THE ARGONAUT

THE VANDAL VOICE SINCE 1898

Tuesday, October 23, 2012



File photo by Philip Vukelich | Argonaut

Former Idaho football coach Robb Akey signals to players during the game against the University of Wyoming, Sept. 22 in the Kibbie Dome. The athletic department announced Sunday that Akey's contract was terminated.



After a 1-7 start to season, Idaho football coach Robb Akey replaced

uiargonaut.com

Madison McCord Argonaut

Idaho football coach Robb Akey's contract has been terminated effective immediately and offensive coordinator Jason Gesser will take over as interim head coach, the University of Idaho ath-

letic department announced Sunday.

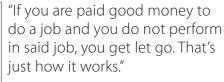
"We had a lot of confidence in coach Akey, we thought that making a couple of staff changes would make a difference. Nobody wants him to be more successful than me or our department," Athletic Director Rob Spear said. "It just became apparent that the direction of the program was not going in the right place.'

The termination comes on the heels of Akey's 70th game as coach of the

Vandals — a 70-28 loss at La. Tech. Akey is 20-50 in his five-and-a-half seasons with Idaho and 1-7 this season.

"It's all about performance on the football field," Spear said. "You look at over the last 20 games. We've lost 17 of those football games. Coach Akey's done some really nice things here, but at the end of the day his record was 20-50."

SEE AKEY, PAGE 4



Ira James Wilkie

"If the university was interested in a good team, and good games, we wouldn't be playing at this level. The team has not

UI facilities find dangerous devices

Madison McCord Argonaut

Three homemade devices made in plastic soda bottles capable of exploding and causing minimal harm were found inside a garbage and recycling receptacle on the south end of the University of Idaho Wallace Complex Monday morning.

Fred Hutchison, director of environmental health and safety, said the devices were made of a chemical mixture and aluminum foil placed inside the bottle, and could explode after natural pressure builds.

"We don't know exactly the chemicals that are in here. We know there's foil, but whether there was a base or acid in there we don't know at this stage what would have caused the gas production that would have caused the pressure," Hutchison said.

A member of UI facilities found the bottles, the first of which was opened, releasing the pressure. The other two were punctured

by the fire department, releasing the pressure.

Hutchison said no one was injured in the removal of the three bottles, and that facilities workers - especially those who empty trash and recycling receptacles — should take extra caution when emptying the trash.

"This is the first time that we've ever dealt with a device like this that we're aware of," Hutchison said. "Since it's happened once we want to make sure that everyone is aware about it, that way we can spot it if necessary."

Hutchison said a device like the ones found outside Wallace pose little threat, other than possibly causing fear.

"This is more of a vandalism type act to cause people to worry, but I think the actual hazard from it would be very minimal," he said.

> Madison McCord can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



Madison McCord | Argonaut

Members of University of Idaho Facilities, Moscow Police Department and Moscow Volunteer Fire Department search through a garbage and recycling receptacle on the south end of the Wallace Complex. Fred Hutchison, director of environmental health and safety, said that three "devices" — made in plastic soda bottles — were placed in the receptacle.







'It was necessary and I think a lot of people saw it coming. He couldn't do the job, so he lost it."

OUT appropriate to terminate Idaho

SPEAK Wasit

coach Robb Akey's contract mid-





"Appropriate. He is a defensive minded coach and he had games of 66 and 70 points scored against us. I love Akey, but time to move on. I wish him well." **Cameron Knigge**

been that great for the majority of a decade. It's not the players. It's not the coach. All of those have changed. The only thing consistent is the schools prioritv: monev."

Christopher Birkinbine

SEE SPEAKOUT, PAGE 4



Jesse Hart | Argonaut University of Idaho professor Sue Hinz advises Tracey Spencer, UI junior studying public relations.



Online survey renewed for student feedback

Aaron Wolfe Argonaut

This year there have been changes in advising at the University of Idaho including a renewed online survey for students to complete.

"Advising has been a major student issue for years. Many ASUI candidates have run on a platform of improving advising," said Andrew Brewick, director of academic advising. "Many students comment on quality of advising — both positive and negative when they graduate ---but we have never been able to get a

solid empirical base to evaluate advising practices on our campus."

In the fall of 2010, a survey on academic advising was created for the student body in order to describe their academic experiences. Brewick said only 12 percent provided feedback, which was insufficient for the university to draw conclusions for the student population.

"Now, we did make some significant changes in advising based on student feedback --- we created a comprehensive advising website www.uidaho. edu/academicadvising for advisers and students to use," Brewick said.

SEE ADVISING, PAGE 4

In brief City asked to vacate land

There will be a public hearing Nov. 5 on a request for the city to vacate a dedicated City Street Right of Way on the south side of town, said Les McDonald, director of public works for the engineering staff for the city of Moscow.

The City Street Right of Ways are areas of land the city owns the property rights to in order to make new streets as they see fit. McDonald said public hearings for vacation requests are part of the process.

The land in question is near the Primeland Cooperative on U.S. 95, and surrounding land owners will be invited to the public hearing, he said.

At the hearing, the community will have an opportunity to voice their opinion on City Street Right of Way.

Zumbathon benefits Humane Society

The Cause for Paws Zumbathon Friday benefits the Humane Society of the Palouse, but will have a Halloween theme.

The event runs from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Student Recreation Center and participants are encouraged to attend dressed as a superhero, villain or other Halloween costume.

There is a \$5 minimum donation to participate, but there will also be a donation box for towels, pet supplies, pet food or other items the Humane Society can use. Each donation comes with a raffle ticket for door prizes, with additional tickets three for \$5.

Participants can also donate \$1 to join the instructors on stage for the "Dollar Dance."

The event will have a live DJ as well as prizes for best costume.



Men's basketball hosted the Black and Gold scrimmage Friday to open the season.

SPORTS, 8

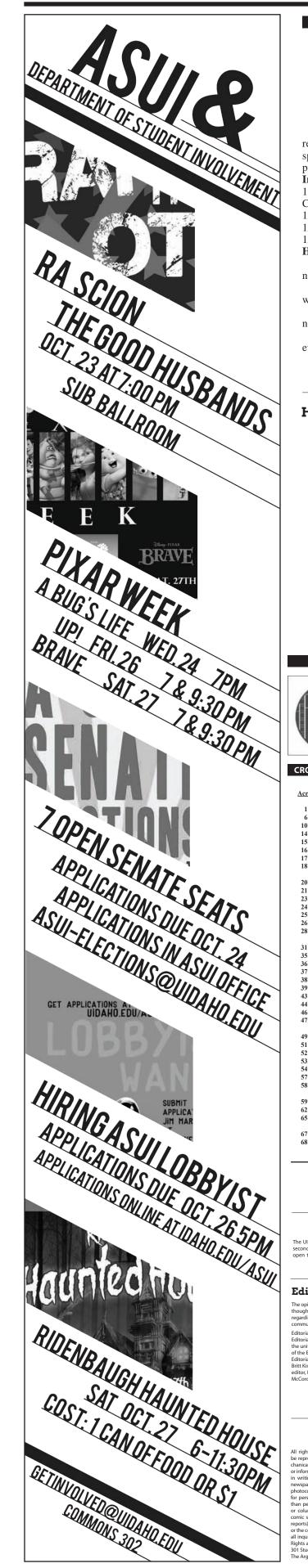


Coach Robb Akey let go mid-season. Will his Idaho spirit live on? — Read Our View.

