# ARGONAUT

**THE VANDAL VOICE SINCE 1898** 

Friday, December 5, 2014

#### ADMINISTRATION

uiargonaut.com



Amelia C. Warden | Argonaut

Lisa Cochran (right) talks with her daughter Madysen (left), 16, about an independent project she is working on for a class at Moscow High School in the living room of their home in Moscow, Tuesday. Cochran said her low wages have caused financial stress.

# Struggling to get by

UI staff member faces low wage, financial stress

> **Ryan Tarinelli** Argonaut

Lisa Cochran attempts to live her life on \$13.51 an hour, but it's not enough for her and her daughter.

It's not enough for a sustainable food budget. It's not enough to save for the future. It's not enough to pay for the costly out-of-pocket expenses in her daily life.

"The situation has been really dire, daily," she said. "I'm just stressed out everyday."

Cochran, 59, has worked as an administrative support staff member in the University of Idaho ITS Department since

staff members facing low wages.

To address low staff salaries, Keith Ickes, UI executive director of Planning and Budget, said a 4 percent salary increase for UI employees is the number one priority for UI Administration heading into the legislative session this January.

"It's a bit of a stretch, it would require both the Legislature and the Governor probably being in support of that motion," he said. "I don't know whether I think that will be the case."

Ickes said two years ago an external marketing firm concluded UI staff members were paid 15 percent less compared to peer averages. With the rate other universities are increasing salaries at, Ickes said he suspects

2012 and is one of the many UI staff members are now paid 18 percent less than those at peer institutions in the region. He said staff members received 2 percent salary increases in 2012 and 2014, but does not think the raises brought UI up to speed with peer salaries.

> Ickes said UI employees went four years without salary increases after the economic recession in 2008. He said the Idaho State Legislature did not increase higher education funding after the recession.

As universities in other states began to increase funding after the recession, they could often recruit talented faculty and staff from UI by offering them higher salaries, Ickes said.

Cochran has worked off and on at UI since 1986, when she

The situation has been really dire, daily.

> Lisa Cochran, ITS administrative support

began working as a parking assistant while earning her second undergraduate degree. She had previously earned a psychology degree from University of Michigan.

After a two-year stint living in France, Cochran returned to Moscow in 2008 with her daughter.

With the economy in a downward spiral, Cochran said there

SEE **STRUGGLING**, PAGE 5

## Moscow police won't adopt amnesty policy

MPD denies ASUI request. offers Alcohol Diversion Program as alternative

> **Cara Pantone** Argonaut

Kenny Hummel, an 18-yearold college freshman, was attending Washington State University in 2012 when he died from alcohol poisoning after being found unconscious in a dorm room. According to an article in The Seattle Times, Hummel's blood-alcohol level was 0.4 percent — five times the legal limit. Washington passed a

state-wide law in 2013 providing amnesty to minors who call in a medical emergency concerning alcohol, a law that is not present in Idaho.

The University of Idaho adopted an amnesty policy in the student code of conduct last year that protects students in the same situation from disciplinary action by UI. ASUI and the Moscow Police Department have been engaged in conversation since the summer about the possibility of extending that policy to the department's jurisdiction, preventing legal action being taken against minors in an alcohol-related medical emergency. However, MPD Lt. David

It really becomes about encouraging accountability and responsibility for actions and making sure your friend is still with you in the morning.

**David Lehmitz, MPD** 

Lehmitz said in a meeting with ASUI senators that MPD will not be adopting an amnesty policy.

"I don't see a policy like this coming in writing or coming from our courts," Lehmitz said. "It really becomes about encouraging accountability and responsibility for actions and making sure your friend is still with you in the morning."

Lehmitz said MPD currently has an Alcohol Diversion Program that allows first-time offenders who receive an MIP or a criminal citation to complete the program and have the offense removed from their record. This is an alternative to an amnesty policy that should still encourage minors to phone in a medical emergency, he said.

SEE **AMNESTY**, PAGE 5

# Feeding the Palouse

Annual Palouse food drive hopes to collect 43,000 pounds of food

#### Kaitlyn Krasselt Argonaut

For the ninth year in a row, volunteers will attempt to break their own record and collect 43,000 pounds of food in the annual Palouse Cares Food Drive.

"It's a lot more than last year when we collected 38,000 pounds, but it was like 2 degrees outside," said Rick Minard, Palouse Cares founder. "It should be warmer this year so hopefully we can get the same amount of volunteers or more and beat that easily."

The Palouse Cares Food Drive will begin 9 a.m. Saturday in 12 communities throughout Latah County. Volunteers don't need to bring anything but themselves, but Minard said they should remember to dress warm.

Palouse Cares is a door-to-door food drive that's gradually gotten larger since its inception in 2005. It began with just a few Moscow Building Supply employees collecting a few hundred pounds of food for the Moscow Food Bank. Now, the food collected in each of the 12 communities Palouse Cares has expanded to

SEECARES, PAGE 5

## Elks Lodge reaches out to veterans

\$10,000 grant to offer vets moment of peace

#### **Hannah Shirley** Argonaut

The Moscow Elks Lodge has a long history of working with veterans. That's why when Steve Meier was charged with writing a grant to give back to the community, he thought of them first.

There's a real need for working with individuals who are, for lack of a better term, wounded warriors," Meier said. "Many veterans have physical disabilities, or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, so this was an opportunity to let them know they're not alone."

Meier is a former University of Idaho professor who has been active in the Moscow Elks Lodge for over a decade. He said sometimes veterans simply need to relax and get away from the stressors of their life.

He said fly-fishing was the perfect

The program Meier and other members of the Elks Lodge designed is intended to teach wounded veterans how to fly fish from start to finish, from teaching them to tie flies to techniques to actually fishing. The program will culminate in a fishing trip.

"Fly fishing is one of those things where you're basically in your own environment, even if there are other people around you," Meier said. "If you're doing it correctly, you should be thinking about where your fly should be placed, watching the water, and you're doing all of this, and all the distractions that go on in our lives kind of go away."

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Men's basketball wins the Battle of the Palouse over WSU for first time in 12 games.

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The Mosc-catchers are out hunting down rumors of Bigfoot on Moscow Mountain.

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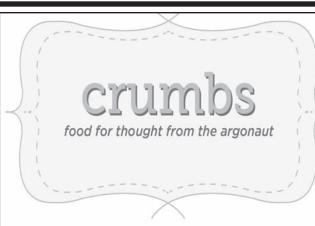
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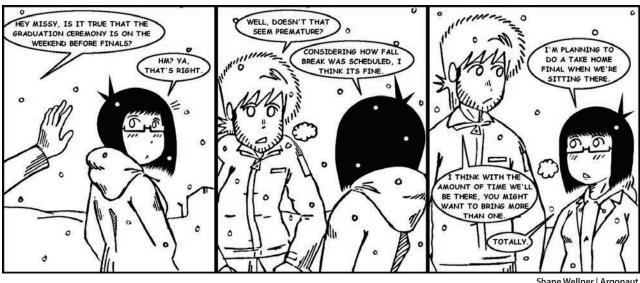




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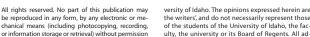


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HEALTH

# Getting tested Local non-profit organization provides free testing for HIV

**Daphne Jackson** 

The idea of having a life-threatening disease is a terrifying thought for most people, especially one there is no cure for.

Inland Oasis is a local non-profit organization that, among other things, provides free HIV testing as part of an outreach for World AIDS Day.

Chris Bidiman said he started the HIV testing program in 2008, after he realized he was interested in working in the public health industry.

"I was working in an adult store, and a big part of what I was doing was safe-sex education in the dorms," he said. "I realized I loved talking about ... prevention practices, and so I eventually switched into a public health degree ... So I just took it upon myself and said, 'There's not really any testing resources in this area, let's design something people can access."

