

THE ARGONAUT

THE VANDAL VOICE SINCE 1898

uiargonaut.com

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

IDAHO

Weighing the options

Percentage of medical costs paid by health plan



Usually requires individual to cover cost up to certain amount, usually several thousand dollars.

Percentage of medical costs paid by individual



Catastrophic

Information courtesy of Your Health Idaho.

To build a SHIP

SHIP evolves alongside state and federal regulations, ACA

George Wood Jr.
Argonaut

Even before the Affordable Care Act was upheld in the U.S. Supreme Court in 2012, the University of Idaho Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) was already evolving to meet anticipated ACA standards in a way SHIP Manager Lori Krasselt said is not too financially jarring for students.

"We started making adjustments to SHIP when it became apparent that the ACA would become finalized and approved," she said. "We ... added benefits and increased premiums slightly over a number of years, rather than waiting till it was approved and making major changes and increases."

SHIP was launched in 2001, Krasselt said, after the State Board of Education enacted a requirement for all students enrolled in Idaho universities to be covered under a health insurance plan. Prior to this requirement, UI worked with local insurance agents to offer students health insurance resources.

The early versions of SHIP changed over the years, and it now has the methods to make sure students are covered. Krasselt said several years ago, only a randomized group of students with health insurance were audited, but now, every student's policy is inspected by an outside agency to check for consistency with UI requirements.

Krasselt said SHIP has been in line with ACA requirements

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Cashing in on coverage

Vandals looking to jump SHIP review insurance options

George Wood Jr.
Argonaut

Browsing for health insurance may not be the first activity University of Idaho students want to do over winter break, but with open enrollment for the Idaho health insurance exchange ending Feb. 15, this was exactly what junior Samira Obeid set out to accomplish during Thanksgiving break.

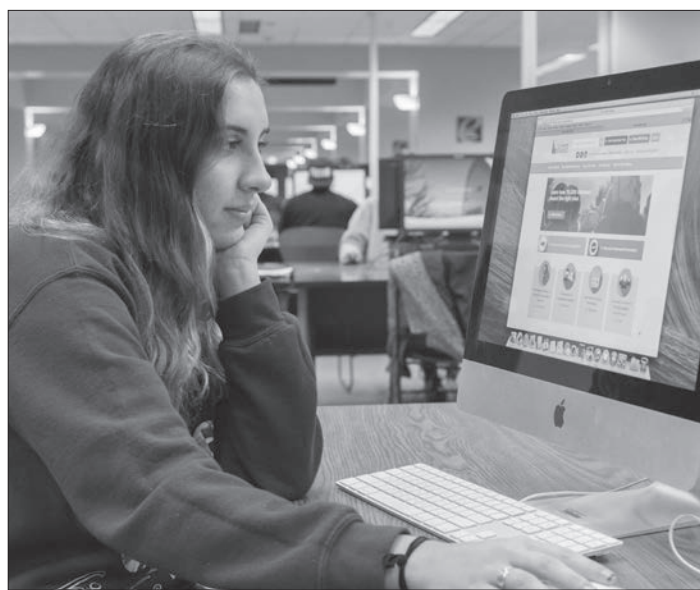
"I'm a college student paying for everything myself, so I decided to see what was out there," Obeid said. "It's required to have to go to school, so it's probably something you should check into to make a decision."

Currently, Obeid is enrolled

in the UI Student Health Insurance Program (SHIP). SHIP costs students \$979 per semester and covers students year-round, according to SHIP Manager Lori Krasselt, who estimated between 22-25 percent of the student body is enrolled in the plan.

Krasselt said many other students are covered under their parents' insurance plans. Due to provisions of the Affordable Care Act, which became law in 2010, students covered by their parent's health insurance remain eligible for coverage until they are 26 years old.

The ACA gives people the option to browse the federal health insurance exchange or their home state's website. Krasselt said while she has not personally checked out the insurance exchange websites, she's heard from



George Wood Jr. | Argonaut

UI junior Samira Obeid reviews her health insurance options on the Your Health Idaho exchange website Monday. Obeid pays for college on her own and decided to scout out alternatives to SHIP to save money and find acceptable insurance coverage.

SEE COVERAGE, PAGE 5

News brief

Moscow High bomb threat

The Moscow Police Department is investigating a bomb threat received Monday morning at Moscow High School. The Moscow School District canceled classes at the school for the remainder of the day.

Police cleared the high school in the afternoon after officers searched the building and determined the threat was unfounded.

Police said there are no suspects at this time and are asking members of the Moscow community to call (208) 882-2677 with any information they may have regarding the incident.

Students are expected to return to school as normal Tuesday morning.

COMMUNITY

A market with meaning

Redefining gift giving, local charities

Corrin Bond
Argonaut

The holiday season is known as a time of giving, which, as Dianne Daley Laursen points out, can be particularly stressful on a college budget.

Daley Laursen, co-founder of the Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse, paired up with Renee Hill in 2009 to provide Moscow residents with what she said was a meaningful affordable alternative to gift giving that shows appreciation for loved ones during the holiday season while also supporting local nonprofits.

"The clincher when we first started was to give meaningful gifts from the heart," Daley Laursen said. "It's a way to support nonprofits in the Palouse and it is a way to give family and friends something more than just another pair of socks or a scarf during the holidays."

The Alternative Giving Market is open throughout the year, but Dec. 13 the market closes for the

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Jett Jones | Argonaut

Jeanne McHale from Friends of the Clearwater sits at their booth at the Alternative Giving Market event Dec. 3. The Market will have a booth at the Palouse Empire Mall Saturday, which is the last day to donate for the holidays.

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CRUMBS

Cinnamon apple rings

Jordan Hollingshead
Rawr

They say an apple a day will keep the doctor away, but I don't think those people were talking about these apples. This recipe is for a tasty trip to the dentist.

Ingredients:

- 4 large apples
- 1 cup flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 egg
- 1 cup buttermilk
- Vegetable oil

Topping:

- 1/3 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon

Directions:

1. In a large bowl, mix flour, baking soda, sugar, salt and cinnamon and set aside.
2. In a small bowl, combine the egg and buttermilk.

3. In another small bowl, mix together the topping ingredients
4. Slice apples into 1/4 inch slices, and either use a circle cookie cutter or a knife to cut the middle core out.
5. Pat the apple slices down with paper towels to get rid of excess moisture.
6. Heat the vegetable oil in a frying pan on medium heat to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
7. Combined the mixtures from the first and second bowls while the vegetable oil is heating.
8. Dip the apple slices into the combined mixture one at a time and put them in the hot oil to fry.
9. Turn the slice over occasionally and make sure each side of the apple slice is a nice golden color.
10. Take out the apple slice and while still hot place it in the toppings mixture and get both sides of the apple slice covered.
11. Set on a plate and serve warm.

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Jordan Hollingshead | Crumbs

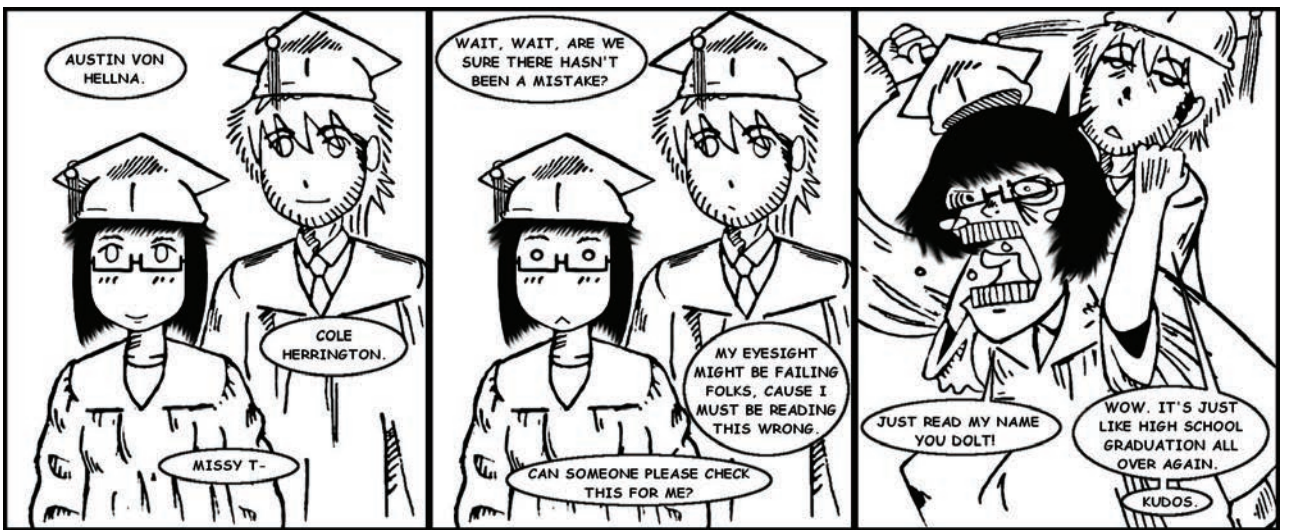
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High Five



