

THE ARGONAUT

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uiargonaut.com

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Corporate confidence

UI hosts executive minds training to assist in career preparation

Katy Sword
Argonaut

The corporate world needs to be sexier, at least that's what Sharon Simpson, director of global business development for Krempel Communications thinks. She calls for an increase in sexy not in the traditional sense, but through training and confidence.

Simpson, along with the University of Idaho's UNITY and Office of Multicultural Affairs, is hosting a "Growing Your Executive Mind" training March 3 where participants will receive training that will assist them in future careers.

"The University of Idaho is the first live training in the world," Simpson said. "I'm based in Seattle headquarters, and UI UNITY was the first group that gave me an ear."

Simpson said she came to UI because undergraduates need live experience training to thrive after college.

"In the corporate world, 98 percent get left behind,"

Simpson said. "Graduates hold that piece of paper in their hands and don't know what to do."

Stephen Krempel, CEO of Krempel Communications International, will lead the training where participants will give and receive individual feedback to learn how they are perceived by others, learn about communication and confidence as well as seven behavioral skill sets, according to the student handbook participants will receive at the event.

"For many it's an emotional training," Simpson said. "They have lots of blocks in their heads, saying they can't do something, so we work through those blocks. But students mix with friends and groups so it's fun."

Co-chair of UNITY Lizbette Morin said while the training is focused on the corporate world, it is beneficial

SEE CORPORATE, PAGE 4



Stephen Krempel
CEO of Krempel Communications International



Emily Nash-Gray plays "Becky" in a dress rehearsal for University of Idaho's play "Becky's New Car" Monday in the Hartung Theater. She bickers with her on-stage son, a 26-year-old college student living at home.

Tony Marcolina | Argonaut

Taking the wheel

Student-led production spotlights comedies, tragedies in monotonous life

Lindsey Treffry
Argonaut

Emily Nash-Gray teaches three University of Idaho Fundamentals of Public Speaking classes and is on track to get a Masters of Fine Arts degree in UI's theater program. Nash-Gray is a mom and a wife too, which seems to be the only similarity she has with her character in UI's latest mainstage production.

Nash-Gray plays Becky Foster in the UI Department of Theatre Arts' third mainstage production of

More info

"Becky's New Car" shows at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Hartung Theater. Admission is free for UI students and tickets can be purchased at the door or at 208.885.7212.

the school year — led solely by students — "Becky's New Car."

Becky, who has been married for 28 years and has a 26-year-old son, is an employee at a car dealership.

SEE WHEEL, PAGE 4

Roadblock to collaboration

University of Oregon professor spoke in support of Palouse conservation

Joanna Wilson
Argonaut

There are many invisible roadblocks to public and private collaboration, said Richard Margerum in a speech Friday.

"I often tell collaborative groups that 'it took you 18 months, three years, to reach consensus — congratulations — now the hard part begins,'" Margerum said. "They usually aren't happy with that answer, but that's been my

focus through the years, is what happens after consensus."

University of Idaho bioregional planning and community design faculty and research scientists sponsored Margerum's visit to UI.

Margerum, an associate professor and head of the Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management at the University of Oregon,

SEE ROADBLOCK, PAGE 4

SOUL POWER



Philip Vukelich | Argonaut

Larry Braggs, lead vocalist for Tower of Power, riles the audience Saturday at the "Urban Urges" concert in the Kibbie Dome. The final concert of the 2012 Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival featured the Lionel Hampton Youth Orchestra, the Ray Haynes Fountain of Youth Band and concluded with Tower of Power.



Philip Vukelich | Argonaut

Quinn MacPherson studies Monday in the Janssen Engineering Building thinkTANK. MacPherson, a junior in physics and material science, tutors linear algebra and fluid dynamics in the thinkTANK. Tutoring for various classes in engineering, math and science takes place from 4 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday in the thinkTANK.

Think inside the TANK

Kaitlyn Krasselt
Argonaut

Engineering students at the University of Idaho have had access to the newly completed John C. Wahl thinkTANK in the Janssen Engineering Building for almost two months, and are already making use of it.

"This multi-purpose lounge and meeting facility has been a great hit and is being used in many ways," said Maria Pregitzer, director of student services.

The thinkTANK opened in January as a resource for more than 1,200 UI undergraduate engineering

students. The thinkTANK provides advising for course registration, financial aid and internships, in addition to a study and tutoring space for engineering students.

Many engineering students have already taken advantage of the space for group projects, study groups and tutoring from graduate students and professors.

Khalid Abdel-Rahim, a chemical engineering major, said the thinkTANK is especially useful as a meeting space for groups and he thinks

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University of Idaho

Volume 113, Issue no. 43

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Contact tylerc@uidaho.edu for info

Vandal Entertainment

THIS WEEK'S FILMS

SUB Borah Theater FREE

The Man Who Will Come

Wed. Feb 29, 7 pm

Hugo

Fri. Mar 2, 7 & 9:30 pm

Sat. Mar 3, 2:30 & 7 pm

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Johnny Cardinale

Free Comedian

Tues. Feb 28, 8 pm

SUB Ballroom

THE BGP

Free Concert

Thurs. Mar 1, 8 pm

SUB Ballroom

International Friendship Association

Cruise the World

Sat. Mar 3, 11 am- 5 pm

SUB Ballroom

Tickets \$5 day of event purchase at SUB info desk

Women's Swim

Sun. Mar 4, 11 am-5 pm

Free swim session for all women

Student Organizations

Activities Board Funding Training

Step 1 for Student Orgs to be reimbursed

Tues. Mar 20, 6:00 – 6:45 pm

Crest Room, Commons

Leadership Programs

Lunches with Leaders

Jeanne Christiansen, Vice Provost of Academic Affairs

Wed. Mar 7, 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Clearwater Room, Commons

Campus Conversations

Alcohol and College Campuses

Thurs. Mar 8, 11:30 am-12:30 pm

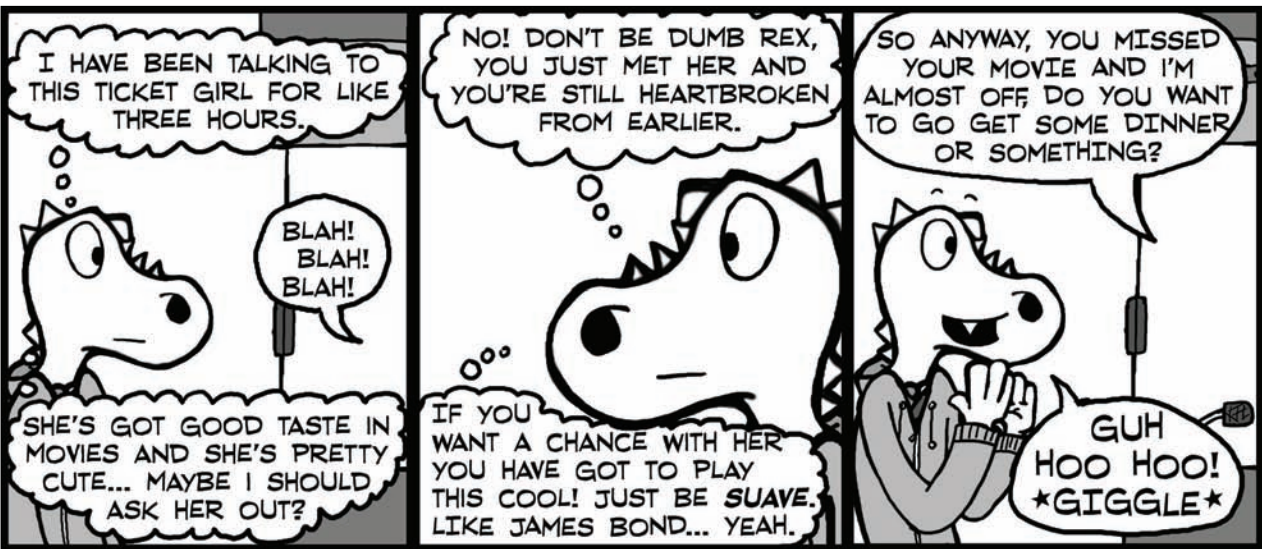
Aurora Room, Commons

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THE INSIDE

CAMPUS METRICS & INTERACTIONS

Rex



Eli Holland | Argonaut

University Studies

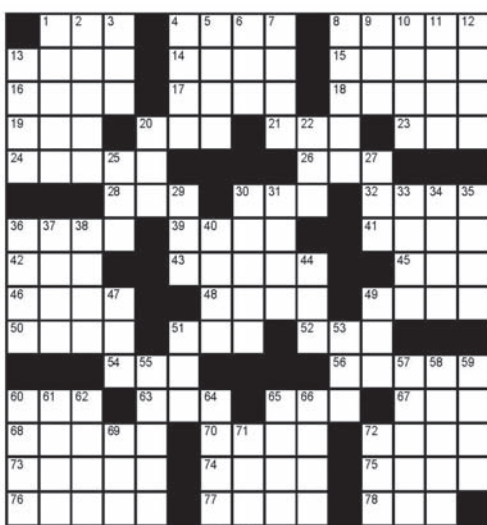


Wesley O'Bryan | Argonaut

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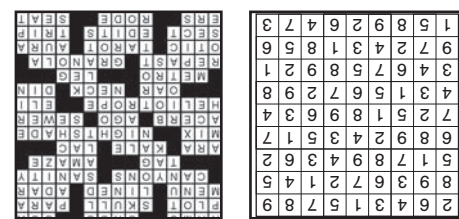
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SOLUTIONS



THE FINE PRINT

Corrections

Find a mistake? Send an email to the section editor.