Kathy Sprague said she has helped with

the HIV testing since Inland Northwest started doing it. She said she thinks anyone who's sexually active should be tested.

"Knowledge is power and knowing your status is important," she said. "Definitely, if you are HIV positive that changes some things as far as communication. Everyone should have open communication with their partners, but it's even more important if you're positive, letting your partners know what's going on. It's just something that everyone who's sexually active should be aware of — their physical state, their risk of transmission and their actual status."

Sprague said she got involved with Inland Oasis and HIV testing because she has personally seen the devastation HIV can cause.

'Gay men are perceived as being a very high-risk population, and that's a portion of the population that Inland Oasis serves," she said. "I have lost a lot of friends to the disease. I did hospice care for a friend ... My 18th birthday we came out to each other officially and my 28th birthday was his funeral."

Bidiman said it is important to get tested despite fears of what the result may be. He said many people who came in for testing this year did so for the first time. Much of the time, he said, a person develops anxiety related to the uncertainty.

According to Bidiman, receiving the test results and knowing for sure they don't have HIV serves as a reassurance to many of those anxious people.

"Finding your resources and just biting that bullet is the most important thing to do, and it's scary," Bidiman said. "I know the first time I got tested I cried, 'cause it was so nerve wracking, and now it's so routine that it's a lot easier. Doing it the first time is the best way to start."

Moscow citizen Jake Bauer said he was getting tested again since he last got tested a year ago.

"It's not only beneficial for you, but it helps you protect others," he said. "Safer sexual practice and just knowing your status lets you know how careful you have to be. I mean, you should always be careful, but when you have a test that comes back positive ... you don't want to pass that on to someone else, and so you need to be more careful."

Bauer said he thinks getting tested is worthwhile, especially because the only downside is a slight amount of pain.

"It takes a little time, you get poked in the finger with a needle," Bauer said. "That's about the worst there is to it, and from that you are able to know your status for certain, and that helps you protect yourself and protect others, and it's always worth your time to do that."

> Daphne Jackson can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

## Vandal Dining gives back to students

Five UI students competed in gingerbread contest Thursday morning

> **Joshua Gamez** Argonaut

Five University of Idaho students and Vandal Dining brought a little bit of holiday cheer to the Idaho Commons Thursday morning by way of the "Let It Snow" Gingerbread Contest.

The contest was simple — build the best gingerbread house.

The houses were judged on design, construction, use of the materials — in this case candy — and the teams overall creativity. In total three teams competed — two teams of two and one student that opted to go at it alone.

The contest was to help students loosen up near the end of the semester and give before he could get back to his seat along

back to the Vandal community, said Katelyn Clark of Vandal Dining.

The winners won a pair of FitBit wireless wristbands and as a consolation prize the runners-up were awarded a free foot-long sub from Sub Connect, which is located in the Idaho Commons food court.

A member of the winning team, Alex Inskeep, a sophomore computer engineering major, was the driving force behind his team entering the contest.

His reluctant teammate was Allison Rowley, a fellow sophomore studying chemistry. She initially didn't want to compete in the contest, Inskeep said.

"We were sitting right here and she (Clark) announces that there is two more spots left," Inskeep said. "And she loves to make cookies and pies and whatnot so I was like 'you should go do it."

He pulled her onto the stage and thought that would be the end of it. But the wall, she grabbed him by the hand and the competition began.

The three gingerbread houses were judged by three employees at the Idaho Commons food court.

Each of the three teams built solid houses and it appeared they all were having fun, which was ultimately all they wanted, Clark said.

Despite it being a contest, the atmosphere was pretty laid back. As peaceful music played in the background, all three teams were joking and having a good time on the stage in the commons.

"It was really chill," Rowley said. "We just kinda went up there and they told us to make a gingerbread house, here's the stuff and all of us standing up there were just having fun and chatting back and forth."

> Josh Gamez can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



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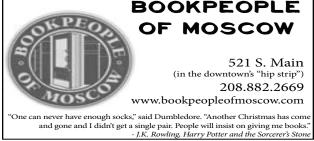
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## Find the right tree

**Mary Malone** Argonaut

For hundreds of years, people all over the world have treasured evergreen trees because of their ability to remain green as the rest of nature changes color with the seasons. They have become a tradition, adorning the homes of people throughout the holiday season.

Some people like to purchase a live tree or an artificial tree, and others enjoy the tradition of cutting down their own tree. Whatever the preference, there are many places throughout the Palouse to find that perfect holiday tree.

Cara Lehman, University Housing marketing coordinator at the University of Idaho, said they encourage students to celebrate all holidays, but due to a fire hazard they do not allow any live trees, wreaths or garlands in student spaces, but they may be allowed in community spaces within housing areas with proper approval from professional housing staff.

For those who live off campus and want to cut down their own live tree, permits are required to cut down a tree in the forest, said Stefani Spencer, district ranger at Palouse Ranger District. Permits are \$5 each and there is a limit of three permits per person or family. She said trees can only be cut on U.S. forest service land, not within city limits and not on camp grounds.

"It is important to know what the land ownership is that you're on, because there is a lot of intermixed land ownership," Spencer said.

Permits are available at the Palouse Ranger District, located in Potlatch, and four other businesses throughout the district. Tri-State Outfitters and Woodland Enterprises in Moscow sell permits and have maps available that show areas where tree cutting is allowed, along with handouts with tips and rules for cutting trees. The permits, maps and handouts are also available at Idaho Rigging in Potlatch and Helmer Store & Café in Deary.

Spencer said some of the rules include not cutting trees along highways. It is required to be 200 feet away from the road, and to not take just the tops of trees. The permit must be attached to the tree above the bottom branches, and law enforcement can ticket people for not having a permit, or not having it properly attached.

"Pile discarded branches away from roads, ditches and culverts," Spencer said.

"Cut your tree as close to the ground as possible, stumps should be eight inches or less in height."

If trekking into the forest to cut down a tree sounds difficult, Rite-Aid, located at the Palouse Mall on the Moscow-Pullman highway, has live trees for sale, varying in price depending on the type of tree and its height. For a noble fir, the price starts at \$19.99 for a three to four-foot tree and goes up to \$39.99 for a five to six-foot tree. They also carry Douglas fir for \$29.99 and grand fir for \$34.99.

St. Mary's school is selling trees in front of Howard Hughes Appliance store on the Moscow-Pullman highway. It's prices depend on height, and start at \$25 for a four-foot tree. Prices vary and go as high as \$70 for any tree over seven feet tall.

For those looking for a tree with little maintenance, Walmart carries a variety of artificial trees starting at \$15 for a 32-inch fiber optic tree and a six-foot unlit tree for \$20. They have a seven-foot, pre-lit artificial tree for \$89 and the prices go up from there to a frosted, pre-lit seven-and-a-half foot tree for \$149.

Moscow Fire Marshall Joe Williams said people should make sure the tree they choose has fresh green needles that don't fall off when touched. He said to always put the tree in a stand and make sure it has plenty of water, at least two inches up from the base of the trunk and to water it every day.

"Always turn off the lights before leaving or going to bed," Williams said. "One in every three [Christmas] tree fires are electrical fires."

He said to use lights with the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor use while others are only for outdoor use, so that should be considered when decorating. Artificial trees should be checked for a label stating they are fire retardant. All trees should be kept at least three feet from any heat source and should not block any exits, Williams said.

Williams also said some people like to emulate traditional movies and light their tree with candles, but he advises this should never be done outside of cinema.

"After Christmas, get rid of it," Williams said. "When the needles dry out and fall off it becomes a serious danger."