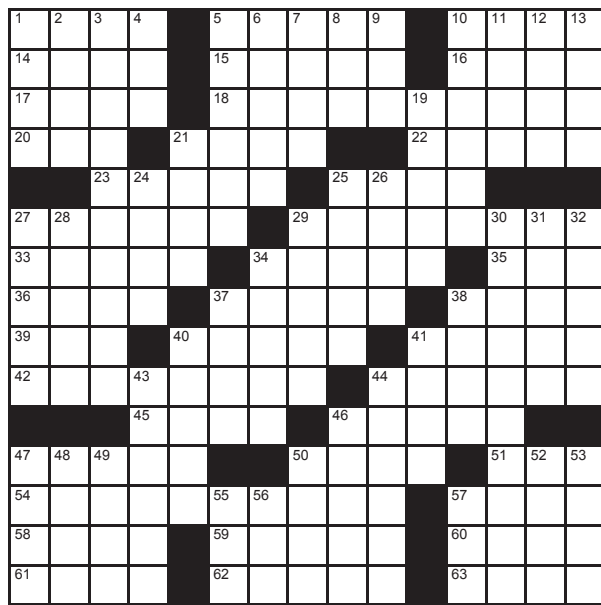
Shane Wellner | Argonaut

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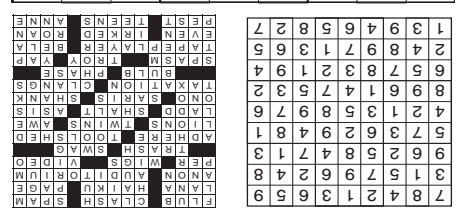
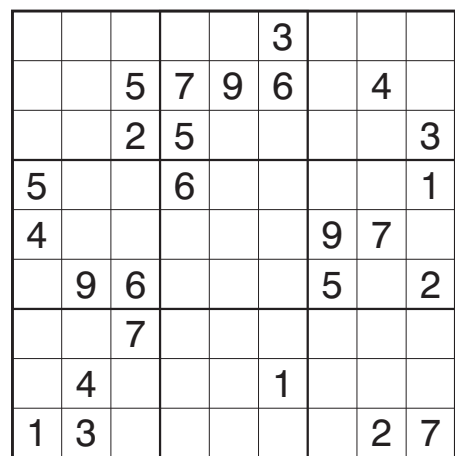
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SUDOKU



EPIC GEAR FOR THE HOLIDAYS

THE FINE PRINT

Corrections

Find a mistake? Send an email to the 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.

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

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TOBACCO

More staff voices

Staff Affairs chair favors additional staff input on proposed tobacco ban

Erin Bamer
Argonaut

Staff Affairs Chair Ali Bretthauer said she has received a variety of opinions from University of Idaho staff about the proposed tobacco ban since the policy was introduced for discussion last year.

"Some staff are in favor of the policy and have communicated with me that they support it," she said. "And the former chair and I received emails from three different people who were not in favor of it."

Bretthauer is a member of the Tobacco Task Force and said Staff Affairs has already endorsed the proposed policy. She said she is concerned, however, with how well individual staff members are being heard on the issue.

"One of the concerns of the Tobacco Task Force was understanding staff needs," she said. "But I don't think that, looking back on it now, I don't think that we do fully understand."

Bretthauer said the opinion of staff members on the issue is important because there are more staff than faculty at UI, and staff are usually on campus longer hours than both students and faculty members. She said Staff Affairs could be doing more although she has previously expressed her concern with staff members and invited them to participate in

ongoing tobacco discussions.

Staff Affairs has talked about the possibility of emailing a survey to all UI staff regarding the proposed tobacco ban, according to Bretthauer, but she said she is reluctant to do so due to historically low participation rates. The highest rate of completion is normally around 53 percent, she said. Despite the moderate participation, Bretthauer said she has also received a few responses.

"It's really hard to get a full understanding ... of how people really feel about an issue until they hear, 'Oh, all of a sudden there's going to be a change,'" she said.

Former Staff Affairs Chair Brian Mahoney said he personally worked with the Tobacco Task Force last year, when the conversation about a change to the smoking policy was its early stages. While on the task force, he said he was passionate about creating a smoke-free policy at UI instead of a full tobacco-free policy.

"When you start looking at tobacco, you're really looking at more of a total health issue," Mahoney said. "My feeling right now is that this campus just isn't prepared for tobacco-free."

Mahoney said he even saw some support for his smoke-free proposal within the task force, particularly from ASUI members, including former ASUI President Max Cowan.

Mahoney felt his own voice was heard because he was adamant about his ideas.

"I didn't give them a choice," he said. "I'm a very opinion-



Nathan Romans | Argonaut

Student Recreation Center Associate Director of Facilities and Operations Brian Mahoney talks about tobacco in his office Friday. Mahoney was the chair of Staff Affairs during the early stages of the proposed tobacco-free policy and is in favor of a smoke-free policy on the UI campus.

ated person and I'll give it to you whether you want it or not."

He said the task force's choice to move in a different direction wasn't the reason he left the task force.

Although Mahoney said he thought the task force did a good job of hearing the concerns of staff members who gave opinions to Staff Affairs, he said he thinks a lot of staff are complacent about the issue or feel as though their voices don't matter

to the administration.

Bretthauer said staff members who have strong opinions about the proposed policy should voice their thoughts — she suggested scheduling a meeting with her or attending a Staff Affairs meeting. She said if a majority of staff members were to give their opinions about the proposed policy it would positively add to the tobacco discussion and could hold some weight for UI President Chuck Staben, who gets

to make the final decision.

"I think anytime you get people's opinions it's going to help expand the discussion and inform the discussion," she said. "It's very time consuming and it's very cumbersome to do so, so I understand why people don't. But it's a really important part of a process like this."

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HEALTH

From the White House to UI

University Housing brings national campaign to prevent sexual assault to UI campus

Graham Perednia
Argonaut

University Housing presented Wednesday the White House's national campaign to raise awareness and to prevent sexual assault, called "It's On Us."

The program is focused on and how everyone has a role to play in the prevention of sexual violence, said Jazzmine Hudson, area coordinator for Wallace Residence Center and McConnell Hall.

"(Sexual assault prevention) is near and dear to my heart," Hudson said.

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden unveiled the campaign in September intending to put an end to sexual assaults on college campuses across the country.

"An estimated one in five women has been sexually assaulted during her college

years — one in five," Obama said at the campaign's unveiling Sept. 19. "Of those assaults, only 12 percent are reported and of those reported assaults, only a fraction of the offenders are punished."

Scott Gove, UI resident director for campus apartments, said although sexual assault is a sensitive issue for people to talk about, there needs to be a cultural change so more people feel comfortable reporting it.

The It's On Us campaign includes several tips about how to prevent sexual assault from occurring. Gove said he thinks the focus of the campaign is to give everyone the tools they need to prevent sexual assault.

"We want you to be protectors of each other," Gove said.

The campaign suggests ways to deal with potentially dangerous situations that could lead to sexual assault. Gove said the campaign points to three main ways to prevent sexual assault, among others — be direct and confront the person committing the act, delegate and let a third party know what is going on and distract the person trying to commit the sexual assault to get a potential

“

An estimated one in five women has been sexually assaulted during her college years — one in five.

Barack Obama, U.S. President

victim out of the situation.