OPINION, 9

University of Idaho Volume 114, Issue no. 19 Recyclable News,1 Sports, 5 Opinion, 9 blot On stands now.

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CRUMBS **Pumpkin spice latte**

Brita Olson Crumbs

It's fall and pumpkin is all the rage. There is a good reason for that — it's delicious. However, pumpkin specialties can be expensive. Why drop \$4 or more on a pumpkin spice latte when you can do it at home? **Ingredients:**

1 cup milk

Canned pumpkin

1/2 tsp. cinnamon

1/2 tsp. nutmeg or all spice

1/2 cup coffee

How to:

Mix milk, a few spoonfuls of canned pumpkin, cinnamon and nutmeg or all spice.

Heat on the stove over medium heat or in microwave, stopping every 15-20 seconds to stir.

The pumpkin spice mixture should be warm-hot but not boiling.

Add coffee (espresso, drip, French press ... whichever is your preference).

> Brita Olson can be reached at uicrumbs@gmail.com

High Five

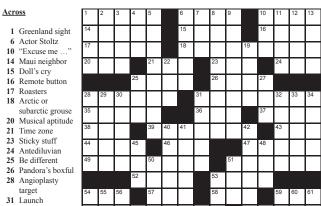






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THE FINE PRINT

Corrections

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

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 are signed of the initial of the automo-Editorials are signed of the initial of the automo-the dinvises and a signed and the signed and the editorial Board. Members of the Adjrors of the Editorial Board Amembers of the Adjrors and the editorial Board are Elisa Eiguren, editor-in-chief, Britt Kiser, managing editor, Chioe Rambo, opinion editor, Kasen Christensen, copy 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 personalties. The Argonaut reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, libel and clarity. Letters must be signed, include major and provide a current phone number. · If your letter is in response to a particular article, please list the title and date of the article. Send all letters to 301 Student Union

Moscow, ID, 83844-4271 or arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

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

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 Ho-tline at (208) 882-0590.

& **Broadcast Editor**





New professors, new goals

Emily Aizawa Argonaut

Two new professors who have joined the English department, Scott Slovic and Erin James, are bringing the University of Idaho's program of literature and environment to a new level.

Both professors joined UI's staff this fall from the University of Nevada, Reno.

Slovic received his master's and Ph.D. at Brown University where he began his teaching career. Since then he has taught at 12 universities in the U.S. and overseas during the past 28 years. He is a teacher of American literature, imperative literature, professional publishing and editing. He is also a founder of the ecocriticism discipline — the study of of literature and the environment. He has edited the ecocriticism primary journal, "ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment," since 1995. He will continue to edit it at UI, which will bring some recognition to UI in ecocriticism.

He said he really enjoys creating and introducing people to ecocriticism.

"I want to introduce students to editing and the area and projects and taste of what the publishing field is. It's not only for English majors, but any students who want to see what kind of field it is and boost students to those kinds of fields," Slovic said.

He will teach an editing class this spring. "There are wonderful people at UI, from

the faculty to the students. The English department is full of really great friendly people, great writers and scholars," Slovic said. "I am from Eugene, Ore., so it is good to be back in the Inland Northwest." Slovic said he is impressed with the people he has met in the environmental fields developing programs.

"They are all very capable and openminded," he said.

Slovic brings in foreign scholars and visitors to work with him on different projects in the environment. They stay for a few months or as long as a year.

"I am proud to bring visitors to enjoy the UI campus and Moscow. It is a comfortable and friendly environment," he said. "It is a terrific college town with a beautiful campus."

James is originally from Nova Scotia, received her master's and Ph.D. in England and started her eight years of teaching there before receiving a job offer in Nevada. Her specialty is in post-colonial, Caribbean, African, comparative and black British literature. She teaches a class on Caribbean literature and hopes to teach classes on all her specialties this spring and upcoming year.

"UI already had a good green energy and a great campus with an appetite for English and environmental literature," she said. "I loved the college campus and the area. Everyone was so warm and friendly on campus."

With Slovic and James joining a department that is already involved in environmental issues, they hope to make UI recognized as a place where people can study environmental issues, James said.

New courses will be offered at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, with a long-term goal of a degree in ecocriticism. *Emily Aizawa can be reached*

at arg-news@uidaho.edu



HALLOWEEN MASSACRE SATURDAY OCTOBER 27"

Live Music Featuring THE COVER UPS 9Pm-1:30am Costume Contest Prizes include \$100 cash for Best Overall, and gift cards and swag for the others



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AKEY FROM PAGE

Spear said a search for Akey's replacement will begin immediately.

"The president (Duane Nellis) and I believe it is important to make this move now so we can immediately begin the process of

hiring a new coach for the 2013 season," Spear said. "We appreciate coach Akey's enthusiasm and dedication to the University of Idaho but this is the right move at this time."

Akey signed a contract extension in June 2010 following the Vandals' Humanitarian Bowl victory. The extension was set to extend through 2014.

Per terms of the agreement, if terminated, Akey will receive his base annual salary of \$165,796.80 per year "until the terms of this agreement ends or until (Akey) obtains employment, whichever occurs first."

In Akey's third season with the Vandals, he led the team to a 8-5 record which included a Humanitarian Bowl victory, Idaho's second ever bowl victory.

Notable players to play under Akey include San Francisco 49ers left guard Mike Iupati, Houston Texans safety Shiloh Keo and former Chicago Bears quarterback Nathan Enderle.

Idaho starting quarterback Dominique Blackman along with other Vandals took to Twitter following Akey's termination to express their feelings.

"Honestly me or my cousin Ken wouldn't have got a chance if it wasn't for Akey #RIP86 #akeyarmy," Blackman said on his Twitter account @vandalsqb3.

SPEAKOUTS

FROM PAGE 1

Gesser, who has been on the Idaho staff for two seasons, spent time as a quarterback in the NFL and Canadian Football League after playing college football at Washington State. Before coming to Idaho, Gesser coached the Eastside Catholic High School Crusaders

Watch Gesser's first

news conference as interim coach. uiargonaut.com

Obviously last night

to shed some

tears. Akey's been

everything for me.

Jason Gesser, interim

coach

from Sammamish, Wash., for two seasons. Gesser said it has been a "whirlwind" since finding out Akey had been released and he was to step in as interim coach.

"Obviously there are a lot of mixed things going on with myself internally and with the team. I'm just taking it minute by minute and second by second, to be honest, because that's really all you can do right now,"

Gesser said.

Spear said after Akey informed his coaching staff about his termination, each coach was brought in for a oneon-one discussion, in which upon completion Gesser was informed he would take over on an interim basis.

"I thought it was important for us to have a coordinator-level position, somebody who's already been in charge on one side of the football," Spear said. "Gesser has shown great leadership as a player and a coach. He has a good rapport with the players on this team and I think he's willing to take advantage

of the expertise on this staff."

Gesser said he had a great relationship with Akey from his time at WSU to two seasons ago when Akey offered him the running backs coaching job — Gesser's first collegiate coaching position.

"Obviously last night was very difficult, a lot of tears shed and when I addressed the team I started to shed some tears," Gesser said. "Akey's been everything for me. The guy means a lot ... I owe my life to the guy."