> Mary Malone can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

THEATER



Brenda Ely | Argonaut

Cast members from "A Christmas Carol" rehearse the show Monday. Performances will be held 7:30 p.m. this Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Hartung Theater. The show will continue at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11-13 and 18-20, and 2 p.m. Dec 14.

## A new direction for Dickens Production of 'A Christmas Carol' takes Dickens in a new direction

**Corrin Bond** Argonaut

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is a classic that cannot be bound to the form of literature alone, said Ann Hoste, University of Idaho professor of costume design and artistic director for Idaho Repertory Theatre.

"Dickens writes so vividly, it's hard not to imagine what it would look like on stage," Hoste said.

Hoste wrote the script adaptation for the Department of Theatre Arts' production of "A Christmas Carol," which began Thursday at the Hartung Theater.

The live production featuring UI students and community members will continue throughout the month. Performances will be held 7:30 p.m. this Friday and 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. The show will continue 7:30 p.m. Dec. 11-13 and 18-20, and 2 p.m. Dec 14. UI students can attend the show for free with a valid student ID, and UI faculty and staff tickets are \$5. General admission is \$15, and children 12 and under can also attend for free.

Director and UI Professor of Performance David Lee-Painter said although the iconic narrative of a Christmas curmudgeon has been adapted for the stage many times before, this year's theater performance will bring a fresh new perspective to the play.

"This is the second year that we will be performing the play so the costumes and the scenery will be similar," Lee-Painter said. "But virtually the performance as a whole is very different."

Differences in this year's production include a new cast, with returning members playing different roles, more music and even the incorporation of puppets.

"Last year's Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come was a giant puppet ... about 12 feet tall," Lee-Painter said. "There was an interest in having all of the ghosts be puppets, but last year we didn't come to that conclusion soon enough to make it happen. Luckily, due to the expertise in our student body and design team, this year we were able to turn the other ghosts into puppets

In addition to puppets, Hoste developed a supplementary character during the script adaptation process.

"I have great admiration for Dickens and during the process it was important to me that the adaptation be his voice and not my voice," she said.

The new character incorporated into the play is a Master of Ceremonies, who acts as an expository narrator throughout

"Dickens' narrative is so delightful that I didn't want to sacrifice that element," Hoste said. "Instead I found a way to weave the narrative into more dramatic scenes."

The UI involvement with "A Christmas Carol" originally began as a small stage reading session put on by a handful of students for the Idaho Repertory Theatre,

"Last year we staged it for the first time, and this year the process is all about refining and improving upon the play," Hoste said.

Hannah Beehler, UI student and stage director for "A Christmas Carol," said refining the production has also involved tremendous collaboration between various departments.

"This is a huge play and there are a lot of people involved in it," she said, "There are so many aspects to keep track of."

Ginger Sorenson, the Theatre Department's costume shop manager, said preparation for the performance has been thorough and extensive.

'We started preparation for this production pretty much as soon as the last show was done," Sorenson said.

The preparation included design creation, fittings and making costumes, puppets and other props.

"It's a long process and a big commitment," Lee-Painter said. "But when we put the time and attention in so that ... it all comes together at the same rate and turns into something that is both a training opportunity for students and a great gift to the community."

> Corrin Bond can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

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#### STRUGGLING

FROM PAGE 1

were no daytime job openings. She took a graveyard position as a boiler operator at the UI Steam Plant. She worked from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. and said the job took a toll.

"Working nights is very hard on your head and your body," she said.

Cochran said she enjoyed learning a trade as a boiler operator, but the graveyard shift distanced her from her daughter. She said the physical work and odd hours made her tired and left her emotionally unavailable.

"I was a zombie, basically," she said.

She needed a change.

Cochran found an opening in ITS and began the position in October 2012.

Although she took a pay cut of \$2 an hour, it was a day job with normal hours. But now, she said the low wages have led to further financial difficulties.

Cochran said she has to take money out of her life insurance to pay for food and other daily expenses. She said she has visited many food banks for assistance.

Cochran said she did not hesitate to participate in the ASUI food bank last year after they opened it up to staff and faculty members. She said there is a social stigma around going to a food bank, but it does not

"I put taking care of my kid above any kind of social embarrassment," she said.

Cochran said the wage raises she's received over the past few years — while appreciated — have not come close to the increase in the cost of living.

Despite her financial troubles, Cochran said she loves the connections she makes with other employees at UI and appreciates the benefits she receives as a staff member. She said her daughter, Madysen, now 16, is able to take online UI courses at a discounted rate through duel enrollment. Cochran said she is also working toward a master's degree by taking credits at a

Cochran said she purchased an Apple laptop for her daughter through a UI program that allowed her to pay it off over two years.

Cochran said she has considered getting another job to sustain her and her daughter, but worries she will not have the physical or mental stamina to perform on

"I'm not young anymore, I'm not 30 anymore," she said. "And there aren't any high paying jobs out there."

Cochran said she hopes UI will receive the funds it needs to provide a living wage for UI employees. For now, \$13 an hour will have to do.

"Why, when I'm working a full time job at a university, do I have to supplement my life — my life is modest — with dipping into my retirement funds?" Cochran said. "To me, something is wrong with that picture."

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#### **VETERANS**

FROM PAGE 1

UI Veterans Adviser Dan Button said he and officers of the UI Veterans Club will meet later this week to compile a pool of local combat veterans who incurred injuries or other disabilities during their service to be invited to the program.

He said he sees this program as an opportunity for veterans to focus on themselves.

"It's rewarding in so many ways," Button said. "It's a tremendous bonding experience and has a therapeutic effect. They're doing something challenging, but doing something very rewarding and arguably fun together."

According to Lodge Secretary Wayne Krauss, the grant will bring the Moscow Elks Lodge total funds received for the year to \$18,000.

"Our impact is pretty broad," Krauss said. "Our goal for our programs is for them to be sustainable within

our community." Besides the \$10,000 community outreach grant, the lodge has also received four \$2,000 grants for youth activities and other community programs.

Meier said that's the mission of the Elks Lodge.

"The mission for the Elks is charity," he said. "When we do our underlying work, that's what we talk about."

Meier said the Moscow Elks Lodge offers antidrug and bullying programs for children, and provides literature and support to local youth. He said they also pride themselves on being a fraternal organization. According to Button, the Elks Lodge has had a substantial impact on local veterans in the past, most recently by awarding a UI combat veteran \$1,000 for textbooks and a parking pass earlier this year. Button said he has high hopes for the upcoming fly fishing program.

"If - no, when - it's successful, we may find it's something we want to offer in the future, or some variation like this," Button said. "I couldn't be any more pleased, happy or grateful to the local Elks Club for extending this opportunity."

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Jackson Flynn | Argonaut

Seniors Marissa Bourbonnais (left) and Tyler Folts (right) donate to the Moscow Food Bank Wednesday. It is located on 110 N. Polk St. adjacent to St. Mary's Catholic Church. The Palouse Cares Food Drive will take place on Saturday.

FROM PAGE 1

(listed online at palousecares.org) will go to their respective food banks.

Minard liked the concept of the food drive and decided to expand. In 2006, Minard turned Palouse Cares into an official non-profit organization and reached out to local organizations for volunteers and donations for the annual Palouse Cares silent auction.

"Each year we got a few more employees and family members ... it just kept growing and growing," Minard said.

Minard said the University of Idaho has been instrumental in the success of the drive by supplying dozens of volunteers every year. The Athletic Department in particular is known for its partnership with the food drive, and according to Athletic Director Rob Spear, all of the Varsity athletic programs will participate in the food drive in one way or another this year.

"Our student athletes get excited to get out into the community and we're

very proud that every one of our programs will participate in some capacity," Spear said. "It's something we take a lot of pride in getting our student athletes out in the community."