These strategies are the same ones taught in bystander intervention training like the Green Dot program led at UI by Virginia Solan, coordinator of Violence Prevention Programs.

Solan said both Green Dot and It's On Us do more than educate people about sexual assault prevention — they create a support system for people who have experienced sexual assault.

"This is not something to go through alone," Solan said. "The most important

thing is to be a friend to people."

The Moscow Police Department, as well as the Dean of Students Office, University Housing, ASUI and Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse have education and support programs and work with the community to fight against sexual assault.

"It is a serious crime," said Lt. David Lehmitz, head of the campus division for the Moscow Police Department. "It is occurring on campus, which is unfortunate."

The MPD has various programs to ensure people report sexual assault. Lehmitz said the police department gives presentations to various groups on campus throughout the academic year to inform students of the resources available to them.

ASUI will introduce the "It's On Us" campaign to the entire student body in January, Hudson said, and every student is encouraged to take the pledge on the website to take an active role in preventing sexual assault.

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'You're not yourself when you're hungry.'



ASUI

Turning a new leaf

ASUI to revise internal rules and regulations, updates

Cara Pantone
Argonaut

The ASUI Rules and Regulations Committee will vote on a proposed bill Wednesday to renew the ASUI Rules and Regulations with various changes, including a transition from unit pay to hourly pay for paid ASUI positions.

If the bill is passed through the committee, ASUI President Nate Fisher said the bill would go to a vote at the following ASUI Senate meeting.

These revisions, according to Fisher, are long overdue and important to the efficiency of ASUI.

"This is really important for us, because we are what our rules state, and we are required to abide by them," Fisher said. "Not having an updated copy or a correct copy means that we're out of compliance, and they're the blueprints for how we function."

Fisher said he and ASUI Vice President Sarah Vetsmany put updating the Rules and Regulations high on their priority list when campaigning for office last spring. Although the Rules and Regulations are frequently revised, Fisher said there was confusion created by having multiple saved versions of the document in different places.

One of the main changes would be paying ASUI members hourly, rather than by units. Fisher said it appeases Human Resources requirements and would eliminate the pay-dock system, which has been used for many years.

Vetsmany said she and Fisher were concerned with how outdated the current Rules and Regulations document was and said each of them sought to update it before taking office last spring. She even said she was surprised the updates hadn't already been made.

"The reason Nate and I put this on our agenda is so students can have something current to look at," Vetsmany said. "We want to leave office with a very clean record and give the next president and vice president time to work on their projects, instead of having to clean up old business."

Katie Cramer, chair of the ASUI Rules and Regulations Committee and author of the proposed bill, said eliminating irrelevant information and putting certain ASUI duties, such as a required number of office hours, in writing is the main function of the bill.

"This just lays out our job descriptions, so this doesn't really affect the students, except for how we do our jobs," Cramer said.

Vetsmany said the current document they're using is approximately three years outdated.

"A lot of positions in the current Rules and Regulations aren't even positions anymore," Vetsmany said. "That's probably

one of the biggest changes in Rules and Regulations, the elimination of those positions."

She also said none of the proposed changes to the document have been controversial within ASUI.

Cramer said she is confident the bill will be voted through the committee and proceed to the Senate after any needed amendments are made Wednesday. Cramer and Fisher both said the task of making revisions to such an expansive document is time-consuming, yet necessary.

"It's a lengthy process and the document is over 30 pages long," Fisher said. "Going through it with a fine-tooth comb and ensuring we're in compliance with the rules and have the most updated copy of the rules is very important for us."

Cara Pantone can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

ADMINISTRATION

Similar policy, tax compliant

IRS audit spurs change to overtime compensation policy

Ryan Tarinelli
Argonaut

The University of Idaho Faculty Senate approved a change in the overtime compensation policy after an IRS audit concluded a previous UI payroll practice was not tax compliant.

Dan Stephens, university controller said the IRS found UI's practice of letting employees decide how they would be compensated for overtime work after the hours were already logged was not tax compliant.

Employees still decide if they want to be paid monetarily or with additional time off, but now the policy requires them to

decide how they want to be compensated prior to logging any overtime hours.

"We looked at a lot of options, at the end of the day we came back with this," said University Controller Dan Stephens during last week's Faculty Senate meeting.

He said UI supervisors and employees were not aware the practice was not tax compliant because it had always been done that way.

"People just didn't realize it," he said.

After the IRS decided the practice was not tax compliant, Stephens said UI immediately suspended the policy and required all departments to pay their employees in cash for overtime work, which did not provide flexibility for employees or department budgets.

With Faculty Senate approval, the policy heads to a vote at the

All-Faculty Meeting Jan. 15. If approved, the policy would have to be signed off by UI President Chuck Staben before taking effect. Stephens said he hopes the policy could be implemented as early as possible in 2015.

The proposed policy requires employees to decide beforehand how they will be compensated for their overtime work, Stephens said. As part of the policy, he said employees could carry a maximum of 80 overtime hours — two weeks off — into the next calendar year and would be paid in cash for any additional overtime hours.

Stephens said employees will personally elect which overtime compensation option they would like for the next calendar year.

He also said the policy will allow some flexibility to UI employees in how they are compensated and allow departments to

better manage their budgets in seasons of high overtime work.

"We've worked through the IRS rules to try to get compliant with the rules, but still create a policy that allows a little bit of flexibility," Stephens said.

Stephens said supervisors do not have any control over what option the employee chooses, but can encourage employees to take a specific overtime compensation method depending on their job.

Stephens said there are concerns about how an employee with a large buildup of overtime would be allowed to take an extended amount of time off. He said supervisors would have to work with their employees and increase communication to ensure their earned time is taken off.

"It creates a more active relationship between the employee and the manager," he said.

Stephens said he and other administrators tasked with developing a policy worked with Staff Affairs to create a policy best suited for a majority of staff. He said administrators took input from faculty, staff and representatives from large staff departments on campus and held town-hall meetings to explain the policy and gather input.

Even though the policy did not come through a Faculty Senate committee, Faculty Senate Chair Marty Ytreberg said the policy had the support of both faculty and staff members.

Ytreberg said Stephens and the committee did a great job of reaching out to staff members early on in the policy process to get their support.

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DEPARTMENTS

It's that time of the year

UI facilities employees work long hours to ensure campus safety during winter months

Graham Perednia
Argonaut

When the weather gets cold and the snow begins to fall, Charles Zillinger, University of Idaho director of landscape and exterior services, said it's the busiest time of the year for him and his crew.

Zillinger said it's not uncommon for some Facilities Services personnel to start work as early as 2 a.m. during the winter months and workers have an automatic early start when at least one inch of snow covers the UI campus over night.

"The best time to remove snow is when no one is there," Zillinger said. "(We do) whatever it takes to keep campus safe."

The annual budget for snow removal is around \$19,400, Zillinger said. The money is allocated to supplies and equipment costs, but Zillinger said it's not enough to cover everything, so additional expenses are supplemented with Facilities general maintenance funds.

With the goal of having campus cleared of snow and ice by 7 a.m., the main areas of campus are the first priority. Zillinger said it's after they get the main areas cleared when they get to work on other areas of the campus.

"We prioritize snow removal," he said. "That is going to maximize how many people can use (the walkways)."

Zillinger said a routine winter morning encompasses 18 people who work throughout the day to clear snow from the 10 miles of road and 100 acres of sidewalks that make up campus. Six large plow drivers, six smaller plow drivers and six hand scoopers work together to clear campus and custodial services clear the building entryways.

With a limited amount of people working to clear campus of snow and ice, everything is not going to get cleared, Zillinger said. He said this is the reason why some areas

are left untouched and some stairways are blocked off.

"Steps are always snow and ice traps," Zillinger said.

Once the snow is removed, sand and gravel are laid down to provide traction on ice, Zillinger said. He said the gravel is placed on the roadways and the sand goes on the sidewalks. Over the course of winter, Zillinger said 100 to 200 tons of sand and 600 tons of gravel are used to keep the campus community from slipping. The sand and gravel are bought locally, with the best product in mind, Zillinger said.

"Ice is the most challenging," he said. "Especially when it gets cold."

It is important to remember to be careful while walking around campus and to wear the proper shoes and clothes for the weather, Zillinger said.