On the web

uiargonaut.com, uiargonaut.com/vandalnation, facebook.com/argonaut

UI Student Media Board

The UI Student Media Board meets at 4:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. 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.

Editorial Policy

The opinion page is reserved as a forum of open thought, debate and expression of free speech regarding topics relevant to the University of Idaho community. Editorials are signed by the initials of the author. Editorials may not necessarily reflect the views of the university or its identities or the other members of the Editorial Board. Members of the Argonaut Editorial Board are Elizabeth Rudd, editor-in-chief, Elisa Eiguren, opinion and managing editor, and Madison McCord, web manager.

Letters Policy

The Argonaut welcomes letters to the editor about current issues. However, The Argonaut adheres to a strict letter policy:

- Letters should be less than 300 words typed.
- Letters should focus on issues, not on personalities.
- The Argonaut reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, label and clarity.
- Letters must be signed, include major and provide a current phone number.
- If your letter is in response to a particular article, please list the title and date of the article.
- Send all letters to:
 - 301 Student Union
 - Moscow, ID, 83844-4271
 - or arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

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Idaho Press Club Website General Excellence - Student, 1st place
SPJ Mark of Excellence 2011: 3rd place website

Non-profit Identification Statement: The Argonaut, ISSN 0896-1409, is published twice weekly during the academic school year and is located at 301 Student Union, Moscow, ID 83844-4271.

The Argonaut is printed on newsprint containing 24-40 percent post-consumer waste. Please recycle this newspaper after reading. For recycling information, call the Moscow Recycling Hotline at (208) 882-0590.

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Police Log

Tuesday, Feb. 21

7:48 a.m. 600 Blk Shoshone Street: Caller reported a small moose running in the area. An officer responded but was unable to locate the animal.

2:02 p.m. 2300 Blk East Sixth Street: Reporting person said a moose was wandering in the area. Animal control responded but was unable to locate the moose.

2:29 p.m. Pi Beta Phi: Fire and police responded to a fire alarm. It was determined to be triggered by burnt popcorn.

Wednesday, Feb. 22

10:58 a.m. 1800 Blk Rolling Hills Drive: Caller reported a stray moose.

Thursday, Feb. 23

10:11 p.m. Guy Wicks Field: Report of a controlled substance problem. A report was filed.

Friday, Feb. 24

1:18 p.m. 601 Hathaway Street: Caller reported a stray moose. No report filed.

3:57 p.m. AgSci Building: Caller reported skateboarders on campus. No report filed.

Saturday, Feb. 25

10:27 a.m. 1400 Blk Ridgeview Drive: Caller reported a large moose in the area. The caller did not believe it was the same younger one spotted two weeks ago. An officer was advised to check it out.

7:09 p.m. Moscow Manor: Caller reported that people might be on the roof. No report filed.

Sunday, Feb. 26

12:04 p.m. Delta Chi: Caller reported that multiple cars had been egged.

7:36 p.m. East Sixth Street: Caller reported a vehicle versus tree accident. No report filed.

Monday, Feb. 27

1:34 a.m. 600 Blk Indian Hills Drive: Caller reported a loud noise. A report was taken.

Shamrock smackdown

Derby Dames first bout March 10

Michelle Gregg
Argonaut

The Palouse Rolling Hills Derby Dames (RHDD) is an active, year-round organization that has been competing for more than two years.

According to the Women's Flat Track Derby Association (WFTDA) — international governing body for the sport — flat-track roller derby is the fastest-growing sport in America.

When two teams compete against one another, it's called a bout, said Laura Graden (Grease Kelly), RHDD marketing coordinator.

The Derby Dames of the Palouse have their first home bout at 7 p.m. March 10 at the Washington State University Beasley Coliseum, where they'll take on Apple City Roller Derby from Wenatchee, Wash.

Graden said the team is excited to show the Palouse what the RHDD can do.

"We have about 30 active skaters and always welcome any new members regardless of age and skill level," Graden said. "We have a beginners test called 'fresh meat,' which is (a) test based on the skills needed to participate. Once the test is passed then they can play in a bout and test out their skills."

Graden said the team has bi-weekly practices, which run about two hours each. She said the RHDD have traveled as far as Missoula to compete against other leagues and are trying to branch out more to play different teams.

Alice Graden, Laura's sister, said she joined RHDD after she attended practice and became hooked.

"Overall, it's just a really good balance of people," Alice Graden said. "All of them are really nice and supportive all around."

Alice Graden said all the hard work and practice pays off when a skill is finally mastered.

"My favorite part is when I have been practicing a skill and then master it," she said. "I like how it keeps me in shape, and it is actually a legitimate sport now."

Alice Graden said the Derby Dames have been practicing and planning for their home bout for a while because there is a lot of behind-the-scenes work.

"We have been meeting weekly to make sure that everything is in order for our first home bout," Team Captain Annalyse Barnes said. "We partnered up with our own teammates and are figuring out what works best."

Barnes said she has been involved with roller derby since about 2007 and has been with the RHDD since the team started.

Roller derby is known for the outlandish names women sport on the back of their team uniforms.

"Sometimes you pick your name, and sometimes it gets picked for you," Graden said. "Internationally, there is an entire roster that your name gets registered for, so no two names are alike."

Lauren Graden said being part of RHDD is a good support group



Philip Vukelich | Argonaut

Michele Wiseman, or "Break'er Box," Annalyse Barnes and Kelly Stewart demonstrate roller derby play at the Rolling Hills Derby Dames practice Feb. 16 in the Washington State University's student recreation center. The team has an upcoming bout, "The Shamrock Smackdown," March 10 in WSU's Beasley Coliseum.

with women of all ages and skill levels and is like a big community.

"I just love everything about roller derby. My favorite is watching new skaters come and as they learn new skills and get better, it changes their whole life," Lauren

Graden said. "They start becoming more outgoing and brave enough to try things in life that they wouldn't have before they tried roller derby."

Michelle Gregg can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

Dancing to support a cause

Zumbathon raises funds for Lou Gehrig's disease

Emily Aizawa
Argonaut

Moscow community members can participate in the Zumbathon — a fun event in support of a serious cause, Lou Gehrig's disease — Peg Hamlett said.

Proceeds from the third annual Zumbathon will go toward research for Lou Gehrig's disease (ALS), a progressive motor neuron disease that takes away the ability of movement, but leaves mental function intact.

"One of the things Zumbathon is really about, is to celebrate that we are trying to find a cure and celebrate people's lives that have it, as opposed to being quite as negative," said Hamlett, fitness and wellness director of the University of Idaho Student Recreation Center. "Let's be aware of what the disease is."

Dancing will begin at 6:30 p.m. and end at 8:30 Friday at the SRC. The cost to enter is a minimum \$5 donation. Tickets will be sold starting at noon Friday in the wellness office. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

Seventy-five percent of ticket sales will go toward the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Augie's Quest to cure ALS.

Hamlett said Augie Nieto was physically active and sports were a big part of his life. She said when he was diagnosed with ALS, he wanted to become vocal and promote awareness while trying to find a cure.

MDA is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding a cure for muscular dystrophy and also providing health care, support services and education for anybody with this disease, according to its website.

Six instructors will take turns leading the group — Jaime Gallup, Jenny Leavitt, Lizette Fife, Jessy Buster, Michelle Leachman and Mindy Rice.

Participants can dress up to represent a specific era, or a favorite celebrity for the event's costume contest.

"This isn't required but try to wear lots of colors," Hamlett said. "Have fun with it."

Hamlett said DJ Uniq's presence will make

More info

Zumbathon will go from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday at the Student Recreation Center. The cost to enter is a minimum \$5 donation.

the party.

"He has been DJ for the last two Zumbathons," said Jaime Gallup, instructor and co-coordinator. "Having that live DJ there is just so much fun."

The first Zumbathon raised money for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, which supports breast cancer research and awareness. The second supported "Go Red for Women" fighting heart disease. Jenny Leavitt, grad assistant and co-coordinator, had a class with Gallup, so they decided to lead it together, Gallup said.

Hamlett said participants should bring water and comfortable shoes to get a great workout.

Emily Aizawa can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

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University of Idaho Department of Theatre Arts presents

Becky's New Car

By Steven Dietz

7:30 p.m. Feb. 28-March 3 | 2 p.m. March 4
in the UI Hartung Theater

UI STUDENTS FREE | General admission \$10
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CORPORATE

FROM PAGE 1

to everyone.

"It can be used in any daily job," Morin said. "It's based around communication and confidence. It does touch on the corporate world and business, but look at the world, it's all business."

Morin said UNITY reaches out to business students, multicultural Greeks, international students and ASUI for participants.

Simpson said because this is the first live GEM training, representatives from Washington State University and Boise State University will attend UI's seminar prior to sessions held at their own schools.

"We want BSU and WSU to go, 'whoa this is great,'" Simpson said. "We want it to spread like a virus."