As Palouse Cares has aged, it's also grown in scope. It's no longer a single day of collecting food. There have been several "mini" food drives leading up to the big collection day, and tonight the Idaho men's and women's basketball teams and the swim and dive team will be in front of Rosauers and Safeway in Moscow collecting food for Palouse Cares.

"The University Idaho ... they're just awesome," Minard said. "I really appreciate everything they do."

Palouse Cares will also host its annual silent auction in Moscow and Pullman. The proceeds from the auction will go to the food banks as well as local charities that focus on food security. Minard said the auction this year will feature between 200 and 300 items including a new car and truck, trips, electronics, gift certificates and more.

Each year we got a few more employees and family members ... it just kept growing and growing.

> Rick Minard, **Palouse Cares** founder

"It's a blue jeans and t-shirt auction, you don't have to wear a suit and tie and can spend as much as you want," Minard said.

Palouse Cares donated to the Moscow Food Bank since it began, and food bank director Linda Nichols said the impact has been tremendous.

"It's the biggest (food drive in the area) so the impact is really great because it helps us get supplies to help us for the next few months," Nichols said. "It's helpful because of the variety of things that we get and it keeps us from having to buy."

Minard said food insecurity is one of the major but often overlooked issues facing the Palouse. He said the winter is usually when expenses tend to increase for most families.

"Help people that need a little help," Minard said. "If they can't realize that the poverty is so strong and prevalent in Latah and Whitman County they live in a bubble. Hunger is here and hunger is in our community to help the people that need help.

Minard said he encourages anyone to show up Saturday to volunteer and pre-registration isn't necessary. Palouse Cares will provide maps and collection bags to teams of volunteers, and the event shouldn't last more than a few hours. Minard said donating time is a great way for people who can't necessarily donate items to give back to the community.

"There's a lot of people that don't have money to donate," Minard said. "Our charity allows you to donate your time and time is so precious."

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#### **AMNESTY**

FROM PAGE 1

Though minors can go straight to the hospital and the police won't be called, Lehmitz said police generally respond to medical emergencies faster than fire crews or emergency medical services, both of which are volunteer efforts in Moscow.

"The legal ramifications ultimately depend on whether or not the officer decides to issue an additional citation," Lehmitz said. "The decision of the prosecutor is also something that a minor, either with or without representation, can enter into a conversation with."

Lehmitz said MPD is still more than willing to open dialogue with ASUI in taking measures to educate students about safety and possible legal situations. The Drinking with Cops program is currently presented to all on-campus living groups, and Lehmitz said MPD is working with the UI Testing and Counseling Center on improving the program.

Following Lehmitz's presentation to

We need to encourage people to do the right thing, but we need deliberate action to change the culture of drinking.

Alysha Van Zante, ASUI director of communications

ASUI, several senators voiced remaining concerns about potential reasons that could deter minors from calling for help. ASUI Director of Communications Alysha Van Zante said ASUI was interested in pursuing ways in which MPD and ASUI can work together.

"We have to change the way we operate and educate," Van Zante said. "We need to encourage people to do the right thing, but we need deliberate action to change the culture of drinking."

Several senators voiced ideas and concerns in a session after the meeting with Lehmitz, but ASUI has not officially decided what actions to take following MPD's refusal to adopt an amnesty policy. Whether it will remain a local issue or be taken to the State Legislature remains in question. Currently, 21 states have adopted varying amnesty policies, according to The Medical Amnesty Initiative, and ASUI could potentially address this as a state-wide issue rather than limiting it to Moscow and UI.

ASUI Senator Mike Ryan said his main concern, which was shared by several other senators, was the safety of the students at UI.

'This is a real problem,' Ryan said. "It's something that needs to be addressed and those kids should be protected."

Concerning protection of students, Lehmitz said he is a proponent of positively influencing students to make smart decisions and be responsible.

"I would say having that conversation with students is powerful," he said. "Encouraging students to do the right thing can go a long way."

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PAGE 6 **DECEMBER 5, 2014** 

# WASH STATE

MEN'S BASKETBALL



Brandon Miller | Argonaut

Nahshon George (left) attempts a jump shot while and Connor Hill (right) gets ready to get back on defense during Idaho's win over WSU Wednesday at the Beasley Coliseum. The Vandals play UC Davis this Saturday in the Cowan Spectrum.

## **BORDER BATTLE VICTORY**

Idaho coach Don Verlin earns 100th win in Battle of the Palouse

**Korbin McDonald** Argonaut

In the final seconds of the game, the few Vandal fans in attendance sang "hey, hey, hey, goodbye" to the Washington State fans who made an early exit as Idaho coach Don Verlin and his

Vandals celebrated their 77-71 ttle of the Palouse victory. With the win, Idaho put an

end to its three-game losing streak and improved to 3-3, but it meant more than that. Verlin, in his seventh season as Idaho's head coach, earned his 100th career-victory against a rival team he's never beat.

"To come over here, the first time in 25 years Idaho's won over here, that's a pretty big win for us, no question about it," Verlin said of the victory.

Not only did the win end Verlin's six-game winless streak against the Cougars, but it snapped an 11-game skid in the boarder rivalry, which started five years before Verlin arrived at Idaho.

"It was a good win and we gotta feel good about it now," Verlin said. "But tomorrow, we got to get back to work."

The Vandals hope to carry the momentum into their next game against UC Davis, which is at 2 p.m. Saturday and is the first game inside the Cowan Spectrum.

Idaho wanted it more right from the start. After he missed his first 3-pointer, senior shooting guard Connor Hill converted his second attempt, and helped lead the Vandals on a 14-2 run to open the game.

To Hill's advantage, the Cougars started the game in a zone defense. Hill said it felt like every shot was going to go in for him.

SEE **IDAHO**, PAGE 8

## No longer a border rivalry

Border Battle should bring excitement to Idaho athletics, falls flat instead



The Idaho men's basketball team defeated the Washington State Cougars 77-71 Wednesday night for the first time since 2002. It was also the team's first win in Coug

territory since 1989.

The two teams have played each other for 109 consecutive seasons. It's the sixth longest rivalry in the nation, behind only Ivy League schools, and it's the longest rivalry in the Western United States.

To top it off, the Palouse is a rarity — it's the only place in the country where two Division I universities sit just eight miles apart. While the differences in the two schools may be abundant, they have more in common than most based simply on location.

With a rivalry that dates back to 1906, one might expect to see annual Border Battle excitement — full arenas with fans from both sides bearing school colors, pride and enthusiasm for a bit of healthy competition.

Instead, both teams were met Wednesday with a near-empty Beasley Coliseum containing fewer than a handful of students from either side and a sprinkling of Cougar alumni. The atmosphere gave the impression of a friendly practice matchup rather than a 278-game-long rivalry.

The lack of attendance on the Cougar side was a bit surprising, considering the effort put in by the so-called "Zzu Cru" and WSU student body to "Invade Idaho" in 2011 and 2013. But with long-standing rivalries in the Pac-12 Conference as well, and what's expected to be a less-than thrilling season for the Cougs, it was understandable. Disappointing, but understandable.

Idaho, on the other hand, lacks any semblance of a conference rivalry as it heads back into the Big Sky for the first time since 1996, and nonconference, in-state "rival" Boise State refuses to make a trip up to Moscow for any sort of athletic competition. The Border Battle is Idaho's one opportunity to get fans — particularly students — truly excited about tradition and competition, and every year they fail to do so.

SEE **BORDER**, PAGE 8

CLUB SPORTS

# Battle of the Palouse gets frozen Idaho club hockey preparing for Palouse rival Cougs

**Joshua Gamez** Argonaut

For many it is nothing more than one of the many buildings on the Latah County Fairgrounds, but for the Idaho men's hockey club the Palouse Ice Rink is where they call home.