Gesser said Spear's expectations of him in his interim role are simple — win.

"He wants us to be successful, bottom line," Gesser said. "I appreciate the opportunity, I appreciate the faith he has in myself to try and get that accomplished, but don't get it mistaken, it's not just me, it's all the guys on the staff."

> Madison McCord can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

ADVISING FROM PAGE 1

Brewick said they have offered extensive training sessions on the degree audit software. He said they had increased attention on career advising across campus and created online tools that help students identify advising contacts when they enter the university or change majors.

He said they need all students to complete the survey.

He said aside from the survey, the most significant changes in regulations are the drop period for classes that was shortened to the first two weeks of the semester.

"The entire campus community did a thorough job publicizing this change, and few complaints were reported," Brewick said. "Students adapted easily and completed their adds and drops within the new timeframe. The smooth transition was facilitated by the larger campus community, but it is really a testament to our students."

There will also be changes for first-year students in regards to general education requirements.

Freshmen are currently required to take ISEM 101, which will now have a follow-up course. This course will be ISEM 301, "Great Issues Seminar," taken during their junior year.

"These courses will be designed around great issues in our society and many will incorporate a university signature event," Brewick said.

The Women's Leadership Conference, which featured Gloria Steinem's lecture, is a key component of the ISEM 301 course this year, Brewick said.

Other ISEM courses that have been added to

general education curriculum include a course in American diversity and a senior experience course.

Brewick said there is a lot of collaboration between advising in general studies and other departments.

Brewick said many students change majors and obtain a different adviser in a different program.

He said general studies advisers approach advising with a broader perspective and must communicate with other colleges and majors, but this is not just limited to them.

"All of our advisers have worked with students who are transitioning to another major or department," Brewick said. "We have all helped students find their way to a department, often in a different college that better fits their interests and career desires."

He said advising is a shared responsibility between students and advisers.

"The adviser's role is to help ensure the student understands university requirements and regulations, knows how to access appropriate resources and is able to track their own progress toward a degree," Brewick said.

Brewick discourages students from leaving schedules for the last minute.

He said it causes anxiety in the advising session, inconveniences both the student and adviser and increases the likelihood of mistakes.

"More importantly, it often cancels any opportunity for the student and adviser to discuss important non-curricular matters like career aspirations, midterm grades and course balance," Brewick said.

> Aaron Wolfe can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

Police log

Monday, Oct. 15

9:53 p.m. Paradise Creek Street, LLC: Complaint of missing person. **11:37 p.m.** Deakin Avenue, Lambda Chi

Alpha: Complaint of possible gunshot.

Tuesday, Oct. 16

7:37 a.m. Sweet Avenue: Complaint of moose. 9:42 a.m. East First Street, Catholic Church: Complaint of a tree in the street.

1:28 p.m. South Jackson Street & West Eighth Street: Caller reported a sign in the roadway.

9:43 p.m. North Main Street, Rosauers: Report of a disoriented female.

Wednesday, Oct. 17

9:36 a.m. East A Street & North Washington Street: Caller reported a camper blocking their view.

Thursday, Oct. 18

3:06 p.m. 1300 Blk Deakin Ext: Complaint of moose.

3:59 p.m. 800 Blk East Eighth St.: Caller reported stray cats.

Friday, Oct. 19

2:51 p.m. 200 Blk East A St.: Caller requested a welfare check for suicidal female.

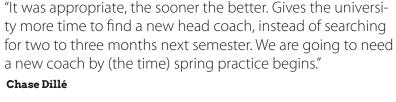
Saturday, Oct. 20

5:10 a.m. 100 Blk Baker St.: Caller reported a suicidal male.

Sunday, Oct. 21

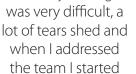
5:28 p.m. North Garfield Street & East E Street: Report of possible gunshot.

5:35 p.m. Sweet Avenue, Kappa Delta: Complaint of disorderly subjects.











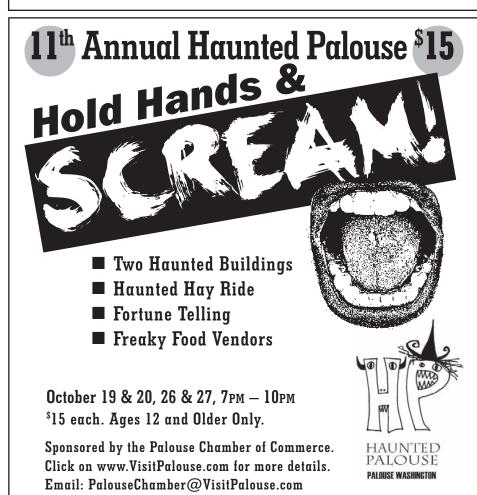
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PLASTERED **IN RUSTON**

With Idaho slaughter, La. Tech breaks numerous records, returns to national rankings

Photos by Ilya Pinchuk | Courtesy

La. Tech running back Ray Holley breaks through a diving tackle by Idaho senior corner back Aaron Grymes Saturday in La. Tech's 70-28 victory against the Vandals. Holley had 98 all-purpose yards with one rushing touchdown in the game.



For the second

consecutive year,

a Vandal pairing

picked up the

doubles title at

the ITA Mountain

Region Cham-

pionships in Las

Vegas. With the

Theo Lawson Argonaut

Sixth-year head coach Robb Akey suffered through his third and final 70-point game, La. Tech amassed its school record for rushing yards in a single game and the visiting Vandals walked away from Ruston with a 70-28 loss, their seventh of the season.

Akey coached his final game at the helm, as it was announced Sunday afternoon that his contract had been terminated by the athletic department and offensive coordinator Jason Gesser would take over as interim head coach

The man who coached Idaho to a Humanitarian Bowl victory in 2009 couldn't have gone out on a more sour note, much of that due to Idaho's opponent, which had the best offensive showing by an FBS team this season.

"If we're going to be in a shoot-out, we have to shoot," Akey said. "When we did get settled in, we didn't get the run game stopped."

The Bulldogs compiled 839 total

Vandal defense. Kenneth Dixon accounted for six of La. Tech's 10 touchdowns and ran for 232 yards, more than half of what Idaho's offense accumulated the

entire game. "The good thing is he'll get even better when he learns to run lower and quits taking so many shots. He'll get better and better as he learns that," La. Tech coach Sonny Dykes said. Though the Bulldogs

kicked off to begin the

Champs again Idaho doubles team wins regional championship

game, it only took them 12 seconds to score their first touchdown. Idaho kick returner Todd Handley mishandled the kickoff and the Bulldogs recovered at their own one-yard line, handing the ball to Dixon for the easy score.

An Idaho three-and-out ensued and Dixon was unstoppable on the next drive, scoring from two yards out after his 27-yard run set the hosts up on the Vandal goal line.

on their second offensive play, quarterback Dominique Blackman threw a lateral pass to receiver Roman Runner,

> who would then chuck it down field to an unmarked Najee Lovett for the 58-yard touchdown pass.

> Runner's pass stands as Idaho's second longest of the season.

> Though Idaho was unable to hold the Bulldogs on their next drive, Handley would avenge his early mistake on the

next kickoff return, utilizing a burst of speed to take it 92 yards for a touchdown. Handley, a freshman running back, recorded his first touchdown as a Vandal.