"Everybody needs to use the appropriate amount of caution," Zillinger said. "There

are going to be incidents, you don't want it to happen, but it is the nature of winter."

When the temperature drops to below freezing levels, the ice bonds with the pavement and becomes difficult to manage, Zillinger said. When this happens, the only thing to be done is to make sure his crew puts plenty of sand on top of the ice to provide traction for foot traffic.

When winter ends, the clean up phase begins. Zillinger said the landscaping crew sweeps the sand and gravel off of the walkways and roads, although most of the sand gets washed off the walkways into the storm system. Zillinger said the storm runoff system is also cleaned during this process.

"There is always something to do," Zillinger said.

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Argonaut Religion Directory

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Amelia C. Warden | Argonaut

Anna Daley Laursen (left) and Kelly O'Neil (right) accept donations during the Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse event at the 1912 Center in Moscow Wednesday.

MARKET

FROM PAGE 1

holidays. It includes a collection of 32 local non-profits for residents to make donations under a loved one's name.

Daley Laursen said one of the founding ideas of the program was to utilize the gifts of the Palouse and market them in new ways.

Daley Laursen, who has fond memories of shucking peas and corn with her grandmother when she was younger, said she made a donation to the Moscow nonprofit, Backyard Harvest, the first year the market was open. She said her donation helped provide the non-profit with a low-income community garden, with rows of peas and corn, on behalf of her grandmother.

"My grandmother taught me the importance of giving meaningful gifts from the heart," Daley Laursen said. "And making a donation was a way to honor those memories with her, while also giving back to our own low-income community gardens."

The idea for the Alternative Giving Market of the Palouse was one both Daley Laursen and Hill had independently, according to Hill.

Hill said she first became interested in the idea after encountering an operation similar to the Alternative Giving Market while attending graduate school in New York. Daley Laursen said thought of the idea because she was

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We would love for students to see the market as a way to give gifts to their family and friends.

Dianne Daley Laursen,
Alternative Giving Market co-founder

looking for a way to bring the Moscow community closer together during the holiday season.

"We both wanted to bring something like this, where you could make a donation to a nonprofit and buy holiday gifts, to Moscow," Hill said.

What began as an idea to bring the community together turned into an ever-growing operation, Daley Laursen said.

"In our first year we raised just under \$6,000, and now we raise around \$25,000 a year," Daley Laursen said.

For the main event of the season, the Alternative Giving Market held an event at the 1912 Center in downtown Moscow last week. Donations can still be made at the Buy Local WinterFest event, the Palouse Mall on Saturday from noon to 5 p.m., and online.

"Two-thirds of our donations are received online," Daley Laursen said. "We definitely have seen an upward trend in the growth

of what we've raised every year and we hope we can keep that going for a while."

Hill said even with the market's current success, they still hope to improve upon the community operation.

"The biggest challenge right now is to broaden our audience," Hill said. "We would like to see people of all socioeconomic backgrounds, of all inclinations and of all orientations to find this as a viable option for affordable and meaningful gift giving."

An additional audience the duo would like to reach, Hill said, is Moscow's student population.

"We would love for students to see the market as a way to give gifts to their family and friends," Hill said. "That way they can take back pieces of the Palouse to the ones they love and share their community experience with them."

Daley Laursen and Hill said they ultimately aim to emphasize the impact peoples' donations have on building and strengthening the Palouse as a whole.

"It's the idea of organic, local farmers donating produce to the local food bank, or the Moscow Human Rights Club raising money to feed breakfast to kids in Haiti that's important," Daley Laursen said. "The idea that you can take a gift from the Palouse and that it will allow you to honor the people you love in a meaningful way."

Corrin Bond
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arg-news@uidaho.edu

COVERAGE

FROM PAGE 1

UI parents that comparable health insurance options offered through the exchange may not be the best deal for students.

"I had several parents comment to me that they had looked at plans ... and those plans with the same benefits as SHIP are more," Krasselt said. "Many students may not have an income threshold where they would be eligible for government subsidies, meaning they are responsible for the full cost of the premium."

Idaho's health insurance exchange website, called Your Health Idaho, categorizes its plans along a tiered system, starting from Catastrophic tier — the lowest monthly premium and highest deductible for medical services — and moves upward to Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum plans, which offer the lowest deductible with the most expensive monthly premium.

Krasselt said SHIP cannot be found on the exchange website, but based on the benefits and costs associated with SHIP it is comparable to the Silver tier policies which range anywhere from \$194 to \$279 a month.

In order to accommodate Your Health Idaho consumers who prefer to discuss business with a health insurance agent, the website features a help tool to locate nearby agents and provide their contact information. Kimberling Insurance Agency is one of the three Moscow businesses listed on the Your Health Idaho website, the agency is owned by Moscow resident Jon Kimberling.

Kimberling said he has not received many inquiries from UI students about the different health insurance policies offered by Your Health Idaho, although he said he expected students would become more inquisitive about options outside of

“

I think it is good I have already had this experience shopping, and now I know what to look for.

Samira Obeid, UI junior

SHIP after winter break.

"For those students that would qualify for government subsidies, then I think the plans that we have to offer could be very competitive," Kimberling said. "In the case of someone who doesn't qualify, from our early research, for a typical college student, the rates through the student health plan are perhaps a little more competitive."

Obeid said she started scouting policies on the website after she received an email from the exchange about open enrollment beginning Nov. 19. In an effort to save money and find the plan best suited for her, she worked with her parents to find a policy on the Idaho exchange.

Obeid said the website was easy to use most of the time, although she often had to Google the definitions of different health insurance vocabulary. After comparing her different options, Obeid decided to stick with SHIP for UI's spring semester and review her options further in a few months for the 2015-2016 academic year.

"Even though I didn't get insurance from there, I learned a lot," Obeid said. "When I am older and shopping for insurance on my own, I think it is good I have already had this experience shopping, and now I know what to look for."

George Wood Jr.
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SHIP

FROM PAGE 1

for the past two years, and this alignment with requirements stemmed out of a process beginning years earlier, which gradually catered the plans to the needs of students.

"You adjust your level of benefits, you remove things that the student population doesn't need so you can reduce the premium and you add in things that the student population needs," Krasselt said.

According to SHIP enrollment brochures of years past, the price of SHIP has increased 41 percent in four years — from \$694 per semester in fall 2010 to \$979 in 2014.

An all-encompassing list of coverage parameters is available on UI's website under the SHIP tab, but Krasselt said it's important for students to know SHIP now provides immunization coverage, a wider variety of birth control options and increased prescription drug access off campus in accordance with ACA requirements.

Last semester, the Student Health Pharmacy closed its doors indefinitely, which Krasselt said required SHIP to offer students a wider base of off campus options to pick up prescriptions from. Currently, SHIP works with Express Scripts to offer students prescriptions, and students have five different pharmacies around Moscow to choose from to accompany most budgets.

"We evaluate the program closely each year, and we try to keep the premium as minimal a cost as possible," she said.

Krasselt said she does not foresee the Your Health Idaho website dramatically affecting the amount of students enrolled

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We evaluate the program closely each year, and we try to keep the premium as minimal a cost as possible.

Lori Krasselt, SHIP Manager

in SHIP. She said most full-time students do not hold jobs that would qualify them to receive government subsidies on insurance policies offered through the state exchange, and this is why many students not covered under their parent's insurance stick with SHIP.

Convenience of payment options was another reason Krasselt believes students choose SHIP.

"Students can use their financial aid and a university payment plan to cover the cost of SHIP, so that's a big benefit for students who are looking at different options to cover the cost of their insurance," Krasselt said. "If a student goes through a private insurance provider ... it may not be so convenient."

Students who are insured outside of SHIP are required to fill out a waiver form to exempt them from SHIP at the beginning of each semester and the waiver form is available on the UI website. The spring semester deadline for waivers is Feb. 7.

Lori Krasselt is the mother of Argonaut Editor-in-Chief Kaitlyn Krasselt.

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SPORTS



Men's basketball gets commitment from two-star Utah recruit.

PAGE 7

CLUB SPORTS

Vandals freeze Cougs

Men's hockey club wins Border Battle

Joshua Gamez
Argonaut

In front of a raucous crowd at the Palouse Ice Rink Saturday night, the Idaho men's hockey club kept the Vandals' Battle of the Palouse winning ways alive by way of a 12-6 final score over Washington State.