It is also home to the latest installment of the Battle of the Palouse as Washington State heads across the border Saturday for a rare home game for the Vandals in Moscow.

"When we are home in front of the home crowd and this place is singing the Idaho fight song after every goal ... That is cool," Idaho coach Chris Storhok said. "They look forward to it, hopefully we can rack up a bunch of goals and we can hear 'Idaho, go go go' over and over."

The close proximity between the crowd and the playing field, much like Memorial Gym, can create a loud and intimate atmosphere the teams love, he said. Especially when the games are competitive.

Although the Vandals have played many home games over the last few years, most of the teams they play are uncomfortable playing in such a small venue so many of the home games are played in Spokane or Coeur d'Alene. The Palouse Ice Rink is three-fourths the size of a full ice sheet.

"Having our home crowd here will be sweet," third-year graduate student and defender Danny Gariepy said. "It's always tough playing on such a small rink, it turns the game into a totally different game."

The low-key venue hidden in the middle of the Latah County Fairgrounds is a fun environment to play in, but it adds a different element to the game, Storhork said. Both the Vandals and Cougars enjoy the atmosphere the Vandals' home ice provides, he said.

Playing in Moscow gives Idaho another advantage besides home ice as Storhork will also have his entire roster of 18 players available. When the team travels they cannot bring them all with him. This gives the team more flexibility and the ability to keep the players fresh.

Storhork said that may prove to be key as WSU is a much more complete team this year as



Nathan Romans | Argonaut

Forward Ian Nicoll looks to pass as he moves down the ice during Wednesday's practice at the Palouse Ice Rink. The Idaho men's hockey club will play Washington State at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Palouse Ice Rink in Moscow.

SEE BATTLE, PAGE 8

BASKETBALL

# Beavers too strong

No. 17 OSU beats Idaho by double digits

#### **Garrett Cabeza**

The Idaho athletic program was seeking its second Pac-12 road win in two days when the women's basketball team faced No. 17 Oregon State Thursday. The Idaho men's basketball team beat Washington State Wednesday night in Pullman, but the Idaho women fell short Thursday as the Beavers continued their undefeated season, winning 75-53 in Corvallis.

Idaho coach Jon Newlee told his team he was proud of the way it came out and played. He said Idaho had "no fear" and was in "attack mode."

"It's an experienced group playing these type of teams, so I was really happy with the fact that we came out and really were attacking," Newlee said.

The Vandals kept the score close in the first half, but Oregon State (6-0) pulled away in the second half.

After three straight games on the road and five of its first six games away from Moscow, the Vandals (3-3) will return home to play Multnomah 2 p.m. Sunday in the Cowan Spectrum. It will be the women's first game at the Spectrum this season.

On Thursday, the Beavers led a balanced offensive attack as four players finished the game in double figures for points. Sydney Wiese had 16 points, Jamie Weisner 15, Ruth Hamblin had 14 and Deven Hunter had 11. Hamblin, a 6-foot-6 junior center, used her size to grab 12 rebounds and block six shots.

Newlee said he thought Hamblin hurt the Vandals on the defensive end with her shot blocking.

"She blocked Ali," Newlee said. "Ali's not used to getting her shot blocked like that. Some of our other kids took the ball hard and she rejected those shots. I thought she was a huge presence today."

Newlee said he was happy with his team's defensive play overall, except for the transition defense.

"When they made their run in the second half, it was transition defense and not sprinting back and we were messing around with the rebounders, which is not part of the game plan," Newlee said. "Our kids were getting a little frustrated from the offensive standpoint."

Senior guard Stacey Barr led the Vandals with 21 points and junior guard Christina Salvatore added 12 points for Idaho and led the team with eight rebounds.

Idaho shot 28.6 percent from the field compared to 45.5 percent for Oregon State. The Beavers also found open teammates who were ready to shoot as they finished with 22 assists.

Oregon State gained the momentum early as it jumped out to a 19-5 lead, but the Vandals stormed back cutting the Beaver lead to six points, 31-25, toward the end of the half. Oregon State led 35-25 at halftime.

Idaho stayed with the Beavers in the second half, trailing 51-39, but Oregon



File Photo by Jose Benedeck | Argonaut Sophomore guard Karlee Wilson attempts a shot during practice Nov. 11 at Memorial Gym. The Vandals fell 75-73 to Oregon State Wednesday in Corvallis.

State opened up a 13-0 scoring run to extend the lead to 64-39.

Idaho played without sophomore post Brooke Reilly, who is averaging 7.6 points per game and 6.4 rebounds per game in her first five games of the season. She scored 29 points combined in the last two games.

(Reilly's absence) hurt us offensively because she is our third scorer and right now we've got to get better

production out of some of the other guys, at the other spots besides Christina and Stacey," Newlee said. "We win games and we won championships because we're balanced scorers and we have five people out on the floor who can score at any one time and that's not happening right now."

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#### @Idaho\_Vandals

VANDALS WIN! Idaho defeats WSU 77-71. Connor Hill was clutch throughout the game for UI adding five 3s. Scott and Hill with 19 #GoVandals

-Vandal Athletics relaying the Vandals' big win over long-time border rival WSU.



#### @CoachDPittman

Congrats to Coach Verlin on Win #100 and to @Vandal-Hoops on the big win over the Cougars! #govandals

-Vandal soccer coach Derek Pittman congratulating Vandal Men's Basketball and fellow coach Don Verlin on his 100th win with the team.



#### @jordan\_era1

Excited to announce that I officially committed to the University of Idaho!

-Jordan Barge, an offensive tackle from Los Angeles Valley College, announced his commitment to the Idaho football program Dec. 1.

#### @IdahoTickets



Follow up the Battle of the Palouse win & watch the men's team on Saturday, women's team on Sunday. Both 2 pm, in Cowan Spectrum #GoVandals

-The Vandal Ticket Office encouraging fans to help the Vandals keep the momentum they gained in Wednesday night's win over

#### FOOTBALL

## Improvements made despite record

Idaho had chances to win games this season

#### **Korbin McDonald** Argonaut

Last season, Idaho lost by an average of 30.6 points per game. This season, the team's average loss was 14.7 points per game. While this year's schedule wasn't the gauntlet of last year's, Idaho coach Paul Petrino said his team made large strides in 2014.

"Last year we kinda got killed by everybody," he said. "This year we got it to where we competed against everybody. We were in every game in the second half, and now next year we need to take that next step where we beat people. I think we can play with anybody in this league and next year we just need to take that next step."

The Vandals finished the season 1-10, which made it the third-straight season the team finished with one win. Idaho Athletic Director Rob Spear said from a win-loss standpoint, it was a disappointing season. He said the toughest part was watching the team make costly and critical mistakes late in the game.

While Spear said he never wants to put a benchmark for wins he expects the team to get each season, he thought the team would have finished with four or five wins this season.

We had opportunities to do that. We just didn't finish games and we need to learn how to finish games," he said. "We can't dwell on and feel good about just making progress. The expectation is that we need to win. Let's not have 'oh we got close' — we need to take it to the next step."

Spear added that progress from last year to this year has been significant — everywhere but the win-loss column.

After the season finale 45-28 loss to Appalachian State, Petrino wasted no time stating what his plans were for next month — recruiting.

"We'll get right into recruiting tomorrow," Petrino said after the game. "We got to do a great job. These next two weekends will be big for us."

The hard work from Petrino and his staff has produced two commitments in the first week December. According to 247Sports, junior college offensive linemen Jordan Barge and Devin Wiltz are the first commits to Petrino's 2015 recruiting class.