As had been the case all game, Idaho remained clueless when the Bulldog offense took the field. La. Tech relied heavily on Dixon and the run game, but Manning Award watch list nominee Colby Cameron was still





If we're going to be in a shoot-out, we

have to shoot. Robb Akey, former Idaho coach PAGE 5

La. Tech freshman running back Kenneth Dixon runs past an Idaho tackle attempt Saturday. Dixon ran for a La. Tech record six touchdowns.

yards of offense and watched their 18-year-old, true freshman running back play a game of tag with the

The Vandals wouldn't surrender quite yet though. Akey and Gesser reached into their bag of tricks and

able to showcase his efficiency.

SEE PLASTERED, PAGE 8

Athletes of the week

Marius Cirstea/Abid Akbar- Men's tennis





held in Flush-Meadows, ing N.Y., at the Billie Jean King Center Tennis

Nov. 8-11. In the championship match, Akbar and Cirstea defeated the UNLV pair of Ace Matias and Bernard Schoeman in the championship match. The road to the championship match was tight for the Vandal duo, as they beat their quarterfinal and semifinal opponents 9-8.

"It's their senior year for both guys and they've really been focused on achieving this goal," Idaho coach Jeff Beaman said.

Cirstea won the doubles championship last season with ex-Vandal Andrew Dobbs, who graduated in the spring.

SEE ATHLETES, PAGE 8

Charles Crowley Argonaut

The crown stays in Idaho after the Vandals tennis doubles pairing, seniors Marius Cirstea and Abid Akbar, won five straight matches and the Regional Championship in Las Vegas.

"I told him we were going to win it and we were going to New York and we did it, we won," Cirstea said.

Cirstea was the reigning regional champion after winning the tournament last year with Andrew Dobbs. Dobbs graduated, and Akbar, the team captain, stepped in as Cirstea's partner.

Akbar said it feels really

good to help give Cirstea the chance to go to New York again and compete in the National Indoor Championships.

"I'm really happy that I could help him retain his title - he played amazing tennis and he just believes in himself and I guess he believes in me too," Akbar said.

Cirstea has told everyone since the beginning of the semester that he and Akbar would win Regionals this season.

"I'm really happy because we achieved this goal," Cirstea said. "We practiced really hard and were really focused on winning it."

SEE CHAMPS, PAGE 8



ile photo by Tony Marcolina | Argonaut Idaho senior Abid Akbar returns the ball during a practice at the Memorial Gym Tennis Courts.

Vandals 'WAC' way toward tournament with win in Ruston

Madison McCord Argonaut

With a group of 10 senior leaders, something had to eventually give. With only three matches remaining in the regular season, Idaho soccer was on the brink of missing the post season completely.

That was before the Vandals grabbed an improbable 2-1 victory against the La. Tech Lady Techsters Sunday in Ruston, La. – a victory that may boost them into the WAC Tournament.

The Vandals (5-12-1, 2-3-1) took an early lead against La. Tech (12-2-4, 3-1-2) via a goal from sophomore midfielder Katie

Baran in the second minute, Baran's third of the season with the assist coming from senior Megan Lopez.

Idaho coach Pete Showler said the quick start is exactly what a team struggling for goals needs.

"We talked about starting fast and taking control of the game as quickly as we could, because they just don't give any goals up on their home field and they've gotten so many wins at home," Showler said.

The Vandals only had to wait 10 more minutes before finding the back of the Lady Techster net again, this time on an unassisted goal from senior forward Chelsea Small, her

seventh of the season.

Idaho held the 2-0 lead going into the half, outshooting La. Tech 9-7 in the opening 45 minutes.

Both teams exchanged blows in the second half with La. Tech getting off seven shots to Idaho's three.

The breakthrough moment for the Lady Techsters came in the 83rd minute when Brittany Beddow scored on a long rebound bringing La. Tech within one score with seven minutes left.

The victory was La. Tech's first home

Report card

Offense: C-

Quarterback: D Running backs: C Wide Receivers: C+ Offensive line: F **Defense:** F Defensive line: F Linebackers: F Secondary: F

Special teams Bobby Cowan: B Trey Farquhar: A

Kick returns: A Punt returns: La. Tech punted? When?

La. Tech report card

Offense

The common theme this season with the offense is consistency and getting the pieces to all click at the same time. Quarterback Dominique Blackman hit a

low point this season, throwing two interceptions on a 5.7 yards-per-pass average. Idaho was also 0-11 on third down thanks to the offensive

line letting pressure in Blackman's face nearly every play. The offensive isn't designed to let Blackman sit back in the pocket and go through his reads, and La. Tech was getting pressure in Blackman's face so quickly that he could hardly make the throws to his first read. No need to bring up the running game, since Idaho going down two touchdowns nearly three minutes into the game prevented Idaho from feeding James Baker the ball too often. Baker ran well, as he has most of the season. Though the statistics hardly show that. Baker is a momentum back, but he can barely get that momentum past the line of scrimmage without holes opening up. Idaho's offense is what cost it this game, or prevented it from being closer at least, because of its inability to stay on the field on third downs and needless turnovers. Early on, it looked like Idaho might actually make it entertaining before it slowed on offense. Then again, its first two scores when the game was 21-14 came on a receiver-reverse pass and a kickoff return touchdown. **Receiver Mike Scott** had an exceptional game, catching balls over the middle of the field and getting yards after catch. Idaho was never able to capitalize and finish those drives. Jahrie Level had a nice 33-yard gain that set up Idaho's last touchdown of the night as well.

Defense

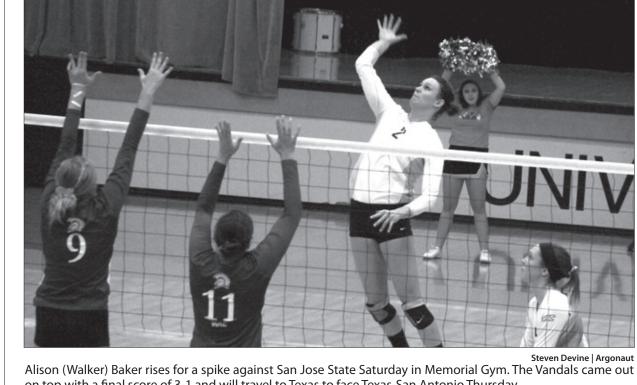
I'm not going to sit here and rip the Idaho defense, despite the grades. There are very few defenses in the country that could deal with La. Tech's

> offense, and most of those defenses sit in the BCS top 15 right now. I'm sure the mentality of the team was when the offensive

the defense never had a chance. The first play of the game for the defense happened on the Vandals' own one-yard line because of a kickoff fumble. This game was what it was for the defense. La. Tech is just that good.

Special Teams

Special teams looked like it was going to be a complete disaster when kick returner Todd Handley fumbled the opening kick-off without even being touched. Two returns later he took it 92 yards to the house to draw the Vandals to within a touchdown. All in all, this was probably the best showing from the return game all season. As for Cowan, he is so good that it's becoming almost nonchalant every week from him. He had a long of 57 and averaged 46.3 yards a kick. Sean Kramer can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



Steven Devine | Argonaut

on top with a final score of 3-1 and will travel to Texas to face Texas-San Antonio Thursday.

