recommend

the brakes around 15 to 20 percent. If they are getting really, really thin and we don't think they are going to make it, then definitely."

With tires, they look for how the tire is wearing to check for alignment problems as well as how much tread is left, Walker said.

"If they are getting really close to the wear bar — a raised bar between the tread of the tire, each tire has one — if they are getting really close, or if they are at that, then definitely, we would recommend new tires," Walker said. "Or if they are wearing through it, which a lot of them who come in here are."

And don't forget to check the oil.

**"... it doesn't  
cost anything  
to come in  
and have it  
looked at."**

**Will Walker  
Assistant manager  
Moscow Les Schwab  
Tire Center**





**FOUR DOLLARS TO RIDE**

**Mountain Bike Mondays offers trails and techniques to the inexperienced**

**Steven Devine | Blot**  
Tyler Roberds, University of Idaho senior in exercise science and health, rides his bike in the Shattuck Arboretum in early Spring.

**Jacob Dyer**  
Summer Arg

The University of Idaho Outdoor Programs is offering an opportunity for mountain bikers to hit the trails for a small amount of money.

Trevor Fulton, assistant coordinator of Outdoor Programs, said he started Mountain Bike Monday two years ago. No one else was offering the service, and it gave Fulton the opportunity to teach people how to ride and also provided an area for them to learn.

“The idea is we get people up there and we show them how to get there, show them where the axis points are, there are three separate axis points on the mountain, give them an orientation ride and then some people will come every week and some people will go once and know where to go and will be good and that’s fine with us,” Fulton said.

Mountain Bike Mondays started May 23 and will continue every other Monday until August 1 — June 20 will be the next scheduled event.

For a \$4 fee, Outdoor Programs is busing participants up to Moscow Mountain to spend time biking on its many trails. Participants also have the option of providing their own transportation, which would eliminate the \$4 fee but still allow them to experience instructor-led biking.

Fulton said that one of the Outdoor Programs’ goals is to teach people how to do these things independently. He hopes that by taking them out to the mountain

people can decide for themselves when they want to ride their bike.

Experience is not an issue for the event as Fulton said he shapes the rides around the experience of the riders who come along for that specific Monday.

On the day of the ride, Fulton selects the destination that best accommodates the weather conditions and then sends out notifications to a list of interested parties. At that point, he waits for responses and then meets up with whoever is going at the Outdoor Programs’ office or at the site of the ride.

A general ride usually lasts two or three hours, depending on the experience and size of the group, Fulton said. While group size does fluctuate, they average four or five people.

“Groups are usually relatively small — I have had everything from two folks to the biggest one we had was about 15 of us,” Fulton said.

One of the greater factors that Mountain Bike Mondays has to deal with is weather. Fulton said the May to August scheduling is based on trying to fit in between the rain that often coincides with fall and spring. Another way of dealing with the weather is choosing what part of the mountain the groups will bike. When the weather is nice, Fulton said they will spend a lot of time on the western half of the mountain.

One advantage participants gain when they join the event is an opportunity to get familiar with

Moscow Mountain and all of the trails it contains. Fulton said riders do not always realize how easy it is to get lost the first time they go to the mountain.

“There are old trails and new trails, and if you don’t have some understanding of where you are and where you want to be you can definitely get lost,” Fulton said.

The event also brings people together of all different levels. Fulton said he will bring some people to the mountain who have never been there before as well as others who know the trails better than he does.

One of the main requirements to participate is wearing a helmet — equipment does not have to be top notch, but riders have to be safe.

Fulton does not take his groups on trails that require bikes with large shocks because he said he does not like those kinds of rides. So while a participant won’t need an expensive bike it does need to have proper maintenance so the rider can enjoy the experience more.

“It’s easier to learn how to mountain bike and have fun while doing it if you have equipment that’s a little more conducive to comfort,” Fulton said.

Mountain Bike Mondays is available to anyone interested in learning how to ride mountain bikes or just to anyone who enjoys riding. Students and non-students are allowed to participate.

Fulton said anyone interested in participating should come into the office and ask about information.

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## Support Israel, but with conditions

To say the Israeli-Palestinian situation is complicated would be like saying the Atlantic Ocean is damp. It is the understatement of the century. The conflict's history seems easy to understand. Like many modern Middle Eastern conflicts, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict stretches back to the fall of the Ottoman Empire in World War I, when Britain and France established new borders for former Ottoman lands. Anti-Semitism in Europe drove more and more Jewish settlers to the area, and after World War II the United Nations drew up borders for a Jewish state, which would become Israel, and an Arab state that would become Palestine. Unfortunately, history is never that simple.

A series of attacks on the new Jewish state by neighboring countries led Israel to become a military superpower, one of the most heavily armed countries in the world. Israeli expansion and settlement in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, generally considered Palestinian territory, led to violent resistance from Palestinian nationalists. Israeli responses to these attacks were, like the attacks themselves, indiscriminate and targeted civilians.

This cycle of violence has continued for decades. Both sides seem to believe they are fighting for their lives. Palestinian terrorists fire mortars at Israeli civilians in the occupied West Bank. Israel retaliates, citing reasons of security, by blocking humanitarian aid shipments to Palestine and dropping white phosphorus bombs. The cycle seems unending.

The United States has, in spite of being officially in favor of a two-state solution, continued to support Israel financially, militarily, and in our rhetoric. Israel has every right to exist, just as the Palestinians do, but they are not blameless in the conflict. Israeli treatment of Palestinians ranges from deplorable to dehumanizing, and America must be willing to stand up to our allies.