Morin said UNITY representatives, a few UI professors, BSU and WSU representatives and hopefully 40 students from WSU are expected to attend the event.

"Apart from those groups we have about 20 signed up," Morin said. "We are looking for

around 100."

Leathia Botello, coordinator of the multicultural program for the Office of Multicultural Affairs said the training is important because of the high percentage of first-generation students at UI. She said the training will provide tools students can use to succeed now and in the future.

The training will provide attendees with a certificate proving they completed the GEM program, which is something employers are looking for, Simpson said, because many large companies use the program already.

The training has a \$50 fee, which Botello said shows that students are accountable.

Interested students can register at stephenkremp.com or contact the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Simpson said although students can register the day of, March 1 is the preferred deadline because the event provides lunch.

Katy Sword can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



'Growing Your Executive Mind' training at 8:30 a.m. March 3 in Clearwater/Whitewater rooms

WHEEL

FROM PAGE 1

26-year-old son, is an employee at a car dealership. One day, a widower named Walter Flood comes looking for a car and assumes Becky is a widow. Without correcting him, Becky begins her double life.

"She realizes she's missing something and she doesn't know what that is," Nash-Gray said. "Walter pulls the rug out from under her."

Zac Curtis, the play's director, is in his last semester of the MFA theater program.

"This is a mid-life crisis play," Curtis said. "... It's in finding the route that's right. She's hit a roadblock."

"Becky's New Car" is a comedy too. Curtis said Steve, a mopey, depressing car salesman and co-worker of Becky, offers comic relief for the play. Her son Chris plays a goofy, college bum as well. "It combines humor with touching moments," Curtis said.

Nash-Gray said Becky begins to make irrational choices in her quest to regain control of her life, which is comic and tragic.

"As an actor, you want to play the extremes — make them laugh and cry in the same 15 minutes," Nash-Gray said.

Other challenges for Nash-Gray include direct audience interaction, quick costume changes, little to no scene change and a 60-page script that she said is "90-percent Becky."

"Becky bounces between four different worlds mid-sentence," Curtis said.

She appears in work clothes, crosses the stage and changes into another outfit. At one point, Nash-Gray said she does a costume change on stage, with assistance from the audience.

"The play never stops," Curtis said. "(We have to) move very smoothly — it's unconventional."

Without pausing, the play even jumps through time.

"It starts where she is telling the story for you — reliving — from her perspective and how she's got through a present moment," Nash-Gray said.

"Two-thirds of the way into the script, she starts to lose control and keeps telling the story (and eventually comes) to point where the audience and Becky come to present time together. In the end, Becky doesn't even know what happens."

"Becky's New Car" shows at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Hartung Theater. General admission is \$10, UI faculty and staff is \$8 and UI students get in free. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at 208.885.7212.

"('Becky's New Car') is story of someone that recognizes that life is totally living them," Nash-Gray said. "... It's not that (Becky's) unhappy, she realizes the things that she once had have gone by the wayside and are lost somewhere."

Lindsey Treffry can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



As an actor you want to play the extremes — make them laugh and cry in the same 15 minutes.

Emily Nash-Gray,
lead actress

JUSTUS ON JUSTICE



Alex Aguirre | Argonaut

Sgt. Doug Justus speaks to students and community members Monday in the Student Union Building ballroom about human trafficking in the Northwest. Justus shared some of his personal experiences dealing with the trafficking of young girls during his time served with the Drug and Vice Division in Portland, Oregon.

ROADBLOCK

FROM PAGE 1

spoke at UI as part of the preliminary planning for a collaborative group consisting of regional universities, state and local officials, and local Native American groups, that will work to conserve the Palouse as it becomes more urbanized, said Sandra Pinel, a professor in UI's Department of Conservation Social Sciences.

"These are places like Spokane to Coeur d'Alene, also Pullman to Moscow, and other corridors like that, across jurisdictions," Pinel said. "So the problem is governing them, or helping people govern these landscapes through the research we do."

Pinel said working across Washington-Idaho state lines and between research institutions and city governments poses a problem.

"So Dr. Margerum was here as an expert," Pinel said. "How do different parties, different stakeholders, reach agreement and then implement those understandings in their own agencies? Basically helping the universities understand how to make their research helpful to local governments and state agencies."

Margerum said one of the big problems collaborative groups face is deciding who will manage the collaborative group.

"It's easy to think of adaptive management in a single organization," Margerum said. "You've got people who are collecting the data, is responding back. In a collaborative setting, it's often an ongoing problem-solving. It's inter-jurisdictional, interagency, intergovern-

mental, multiple stakeholders, and you have to think about some sort of a system that will take that feedback loop and make the necessary adjustment to management activities."

Two other barriers are data storage and time, he said.

"You hear this all the time, whether it's agencies, whether it's universities, whatever it is, 'it's taking time away from my core business,'" Margerum said.

"I can't afford that time to do those things.' ... Do they just go to meetings all day? How do you balance this thing?"

Meanwhile, a government agency may be recording data and saving it in one format, while a university may be saving it in another, Margerum said.

Jessica Helsley, a UI graduate student in natural resources and environmental science, said the barrier of data storage was a takeaway point for her.

"One federal government organization may use a different database than the other that is managing abutting properties, when they sit down to collaborate — even if they're willing and able to ... they can't combine it," Helsley said.

Helsley said the data issue is a problem graduating students joining these organizations could solve, if they are aware of it.

After other issues have been dealt with, Helsley said the post-collaboration process is not to be ignored.

"It's difficult to build a bridge, but after you've all sat down and you've built the bridge, it's really easy to cross it," Helsley said. "We all need to sit down and make the effort to build the bridge."

Joanna Wilson can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



It's difficult to build a bridge, but after you've all sat down and you've built the bridge, it's really easy to cross it. We all need to sit down and make the effort to building the bridge.

Jessica Helsley,
UI graduate student

THINKTANK

FROM PAGE 1

space will become popular among engineering students.

"Right now it's new so not everyone knows about it yet, but in three or four years I think all engineering students will know about it," Abdel-Rahim said.

Abdel-Rahim said he uses the space to meet with Engineers Without Borders.

"I think it's a really good space for just working on stuff and meeting people — other engineers. The tutoring is nice for upper-level classes, and the dean of the college, his office is nearby so that's kind of cool," Abdel-Rahim said.

The thinkTANK is dedicated to John C. Wahl,

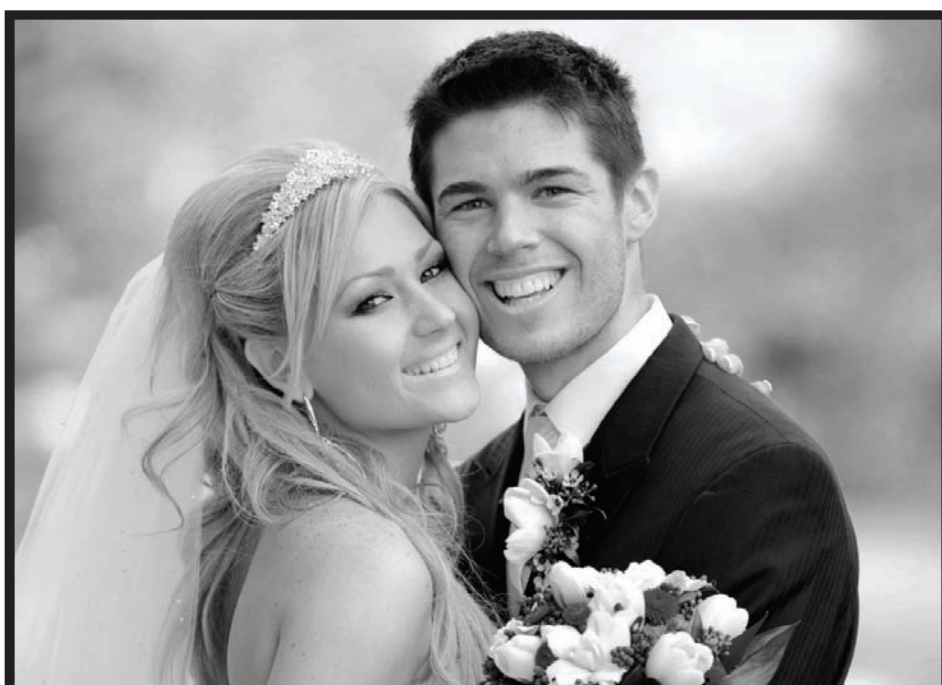
a 1948 graduate of the College of Engineering in metallurgical engineering. Wahl donated to the college throughout his life and supports the university even after his death.

Wahl died in 2009 and the Wahl Foundation took part in the funding of the thinkTANK shortly after.

"My uncle loved the university and wanted to support the College of Engineering in a way that would be meaningful and keep on giving long after he was no longer here," said Greg Wahl, director of the Frances and John Wahl Foundation.

Tutoring sessions for several engineering classes are available in the thinkTANK Monday through Thursday beginning at 4 p.m.

Kaitlyn Krasselt can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



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SPORTS



Idaho men's basketball win-streak snapped in Logan, Utah.

TRACK AND FIELD

Vandals strike gold, silver

TRACK AND FIELD

IDAHO TRACK STATS FROM THE WAC CHAMPIONSHIP



Men claim first WAC title

Stephan Wiebe
Argonaut

For the first time ever, an Idaho men's team won a WAC Championship.