Back on track

Volleyball defeats San Jose State, avenges road loss from earlier this season

Kevin Bingaman Argonaut

True freshman Katelyn Peterson's career-high 17 kills helped a balanced Idaho attack down San Jose State in four sets Saturday night, avenging a loss from earlier in the season.

The Spartans swept the Vandals earlier in the year in what was Idaho's worst performance of the season. This time around, the Vandals put up big numbers against

San Jose State, beating the Spartans in every statistical category.

Sophomore Alyssa Schultz said it felt good to get revenge on the Spartans, especially after a tough loss on Thursday to

"We were pretty disappointed after that last game, so we came back," Schultz said. "We wanted to get revenge on these guys so we came out with a little extra fire that we hadn't had previ-

ously." Peterson continues to have a big freshman year, leading the Vandals with 17 kills against the Spartans while hitting .308. "It's exciting," Peterson said. "It felt like we were all flowing together and the communication was good, so that all helped." Idaho coach Debbie Buchanan

said it's good to see a true freshman like Peterson step up and play like a veteran.

"The one thing Katelyn has been this year is steady. She doesn't make a lot of errors," Buchanan said. "She's getting better all the time and she's playing with confidence. Now when we watch her play, she's just a hard worker."

The Vandals came out strong and won the first set of the evening in dominating fashion and then took

a close second to go up 2-0. San Jose State came out of the break tough and pulled out a tight third set 25-23 to avoid elimination, but Idaho dominated the fourth by using a 9-0 run to build a lead and take the set 25-7 to close the match.

Buchanan said it was good to see her team respond to adversity after losing the third set.

"In game four we just came out and were a lot more aggressive," Buchanan said. "The

capitalized, bringing her streak to 37 straight games with 10 or more kills. Baker also pitched in with eight blocks and 15 digs for her 15th double-double of the season.

The Vandals had four players with over 10 kills in the match, including senior Alex Sele who hit a staggering .500 and Schultz who had 11 kills and added a careerhigh nine blocks.

Peterson said getting everyone involved offensively was the plan going in.

"We wanted to spread things around and mix it up with different shots and I think we executed what we wanted to do," Peterson said.

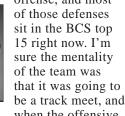
Despite the loss to Utah State on Thursday, the Vandals are still within one game of first place in the conference with the WAC Tournament less than a month away.

The Vandals will now hit the road for the next week, playing three straight matches on the road, starting with Texas-San Antonio Thursday. Idaho will also travel to Texas State and Denver before coming home for the last home stand of the season on Nov. 3.

"We're just going to have to stay focused and take each game one at time and not worry about how much we have to do on this trip," Buchanan said. "We need to scout each team individually and take it one game at a time and we'll be fine."

PAGE 6





be a track meet, and couldn't keep up,

Utah State.

about how much we have to do on this trip. Debbie Buchanan,

We're just going

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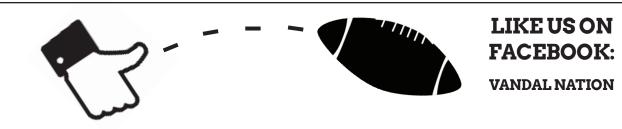
Idaho coach

enworthy Performing Arts Centre A Year with **Frog and Toad** October 26, 7:30 PM October 27, 7:30 PM October 28, 2:00 PM \$12, General Admission \$10/Students, Seniors & Youth under 10 \$10 Sunday Matinees 882-4127 www.kenworthy.org

girls played really well, especially to have that energy in the fourth game after they lost one was huge."

Allison (Walker) Baker's double-digit kill streak was in jeopardy in the final moments of the third set when she had nine kills, but when the Spartans took the third, Baker received another set in which she

Kevin Bingaman can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



NOTICE OF ABSENTEE VOTING GENERAL ELECTION November 6, 2012

In-Person Absentee Voting is now available at the Latah County Courthouse, Room 101, at 522 S. Adams, Moscow, Idaho. This absentee polling place will be available until 5:00 p.m. on Friday November 2, 2012 for students registered in Latah County and/or students who wish to register and consider themselves to be permanent residents of Latah County. The Last Day for an application for a mail-in Absentee ballot to be received by any County Clerk, in the State of Idaho, is no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2012. These timelines will apply to each State of Idaho County. Absentee request forms are available on the Secretary of State home page. For further information regarding absentee voting please call the Latah County Elections Department at 208-883-2249. For general information regarding elections please visit the web site www.latah.id.us/elections/ or www.idahovotes.gov [precinct locator].

Susan R. Petersen Latah County Clerk October 5, 2012



Sanz keeps winning

Idaho picks up big wins, Almudena Sanz moves to 11-1 on the season

Charles Crowley Argonaut

Undefeated on the weekend and 11-1 on the season, Idaho junior Almudena Sanz did her part in an impressive weekend for the Vandal women's tennis team in Portland.

Head coach Daniel Pollock said Sanz got off to a rocky start and did just enough to win her first match but then turned it on in the second match against Portland's number one player from last year. Her third match was no contest.

"In that last match, (Sanz) played really well and really found her feet," Pollock said. "Third match indoors of the weekend and it seemed like she got used to the surface and the surroundings and was too good for her opponent."

The Portland University Invite is not a normal tournament with brackets, but instead players are placed in small groups and they play everyone in the group. Sanz won first place in her group. Only Sanz, senior Constance Alexander, freshman Rita Bermudez, and junior Ale Lozano made the trip to the Invite. They all played singles and doubles.

In singles, Alexander won second in her group after going 2-1 on the weekend. She lost her first match 7-5, 6-2 to Daria Burobina from Portland State but then made quick work of Gabby Gorence (6-2,6-2) and Emily Gould (6-3, 6-0) from the University of Portland.

"She did a really good job after that first match of just settling down -- its finally nice to see that because I know she is a very good player but has just been very nervous on the court since she got here," Pollock said. "Its good to see her finally kind of realizing her potential a little bit on the court."

Lozano had a nice win over Emily Gould (7-5, 6-4) from UP but then lost her next two matches, including a three set battle with Kelsey Frey (7-6, 2-6, 10-7) from PSU. Bermudez was unable to get a win on the weekend but she got some good experience.

Pollock tried new doubles pairings for the weekend, placing Bermudez with Lozano and Sanz with Alexander. Bermudez/Lozano lost two close matches. They lost 9-7 to Gorrence/ Dhatt from UP and 9-8(3) to Troesh/ Cubelli, also from UP.

"It's tough when it gets down to the crucial moments and you have never played with someone, that's kind of when it shows and that happened this weekend," Pollock said.

Alexander/Sanz lost 8-4 to Polyakova/Fuchs from UP but then defeated Gorrence/Dhatt 8-1.

"Almu and Constance struggled a little bit in their first one and then they started to understand how to play with one another and then in their second match they just mastered a pair from

Portland," Pollock said.

He said there were some good points and some learning points to take away from Idaho's doubles performance this weekend. The main goal in doubles was to get a look at a couple different pairings since the Vandals haven't decided on any pairings for the spring yet.

Alexander felt comfortable with the indoor courts the team played on.

"I'm also getting more comfortable with everything and just getting back into it," Alexander said. "I felt way more relaxed than I have ever felt playing tennis before."

The overall goal on the weekend was to get a bunch of matches in, get more match practice, and get used to playing indoor tennis because its getting to that time of year. The Vandals have one more outdoor tournament left and then it's all indoors until the middle of March.

