

THE ARGONAUT

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THE VANDAL VOICE SINCE 1898

Friday, August 28, 2015



Freshman Jenna Harris breathes through her shirt to help protect herself from the smoke. Moscow air was listed as 'hazardous' Wednesday.

David Betts | Argonaut

UNIVERSITY

Grading without a curve

Grades change with the students, jobs change with the graduates

Hannah Shirley
Argonaut

Every generation has their narrative. The baby boomers loved sex, drugs and rock and roll. Gen X has never known life without a computer. Millennials get a trophy for everything. "Everyone gets a gold star," ASUI President Max Cowan said. "That culture has changed the way grades are perceived." Rodney Frey, an ethnography professor

at the University of Idaho, said one topic in particular comes up as professors begin to review their syllabi for the fall semester: grade inflation.

Stuart Rojstaczer and Christopher Healy have conducted some of the most comprehensive studies of grade inflation in the country. They are often the go-to sources when the debate comes up, according to The New York Times.

Their research shows that students' grades have risen dramatically even as students are reporting the time they spend studying each week is at an all-time low. The trend, according to Rojstaczer and Healy's research, began in the 1970s when

they say professors hesitated to give out lower grades since academic failure could send young men to Vietnam.

They claim grade inflation is most prevalent at pricey private universities, overtaking even elite public schools. This raises the question — is an increasingly hefty price tag on higher education leading students to expect good grades as long as they pay the bill?

Frey doesn't think so. Frey has heard the stereotypes about America's most entitled generation. In his experience though, he said students do not simply expect a degree because they show up.

"I've been teaching for 35 years," Frey said. "My students are as excited about their education as I remember them being."

Grade inflation at UI

According to Dale Pietrzak, executive director of the Department of Institutional Research and Assessment, grade inflation is a perennial conversation at higher education institutions.

Vice Provost of Academic Affairs Jeanne Stevenson said she's not aware of a current discussion about it at UI, though.

SEE EDUCATION, PAGE 6

INTERNATIONAL

Fulbright fills Moscow

Fulbright Gateway Orientation brings international students, scholars to Moscow

Aleya Ericson
Argonaut

Khalid Shalan started researching opportunities to study abroad when he could not find proper facilities for his research in his home country of Egypt. After contacting international professors to find the necessary equipment, he came across the Fulbright Program. "I really appreciate the fact that this is program was made

with the intention of avoiding a third world war," said Shalan, a mechanical engineering researcher at Northwestern University. "It's not just about traveling, it's not just about the scientific research. It's more about being more open to new cultures and letting people know about my own."

Established in 1946 through legislation passed by former Sen. James William Fulbright, the Fulbright Program aims to promote cultural understanding between countries. Funded primarily through the U.S. State Department, the program provides opportunities and

grants for participants to work, study and conduct research at universities across the U.S.

The program offers about 8,000 grants annually to participants in over 155 countries, who are chosen for leadership skills and academic success.

Starting Monday, 70 Fulbright graduate students and researchers arrived in Moscow to attend the Fulbright Gateway Orientation. Orientation participants attended sessions designed to familiarize themselves with U.S. customs and the Fulbright Program itself.

SEE FULBRIGHT, PAGE 6

FOOTBALL

On-campus shoplifting

Football players take VandalStore merchandise

Ryan Tarinelli
Argonaut

Several University of Idaho football players were involved in a shoplifting incident Aug. 16 that resulted in missing merchandise from the VandalStore, according to a university statement released Tuesday.

The missing merchandise totaled \$285, according to the statement.

Within minutes of the merchandise being taken, Vandal coaching staff recovered and returned the merchandise to the store, according

to the statement.

The store was open to the UI football team but closed to the public at the time of the incident.

Moscow Police Lt. David Lehmitz said officers were called to the scene for a reported theft. He said officers began investigating, but the merchandise was returned before officers cleared the scene. The VandalStore decided not to press charges.

No charges were filed since the students involved were disciplined and the merchandise was immediately recovered, according to the statement.

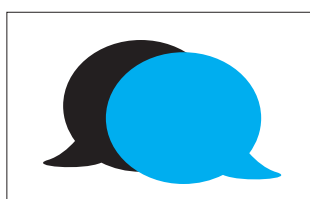
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Starting spots still up for grabs in Idaho's secondary.