The tight rink played a major role in the high scoring affair on the ice in many cases, Idaho coach Chris Storhok said.

He said on a rink half the size of a regular rink, teams get more shots on net than in bigger rinks, goalies have harder angles to cover and the lighting isn't great. All of these factors could result in high scoring games, he said.

The Cougars were greeted with a rowdy chorus of boos by the Vandal fans in attendance and the crowd seemed to get into WSU's head early, which was a huge advantage, Idaho goalie Nick Grover said.



Brenda Ely | Argonaut

The Idaho men's club hockey team huddles during its game against Washington State Saturday at the Palouse Ice Rink. The Vandals beat the Cougars 12-6 three days after the Idaho men's basketball team beat Washington State in Pullman.

SEE FREEZE, PAGE 8

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Second straight win for Idaho

Cowan Spectrum gets in the way, Vandals overcome and win

Korbin McDonald
Argonaut

It was an odd first game back inside the Cowan Spectrum.

The Vandals won 79-71 over previously undefeated UC Davis, but not before the Spectrum court tried to get in the way.

With Idaho up 16-14 midway through the first half, the referees

sent both teams to their benches and huddled at half court. After a lengthy discussion it was announced Idaho would be called for an administrative technical foul for not having a charge circle painted underneath each basket. The foul led to two made free throws for UC Davis.

"I wasn't aware (it wasn't there)," Idaho coach Don Verlin said. "Hey, it's an eight-point win. It could have been 10 ... Setting up the Cowan Spectrum and all that — it's just a detail that got left

out. But hey, no harm, no foul."

Last season, the makeshift stadium inside the Kibbie Dome had its fair share of problems — a pregame power outage, a clock malfunction and even a section of bleachers collapsing before the Seattle U game.

The technical foul allowed UC Davis to tie the game. The Aggies then outscored Idaho 22-14 and took a 38-30 lead into halftime.

SEE SECOND, PAGE 8

Athletes of the week

Ali Forde — women's basketball



Forde

Post Ali Forde recently joined the Vandals after the volleyball season ended, and so far has been a much-needed boost for Idaho in the paint. The junior from Woodville, Washington, finished with six points, seven rebounds and one block, steal and assist against No. 17 Oregon State in a loss to the Beavers. Against Multnomah Sunday, Forde finished with 13 points, the second highest on the team, along with nine rebounds, one assist and a team-high two blocks. The Vandals now head to Waco, Texas, to take on No. 11 Baylor before participating in the Glass City Tournament with games against Toledo and Southeast Missouri State over the weekend.

Mike Scott — men's basketball



Scott

Mike Scott had an impressive week for Idaho basketball, with big performances in both wins for the Vandals. Wednesday, Scott was good for 19 points, six assists and two steals in Idaho's upset over Washington State in Pullman. The senior from Los Angeles turned around and scored 19 points again Saturday against UC Davis, along with four assists, three rebounds and three steals in the Vandals' win. Scott is leading the Vandals in points per game with 17.1, which is also fourth in the Big Sky Conference. He also leads Idaho with his 5.1 assists per game average and is third in the Big Sky in the category.

SEE ATHLETES, PAGE 8

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Reaching triple figures

Records fall Sunday in Cowan Spectrum

Stephan Wiebe
Argonaut

Sunday was a record-breaking day in the Cowan Spectrum for the Idaho women's basketball team.

The Vandals obliterated Multnomah, a Portland team in its first year as a basketball program, 104-19 to break school records for the largest margin of victory and lowest points allowed in a single game.

"I like that we kept our intensity level up, and think that's always a challenge when you get a big lead and you have an overmatched opponent, which they were going in," Idaho coach Jon Newlee said. "But by the same token, we have to play our game and keep focused and keep our intensity level and I was happy we were able to do that."

The Vandals also broke an individual record during the game as guard Stacey

Barr's six 3-pointers gave her the all-time lead in 3-pointers made for Idaho. The senior from Melbourne, Australia, finished with a game-high 27 points.

Barr holds the record for now with 210 3-pointers, but she might not hold it for long as junior guard Christina Salvatore is close to the 200 career 3-pointers and has another year of eligibility.

SEE REACHING, PAGE 8



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MEN'S BASKETBALL

From Logan to Moscow

Tyler Brimhall of Logan, Utah, commits to Vandals for 2015

Ben Evensen
Argonaut

Idaho basketball picked up its first recruit for the 2015 season, as guard Tyler Brimhall of Logan, Utah, signed his letter of intent for the Vandals in November.

"It was the best opportunity for me when I went up there (to Moscow). The campus is really nice and it (will) be the best place for me," Brimhall said.

Brimhall is a 6-foot-4, 185-pound guard, and is rated as a two-star recruit by ESPN.com.

During his junior year of high school, Brimhall averaged 17.2 points per game, 5.6 rebounds per game, 2.1 steals per game and 1.9 assists per game. He was named to the Deseret News and Salt Lake Tribune All-State teams and won the All Cache Valley Player of the Year award. Though it's still early, through Logan High School's first two games Brimhall has averaged 24.5 points per game, 4.0 rebounds per game and 1.5 steals and assists per game.

"I'm a good shooter, so I've

been told," he said. "I can drive to the basket and I'm good at getting to the basket and finishing around the rim."

Brimhall also contributed to the varsity team as a freshman and sophomore. As a freshman, Brimhall averaged 8.0 points per game and was named to an all-region honorable mention for 2012. He followed up that year by averaging 12.8 points per game as a sophomore, including a 23-point performance in an upset win over No. 1 Orem High School.

Brimhall isn't the only person who thinks he can succeed at Idaho. His high school coach Logan Brown said he thinks Idaho is the perfect place for his player.

"I believe Tyler can be a very high-level Division I basketball player because he has that combination of skill and work ethic. That's a rare combination that can make him a very good player," Brown said. "Tyler started going through the recruiting process at a young age, getting looks from a lot of schools. Coach Verlin showed a lot of interest in him and his system fits him well. I believe he has a great opportunity to do some great things at Idaho."

Brown has a lot of praise for Brimhall and others agree. ESPN's

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He is one of the hardest working players I've ever been around. He's very highly motivated.

Logan Brown,
high school coach

scouts said Brimhall is a "prospect that affects the game in multiple ways" and said that it's "always about winning for Brimhall."

"He is one of the hardest working players I've ever been around," Brown said. "He's very highly motivated."

Brimhall said he is excited to get up to Moscow and start playing for the Vandals.

"The players (at Idaho) are pretty friendly and I like them," he said. "It was fun hanging out with them when I was up there. I just want to come up and play the hardest I can. I can't wait to come up there. I've been thinking about it a lot. Some of my goals are to start as soon as possible, but play the hardest I can."

Ben Evensen can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



Tyler Brimhall | Courtesy

Tyler Brimhall takes the ball to the rim Nov. 25 against Hunter High School. Brimhall a senior at Logan High School in Logan, Utah is Idaho's first basketball commit for the 2015 class.

OPINION

Tough schedule a good thing

Idaho women's basketball starts season with tough nonconference schedule

Idaho women's basketball coach Jon Newlee is not afraid to compete against quality teams outside the Big Sky Conference and he is not afraid to play them on the road, either.

By the time Idaho's nonconference schedule is completed, which will be Dec. 20 against Lewis-Clark State College, Idaho will have played 11 games. Eight of those 11 games will have been played somewhere other than Moscow.

At this point for the Vandal players, a hotel room bed is probably as comfortable as their dorm bed or apartment bed in Moscow. Maybe it's an exaggeration, but

the miles they've travelled certainly are piling up.

The Vandals are 4-3 after Sunday's 104-19 win against Multnomah at the Cowan Spectrum.

Considering the tough schedule and all the road games, the Vandals are off to a decent start.



Garrett Cabeza

Three of their four wins came on the road. They grinded a 47-44 win out against UC Santa Barbara in Santa Barbara, took care of business with a 77-66 win over Wyoming in Laramie and beat Seattle U by double digits with a 65-50 win in Seattle.