Barge, who made the announcement on Twitter, makes his way to Idaho from Los

When you start off a year and your players know that they can't go to a bowl game, that's not very fun.

#### Rob Spear, athletic director

Angeles Valley College. The 6-foot-4, 330-pound tackle picked Idaho over reported offers from Louisiana-Lafayette, Georgia State and Temple.

Wiltz played for Dean College in Franklin, Massachusetts. Don Verlin, Idaho's men's basketball coach, might want to keep tabs on Wiltz, as he stands at 6-foot-7 and 310 pounds.

Spear said it's important for Idaho to find success recruiting this offseason and he expects them to. He said prospective players should be intrigued with the success Idaho had on offense this season.

A prime example of that success is senior Josh McCain. The 6-foot-2, 177-pound wide receiver converted to the position after playing quarterback his whole life. He finished with 76 receptions for 1,162 yards and nine touchdowns. He led all Sun Belt receivers in yards and touchdowns.

McCain, from DeAnza College junior college transfer who excelled in his short two-year stint at Idaho.

Spear said Idaho is going to have to sign a few junior college players. He said Idaho should entice players, because of the opportunity to come in and play right away.

"When junior college kids are looking at schools now, they can't make a mistake. They need to go where they can play, and more importantly, they need to go where they can make a difference," he said. "I think it's important for us to get as many midyear JC kids as we can, and not wait until summer, because this year we had some academic casualties — kids that we were counting on to play for us."

While the coaches are out on the recruiting trail, the Vandal players are not only preparing for upcoming finals, but next season

Petrino said players will be in the weight room for the two weeks before finals and then comeback in January to start their offseason conditioning and winter workout program.

"We just got to go back to work," he said. "We just need to remember how people acted after games and be excited when they come to our place and play them then."

Next season, Spear said wants in Cupertino, California, was a to change the time Idaho plays its home games. He said playing home games later in the day could give the Vandals a competitive advantage playing the southern dominant Sun Belt teams.

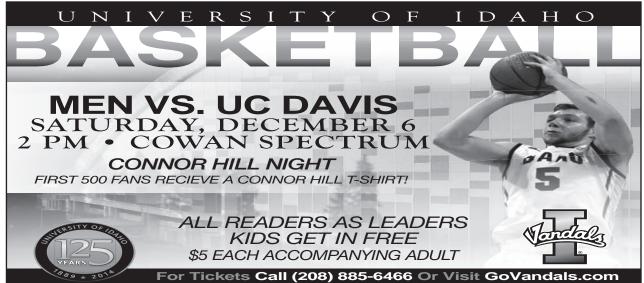
"Have a 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. kickoff, and they're (visiting Sun Belt teams) kicking off at 9 or 10 their time," he said. "Then get into the second half and their circadian rhythm is at one or two in the morning."

Also in Idaho's advantage is the NCAA bowl ban will be lifted next year and the Vandals will get back four hours of practice time each week.

"When you start off a year and your players know that they can't go to a bowl game, that's not very fun," Spear said. "I would just tell you that we have six home games next year, and I expect us to be successful in those six home games. It's the first time we've had six home games in a while, and I think it's going to be huge for our kids."

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VOLLEYBALL

# Strong season, tough finish

Idaho volleyball ends season with losing streak despite strong Big Sky play

**Garrett Cabeza** 

It wasn't the ending the Idaho volleyball team was looking for when it lost to Northern Arizona in the first round of the Big Sky Tournament Nov. 20 in Pocatello, Idaho. The Vandals qualified for the tournament as the No. 4 seed.

Idaho stumbled at the end of the season losing its last three matches including the tournament loss to Northern Arizona. However, the losses came against tough Big Sky Conference teams, including North Dakota, Northern Colorado and Northern Arizona.

In addition to the tough schedule toward the end of the season, the Vandals played without first-team all-conference setter Meredith Coba against Northern Colorado and Northern Arizona. Coba, a junior, sustained a season-ending knee injury against North Dakota Nov. 13.

'There's a lot of trust that goes on with volleyball and you have to build that, and I think they felt really comfortable with Meredith obviously, since she started as a setter the whole year," Idaho coach Debbie Buchanan said. "So I think that changed the dynamics of our team. It's not in a bad way. It's just that we didn't have enough time to really have enough reps I think with the change."

Buchanan said she doesn't know when Coba will be able to play again.

Idaho finished the season 15-14 overall and 11-6 in Big Sky play, including the tournament loss.

The Vandals began the season 4-8 before starting conference play. Buchanan said the tough nonconference schedule helped prepare Idaho for Big Sky Conference play. It was Idaho's first season in the Big Sky since 1995.

Idaho faced No. 10 Florida in Gainesville, Florida, and No. 23 Loyola Marymount in



Nathan Romans | Argonaut

Senior middle blocker Stephanie Hagins prepares to spike through two Bengals opponents during Idaho's 3-0 loss to Idaho State University Oct. 25 in Memorial Gym. The Vandals finished the season 16-13 after losing in the first round of the Big Sky Tournament.

Pullman to conclude nonconference play. Idaho also played other formidable teams like Oklahoma and Long Beach State. All four teams made the NCAA Tournament.

Once the Vandals reached conference play, they got back on track. Before their final three matches of the season, Idaho was 11-3 against Big Sky competition. Eight out of those 11 wins came in 3-0 sweeps. At one point during its Big Sky stretch, Idaho won

"I think our team was playing at a level that was pretty impressive," Buchanan said. "That's why I think if we could have stayed healthy, I think we could have taken that on through."

The Vandals will lose four seniors as they enter the 2015 season, including firstteam all-conference middle blocker Alyssa Schultz and Big Sky's Newcomer of the Year Stephanie Hagins, also a middle blocker. Outside hitters Jessica Hastriter and Tineke Bierma were also seniors this season.

Idaho should still return plenty of key players in 2015. Defensive specialists Terra Varney and Jenna Ellis, second-team allconference outside hitter Ali Forde and outside hitter Katelyn Peterson are all eligible to return next year in addition to Coba.

'Our passing and ball control needs to keep getting better," Buchanan said. "Offensively, we are proving that we are doing some good things. We just have to be able to stay in some of those matches and those rallies longer, and I think that was the one difference in the matches that we did lose came down to defense and our passing. So that's one area that we really have to work on going into next year."

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#### IDAHO

FROM PAGE 6

"Yeah, my eyes get bright, wide-open," Hill said of when he sees the opposing team in a zone defense. "Anytime a team goes zone, it's great for shooters."

Hill and senior point guard Mike Scott tied for the team lead in points, with 19 each. Hill had five of Idaho's seven 3-pointers and added four rebounds, as well.

"Connor Hill and Mike Scott played great," Verlin said. "Connor hit some big shots, Mike did a good job finding him —

another great game by Mike, six assists, one turnover."

Throughout the game, Idaho put together big runs and increased its lead, but the Cougars managed to comeback with a couple runs of their own.

The Vandals held a 12-point lead on two separate occasions in the first half, but WSU closed the gap with a 17-8 run and trailed Idaho by one point at halftime.

"Basketball is a game of runs, it's just back and forth," Hill said. "The other team makes a run, you make a run, you hit a shot, they hit some shots. I feel like our defense was extremely good tonight and felt we played the game plan very well and we were able to get them to shoot some contested outside shots."

Verlin said his team played good defense against WSU, which allowed the Vandals to get out on fast breaks and score easy baskets. Also in Idaho's favor was the Cougars' poor shooting, especially from beyond the arc. WSU was 16.7 percent from 3-point range (5-30).

Washington State claimed its first lead early in the second half, and held it three minutes in. The Vandals, however, made a

20-11 run and led 52-42 with 13:05 left in the game. Idaho never trailed again.