Pollock was happy with what he saw this weekend and said there are more positives than negatives to take away from it, but definitely some things to learn from for the girls.

"I'm happy, I think we competed extremely well, we won when even when we weren't feeling our best and then when we were feeling well, we won comfortably," Pollock said.

Next up for the women is the Houston Cougar Classic, Nov 2-4. This is going to be a very high level tournament with several ranked teams. Charles Crowley can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

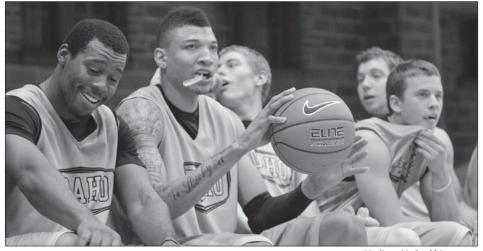


File photo by Ilya Pinchuk | Argonaut

Almudena Sanz returns a low volley against La. Tech in a match last spring. Sanz is now 11-1 this fall after going 3-0 in singles play this last weekend.







Madison McCord | Argonaut

From left to right, Vandals Mansa Habeeb, Marcus Bell, Ty Egbert, Max Salesky and Connor Hill await the team introductions before the Black and Gold Scrimmage Friday. Hill led all scorers with 14 points, going 4-5 from 3-point range.

Position battles take shape on court

Sean Kramer Argonaut

Fans got their first look at the 2012-13 edition of Idaho basketball Friday night when the team held its annual Black and Gold scrimmage in Memorial Gym.

The scrimmage highlighted key position battles that will take place throughout the pre-season as well as a few important players who will be asked to fill big shoes.

"(We) got a lot of film of the new guys that we can learn from. That's the whole idea," Verlin said. "See what they do with the lights on, then you can learn from their mistakes and see what they did good."

The point guard spot, which was vacated by graduated senior Landon Tatum, will be a three-way battle between senior Mike McChristian, junior Robert Harris Jr. and junior Denzel Douglas.

"It's a three-horse race," Verlin said. "One guy has got to emerge at some point here, it's like having a quarterback. You can't have a revolving door there if one guy is going to get any good."

Verlin wouldn't say if there was a favorite, though an upper hand may lie with Mc-Christian, who saw action in 28 games for Idaho last season. The senior started with the black team in what could be considered the "A team" for Idaho. The team also featured Stephen Madison and Marcus Bell, two likely starters.

"It's going to take some time to figure that out," Verlin said. "I thought they all did some really good things tonight. Now we've got to get one to play a little more consistently."

McChristian ended the scrimmage with five points and an assist, and was the better defender of the three on the night. Harris had 10 points and an assist.

Douglas had four assists, but turned the ball over three times.

The scrimmage was also an opportunity for big men to step up in Kyle Barone's absence.

Junior Marcus Bell, a transfer from Marshalltown Community College in Iowa, ended up with nine points and two rebounds, showing a good skill from underneath the basket.

Senior Wendell Faines collected five rebounds, tied with Stephen Madison for the game-high.

Faines said the front-court is more well-rounded this season than it has been in the past.

"I feel like any of our players could step up at any time," he said.

Verlin said he expects this team to be his best rebounding team since he took the helm at Idaho.

"They're all big strong physical guys around the basket. I'm hoping that they continue to grow, continue to play well," he said.

The shooting guard spot is still up for contention between Antwan Scott and sophomore Connor Hill, though Hill could be close to grabbing the spot if he continues playing the way he did Friday night. Hill slotted home four of five three-point attempts and ended up with 14 points on the night.

Hill said his confidence level is higher than it was his freshman season.

"It's grown a lot, the coaches are putting a lot more confidence in me. I'm getting more reps," he said. "(As a sophomore) you're expected to go out and play."

The team will hit the court tomorrow at North Idaho College for the Coeur d'Alene Intrasquad Scrimmage.

> Sean Kramer can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

CHAMPS FROM PAGE 5

Cirstea attributes much of their success to how aggressive they play. He said most teams like to grind out points and field the ball a lot but he and Akbar like to just get out there and win the point.

That wasn't always easy to do, though.

Cirstea and Akbar found themselves down 7-4 in the quarterfinals, but they stuck through and got the win and kept on winning.

"It felt really good because it wasn't easy at all. We actually had to fight to get the results," Cirstea said.

There are nationallyranked programs that haven't sent a pairing to the Indoor National Championships even once, let alone twice. Idaho did it twice in a row and Idaho Director of Tennis Jeff Beaman said it says a lot for the program and for Cirstea.

The doubles championship was the biggest win of

SOCCER FROM PAGE 5

defeat of the season and broke the Lady Techsters' 14-match-losing streak

"Now we've got to come back, finish the weekend strongly and keep things in our own hands," Showler said. "Denver is top 25 for a reason and they're one of the top teams in the country. New Mexico State is going to come in wanting to prove a point,

the tournament, but it was not the only one. "Across the board,

every guy put up some wins in doubles and singles" Beaman said. "Our best overall performance by far at this event by Idaho."

Idaho had three pairings in doubles. Matt Oddonetto and Cristobal Ramos lost in the first round, as did Jake Knox and Filip Fichtel. Jose Bendeck and Cesar Torres won two rounds before losing in the quarterfinals.

In singles, Bendeck, Ramos and Fichtel lost in the first round. Knox, Torres and Oddonetto won their first round and lost in the second and Cirstea had a first round bye and then won a match before being eliminated in the Round of 32. Akbar added a great singles run to his doubles championship. After a first round bye, he won three straight and lost to the No. 7 seed in quarterfinals.

Friday On alone, Akbar played three singles matches which he said were some of the longest matches he has had in a while. He was on the court for seven and a half hours. Akbar had to forget about his singles loss and prepare for doubles the next day.

This tournament was full of top level competition and often leads to a very long tournament. This year was no exception. Akbar said the Vandals handled it well though, and everyone did great.

"From Wednesday to Sunday it was non-stop, long days, lot of matches, with a good level tennisa lot of support from teammates and it turned out to be a good tournament," Akbar said.

The next tournament for the men is Nov. 9-11 when they head to Seattle for the Pacific Northwest Intercollegiate tournament. This amazing performance is sure to give them all some great momentum going in.

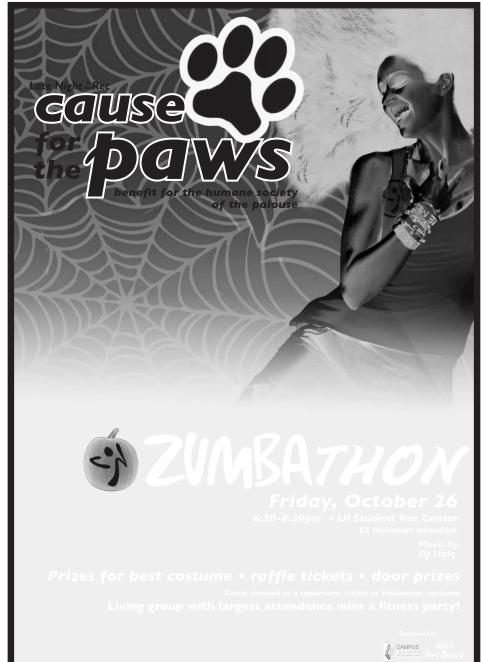
Charles Crowley can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

so we have two crucial, crucial games."