Vandal track and field competed in the WAC Indoor Championships Thursday through Saturday in Nampa where the men took home the title.

The Vandal men held a one-point lead over Utah State going into the last event of the meet — the 4x400-meter relay. Idaho's team consisted of sophomore Andrew Bloom, senior Josh Dalton, junior Kyle Tylor and freshman Ben Ayesu-Attah. The men in silver and gold led nearly the whole race to seal the win and the championship in 3:14.62.

"They just ran amazingly," Idaho coach Julie Taylor said. "If anyone was going to make a surge, they denied it — there was no way they weren't going to win that race."

SEE TITLE, PAGE 8



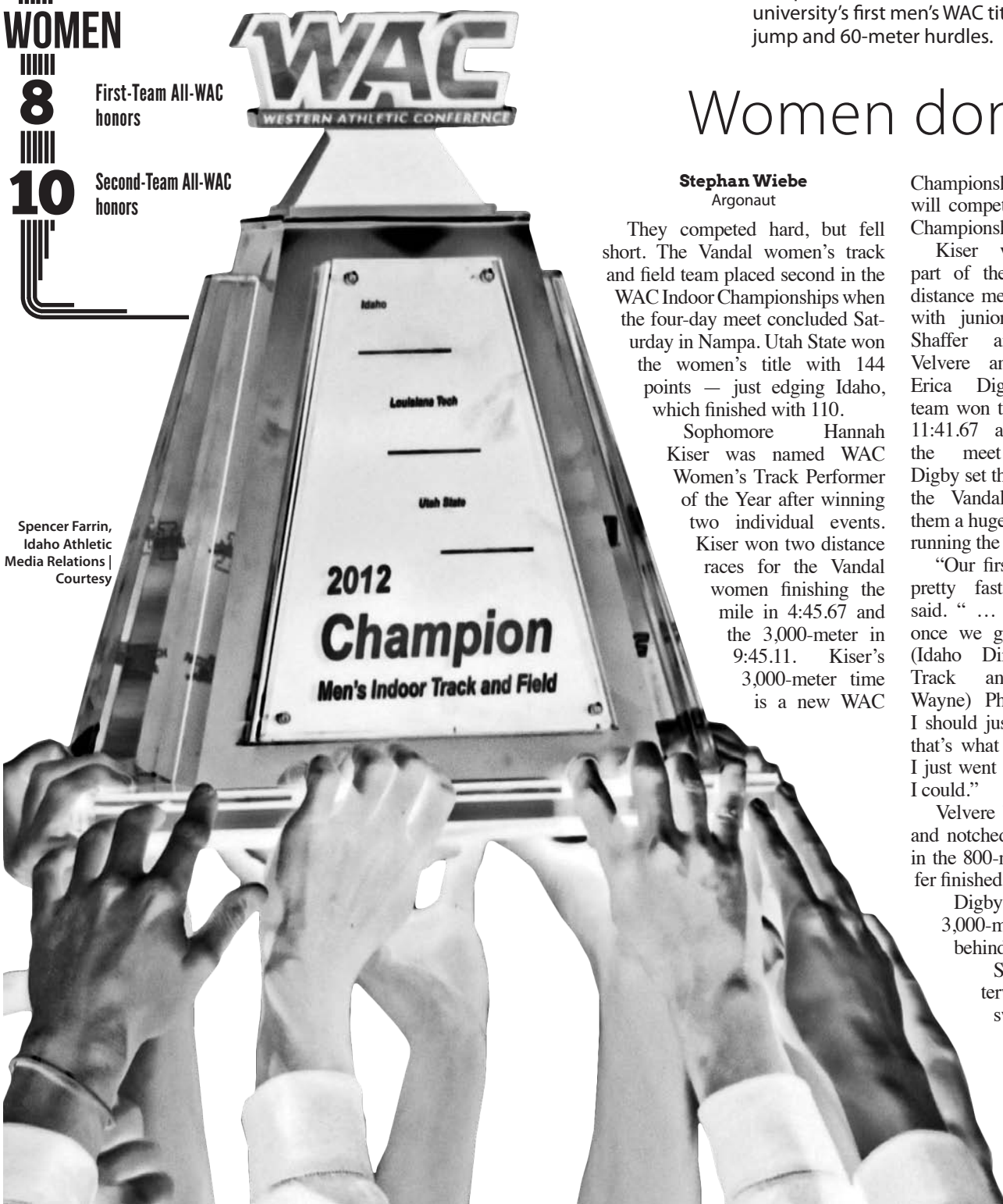
Spencer Farrin, Idaho Athletic Media Relations | Courtesy

Idaho heptathlon athlete Andrew Blaser runs the 60-meter hurdles last weekend in Nampa at the 2012 WAC Indoor Championships. Blaser helped the Vandal men to the university's first men's WAC title in school history by winning the men's heptathlon, high jump and 60-meter hurdles.

WOMEN



Spencer Farrin, Idaho Athletic Media Relations | Courtesy



Women dominate distance

Stephan Wiebe
Argonaut

They competed hard, but fell short. The Vandal women's track and field team placed second in the WAC Indoor Championships when the four-day meet concluded Saturday in Nampa. Utah State won the women's title with 144 points — just edging Idaho, which finished with 110.

Sophomore Hannah Kiser was named WAC Women's Track Performer of the Year after winning two individual events. Kiser won two distance races for the Vandal women finishing the mile in 4:45.67 and the 3,000-meter in 9:45.11. Kiser's 3,000-meter time is a new WAC

Championship meet record. She will compete in the NCAA Indoor Championships March 9 in Boise.

Kiser was also part of the winning distance medley team with juniors Lauren Shaffer and Liga Velvere and senior Erica Digby. The team won the race in 11:41.67 and broke the meet record. Digby set the pace for the Vandals, giving them a huge lead after running the first leg.

"Our first lap was pretty fast," Digby said. "... And then once we got around (Idaho Director of Track and Field Wayne) Phipps said I should just lead, so that's what I did and I just went as hard as I could."

Velvere beat teammate Schaffer and notched her second WAC title in the 800-meter in 2:09.05. Schaffer finished in second with 2:10.12.

Digby placed second in the 3,000-meter 0.35 seconds behind Kiser.

Sophomore Alycia Butterworth finished third to sweep the top three spots for the Vandals. Butterworth also placed second in the 5,000-meter to round out

a strong distance showing for the Vandals.

Senior Alyssa Covington and freshman Johanna Hocketstaller performed well in the women's pentathlon early in the meet. Hocketstaller finished in fourth with 3,323 points. She won the women's shot put with a throw of 44-00.50 feet while placing fourth in the long jump. Covington placed third in the 800-meter and second in the long jump.

We got off to a bit of a slow start, but you have to commend their competitiveness to be down as low as they were to jump back a few spots and finish as well as they did to score those points.

Wayne Phipps, Idaho Director of Track and Field

"The long jump is my strongest event, so I knew if I needed points that was going to be the one to pick them up in," Covington said. "It was just about forgetting the first three, no matter how you did on those, and just focusing on finishing it off strong, which I thought I did."

Overall, the Idaho women had 17 personal bests during the championship weekend.

"I thought we performed very well," Phipps said. "We got off to a bit of a slow start, but you have to commend their competitiveness to be down as low as they were to jump back a few spots and finish as well as they did to score those points."

Stephan Wiebe can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



File Photo by Philip Vukelich | Argonaut

Lindsey Anderson, a member of the University of Idaho club ski team, starts her first of two slalom runs at a conference race Feb. 12 at Bogus Basin Ski Resort near Boise. Anderson qualified for nationals by placing first in giant slalom and third in slalom at the regional races last week.

Heading east for championship

Nick Groff
Argonaut

The task is simple — travel nearly 3,000 miles and compete against some of the best skiers in the world.

The University of Idaho club ski team, which consists of about seven women and 15 men, is relishing in one of its most successful seasons in recent history.

Coach Jerry McMurty said Idaho, which competes in the Northwest Conference of the United States Collegiate Ski Association, qualified for the Western Regional competition in Steamboat Springs, Colo. The men's team and Lindsey Anderson qualified for the National Championship March 5-10 at Sunday River in Bethel, Maine.

He said it is the first time the men have qualified for nationals by placing in the top three of 16 teams at the Western Regional, behind the University of British Columbia and

Rocky Mountain College.

"We're super stoked," McMurty said. "For a little school like Idaho that doesn't have a ski area really close, it's pretty remarkable to be one of the top three in the Western U.S."

McMurty said teams race up to five skiers in regional and national competitions and the top three times count toward standings. The five men from Idaho making the cross-country trip are Erik Anderson, Drew Anderson, Travis Soderquist, Jeff Jacka and Nick Howell.

While McMurty believes the men can fair well against the competition, he said it will be the best the team has seen all year.

"(The race is) bringing in people with international rankings at this event," McMurty said. "It will be super tough, but the men can do it. They're smart, they're focused, they're great athletes. They really can place very, very high."

SEE EAST, PAGE 8

Idaho women bring out the brooms

Charles Crowley
Argonaut

The BYU Cougars are a regional powerhouse and the LCSC Warriors are rapidly improving, but neither managed to stop Idaho women's tennis Saturday.