Idaho's three losses this season came against arguably the three toughest teams it faced so far. The Vandals lost their regular season opener to Cal State-Northridge on the road. The Matadors are 7-1 this season and coming off a 2014

NCAA Tournament appearance. Idaho's second loss was to San Diego at Memorial Gym. The Toreros are 7-1. Thursday, the No. 17 ranked Oregon State Beavers beat the Vandals in Corvallis, Oregon. The Beavers are 7-0.

The Vandals have yet to face the No. 11 ranked Baylor Bears, who they will play Wednesday in Waco, Texas. Idaho's final nonconference game against Lewis-Clark State won't be a walk-in-the-park either, as the Warriors sit at 11-1.

Idaho will play in the Glass City Classic in Toledo, Ohio, this weekend. The Vandals play Toledo Saturday and Southeast Missouri State Sunday.

The talented teams and road games should test the Vandals, and they should not be overwhelmed by any team in the Big Sky after what they went through at the start of the year with their tough schedule.

When Idaho opens up Big Sky play

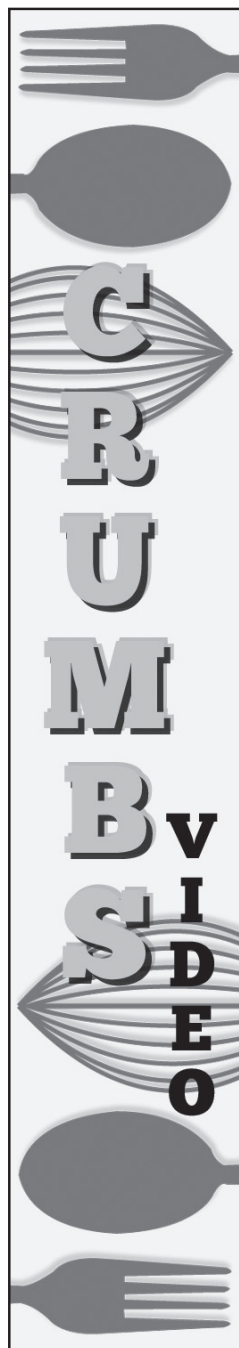
against Idaho State Jan. 1 in Pocatello, the Vandals should be ready to roll.

Besides being ready to play against Big Sky teams, another advantage of playing a tough nonconference schedule is the NCAA Tournament selection committee respects the teams who have a strong strength of schedule.

In college basketball, winning is obviously the most important aspect to determining who makes the NCAA Tournament, but wins and losses aren't the only things that matter. How a team wins and loses and strength of schedule are big factors in deciding who makes the tournament.

Idaho will have a nice 11-day break between the Lewis-Clark State game and Idaho State game. Hopefully, the players don't have to travel too much during that time.

Garrett Cabeza
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Jay Anderson | Argonaut

Senior guard Mike Scott sets up a pass during Idaho's 77-71 win over UC Davis Saturday at the Cowan Spectrum. The Vandals gave the Aggies their first loss of the season.

SECOND

FROM PAGE 6

After UC Davis held its biggest lead of 10 points four minutes into the second half, Idaho went on a 16-6 run and tied the game at 50 with just over 10 minutes left in the game. From there, Idaho out-scored UC Davis 29-21 to win the game.

With its second straight win, Idaho (4-3) looks to continue the streak at Western Illinois for a 5 p.m. game Thursday at Macomb, Illinois. UC Davis (6-1) looks to get back to its winning ways with a game against Eastern Illinois Tuesday.

The administrative technical foul wasn't the only unusual call. Along with warnings given to both teams for not breaking their huddles fast enough, a bench warning was called on Idaho assistant coaches for standing up during the game.

"It was the weirdest thing," Verlin said. "They said no assistant could stand up, which is ridiculous — when play was going he was just coaching the team, he wasn't yelling at the officials or anything like that ... Let's concentrate on officiating the game, not worrying about all the other stuff that really doesn't matter."

The officiating, however, did not faze Scott.

"I felt like there's been odd calls all year, and I feel like it only happens to us for some reason," he said. "I mean, we're use to it, we're playing through it ... they can't stop us from getting to our goal."

Scott led the team with 19 points while finishing with four assists, three rebounds and zero turnovers.

Scott's impressive performance came on a day when Idaho honored senior shooting guard Connor Hill by giving away 500 T-shirts with his No. 5 on the front.

"He played great and he ran the team great like he always does," Hill said of his point guard. "Mike is unselfish, so if his shot's not there, he's willing to pass ... I'm just glad we won, that's really all that matters."

Hill wasn't far behind Scott, as he finished with 16 points. All in all, the Vandals had four players in double figures. Along with Scott and Hill, sophomore shooting guard Sekou Wiggs finished with 13 points and freshman power forward Arkadiy Mkrtchyan finished in double figures, scoring all his 12 points in the second half.

With each game, Scott said the team is growing more comfortable with each other on offense, but wants to see more progress on the other end of the court.

"We got a good offense here and we got great offensive players," he said. "As everybody says, defense wins championships. Yeah, we got four guys that can put the ball in the hoop, but we got to get stops on the other end."

Verlin said some of his best teams have been when he had four or five guys who scored, instead of having only one or two players.

"We got to be a blue collar team that can defend and rebound if we're going to have a chance to win the Big Sky Conference," Verlin said.

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

REACHING

FROM PAGE 6

"I think Christina will have it pretty easily, but it's cool to even have my name up there," Barr said.

The Vandals led the game from the start as Multnomah struggled to score. The Lions didn't make their second basket until there was only 4:07 left in the first half. Multnomah is part of the Association of Christina College Athletics (ACCA) so the team is not part of the NCAA.

"Even though it wasn't the greatest of competition, we still played out the basketball game instead of going through the motions," Barr said. "I think that was the biggest thing — that we stuck it out for 40 minutes."

The game against Multnomah came as an easy victory notched between two tough games for Idaho. The Vandals fell to No. 17 Oregon State Thursday and they face No. 11 Baylor Wednesday.

"It's crazy how it really worked out on the schedule, but it's going to be a rough week with Baylor and then the Toledo tournament," Newlee said. "Toledo is playing

extremely well right now, too. So to be able to get our people that haven't got as many minutes ... for them to get some game experience under their belt, no matter how the game goes, will only be able to help us down the road."

Every player on Idaho's bench saw playing time, with sophomore guard Agueda Trujillo, junior post Renae Mokryzcki and junior post Tayla Corrigan scoring in double figures with 11 points, 10 and 10, respectively.

"Two really tough games, so it was good to go out and get through our offenses, get the whole bench on," Barr said. "I think everyone played quite a few minutes, so it was good to get everyone on the court before we go out and play Baylor next week."

Idaho played without sophomore starting post Brooke Reilly, who was out with an injury. Newlee said Reilly is expected to be back within a three-week window, although her injury is still day-to-day on its progress.

"She certainly will be back at some point and that will be nice to have her back," he said.

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FREEZE

FROM PAGE 6

On the smaller ice, the Eagle, Idaho, native couldn't reach around the boards to secure the puck, so he had to rely on the team to break the puck out quicker, which they did a great job of, he said.

With the smaller ice, the Vandals and Cougars had to play four-on-four rather than the regular five-on-five. The smaller rink also meant Grover had to make a number of athletic saves, which was key in the Vandals' victory.

"It is absolutely critical in this rink because he's got to make a number of really hard saves — things are coming at him a lot closer than they would be in a normal rink," Storhok said. "His hand-eye coordination has got to be superb and he was beautiful tonight."

Along with the impressive job Grover did in goal, the Vandals netted seven goals

before Grover yielded his first.

"It's huge on this small ice," Wells said. "There isn't a lot of room, so to get that first goal and kind of build some confidence and get the team going."

The intimidation the Vandal fans created — from the "boos", to the pounding of the glass — was evident from the initial faceoff. There were a number of hard checks into the glass and cross check penalties, but those all paled in comparison to one exchange early in the final period, which resulted in two players ejected from the game.

Their performance in front of the fans is something the team hopes carries on into the rest of the season, much like it did last year, Grover said.

"When we play as well as we did in front of our home crowd, we get the chance to show the city of Moscow what we are capable of and it is good for everyone," he said.