The win puts the Vandals into seventh place in the WAC with two matches remaining, both at home against Denver and New Mexico State on Thursday and Sunday respectively.

Idaho will qualify for the WAC Tournament with one win this weekend, regardless of what any other teams do.

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PLASTERED FROM PAGE 5

Idaho's third WAC game this season. He threw for just one touchdown and was 20 of 35.

find the motive to play out the rest of the season. "We've got to play for

The senior had yet to throw an interception this season and was able to maintain the streak Saturday, while going 29 of 37 with 400 passing yards and two passing touchdowns.

"I didn't expect it. Idaho has been a really physical team, but everyone has bought into our offense, and I think that helps us put points up. It's a momentum thing," Cameron said.

Blackman, who leads the nation in interceptions thrown with 13, tossed two in

Idaho, 1-2 in the WAC, has a bye week before hosting one of the conference's biggest surprises this season. With a win against Texas State this weekend, San Jose State will come to Moscow with a 6-2 record, and losses coming to Stanford and Utah State.

Despite the dismal season Idaho has experienced, Gesser, who was the head coach at Eastside Catholic High School in Sammamish, Wash., two years ago, hopes his players

each other and that's the biggest thing we need to get right now," Idaho's interim head coach said.

> Theo Lawson can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

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ATHLETES FROM PAGE 5

Almudena Sanz-Women's tennis

To add

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her singles win tally after an impressive weekend at the Portland Invitational. Sanz picked up singles wins in each of her three matches, going 3-0 in her individual group and improving to 11-1 this fall.

"Almu played well enough to win her first two matches, but definitely was not at the top of her game," coach Dan Pollock said. "By the end of the third match she was really firing though, which was great to see."

With doubles partner Constance Alexander, Sanz lost her initial match but picked up an 8-1 win in her second round match over a University of Portland pair.

Chelsea Small-Soccer



this season.



Ruston, beating the Techsters 2-1. Small, who has been one of the Vandals' most reliable goal scorers this season, cleaned up Jill Flockhart's shot in the 12th minute, putting the ball in the back of the net for what would prove to be the winner. Small led all Vandals in shots with four, two of those coming on goal. Small has netted two game winners in Idaho's last three contests and has four goals in the Vandals' last six games. She leads all players with seven goals

66 SPEND THE SPRING SEMESTER ADVOCATING FOR U OF I STUDENTS IN BOISE

LOBBYIST GET APPLICATIONS AT UIDAHO.EDU/ASUI SUBMIT **APPLICATION TO** JIM MARTINEZ AT MARTINEZ@UIDAHO.EDU OR THE ASUI OFFICE BY OCT. 26TH AT 5PM

OPINION

Firing first step Terminating Akey's contract is only one part of improving Idaho's football program

Few University of Idaho students on campus remember the outrage of coach Dennis Erickson abandoning the Vandals in 2006.

What most students do know is the excitement coach Robb Akey brought to the job. Akey took the Vandals to Boise in 2009 and brought back the Humanitarian Bowl trophy — a feat 10 years in the waiting.

Akey's Army was strong, sporting Vandal T-shirts and supportive signs at football games. The army held on for one semi-disappointing season, and then the travesty that was the 2011 season.

This year, it seems, things have gone far enough.

The Vandals fell to La. Tech 70-28 Saturday, the third time the

Vandals have allowed more than 70 points in a game since Akey's first season in 2007, and the third time a team has scored 60 points on the Vandals this season. For UI Director of Athletics Rob Spear, at least, enough was enough.

Akey's contract has been terminated. He will still get his base salary of \$165,796.80 through December 2014, or until he finds another job.

What Akey did for Vandal pride, and especially what he did for many of his players, can never be measured. Vandal quarterback Dominique Blackman said without Akey he wouldn't have ever had a chance to play Division 1 football, and other players have expressed similar feelings. The future is unclear for both parties in this split. Akey may find another head coaching job, or he may return to a coordinator position like he held before coming to Idaho.

As for Idaho, the football team is headed for independent FBS status, without a permanent head coach. The only certainty is the full 2013 schedule released last week.

The question is whether now was the time to fire Akey. In the athletic world, mid-season firings are somewhat graceless. On the other hand, recruiting starts in a couple weeks, and it would be unseemly to have the former coach out recruiting future Vandals.

Whether recruiting without a coach is any better remains to be

seen. Coach Akey has a great personality. He brought a lot of Vandal pride to campus, along with a couple of huge wins. But at the end of the day, school spirit and a threeyear-old bowl win aren't enough. It was time for Akey to go.

But UI students and alumni need to remember that terminating Akey's contract will not result in the Vandals miraculously turning into a winning football program. Other positions within the athletic department contribute to the team's success, including the players themselves.

Firing Akey may have been the right choice, but Akey alone is not responsible for Idaho's subpar record.



Growing gender gap



What do you think about Akey's termination? Tweet us.

@ArgOpinion

OFF THE CUFF

QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM OUR EDITORS

Hardcore grandma

My Grandma told me she tried to gauge her ears so she could see the hole to put her earrings in. After they started bleeding, she stopped, but would have worn pink tapers until she was able to fit her 8G's in.

-Katy

Dawg house

Jason Gesser has my full support. He never beat UW, so I like him.

-Sean

Fall

-KC

I hate pumpkin. Love to carve them, hate to eat them. —Kasen

Akey

In your six years you were a good member of the Moscow community, strong supporter of the troops and have given hundreds of kids an opportunity to get an education. It comes down to football though and that side failed. Best of luck. —Madison

Work hard

Stay humble.

—Britt

Oatmeal

I'm finding that as I grow older I enjoy the taste of vegetables and other foods I used to push around my plate long after dinner was over, stubbornly refusing to eat. Oatmeal with peanut butter is my new favorite comfort food. —Elisa

Mama dearest

Happy birthday to the really nice lady who taught me the most important things in life: to love books, love others, love coffee and love life. Love you forever, Mom.

Will gender determine our next president?

They're chasing down voters like poachers chase lions in the Serengeti: guns poised, machete

at their hip for backup. Feeling empowered, yet squirming at the thought of the powerful lions ripping their throats out with one leap or bound.

The power between the presidential candidates Argonaut and the voting public is just as unbalanced as lions and vote hunters. This year, the imbalance cou is taken to another level as the serv gender gap between candidates is ing spread even further — nearing a historical high.

The voting phenomenon called the "gender gap" made its first big splash during the 1980 election of Ronald Reagan, as pollsters and data analyzers marveled at the difference in each genders' voting habits and decisions. Even though both genders favored Reagan over his opponent Jimmy Carter, Reagan received +19 points among male voters and only +2 points among female voters, offering a sky-high +17-point gender gap.

Now, as President Barack Obama clocks in with a +9-point advance among female voters and Gov. Mitt Romney reaches a +9-point lead among male voters, this election's gender gap soars at +18 points — the second-highest gap since George W. Bush battled Al Gore in 2000.

High, candidate-separate gender gaps such as these can throw pollsters and election-predictors for a loop, making the election much more difficult to call.

The New York Times political columnist Nate Silver said "President Obama would be on track for a landslide re-election," if more women would step up to the voting booth, and that our Mr.