Idaho played BYU at 10 a.m. and jumped ahead 4-0 before winning 4-2 in Pullman. A repeat 7-0 victory over the Warriors immediately followed Idaho's defeat of BYU in Lewiston.

"BYU was tough," Idaho coach Daniel Pollock said. "They were very solid with some good players, especially at the top of their lineup."

He said the Warriors were a much-improved team from the last time they met Jan. 16.

"They put a lot of balls on the court in the bottom of their line-up and the top of the line-up is always tough with Dominicka (Jasova) playing up there," Pollock said.

Pollock expected Idaho to beat LCSC but had concern regarding regional powerhouse BYU. The Cougars beat Denver, dominated Nevada and lost a close 4-3 match to No. 70 University of Wisconsin.

SEE BROOMS, PAGE 8

No. 7 but not broken

Idaho swim and dive hopes to extend its season at NCAA Championships

Sean Kramer
Argonaut

Texas-sized goals led to progress when the Idaho swim and dive team traveled to San Antonio for the 2012 WAC Championship meet.

The team finished No. 7 of eight competing teams during the four-day event with an overall score of 364.

"We were really, really good this weekend," coach Mark Sowa said. "We (wanted) to be great to be fourth, but we were still really, really good."

The results yielded four swimmers for Idaho who could compete in the NCAA Championship meet March 15. Erica Anderson, Kelsie Saxe, Rachel Millet and Si Jia Pang qualified in the 200 medley relay.

Sowa entered the tournament preaching competitiveness and aimed to prove that the program has taken significant steps forward since last year.

The Vandals met his expectations in that respect, improving their score by more than 100 points, and breaking more than 23 school records in 2012.

Notable records broken include the 200 freestyle, set by Millet with 1:49.69. Lyndsay Williams set the 400 individual medley with 4:23.60. Williams also set the record for the 200 individual medley in 2:04.06. Kelsie Saxe set the record for the 200-yard breaststroke with her 2:20.11 time. Idaho also broke its record for the 800 free relay when Millet, Williams, Megan Venlos and Pang clocked 7:25.74.

Sowa said shattering records is a clear indication of progress.

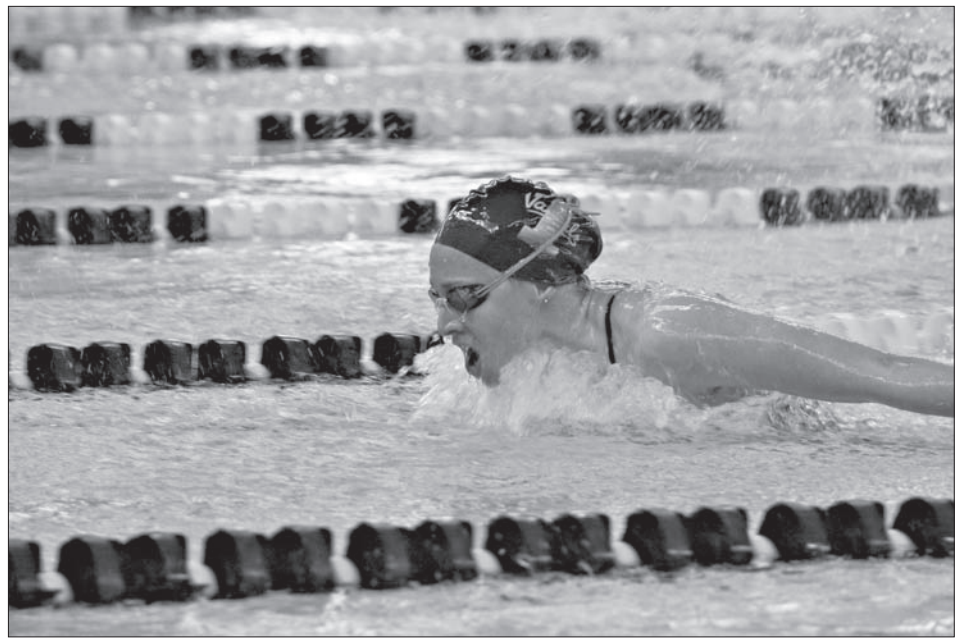
"It's been a really good year, and we should be proud of that," Sowa said. "If you look at the 200 medley we had four girls break the current school record. That's

pretty amazing right there. That's a testament to the program, and getting better and moving forward."

The trip to San Antonio was the team's longest of the year, with the team arriving two days before competition started Wednesday. Sowa was confident the travel had little effect on the team's performance.

"You never swim a perfect meet," he said. "We took a big step forward as a program. We're hungry for more. It was not a perfect meet by any standards."

The team awaits selection for the NCAA championship meet in two weeks to know whether or not the season will be extended. In the meantime, Sowa said his team will keep training as the Vandals have a "handful" of swimmers and divers who train to compete in U.S. Olympic trials for the summer, with a meet coming up in May.



File Photo by Ricky Scuderi | Argonaut

Kelsie Saxe takes the lead for the Vandals against Washington State University during the 200 butterfly Feb. 4 in the UI Swim Center.

"These are steps the Vandals are taking to continue to get better," Sowa said.

"I think it's going to be even better. Girls who are

currently on this team need to do things better. It felt good to walk into that meet and know we were going to make an impact. The

girls sensed it and they're hungry for more."

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Bossio, Vandals fall flat in final round

Men finish 19th of 24 teams

Madison McCord
Argonaut

After a promising start, the wheels fell off the bus in the final round for the University of Idaho men's golf team.

Two rounds into the Wyoming Desert Intercollegiate the Vandals stood at No. 14, but by the end of the 54-hole tournament in Palm Desert, Calif., Idaho dropped to No. 19 of 24 teams.

The Vandals' three-day total of 898 was one stroke behind Cal Poly and 54 strokes behind tournament winner UNLV, which shot a 20-under 844.

One bright spot for Idaho came in the form of senior Jared Bossio, whose four-over 220 led the Vandals and put him in a tie for No. 44 in individual scoring after shooting rounds of 76-68-76.

Other Vandals found success on the California links as well, including Sean McMullen who finished in a tie for No. 59 and Justin Kadin who finished No. 83. McMullen had the team's best opening round of the tournament shooting an even par 72, but followed that score with a 75 and 76 in the final two rounds. The low round for the Vandals came courtesy of Bossio, who shot a four-under 68 in the second round.

Idaho's No. 19 finish also placed it ahead of WAC opponent Hawaii, which finished No. 23, and Big-12 member Nebraska, which finished No. 21.

The Vandals will be back in action March 12 and 13 at the Jackrabbit Invitational in Prim, Calif.

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Women fall in final road game

Kevin Bingaman
Argonaut

Utah State's Devyn Christensen's 26-point performance was too much for the Idaho women's basketball team to handle in an 85-63 loss to the Aggies Saturday.

The Vandals (9-19, 4-8 WAC) hit the 20-turnover mark for the third straight game, and this time it led to 28 Utah State points. Turnovers have hurt Idaho all year and especially as of late. The Vandals will try to get back on the winning side this week when they play their final two regular season games against San Jose State Thursday and Hawaii Saturday.

Idaho coach Jon Newlee said turnovers were the difference in the game.

"Really, the turnovers are what hurt us," Newlee said. "We didn't play any transition defense and they just kind of took over. I thought our shot selection wasn't great during their run. The combination of the two was a killer."

Idaho came out firing in the first half and went up 5-0 early. The Vandals held

onto the lead for the first 10 minutes of the game, but then Utah State (18-8, 9-3 WAC) came alive. The Aggies went on a 12-0 run midway through the first half and took a 39-33 lead into the locker room.

The second half was all Utah State. The Aggies went on a 12-2 run to begin the half, taking a commanding lead that they never gave up. Fifteen points was as close as Idaho got the rest of the contest.

Utah State put the game on cruise control and sailed to the one-sided victory.

"We went away from what was successful in the first half and I'm not sure why they decided not to stick with the plan," Newlee said. "Once we started freelancing a little bit, we got in trouble."

Idaho had a solid shooting night with a 40.1 field-goal percentage, but the Aggies countered by hitting 49 percent of their shots including more than half of their 3-point attempts.

Earlier in the season the Aggies pounded Idaho in the



Zach Edwards | Argonaut

Vandal post Ashley Walters blocks a shot at practice Thursday in Memorial Gym. Idaho will be in Utah for a game against the Aggies Saturday before returning home to Cowan Spectrum for the final two games of the regular season March 1 and 3.

paint with 42 points down low. The Aggies continued to work Idaho underneath by scoring 28 in the key. Idaho was outrebounded 36-26 in the game.

Utah State had five players in double figures, led by Christensen's 26 points. Idaho's Alyssa Charlston led the Vandals with 17, while senior Keri Arendse tallied 14.

"They're really talented offensively," Newlee said. "They were getting contributions from players who don't normally do that and if they can do that they're going to be really hard to beat. We were really concentrating on a couple of their players and their other guys ended up having good nights."

The Vandals are No. 6

in the WAC and are just two games behind San Jose State and Hawaii, both of which lost to Idaho earlier this year. The Vandals could still get into fourth if they win their remaining games and both teams lose the rest of theirs.

"I think these games are huge," Newlee said. "Everyone's battling for standings. I think there's a whole litany of things that are important about these last two games."