In the interest of world peace,

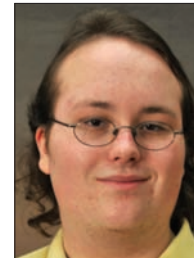
it is time for the United States to begin examining its alliance with Israel, and its support for Israeli policies.

President Barack Obama recently attracted criticism from Israel and its supporters when he proposed that Israel officially recognize its 1967 borders, with mutually agreed land swaps for the security of both Israel and Palestine (currently, returning to those borders would mean a geographically divided Israel, making swaps necessary). The Israeli government refused. They will not give up settlements in and control of the West Bank and Gaza, despite the U.N. officially recognizing the land as "occupied Palestinian territory."

Israel must be willing to compromise, recognize the existence of an independent Palestine, and stop their human rights abuses against Palestinian citizens and prisoners of war. If we are ever to see an end to the conflict, the U.S. must ask that our allies cooperate with us, as we have cooperated with them for several decades.

We must also make heavy demands of Palestine. Hamas, a group the U.S. considers a terrorist organization, has been in control of the Palestinian government through a democratic election for several years. Hamas does not recognize the existence of Israel, and so the Palestinians must be willing to elect moderate leaders and negotiate the independence of their state with the Israeli government.

It will take both sides of the conflict working together to end the cycle of violence. Generations of Israelis and Palestinians have grown up under the threat of violence from the other side. To those who have lost friends and family to the conflict, hatred and retaliation seem justified. If we are ever to see an end to the violence, they must learn that it is not. And the only way the United States can do that is to hold our allies accountable. We can continue to support Israel, but we cannot continue unconditionally.



**Max Bartlett**

Summer Arg

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# Blood splatters and physics

## Research helps crime scene investigation

Joanna Wilson  
Summer Arg

Although detectives may never use Washington State University Professor Fred Gittes' new method of analyzing crime scene blood splatters, he said he has still found a way to capture the interest of students in 100-level physics classes.

"I've been teaching introductory physics classes, where you study the motion of things being projected," Gittes said. "Rather dry stuff to be teaching. So I thought, 'Wow — here's a possibility to use basic physics, what people learn in their basic intro physics class, and give it a real world application.'"

WSU announced May 24 that Gittes had developed a way to determine how high the source of the blood was from the ground.

"They already do a great job finding the position of where it was, it's just the height we tried to nail down," doctoral candidate Chris Varney said. "There was a lawyer who gave us his interpretation of the application. It has to do with self-defense sort of cases. Like whether a person was kneeling or standing."

However, CSI detectives have said they are happy with the methods

they already use, Varney said.

"We've been getting a lot of hype for what we've done, and really all we've done is only lab tests," Varney said.

Varney said he started working under Gittes on the project four years ago.

"In the past, I'd worked pretty closely with crime scenes, and detectives and such, and it really seemed like the perfect project for me at the time," Varney said.

The first step for the project was to find a blood equivalent recipe and make the splatters.

Varney said he started with real blood that a hospital was not able to use to get a good idea of what they were looking for.

"Then we basically looked up a whole lot of fake blood recipes and picked up a whole bunch of different supplies based on that," Varney said. "And we just started mixing them together to see what makes a decent substitute. Just purely subjective."

It was a long night, he said.

"Mixing stuff together and throwing it at a sheet of paper and seeing how it stuck. To this day there's still spots of blue on the ceiling."

Once they had the splatters,



Brianna Ingermann | Courtesy

Chris Varney sets up a clapper device for an experiment during his research on kinetic physics with Washington State University physics professor Fred Gittes. Research about more efficient ways to collect and test blood from crime scenes has been a topic in the forensic science area, and Varney and Gittes' research may add to the conversation.

Varney said he photographed them and scanned them into a computer, where he fitted the spots to different ellipses. Then he graphed the known distances with the ellipses to determine the angle at which the liquid hit the paper. After determining the angle for a series of drops, they were able to find the place of origin.

"At the very least, we made a fun undergraduate lab," Varney said. "The science is surprisingly really simple ... Our method knows its own limitations as well,

like if there's a scenario where it doesn't work, our method actually tells you that pretty clearly."

Gittes said they have put the research out there, and if forensic scientists are interested, they can do the long-term development and testing in real crime scenes.

"Introductory physics can be a dry topic," Gittes said. "I've taken a lot of pleasure being able to find something that had a need. I can mention this and use it in labs."

## VANDAL

from page 3

ASUI President Samantha Perez said she understands why BSU is upset, but believes since UI is a land-grant institution it takes more money to run the university's programs.

"They need to realize that we have more acreage and take care of more locations," Perez said. "It takes a lot of money to upkeep and run an engineering program. Boise State gets more overall funding than we do, and they are arguing on enrollment. Well, Boise State enrolls 20,000 students, and we enroll 12,000 students, so this issue should follow money, not numbers."

VanOrder said ASBSU's main focus is on equity, not equality.

"Equity is taking into account the higher cost of educating a student in the hard sciences or at the graduate level. Our campaign is a first step in promoting and increasing awareness at Boise State," VanOrder said. "Our ultimate goal would be to see funding for all institutions of higher education increase. However, equity is our short-term priority."

Boise State is currently renaming its campaign and changing the tagline to "Give Broncos What They're Worth."

"I would like to emphasize that this campaign doesn't represent negative feelings towards the University of Idaho or its students. We just hope that by creating awareness, students will be the missing piece that can bring about equity in this situation," VanOrder said.

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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.

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