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ATHLETES

FROM PAGE 6

Stacey Barr – women's basketball



Barr

The leader of the Idaho women's basketball team, Stacey Barr, had a record-setting week as Idaho went 1-1 in both games. Against nationally ranked No. 17 Oregon State, the senior had a game-high 21 points along with one assist and six rebounds in 32 minutes. It wasn't enough, as the Beavers came away with the win 75-53. Barr followed up her performance against a Multnomah team from Portland with another game-high 27 points. She was one rebound away from a double-double as she had nine total rebounds, with one assist and two steals. Her six 3-pointers cemented her name in the record books by breaking the career record for 3-pointers at Idaho. She had 210 total career

3-pointers made following the game. Idaho crushed Multnomah 104-19.

Connor Hill – men's basketball



Hill

The Vandals had a solid week, going 2-0 with wins over UC Davis and Washington State, and senior guard Connor Hill was a big reason why. Against the Cougars, Hill scored 19 points, which was tied for the team high with Mike Scott. He also added four rebounds and an assist and was electric from behind the arc, knocking down five 3-pointers. Against the Aggies of UC Davis, Hill put up 16 points, which was the second highest total for the Vandals, along with one rebound and one steal. The Post Falls, Idaho, native is the second leading scorer for Idaho, with 13.4 points per game. The Vandals take a two-game road trip against two Summit League foes this week, with a Thursday contest at Western Illinois and a Saturday matchup at South Dakota State.

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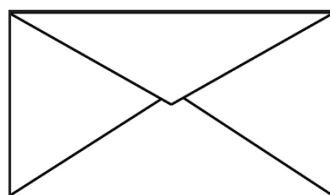
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OUR VIEW

Stopping assault

Awareness campaigns can help prevent sexual assault

Sexual assault has been a topic of national conversation recently, as the nation struggles to figure out the best way to confront sexual violence on and off college campuses.

In the fight to eliminate sexual assault on campus, universities across the U.S. have a powerful ally in the White House.

The White House's "It's On Us" campaign aims to raise awareness and prevent sexual assault on college campuses. The campaign gives students key tips about how to prevent sexual assault, including when to recognize a dangerous situation and how to ask for help.

The campaign asks participants to sign a pledge to prevent sexual assault and be an engaged bystander.

"It's On Us" emphasizes a critical part in eliminating sexual assault — everybody can play a role in stopping it.

At the University of Idaho, University Housing decided to take part in the campaign and work toward eliminating sexual assault. ASUI also plans to join the effort after winter break by holding a pledge drive in the Idaho Commons.

Awareness campaigns and other training programs can give people the information and confidence they need to prevent sexual assault and make UI a safer university.

Awareness programs, such

as "It's On Us," are an invaluable step to addressing a social problem that stretches throughout higher education in the U.S.

The efforts UI is making to address sexual assault on college campuses is great, but students shouldn't wait for a program to address the problem of sexual assault on campus. Students need to take responsibility and speak out about sexual assault.

One in five women are sexually assaulted in college, according to the White House.

This statistic is not only disturbing, but it also solidifies the need for strong bystander intervention programs, such as Vandal Green Dot. Green Dot teaches students to become empowered bystanders capable

of preventing sexual assault. Hopefully, campaigns such as "It's On Us" will inspire students to receive further education on the subject through Green Dot.

It will take time to change a culture that has been so apathetic toward sexual assaults in the past, but with campaigns and increased awareness, a difference can be made. Awareness campaigns can lift the level of attention and — with the help of education programs — can lead to meaningful change on campus.

With the help of the "It's On Us" campaign, UI can create an environment that helps prevent sexual assault, encourages victims to report crimes and removes the stigma surrounding victimhood.

—RT

OFF THE CUFF

QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM OUR EDITORS

Appreciate the people in your life.

I hate to be the one to say this, but after having over five people in my life pass away, I think people my age need to realize how mortal we are. Seriously, give your friends a hug and don't pretend that tomorrow is promised for you or them.

—Danielle

Week of hell

I had a realization Saturday when I was slaving away over my constitutional law textbook ... if I can survive this week, I can do anything.

—Amber

Keep traditions alive

I saw the news about the New Republic magazine. Chris Hughes, if you don't mind me saying, I think The New Republic was fine as a print magazine. Sure, you'll make more money this way, but there are a lot of people who enjoy that magazine as it is.

—Claire

The New Republic

What a shame. I'm all for new start ups, but when over half of your editorial masthead resigns in protest, I'd imagine you would rethink upending an 100-year-old magazine.

—Ryan

Prepping for the 'Exodus'

This week, the final biblical movie of the year will be released. Considering that every single biblical movie this year has been unimpressive and this one stars gravel-voiced Batman, I have little hope for "Exodus: Gods and Kings."

—Andrew

Dead week

Why do we call this week "dead week?" Because it's definitely always been the week when I have the most work to do. Not sure how well I can do that work if I'm deceased.

—Erin

I don't have time

Sorry, but I don't have time to think of anything clever this week for OTCs — I'm too busy with finals. Survival of the fittest this week, and I'm not feeling too fit.

—Korbin

Momentum

So far, so good. With this week turning into crunch time for finals, it's starting off well and I hope to keep it going. Luck is needed.

—Katelyn

Who said group projects were horrible?

It was a nice surprise to hear that my PR class group was the first and only group to get full points on the class project in nine years. Apparently, group projects aren't all that bad after all.

—Stephan

Six more months

I spent Monday working for three different newspapers from the time I got up to the time I went to sleep. I can't wait until that's my life all the time. No more classes, no more homework.

—Kaitlyn

You can't be serious

Well, I don't use a lot of puns in my everyday news writing, but I'm glad I'm not a reporter in China right now.

—Daphne

Christmas shopping

My quest for the perfect Christmas presents has hit a few snags. It's hard to find a gift to adequately thank my family for 20 years of love, compassion and support. A toaster just doesn't quite encapsulate all those sentiments.

—Aleya



Shane Wellner Argonaut

Put the phone away

Technology makes people less social in real-life situations

Once, when my family was driving home from a group gathering, my dad got upset at me for playing with my phone during dinner.

"I didn't get you a smartphone so you can shut the family out of your world," he said.

Of course, he disregarded my explanation that I pulled out my phone to avoid the awkwardness at the dinner table. Before I took my phone out, I was sitting there with nothing to contribute to the conversation.

After my younger sister began playing games on her iPod at our own dinner table, I finally understood my dad's concern.

Technology is growing at a rapid rate. Six years ago, Apple introduced the iPhone 3. Everything the phone was capable of fascinated me, along with everyone else. The students at my school with the latest and greatest smartphones were greatly admired by fellow students. Nowadays, the iPhone 3 is ancient history, just like the other forgotten trendy phones of the past.

With such variety in the phone market, the question is no longer whether you own a smartphone

or not, but what kind of phone you own. Aside from the heated rivalry between Android and iOS, the competition of who has the best smartphone includes silly criteria, like who has the more stylish phone cases or best ringtone. People are willing to waste tons of money on apps and gadgets to customize their smartphones or to make their phone look cool, while the practicality of a smartphone is often neglected.

For those who actually appreciate the convenience of a smartphone, they let their smartphone take control over their life. It is not strange to find a group of friends who travel to hang out at a coffee shop and the first thing they ask when they walk in is, "What's the wifi password here?" And it is not surprising to find out the group's definition of "hanging out" means going through social networking sites on their phones and every once in a while showing each other something funny they found.

It seems as though every meeting of friends morphs into a series of Facebook statuses, Instagram pictures or Twitter updates. Hashtags, such as #enjoyingthement or #havingthetimeofmylife are all over the place, but are they really the truth? It is not enjoying the moment if one is

Woman up

Former UPS employee Peggy Young is in the wrong

Recently, the U.S. Supreme Court heard the case, *Peggy Young v. United Parcel Service*. It's a fascinating tale of love and loss, of greed and desire and one woman's struggle to do nothing more than provide for her family — at least, according to the media. In reality, it's a sad display of how so-called families and parents function in 21st century America.

Young, a mother of three, is currently fighting her former employer, UPS, over a matter of pregnancy and accommodations. In 2006, she became pregnant with her third child and her doctor and midwife recommended she not lift anything over 20 pounds. Young, whose job at the time required her to lift up to 70 pounds, requested light-duty work.