The Hawaii game Saturday will be senior night for Idaho. Seniors Keri Arendse, Adrie Shiels and Ganeaya Rogers will play their last game at 2 p.m. in the Cowan Spectrum.

Kevin Bingaman
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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Medlin, Aggies drop Vandals

Theo Lawson
Argonaut

A showcase performance from sophomore Preston Medlin and nearly flawless second half from Utah State proved too much for the visiting Idaho Vandals, who let a 15-point lead slip and fell 67-50 to the Aggies Friday at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum in Logan.

A tale of two halves saw the unsuspecting Vandals build a 15-point first-half lead on the WAC's, and one of the nation's, most hostile home court. Utah State's Medlin was perfect from the field in the second and the Aggies shot 75 percent in the game's final 20 to send a red-hot Idaho team home with its first loss since Feb. 2.

Idaho has yet to win in Logan under coach and former Aggie assistant Don Verlin, and until the second half everything indicated the Vandals, who led for 24 consecutive minutes, would pull out a win.

Medlin's momentum-changing 3-pointer gave Utah State a two-point lead in the second half. Deremy Geiger found Kyle Barone for a game-tying layup but the Vandals couldn't overcome the 20-5 Aggie run that began with four minutes remaining in the first half while Idaho went scoreless.

"What I challenged them to do was let's make sure we get that one half out of the way and let's play the next five games like we played the last five games," Verlin said. "Let's find a way to make sure we don't let one half of basketball to take away from the things we've done."

Medlin's second half may have been one of the best in college basketball this season and the Carrollton, Texas, native transformed senior night into "Preston Night" almost immediately. A 27-point second half helped Medlin to a career-high 32 points and the sophomore's immaculate 3-point game led to a 5-5 second half performance from beyond the arc.

"We made a few mistakes on our defensive coverages, and boom, they get ahead, they get the momentum and with this crowd,



Zach Edwards | Argonaut

Idaho center Kyle Barone attempts a shot during practice Monday in Cowan Spectrum. Idaho will travel to Hawaii and San Jose State March 1 and 3, respectively, for the final two games of the regular season.

we just couldn't get them slowed down," Verlin said.

The Aggies upped their field goal percentage by almost 50 percent in the second half after shooting just 28 percent and going 9 of 32 in the first. Idaho shot 36 percent from the field and was a dismal 53 percent from the free-throw line.

In fact, the final box score reflected Idaho's shortcomings. The Aggies beat Idaho in every major category, including offensive and defensive rebounds, assists, turnovers, 3-point percentage and blocks.

"You can't give a good team like that 75 percent," Verlin said. "You look at the stats and they dominated us in every phase of the game tonight."

Medlin's 32-point performance included eight rebounds, five assists and one turnover. Brockeith Pane ended his home career in Logan with 12 points, seven assists and eight rebounds.

Utah State held Kyle Barone, the conference's back-to-back player of the week, to a 2 of 9 shooting performance that saw the junior score only six points.

Geiger, an ex-Aggie, tallied nine points in the first half and concluded with 13.

If Medlin's unparalleled shooting night wasn't enough, Idaho faced the wrath of 10,178 Aggie fans in Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. Utah State leads the WAC with an average 8,079 attendees per game.

Idaho (16-12, 7-5 WAC) remains No. 3 in the WAC and faces a crucial test Thursday at Hawaii.

"It's going to be the biggest game," Verlin said. "It's going to hold all the tiebreakers. We've got to get back home tomorrow, get back to work on the practice court and finish up how we've been playing in the month of February."

If the Warriors beat La. Tech Saturday, they move to 7-5 in the WAC and climb ahead of Idaho. The Warriors would get the tiebreaker in this situation because of their win in Moscow earlier this season. The Vandals, though, will clinch the third or fourth seed at the 2012 WAC Tournament with one win in their final two games against Hawaii and San Jose State.

Seeding scenarios

Theo Lawson
Argonaut

Nevada has all but secured the conference regular season title, and New Mexico State appears to have clinched the second seed at next week's WAC Tournament in Las Vegas.

The rest of the table is up for grabs though. Idaho, which comes off an away loss to Utah State, sits at No. 3, but could fall as far as No. 5 based on the outcome of the last two games of the regular season.

Depending on how No. 4 Hawaii and No. 5 Utah State fare in their final two, the field could shift for Idaho. Here's a look at where Idaho will finish, considering a variety of results in the two teams the Vandals compete with for bracket position.

Idaho (16-12, 7-5 WAC) vs. San Jose State and Hawaii

Scenario 1: Vandals hold on to No. 3 if

- They beat Hawaii and San Jose State on the road.
- They beat Hawaii and lose to San Jose State.
- They lose to Hawaii and beat San Jose State while Hawaii loses to Utah State.
- They lose their final two while Hawaii and Utah State lose their final two or Utah State splits its final two.

Scenario 2: Vandals drop to No. 4 if...

- The loss to Hawaii and the Warriors beat Utah State in their finale.

Scenario 3: Vandals drop to No. 5 if...

- They lose to Hawaii and San Jose State and Hawaii wins out.
- They fall to San Jose State and Hawaii while Utah State wins out.

Hawaii (15-13, 6-6 WAC) vs. Idaho and Utah State

Scenario 1: The Warriors will snatch No. 3 if...

- They beat Idaho and Utah State regardless of whether Idaho wins or loses at San Jose State.

Scenario 2: The Warriors will remain No. 4 if...

- They beat Idaho and lose to Utah State while the Aggies lose to San Jose State and Idaho beats San Jose State.

Scenario 3: The Warriors will drop to No. 5 if...

- They fall to Idaho and Utah State, and Utah State beats San Jose State.

Scenario 4: The Warriors will drop to No. 6 if...

- They lose to Idaho and Utah State while La. Tech beats Fresno State and Nevada.

Utah State (15-14, 6-6 WAC) vs. San Jose State and Hawaii

Scenario 1: The Aggies will jump to No. 4 if...

- They and Idaho beat Hawaii.
- #### Scenario 2: The Aggies will remain in No. 5 if...
- They beat San Jose State and lose to Hawaii.
 - They lose their final two while La. Tech splits its final two or loses both.

Scenario 3: The Aggies will drop to No. 6 if.

- They lose their final two and La. Tech beats Fresno State and Nevada

Mortellaro finishes strong for golf

Kevin Bingaman
Argonaut

Idaho women's golfer Kayla Mortellaro finished one stroke under par and No.10 at the Westbrook Spring Invitational in Peoria, Ariz., during the weekend. The Vandals also finished No. 10 as a team.

No. 49 Illinois won the tournament, shooting 11-under overall and finishing three strokes ahead of No. 28 Texas Tech. Washington State finished in third at two over par.

Illinois' Nora Lucas won the tournament, shooting 11-under par in three rounds of play. Texas Tech's Gabriella Dominguez came in second, shooting nine under.

The Vandals came off their opening tournament of the spring at the UNLV Spring Rebel Invitational last week in which they finished No. 8 of 11 teams. Teo Poplawski led the vandals, tying for No. 8.

This week Mortellaro had the hot shot for Idaho. After her first two rounds of 72 and 73, she was able to put together a solid, bogey-free final round to boost her standings. She birdied holes 11 and 17 in the third round, which propelled her up two spots in

the final standings.

Idaho coach Lisa Johnson said the team was hitting better this week, but had trouble converting putts.

"Our ball striking was greatly improved over last week's tournament," Johnson said. "We gave ourselves many birdie opportunities and didn't make many of the putts. We will get back to work this week focusing on our short game and putting in preparation for Hawaii."

Idaho's Rachel Choi also had a solid tournament, finishing tied for No. 20 at four over. Poplawski started the tournament with a 70, but wasn't able to duplicate the performance in the next two rounds, hitting a 75 and a 78 to finish No. 27 at six over.

As a team, the Vandals ended the first day at No. 9, but were unable to hang on in the final round. Nebraska, Wisconsin, Eastern Michigan and Idaho all finished within four strokes of each other with Idaho coming out on the low end. Nebraska finished at 18 over, Wisconsin at 19 over, Eastern Michigan at 20 over and Idaho at 21 over.

The Vandals' next stop will be Hawaii for the Dr. Donnis Thompson Invitational. The two-day tournament begins March 13.



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BRINGING HOME NO. 2



Spencer Farrin, Idaho Athletics Media Relations | Courtesy

Hannah Kiser runs in a leg of the women's distance medley at the WAC Indoor Track and Field Championships Friday in Nampa. Kiser helped the women to a second place finish behind Utah State and was named the WAC Women's Track Performer of the Year.

BROOMS

FROM PAGE 5

"For us to beat them and not just beat them but beat them convincingly, is huge for the program and it's huge for the girls for their confidence," Pollock said.

Senior Annamaria Gould said the home crowd in Pullman was comforting.

"It was a big support to just have fans come out and watch us and know how well we are doing," Gould said.

The Vandals returned to the court against LCSC at 4:30 p.m. in Lewiston. Gould said they expected an improved Warriors squad and the Vandals improved too.

"Our team has been really strong and even when they stepped up their game we were able to step up ours as well, so it just kind of reflects how deep our team is," Gould said.

Before the LCSC match,

Pollock changed the line-up to attempt to get different matchups that worked in Idaho's favor.