President would be basking in the glory of being 'an overwhelming favorite in Ohio, Florida, Virginia

and most every other place that is conventionally considered a swing state.'

But that's not to say that ladies' votes are going to lend Obama a definite iron fist at the ballot boxes. Silver said if higher populations of men voted, Romney would simply be

counting down the seconds before serving up a hot and tasty crushing defeat to Obama.

Also, if more males would step up to the voting booth Mitt Romney-style, the gender gap would make only California, Illinois, Hawaii and a few states in the Northeast clearly Democratic. The rest? Red, red, red, along with only a few others that would possibly be toss-ups.

So what are you waiting for? For the gender gap to get even higher and for male and female voters to continually head-butt each other until Nov. 6 finally rolls around? Regardless of your sex, regardless of which candidate you support, get out there and do your thing at the ballots.

Fill in the bubbles, rock the vote and then do a little happy dance for doing your part as a citizen and as an educated electorate. Do it. Do it now.

The freedom to choose which candidate I believe best suits my interests and the interests of this country is something I treasure, and will treasure until I'm too old and feeble to hold a pen and vote. And by the way, it's something you should treasure too, ladies and gentlemen.

Chloe Rambo can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu VOICES

Was it appropriate to terminate Idaho coach Robb Akey's contract midseason? Should the decision have been made after the season concluded?

"It's better to hurt a little more this season and have the time to find a coach that can build this program and lead us to victory. The athletic department is looking forward, as they should be." —JJacob Marsh

"After. Akey didn't deserve the cheap shot or getting fired during the season. He deserves respect." —Krystle Pehrson



"I like Akey and I wish him well in his future endeavors. However, I will agree that it's time to go forward. Just one thing is lingering in the way. Spear should resign today so that U of I can be better tomorrow." —Tyler Woods

"Changing coaches mid-season ruins the morale of a team. We are not going to win anymore games just because he is gone. What we need is more belief in our program and better recruiting." —Cayden Joshua Dimmick



"If a football team gets blown out 70-28 and nobody is watching, does it even matter anymore?" —Todd Needs

-Chloe

By the time you read this...

...my electricity and magnetism test will have annihilated me. Goodbye.

—Amrah

Blot

Check out our sister publication, Blot magazine, on stands now. It's really pretty and all about grub. Get hungry. —Lindsey

Snow

I'm not sure if I'm mentally prepared for your presence yet. Please be nice to me this year. —Kaitlyn

Note to self:

If you're not in the driver's seat of your car, don't take it out of park.

-Molly

Orange and yellow

As the weather turns in the next few weeks it might be time to put away the bicycle for the winter. Icy roads are dangerous.

-Philip

A god among men

All my inspiration in life derives from the lessons taught to me by the wise and handsome Robert Taylor (Bobby Idaho on Facebook). —**Theo**

COMIC CORNER

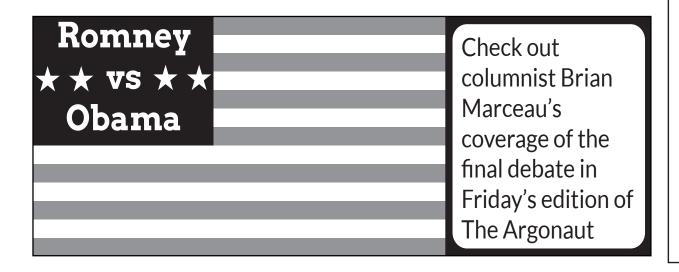
Grayscale



Kat WAS GOING TO SAY Kat THE RELIGIOUS AND HISTORICAL ASPECT OF SAMHAIN, 000000!! HOW ABOUT CARMEL APPLES, PARTIES, KNOW WHAT ín DID YOU EAT ABOUT SUCKERS, ABONT SUCKERS, AKA ALL HALLOWS TOO MANY LIVING OFF JUNK SMARTIES EVE about DECORA Samhain

Cloud Nine





Mail Box

Luna Laws prohibit funding, futures

Propositions 1, 2, and 3 (the Luna Laws) will be harmful to the education of students in Idaho if they pass this November.

As someone who has attended school in Idaho for my entire scholastic career, I acknowledge Idaho's educational system is already behind the times in comparison to other states in the region.

Several problems arise with the idea of the Luna Laws being passed. Children having laptops will not make them better students. In fact, many students who learn best kinesthetically will not learn as well in online classes, and many students will do the bare minimum to get a decent grade.

Having more classes online for K-12 students will take away from the social learning aspects that are gained from being in a classroom with other students.

Frin Dawson | Argonaut

Idaho should focus on the fact that many students in public schools cannot understand the material on a standardized test because they are not able to read at grade level and many of them do not speak English well. Giving students a quality education is as much about the experience as it is about learning the material.

A great teacher can change a child's whole attitude toward school.

However, if these laws are passed, teachers will not be able to help students to explore their creativity and figure out what they are good at if they are consumed with getting high scores on standardized tests to save their jobs.

If students learn just what it takes to do well on the test, they won't know how they can apply the concepts they learn outside of the classroom.

I know there is a need to meet the same standards as other countries when it comes to education, but we shouldn't jeopardize a student's ability to expand their creativity to do so.

-Samantha Flaherty Senior, advertising

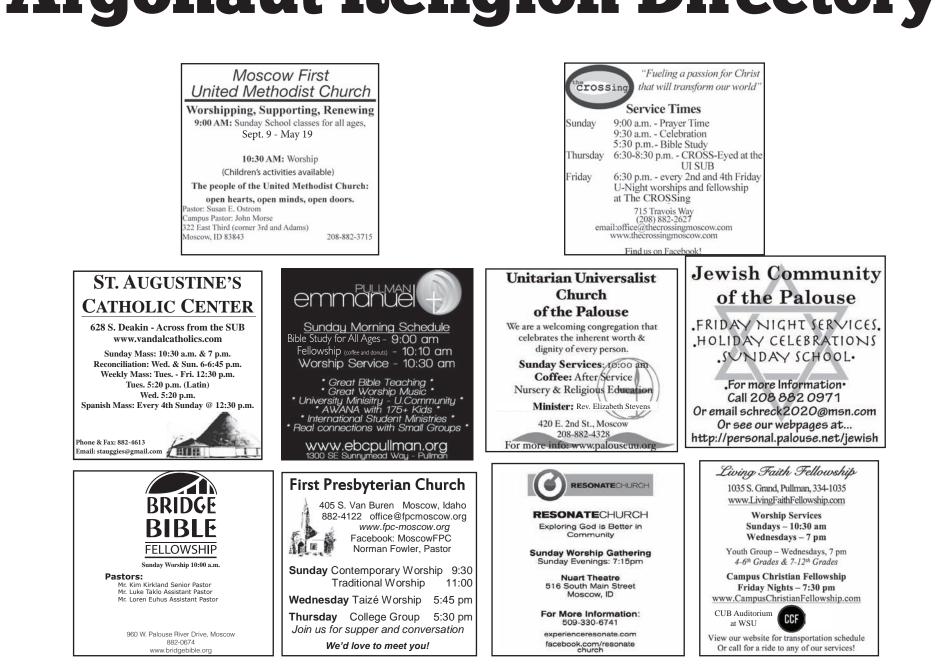
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