We're still young and still growing," Verlin said. "This group, we have enough weapons to make a run in the Big Sky Conference. What we got to do is keep getting better ... Beating a Pac-12 team on the road, in their building, a rival team — it's a big win for Idaho and our program. But what our goal is, is win the Big Sky Championship.

> Korbin McDonald can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



#### Moscow

● PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR PG Daily (3:50) 6:10 8:40 Sat-Sun (11:20) (1:40) HORRIBLE BOSSES 2 ● THE HUNGER GAMES:
MOCKINGJAY PART 1
PG-13 Daily (4:10) 7:00 9:50 Sat-Sun (10:30) (1:20) BIG HERO 6 PG Daily (4:00) 6:40 9:10 Sat-Sun (11:00) (1:30) INTERSTELLAR PG-13 Daily (4:45) 8:30 Sat-Sun (1:00)

#### Pullman

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PG □3□ Daily 8:40 In 2D (4:00) 6:10 Sat-Sun (11:20) (1:50) ● HORRIBLE BOSSES 2

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#### BATTLE

opposed to last. Last year the Cougars struggled to field a complete team and had to borrow a goaltender from another club, he said. They also were able to plug a lot of the holes in their roster from a year ago so it should be a good challenge for Idaho, he said.

Saturday will be the first time the Vandals have taken the ice in a competitive capacity in more than a month, and with the flyers that have been plastered across campus and in the community, the team is expecting quite the turnout on Saturday.

"We haven't skated much or even practiced much in the last few weeks, but we started to get into a bit of a rhythm and we started getting back on track so we should be good," Gariepy said.

Despite the layoff, partially due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the team is anxious to get out and play again.

"Ît is always fun to get out on the ice and compete against somebody," sophomore defender Brandon Gorrill said. "I haven't played against them but I am excited."

> Joshua Gamez can be reached at arg-sprost@uidaho.edu

#### BORDER

FROM PAGE 6

It's no secret Idaho's money-making sports programs haven't put many Ws in the books in recent years, and when teams aren't winning games, it's hard for any athletic department to fill seats. But with two schools eight miles apart and a rivalry so long-standing, it should be a little easier for at least one game each season.

For a university that places so much pride in tradition — a reason many students are drawn to the school - Idaho fails to recognize when it could fully exploit rituals dating back to the early 1900s. It's not difficult to take initiative and build excitement around a single game, especially one with so much history.

But few students even knew the game was taking place Wednesday, and of those that did, even fewer

had any inclination to attend. It's as simple as a weeklong campaign with a slogan — "Crush the Cougs" or

something equally cheesy a few hundred t-shirts, basic social media outreach and several buses to transport interested members of the general student body eight whole miles. This year, the Idaho band and Spirit Squad didn't even make the trek.

Idaho has built a new tradition and it doesn't include marketing to students, maybe because their tickets are sold whether they attend the games or not, or maybe the department has developed the misguided idea that students will come anyway.

Students bring the competitive atmosphere of spirit and pride, their presence makes a noticeable difference in the athletes' demeanor and, at the end of the day, athletics exist for and because of the student

body as a whole — not just for alumni and donors.

This weekend, the Idaho club hockey team will take on WSU in another Battle

of the Palouse. The stakes aren't the same as varsity sports, but the implications are still there — bragging rights, another Idaho victory and the chance to contribute to the healthy competitive spirit that should exist between these two schools. With what little advertising and social media outreach the club team has done, there's sure to be more than a handful of Vandals bundled up to watch the game.

Maybe it'll spark the return of a rivalry, or maybe it'll continue to falter as Idaho continues to ignore the traditions that make it unique.

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

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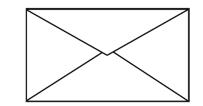
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**DECEMBER 5, 2014** PAGE 9

# OPINION



Write us a 300-word letter to the editor.

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**OUR VIEW** 

# Care for the Palouse

Donations of goods, time go a long way on the Palouse

The holiday season brings with it much more than peppermint mochas at Starbucks. The world becomes white as snow blankets the Palouse, the radio blasts Christmas music and the TV is filled to the brim with holiday specials reminding us that the true spirit of the season is giving and not receiving.

Many people take this positive message of giving and run with it. Most nonprofits receive the majority of their donations during the holiday season, making now a critical time for charities everywhere.

The avalanche of charitable spirit is off to a good start this year. For 2014, Giving Tuesday — the day after Cyber Monday

dedicated to donating to charities — raised an estimated \$26.1 million for good causes.

Opportunities to give back to the community are not over, however. The Moscow and University of Idaho communities should seize the holiday season as an opportunity to make positive changes for a city that has given us so much.

One chance to help a local charity this Saturday is the ninth annual Palouse Cares Food Drive. Palouse Cares is a doorto-door food drive throughout 12 communities that benefits food banks on the Palouse. The food drive is especially critical for our community since Whitman and Latah County are two of the most food insecure counties in Washington and Idaho. Though often ignored, many people in the community go hungry every day — an issue that only escalates in the winter when expenses rise

for many families.

If time prohibits anyone from directly volunteering to go door to door with Palouse Cares, at least have a can of food or other items ready for volunteers who will probably be stopping by on Saturday. Many people do not realize the food bank deals in more than just food and accepts donations of toilet paper, shampoo and conditioner to benefit those in need. Consider donating necessities many people take for granted when volunteers come knocking.

UI takes pride in community involvement, and many Vandals participate in the annual food drive. The Idaho Athletic Department, in particular, has made an extended effort to support Palouse Cares since the food drive began. All Vandal teams participate in some way with Palouse Cares, which assists the community and helps positively

The Moscow and University of Idaho communities should seize the holiday season as an opportunity to make positive changes for a city that has given us so much.

connect UI to the Palouse.

Use the holidays as an excuse to give, but do not forget Palouse Cares and other charitable causes when the season of giving has wrapped up. Charities need time, money and donations throughout the year and this need does not disappear with the drop of the Times Square Ball.

-AE

### OFF THE CUFF

QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM OUR EDITORS

#### Megan, you're the real **MVP**

My good friend from WSU told me she reads the Argonaut. Pretty cool to know we have some readers on that campus. The Daily Evergreen better watch out!

#### **Eric Garner**

It's difficult to say whether the grand jury's decision was right or wrong. I just wish people would take a step back and look at these cases as objectively as possible before taking sides. Wishful thinking on my part perhaps, but we are all too quick to judge situations like these.

\_Andrew

#### **Final projects**

They inspire you to calculate how much of a hit your GPA can

-Danielle

#### Walking in a winter wonderland

Something should probably be done about the ice rink that is the UI campus right now. Seriously, this is getting out of hand. -Erin

#### **Poetry**

My mom decided to take up writing poetry and wrote a poem about Santa bringing UI students home for Christmas. It was pretty fantastic.

-Katelyn

#### **Good luck**

To everyone I know taking the LSAT Saturday, kill it.

-Amber

#### **Up in flames**

My MacBook charger was literally (in the literal sense of the word ... thanks, Webster) minutes from bursting into flames Thursday. That's a news story I never want to cover: Argonaut editor accidentally burns down Idaho Commons with faulty computer charger."

-Kaitlyn

#### **Vandals win**

Idaho wins the men's basketball Battle of the Palouse over WSU. Probably the biggest Idaho sports accomplishment this semester, but I'm hoping for many more next semester.

-Stephan

#### Crazy!

The end of the school year is so close that I am completely disoriented. Papers, tests, editing, ugly sweater parties, it's insane!

-Claire

#### **Alvin Lucier**

"I am sitting in a room different from the one you are in now. I am recording the sound of my speaking voice and I am going to play it back into the room again and again until the resonant frequencies of the room reinforce themselves so that any semblance of my speech, with perhaps the exception of rhythm, is destroyed."