"Almudena (Sanz) played a very smart match at No. 1," Pollock said. "And we had some really strong performances in the lineup and then Annamaria got to play, and she took care of business at No. 6 which was real nice."

Pollock said individual matches build confidence, but they aren't the most important part of the match to him.

"For me it's definitely more important that the team wins and that we have confidence as a group because it's a different kind of confidence," Pollock said. "It's always nice to end the day winning 7-0 though and winning all your singles matches, so I can't complain about that at all."

Gould said Saturday's performances are a good start for the team as it moves into the second half of the season.

"It will give us a lot of confidence to take to El Paso, Texas, and to New Mexico, so we will just do really well while we are there," Gould said.

The Vandals sit at 9-4 and Gould said she is pleased with how the season is shaping up.

"It's a great record, and I only see it getting better from here on out," Gould said.

Pollock said Saturday's wins are a morale-booster and told team members after the match that they should be proud of the first half of the season.

"If someone had told me that the team would be 9-4 at this point in the year and would have beaten BYU I would have taken it for sure," Pollock said.

Idaho travels to Texas and New Mexico to face UTEP and WAC opponent New Mexico State on Friday and Saturday.

Charles Crowley can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

EAST

FROM PAGE 5

Ideally, McMurty said, each of Idaho's fastest times place as high as possible to accumulate the lowest amount of points in search of the team title.

Anderson, sister of Erik and Drew and twin of teammate Ashley Anderson, the lone qualifier from

the women's side, is well placed to make a run at the national title in the giant slalom, McMurty said.

"She is a very, very strong racer and especially in giant slalom," McMurty said. "She could win the national giant slalom, she's of that caliber."

Nick Groff can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

TITLE

FROM PAGE 5

The 4x400-meter relay capped a weekend in which the Vandal men claimed eight individual titles in addition to the championship. Ayesu-Attah, the anchor leg of the relay, said he ran his heart out for the seniors as he clinched the win for the Vandals in the final event.

Dalton added an individual victory in the 800-meter, finishing in 1:52.54.

In all, 24 of the 25 Idaho men scored and earned All-WAC honors with 17 named First-Team members. The men's team title is its first since 1997 and first ever for any men's sport since Idaho became a member of the WAC.

Idaho also won the medley relay in what ended up being a two-team race against Utah State. The team composed of Dalton, Bloom, junior James Clark and senior Stephane Colle crossed the finish line just 0.05 seconds ahead of the Aggies.

Senior Andrew Blaser dominated the men's heptathlon with 5,324 points, almost 200 points ahead of the next competitor. Of all the heptathlon events, Blaser placed first in the shot-put, long jump, high jump and 60-meter hurdles. Blaser also claimed titles in the individual high jump and 60-meter hurdles bringing his total individual titles to three, more than any Vandal has won in a single conference championship.

"He was willing to do even more events if I had asked him to," said Idaho Director of Track and Field Wayne Phipps. "To come in today after competing two long, hard days and win the high jump, then come back and get third in the vault, then win the hurdles in a PR (personal record) time — you just can't write that script. There's no way we even have a shot to be close without him on our team."

Idaho men swept the top three spots in the pole vault. Senior Jeremy Klas claimed his third consecutive WAC Indoor title, vaulting

17-04.50 feet. He is one of only two Vandals to ever win three consecutive WAC Indoor titles. Freshman Matt Sullivan placed second and sophomore Dylan Watts took third.

Klas also competed in the heptathlon for the first time in his career. The All-American pole-vaulter finished in third place with 4,951 points.

"For Klas to basically just get thrown in after about six days of practicing, that shows what kind of athlete he is and how much he cares about team success," Phipps said. "You can't vault as high as he's vaulted without having a great deal of athleticism. He's able to make adjustments immediately and he's very coachable, and that's one of the reasons he's been able to perform so well after next to no practice in these events."

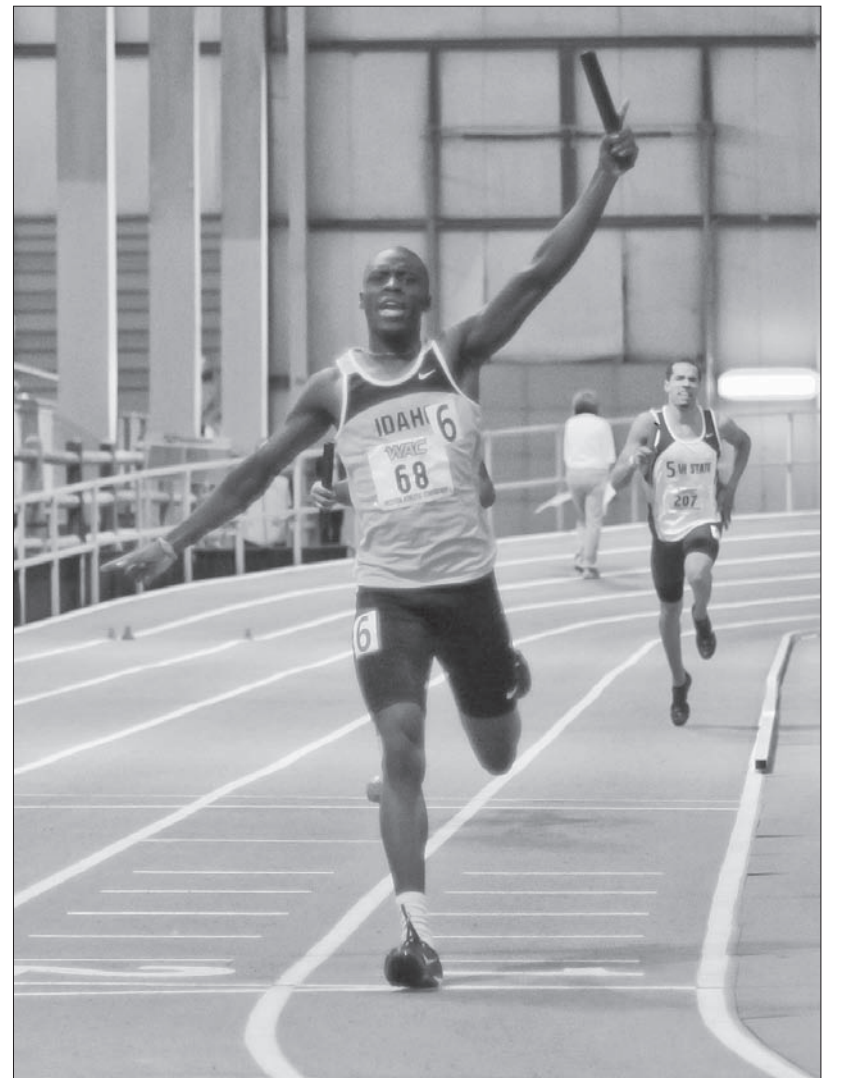
Idaho would not have won the title without individual victories in jumping events. Junior Jason Lorentz won the long jump with a leap of 22-09.75 feet while senior Rendel Jones took first in the triple jump in 47-07.00.

"Coach (Jason) Graham has done an amazing job with those guys," Phipps said. "He's obviously been great in his work with our vaulters over the years, but this week he had those guys rolling. Obviously, part of it is Andrew Blaser winning seemingly everything, but Rendel (Jones) had a huge triple jump and Jason (Lorentz) came back with a great long jump."

Idaho also had several second place finishes including junior Barry Britt in the 3,000-meter, senior Markus Geiger in the 5,000-meter and sophomore Kyle Rothwell in the weight throw.

"I don't have words for it. It's just so unbelievable," Klas said. "We came into it thinking we were going to win, and that was a great mentality. After we finished up day one, we sat down as a team and had a pump-up meeting. I've never seen a team so into it for everyone else."

Stephan Wiebe can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



Spencer Farrin, Idaho Athletics Media Relations | Courtesy

Ben Ayesu-Attah crosses the finish line in the 4x400m Saturday at Jackson Indoor Track at Nampa winning the first men's track and field indoor WAC title.



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OPINION



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OFF THE CUFF
QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM OUR EDITORS

Cold, cold, cold

I've decided I need to move somewhere tropical or at least call property management because snow coming in through a closed window is ridiculous.

— Rhiannon

Epic Sax Guy

Ten straight hours of your beautiful repeating saxophone loop playing through my computer is not enough. I wonder if I can make/upload a 24-hour version.

— Madison

Big ups ...

... to Idaho track and field The women placed second at the indoor championships and the men won the WAC title — the first men's WAC title for any Idaho men's team. Congrats.

— Nick

On the sunny side of the street

"Grab your coat and get your hat, leave your worries on the doorstep. Life can be so sweet on the sunny side of the street." A big thanks to Sara Gazarek and her incredible voice for reminding me of these famous words at this year's Jazz Fest.

— Britt

Words of wisdom

Some days I feel like I have pretty solid words of inspiration, and then I read Gandhi or E.E. Cummings and realize I have a long way to go. Oh well. We're only as inferior as we allow ourselves to be.

— Elizabeth

Not scared

I was told if I didn't post this Off the Cuff on time, my managing editor, Elisa, would shank me. Don't think she has it in her though.

— Theo

Like a ninja

You aren't even going to see it coming, Theo. Check yo'self.