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Why construction should bring in more students. Read Our View.

OPINION, 10



Performers unleash their passions on the stage.

RAWR

Campus Recreation

Student Rec Center • Intramural Sports • Outdoor Program • Sport Clubs • Wellness

Outdoor Program

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|-------------------|----------------|
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| Soccer | Tues, Sept 1 |
| Whiffleball | Wed, Sept 2 |
| Ultimate Frisbee | Wed, Sept 2 |
| Horseshoes | Wed, Sept 9 |
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CRUMBS

A Crumbs recipe

Italian crazy bread

This crazy bread was one of the most fun recipes I have ever made, and it tasted excellent. The nice thing about this recipe is that it was simple, easy and quick. It is also versatile. Anyone could add other peppers, different cheese, more meat or more veggies. Every time it is made, it could be different. I just don't think I could give up on my pepperoncini.

If possible, find a pre-garlic-and-herb-covered bread whether it is real Italian bread or just a loaf of French bread from Walmart. It makes the process easier.

Ingredients

- 1 loaf garlic and herb French bread
- Pepperoncini
- Pepperoni
- Salami
- Pastrami
- Mozzarella
- Provolone

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. On a large baking sheet, slice the loaf of bread in 1-inch slices that are almost cut all the way through.
3. Put two slices of salami, pepperoni and pastrami in between each of the slices.
4. Half the sliced mozzarella and provolone, placing one of each on either side of the meat.
5. Bake in the oven for 11 minutes, or until cheese is melted and everything sizzles.
6. Enjoy warm or save for tomorrow's lunch.

Claire Whitley
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A Crumbs recipe

Paleo mediterranean chicken

Ingredients

- 1/2 yellow onion, diced
- 2-3 cloves garlic, minced
- 8 ounce mushrooms, sliced
- 1/2 cup sun-dried tomatoes, chopped
- 1/3 cup Kalamata olives, chopped
- 1 pound pre-cooked chicken
- Fresh spinach
- 2-3 Tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 2 tablespoon fresh basil, chopped
- Salt & pepper to taste

1. In a large skillet over medium heat, add a tablespoon of olive oil and saute the chopped onions for 3-4 minutes.
2. Add a tablespoon of olive oil and minced garlic in with the onions, and saute together one more minute.
3. Add the sliced mushrooms to the sauteed onions and garlic and cook 5-7 minutes until the mushrooms are golden.
4. Add salt and pepper to taste while cooking.
5. Add 1 tablespoon of olive oil

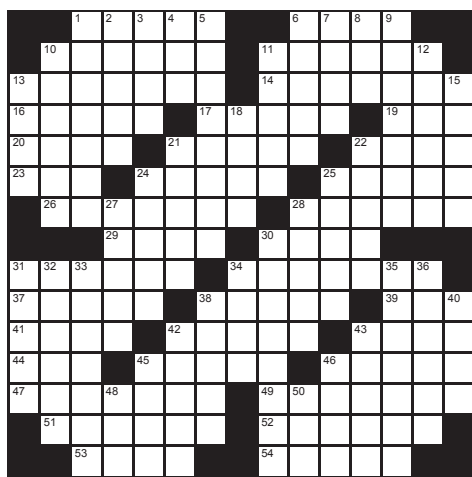
Directions

- and 1 tablespoon of balsamic vinegar to the pan then toss in the Roma tomatoes, sun-dried tomatoes, artichoke hearts and olives.
6. Sprinkle in the parsley, oregano and stir a few minutes.
 7. Next add the chopped chicken and spinach to the pan
 8. Stir and cook 1-2 minutes, or until chicken is heated through.
 9. Add more salt and pepper if needed.
 10. Serve hot garnished with the fresh basil.