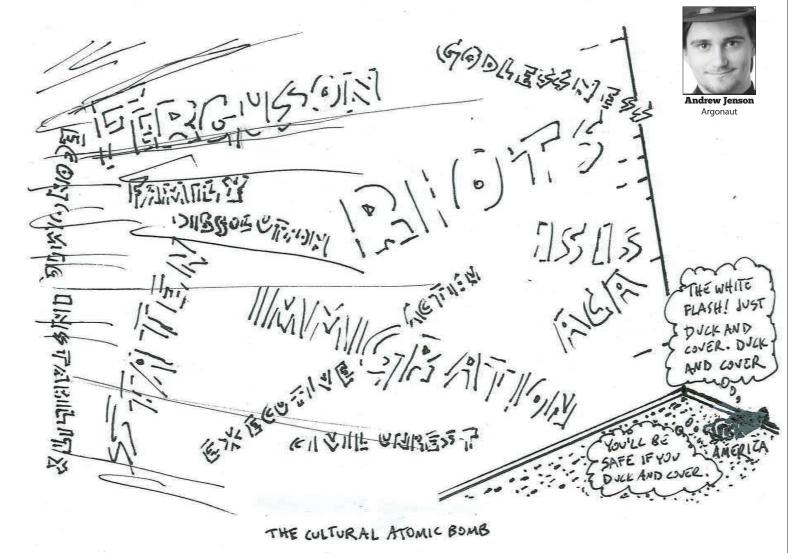
-Ryan

#### It's the little things Today, I treat myself to the

second cheapest cheese in Winco. Tomorrow, I conquer the world.

#### **Dreaming of the future**

I look forward to catching up on my reading over the holiday break.



## Racism is on the rise Recent cases reveal the prevalence of racism

On Aug. 9, in Ferguson, Missouri, Darren Wilson, a Caucasian police officer, shot and killed 18-year-old Michael Brown, an African American man, after a physical dispute. There is also the case of Eric Garner, an unarmed black man who was choked to death by a white police officer. The Garner case has caught the attention of many and even spurred protests throughout New York

City. Both the Brown and Garner cases have blown up around the country and everyone seems to have different opinions on what occurred that day.

When it comes to choosing which story to believe, there are those who bring up evidence and what it points to. Others say there isn't enough evidence to say much of anything. Some people chose to believe that fault for the Ferguson case lies strictly with Brown or Wilson. There are also people who don't quite know what's going on and choose to not have anything to do with conversations about these cases.

One side of this situation that people haven't paid as much attention to is how racism has become more prevalent.

Honestly, racism never went away to begin with. Many people claim America isn't as racist because Barack Obama, our first black president, sits in office. However, nothing has fully

changed. Racism has simply put on a different face over the years.

Everyone has read the history books that contain pictures of local stores and public bathrooms that say "White Only" or "Colored Only". Luckily, the thought of putting such a sign above any door is

ludicrous in modern times. Our country no longer completely accepts the concept of segregation with paper signs and poster boards. We have other tools to help with that.

Since the Ferguson case, the Garner case and the case of Trayvon Martin, a 17-year-old African American male who was shot and killed by a Hispanic neighbor-



Our country no longer completely accepts the concept of segregation with paper signs and poster boards. We have other tools to help with that.

Jessy Forsmo-Shadid

hood watchman, more remarks about race have come to light.

All of these tragic cases in the news have made our country think more about race. People are still afraid to directly own up to their own personal racism, though. Instead, people tend to use social media as a tool to let out their inner, subconscious racism.

Social media tools such as Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr are some of the sites people use to vent about how disgusting a certain race is. Fade and Yik Yak, apps geared specifically toward college students, have also had some racist subjects posted.

This serves to remind the public that yes, indeed there are racists among us.

The things people decide to say behind their keyboards and cell phones are astounding. Some of the posts on these sites and apps have compared African Americans to animals. For example, there has been a picture of a Caucasian hand shaking a gorilla's hand with a caption saying, "Stop Racism" posted on Fade.

Yik Yak users have also posted racist comments. Some comments vary from calling someone a "mudshark" to going completely old school on their racism and stating how much all black people love fried chicken.

Our country is having a hard time. Many racially charged situations have happened recently in which people have lost their lives. Instead of pointing out each other's pigmentation, how about we start to think of a solution where we see each other as people and not just as our skin color.

Jessy Forsmo-Shadid can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

## **Replace Redskins**

Washington Redskins need an immediate name change

Recently, the University of Idaho Native American Student Center hosted a panel discussion on the discrimination and derogatory images used in media of Native Americans. Among the topics discussed, the controversial team name of the Washington Redskins was brought up. Many Native American students voiced their opinions on this issue at the open forum. Each person ranged in their reasons, but they all **Emily Lowe** agreed the team's name is

an offensive term.

To start understanding why this is an issue, one must understand where the term comes from. The origins of the word are hotly contested by academics, but use in the 19th century is what most people take issue with. During the 19th century, redskins was a term used to describe the head or scalp of a Native American who was hunted by U.S. citizens for a bounty. Hunters would return the scalped heads of Native Americans to their state governments for their bounty.

No one should want to proudly sport a jersey with that degrading term as support for a NFL football team.

It is possible to actually pay homage to Native Americans with a team name. Take a look at the Chicago Blackhawks hockey team. The team is named after Black Hawk, the Sauk Indian chief who sided with the British in the War of 1812, yet there is not as much controversy over this.

That would be because the team name is not insulting Native Americans, they are using an actual Native American's name instead of a racial slur and chose a dignified logo to represent the team. That isn't to say that Redskins fans and players are trying to deliberately insult Native

Americans, but rallying around a team with a racially insensitive name begs to differ.

Redskins fans don't even seem to respect Native American culture. Countless people can be seen at games wearing headdresses, as a way to cheer on the team. This action belittles Native American culture and is a show of cultural insensitivity. The headdress holds deep cultural significance for many Native American tribes, and is often

seen as a sign of honor. In general, in order to receive the honor of wearing a headdress in a tribe, the person must be seen as the most brave and powerful of the group.

People claim that it shouldn't matter what a team is called and that America is becoming

too politically correct anyway. Yet once one understands what the term redskins actually represents, it should be simple to see why it is time to change the name. It's amazing a national football team still manages to make millions of dollars off of an archaic racial slur.

Seeing the term is becoming a problem, many online and printed newspapers have begun refusing to use the term in their publications. Eric Schlakman, an Apple employee, created a browser extension for Chrome, Firefox and Safari called Redskins Web Skin, which changes Washington Redskins to what he calls "a more dignified term." Potential more dignified terms to be inserted by the extension include the Washington Athletes or Thanksgiving Originators. With so many newspapers on and off line refusing to use the term, it's time more Americans get on board.

Granted, the Redskins have proudly had their name since 1932. However, times are changing and if America is to become the open and accepting country it longs to be, we cannot belittle any culture that lives here.

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

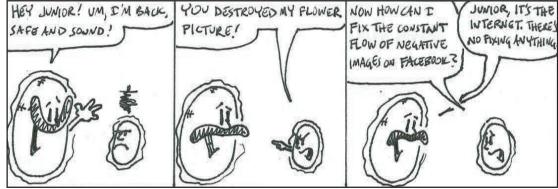


#### **College Roommates**



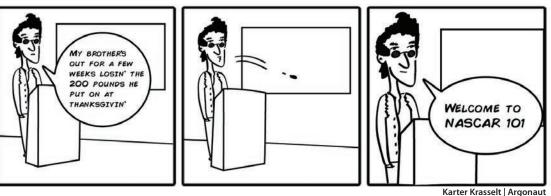
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