— Elisa

F=ma

It should be against the laws of physics to be more tired after a weekend than you were when it started.

— Amrah

A joke

Idaho is second to last in per student funding nationally, but somehow we are supposed to think our legislature gives a rip about education because teachers got a raise from piecemeal to barely adequate?

— Dylan

Weekend

There is something oddly satisfying about sleeping, playing video games and watching TV all weekend.

— Jens

Another joke

What do you call an undercover spy? James Pond.

— Vicky

OUR VIEW

Re-prioritize values

States need to follow Obama's advice on education funding

Idaho isn't the only state to cut funding for education. In fact, President Barack Obama publicly scolded the governors of all 50 states for doing so.

Obama told state governors in attendance at a luncheon Monday he thinks states are losing sight of what is really important by cutting funding for education — cuts he said he believes are "simply too big." To him a budget reflects the states' values, and he said states need to re-prioritize education in all forms.

It is about time the problems with America's education system are brought to national attention.

While Obama acknowledged the economy is in a rough patch and has been for some time, he also said what many advocates for education have been saying for years — education is the economy's solution. He could not have been more on track when he said no other issue will have a greater impact on the economy, and by not investing in education states are harming the potential for improvement.

By not investing in higher education — four-year institutions, community colleges, technical programs and additional post-high school training — states are allowing Ameri-

cans to become less qualified in the workforce, on local and global levels.

Less-qualified candidates won't be hired. They won't make money and there will be fewer people to filter dollars back into the economy. It's especially disheartening when other countries are investing in the future via education and pushing their economies forward.

The United States of America likes to boast about its dominance, superiority, power and intelligence, but at its core it's just 50 states that don't work together cohesively. If the approach to education and the economy does not change soon, our country will be surpassed.

"The countries who out-educate us today will out-compete us tomorrow. That's a simple fact," Obama said.

Budget cuts need to happen and states need to generate money somehow. This message has not been forgotten, but Obama and every other advocate for education are sending a clear message — stop cutting the future before it begins.

— ER



Shane Wellner
Argonaut

Mail Box

'Predator pits' pure fiction

The views elaborated in Michael French's Feb. 14 article "Get Over It" exemplify the old adage, "a little knowledge is a dangerous thing." Does Mr. French really think the biggest difference between Idaho and Alaska is that sportsmen in Alaska can shoot wolves from aircraft? Not the vast difference between the two states in area, sheer numbers of game animals or infrastructure and development?

While wolf populations in Idaho have grown faster than anticipated, it hardly seems likely that they are anywhere near posing a danger to the "sustainability of the North Idaho wolf population itself."

While Mr. French pretends to objectivity, he insists on repeatedly calling wolves "superpredators." I suppose we can excuse the use of a term usually reserved for hypothesized megafauna that roamed the Americas before the last ice age, in the name of solid journalism. However, the most egregious offense of this article is the misrepresentation of the predator-pit hypothesis. First, I could find no such article from 2006 in Can. J. Zool by Van Ballenberghe. The Van Ballenberghe article I did find from 1994 (Canadian Journal of Zoology, 1994, 72:(12) 2071-2077) contained the following statement: "Predator pits do not occur."

Perhaps French was thinking of the 2006 article by Zaker & Beecham in Ursus: "The role of American black bears and brown bears as predators on ungulates in North America." The authors

of this article state that predators (bears in this case) may take an increasing proportion of an ungulate (hoofed mammals, like deer) population, "if the ungulate population has declined to very low levels as a result of poor habitat, excessive adult female mortality rates (due to hunting), or severe weather."

The only other article I can find in Can. J. Zool that has to do with the Predator Pit Hypothesis is a 1985 article by Bergerud & Elliot describing dynamics of caribou and wolves in B.C. This article asserts that a predator pit is self-limiting, and will likely reverse itself once prey populations decrease enough. So, in spite of Mr. French's Chicken Little assertion that without management, wolf populations will cause the entire ecosystem to fail, there is little evidence to support this.

In reality, it seems Mr. French unsuccessfully tried to cherry pick the literature for references that would support his half-baked hypothesis.

Lucius Caldwell
University of Idaho
Biology (PhD)

'Long road ahead' well written

Hi Max Bartlett,
I just wanted to say thank you for the great article you wrote entitled "Long road ahead." Planned Parenthood has been helping the Add the Words campaign because we recognize that no one should be fired for who they are or who they love. You did a very good job illustrating how far Idaho is from mainstream, and did a great job discussing the issue.

Thanks for your great writing.
Jennifer Whitney
Field organizer
Planned Parenthood

Parents should teach, Plan B should not

This is in response to Alex Barnes' letter "Plan B: Teens Need Access Too."

I respect Barnes in pleading for the case of teens with the many pregnancies occurring every day. However, I do not believe the answer to this problem is to hand teens a pill so they can just repeat mistakes. I sincerely do not want teens to have unplanned pregnancies and this is why the solution is not a pill that does not teach, but rather in education and parenting. Parents offer children shelter, clothing, food and their wisdom. I have wonderful parents who brought me up to make my own decisions, but shared insight with me into what those decisions might bring.

I never needed a pill because I had parents who taught me if I want a relationship, there needs to be not only mutual consent, but more importantly mutual respect. What better way to put respect to the test than to wait? We have far too many casual hookups that leave people hurt and used. Since our focus is on teenagers, I have to wonder if children and adolescents understand this concept of respect or if they're just thinking of pleasure. I thank my parents for taking the responsibility of parenting me to think not only of myself but also of the other person involved (as well as the consequences). A pill, although solving the immediate problem, does not help adolescents learn from mistakes that caused the predicament in the first place and therefore should not be offered as an over-the-counter remedy to a worldwide growing problem.

Sincerely,
Casey Dail
Moscow

Effort more important than perfection

No one is perfect and flaws are inevitable even when we put forth our greatest effort. Even though it seems like an unreachable goal, perfection is worth seeking.



Toluwani Adekunle
Argonaut

As school goes on it's easy to slack off and console ourselves when we miss an assignment or fail a test because we didn't study, by saying we can't be perfect. As a result, we relax even when we can't afford to and forget every class attendance, assignment and test counts in our final grades. The attitude with which we approach academics — the intention to strive for perfection or that failure is inevitable — will determine our level of achievement at the end of the semester.

People say failure is a learning experience and helps us grow, which is true — if we have put our best effort into something before we fail at it. Mistakes are learning opportunities, if you choose to see them that way. If you approach a task with 110 percent effort, no one can say you failed because you didn't try.

Whatever you're doing, do it to the best of your ability because you do not know what tomorrow holds. When the time comes to ask for a letter of recommendation from a professor for the dream job you've always wanted, the content of the letter will reflect the hard work you put into everything or missed classes and last-minute assignments.

It doesn't hurt to shoot for perfection even though you might never reach it. Lazy people sing "No one is perfect" before they even try, while hard workers comfort themselves with those words after they have tried and failed. No one is perfect, but trying your hardest can help you be perfect in your imperfection.

Toluwani Adekunle
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Truth in the 'I' of the beholder

Hiding behind third person, empirical statements is fundamentally dishonest

"I." It's a word we tiptoe around. Writers are wary of it and academics cover it up with layers of objectivity and jargon. Children are warned about it in classrooms. "I" is viewed as the end-all of relationships, and the nemesis of foreign policy and development.

I don't know how I feel about this. Do you sometimes find yourself wishing you could simply present how you feel about something without having to evade the fact that it is, indeed, you who feels that way? Well I sure do. I often feel like this when writing for The Argonaut.

We all know bad writing has lots of "I"s. Journalists are hyper-aware of "I" — even after avoiding "I" copy will be edited to change any remaining culprits into empirical statements. But the realm of "I"s is not avoided solely by anxious writers.

Students must hide from "I" in order to have any legitimacy in their field. A chemist cannot plausibly write in a paper, "Today I discovered (insert chemical equation here) and I was really excited."



Bethany Lowe
Argonaut

I have written foreign policy White Papers in which personal pronouns are so feared that "we" is used in place of "I." "We believe that the premise of clause two lacks transparency," I typed, while sitting alone at a desk.

I find it interesting to note the divide between recent post-modern shifts within many fields, and the way students continue to be taught in the classroom. While reflexivity and awareness of self has become a theoretical trend in many fields, this seems to be limited to those higher up in the academic ranks. It seems once you have established yourself and been published — writing within the bounds of

tradition and objectivity — only then may you join those who are privileged enough to use "I." Move up the ranks even more and you may reach the pinnacle of "I" — an autobiography.

In part, the fear of "I" does stem from a legitimate concern: No one wants to hear you talk about yourself for any length of time (it's true, people are self-interested). The success of Dale Carnegie's "How to Win Friends and Influence People" attested to this, selling millions of copies with its encouragement of people to "speak in terms of the other's interest."

But it has gone too far. In preparing to present a paper at a national conference

this semester, I felt forced into molding my writing into the particular format of the particular journal published by the association. It has been difficult writing about a project that was a deep personal experience and characterized by human interaction in this way. I feel the very essence of the project is being lost with each suppression of self I am forced to make.

Truth is often found within the empirical statement. But all statements are written by someone, someone who believes in the truth of what they are saying. So truth can only exist in a statement acknowledging the constructor of the sentence. Well, at least, I think so.

Bethany Lowe can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

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