Instead, UPS gave her unpaid leave for seven months, claiming she didn't fit the requirements for light-duty work and the company didn't want to give her special treatment. According to Young, she was told to return when she was no longer pregnant — and she did, before quitting in 2009 and suing the

company for violating the Pregnancy Discrimination Act.

This incident sparked debate across the U.S. According to her supporters, hearkening from both sides of the political aisle, UPS and similar businesses must accommodate pregnant workers in accordance with the PDA.

The problem is UPS did not violate the PDA. The act says pregnant women should be treated the same for all employment-related purposes as other persons "not so affected but similar in their ability or inability to work." It seems that for Young's case, UPS did just what the PDA mandated.

UPS made the right call. In a society bent on treating women like men, the company did nothing less than put Young on the same playing field with men. The business still has to run, and if a worker like Young cannot do their job, the business should let them go. In Young's case, this meant putting her on unpaid maternity leave.



Andrew Jenson Argonaut



Amanda Vu Argonaut

Movie meltdown

Making a mountain out of 'The Interview'

Seth Rogen and James Franco's latest comedy, "The Interview," revolves around a broadcast journalist, played by Franco, who lands an interview with North Korea's controversial leader Kim Jong-un, and his subsequent recruitment by the CIA to assassinate Jong-un.

Shortly after the release of the trailer for the film, the real North Korean government released a statement threatening "merciless retaliation" if the film is released, calling the film, "the most blatant act of terrorism and war and will absolutely not be tolerated."

Now, Franco and Rogen's humor has always been considered a little off-kilter. After all, these are the guys who made a movie about Satan doing unspeakable things to Jonah Hill. So, if these two think making a movie about assassinating a political leader is funny, that's their opinion and we're free to disagree with them.

I do not fault North Korea and their supporters for being offended by this film. If someone made a film about killing Will Smith, an actor I'm a fan of, I would probably be insulted as well. But there's a very fine line between offense and bullying.

North Korea is taking their feelings about the film out on an entire nation. A film is certainly a collaborative effort, but the screenplay and directing for the film is credited to three people — Evan Goldberg, Dan Sterling and Rogen himself.

I highly doubt that President Barack Obama gave the approval for this idea, much less the entire film. That being said, there

are people who did give the OK for this film — notably Sony Pictures executives. I trust they are fully aware of the controversy surrounding the matter and wouldn't have approved the film if they weren't prepared to deal with the consequences.

Recently, Sony was hacked by unknown sources, which exposed private information about the studio — including leaking several films made by the studio. North Korean officials denied involvement

in the hack, while simultaneously praising those behind the attack. The hack was quite crippling to the studio and several employees' Social Security numbers and salaries were made public.

If this hack is the "merciless retaliation" the country promised, then they are committing a serious crime in exposing private information and potentially ruining a company. It's hard to believe that all this fuss is over one movie.

Everything North Korea is doing in response to one film is simply ridiculous. If an entire country is declaring a movie an act of war, then anyone offended by any movie should do the same. If that really happened, everyone would roll their eyes.

Still, all this hasn't stopping the film's promotional efforts. But if North Korea continues over the top reactions to this film or even goes to the far-flung extreme of dropping bombs, they'll have gone too far and millions will have paid the price for it. While this article isn't attempting to assassinate Jong-un, it is asking him to really take a good hard look at things and ask if it's worth it.

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Bradley Burgess Argonaut

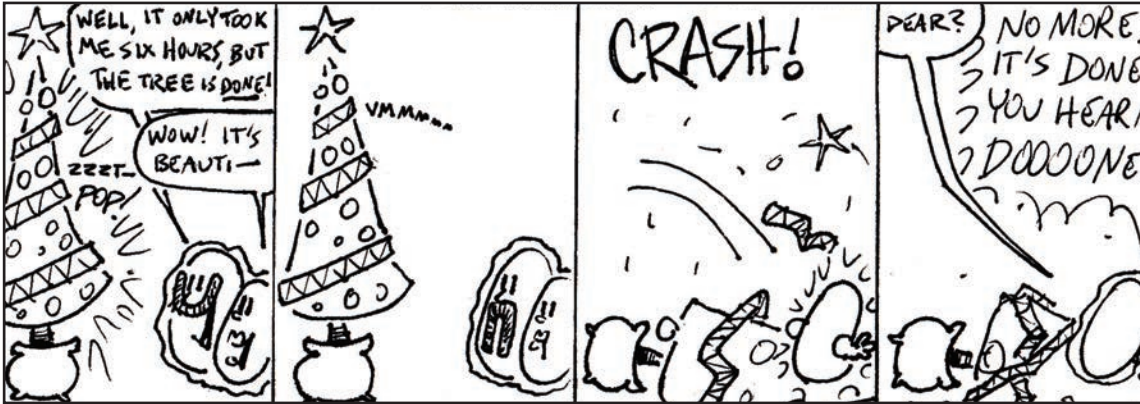
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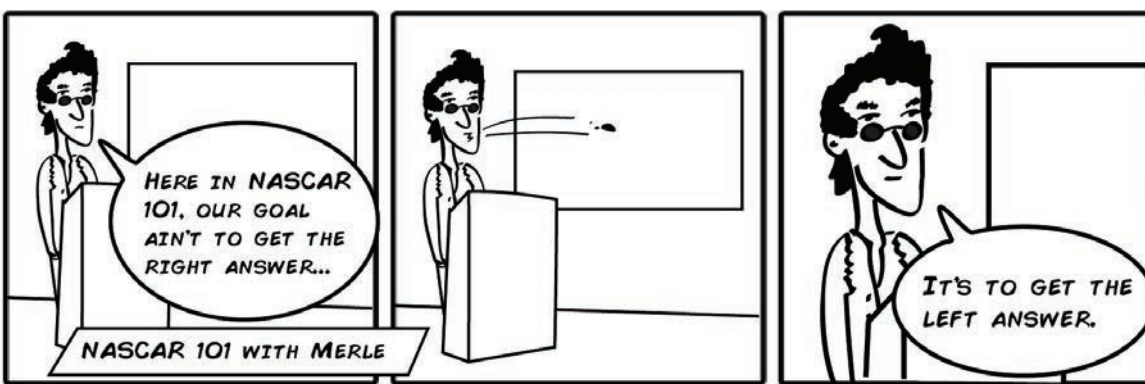
Aly Soto | Argonaut

Cloud Nine



Andrew Jenson | Argonaut

The Honest Professor



Karter Krasselt | Argonaut

WOMAN

FROM PAGE 9

See the problem here? While many want to shame the company for putting a pregnant woman on leave without pay, it would be unlawful, discriminatory and sexist for the company to treat a pregnant woman differently than they would other employees in similar circumstances.

Here, Young was hired to do a job and she couldn't come through. She put herself in the position where she had to

choose between work and family, not UPS.

Don't think this is a case where the pregnancy was unplanned and she had to make do. According to a report from the UK Daily Mail, Young underwent in vitro fertilization to become pregnant. As Mayo Clinic notes, the procedure, in which an egg is fertilized in a lab and then implanted in the woman's body, is often used to assist infertile women. Undergoing this procedure must have required a great deal of planning on Young's part.

This case highlights the importance of recognizing the differences between men and women in the workforce. Men and women are biologically different, but if women are part of the workforce, they must be held to the same standards as men. UPS demonstrated this when they gave Young leave for being unable to do her job.

Hopefully, the U.S. Supreme Court will agree with the lower courts and side with UPS.

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PHONE

FROM PAGE 9

sipping his or her drink in silence, while making no eye contact with anyone else. It is not having the time of your life if you dressed up for the sake of looking pretty and earning a few extra likes on your pictures.

People can talk to each other for hours through texting or

snapchats, but they have difficulty carrying on a conversation in real life. Just like how I explained to my dad, most people justify becoming lost in their phones as a method to avoid awkward silence. But once I decided to put my phone away when meeting with other people, I realized it is not hard to socialize. Hearing a person's real voice after spending hours texting them is

a refreshing experience.

In a busy world of school and work, it is precious when people can find the time for each other without a phone in front of their face. Don't let the smartphones ruin the moment so that you can truly have the time of your life.

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