CROSSWORD

Across

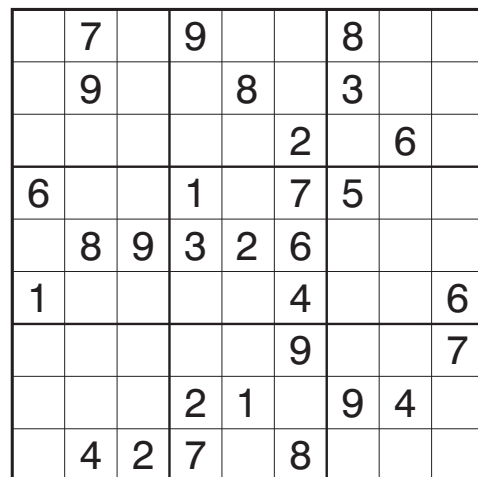
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- 20 Statistics calculation
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- 28 Anne, Charlotte or Emily, e.g.
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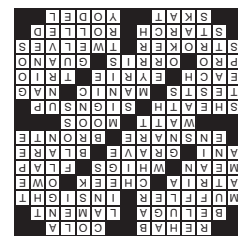
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SUDOKU



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THE FINE PRINT

Corrections

In the Tuesday edition of The Argonaut, the story "Smoke in Moscow" should have said the town of Kamiah is located east of Lewiston.

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 at the Bruce Pitman Center on the third floor.

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The opinion page is reserved as a forum of open thought, debate and expression of free speech regarding topics relevant to the University of Idaho community.

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

- Letters should be less than 300 words typed.
- Letters should focus on issues, not on personalities.
- The Argonaut reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, 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:
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Moscow, ID, 83844-4271

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

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

GREEK

Building Delta Zeta

Delta Zeta members move into new house, focus on sisterhood

Ryan Tarinelli
Argonaut

For years, Delta Zeta was a sisterhood without a house at the University of Idaho.

The sorority now has the newest house on Elm Street, but according to President Izzy Martin, it won't be defining their sorority anytime soon.

"We always tell each other 'It's about your sisters, and it's never about the living facility,'" Martin said.

The new house, located on Elm Street next to The Bruce Pitman Center, is currently at capacity with 68 sorority members and the sorority's house mom.

The sorority began construction July 2014 and members were able to move into the new house earlier this month. The house cost approximately \$4.5 million, Martin said.

While members are living in the house, Martin said construction still continues on the grand staircase.

"It's basically done, minus the grand staircase," Martin said.

She said the sorority also still has to finalize a number of smaller house rules, such as meals plans and a laundry system.

Martin said they paid special attention to women looking to join just for the new house during Greek recruitment.

"We did a really good job of weeding out any women who we thought were putting priority over the house versus the sisterhood," Martin said.

Starting fall 2011, the so-



Photos by Irish Martos | Argonaut

Newly built Delta Zeta Sorority house is located behind Bruce Pitman Center. Students moved into the house earlier this year.

“

We always tell each other 'It's about your sisters, and it's never about the living facility.'

Izzy Martin, Delta Zeta President

rority participated in formal recruitment at UI and began living in the Wallace Residence Center.

UI and the national chapter formerly recognized the UI chapter of Delta Zeta months later in February 2012.

Their history in Wallace won't soon be forgotten in the new house.

Martin said members have dubbed the basement the "Wallace lounge" in recognition of their time in the

residence halls. Since the basement space holds their furniture from Wallace, she said the space feels like home.

The house only has suite-style living arrangement — a nod to their beginning years living in Wallace.

"We were founded in Wallace, and we wanted to take that memory with us," Martin said of the living arrangements.

Martin said members gave input to architects on what they wanted to see in

the sorority.

She said members decided they wanted suite-style living, lots of natural lighting and a grand staircase in the house.

"So that was really cool," she said. "As founding mothers, we could have input on the construction and design of the house."

Martin said there was not much space in Wallace to host events, and finding other spaces in Moscow was difficult. In the past, she said the sorority would have to

reserve a room months in advance and spend money to use the space.

The new house, Martin said, will allow the sorority to have more interaction with other Greek houses. She said the sorority will now be able to host professor dinners, invite other sororities over for a meal or put on dinners for parent weekends.

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Wallace dorms get an upgrade

UI to renovate 12 Wallace floors next summer

Erin Bamer
Argonaut

Until recently, not much had changed since The Wallace Residence Center was developed in the early '60s.

For the past four to five years, one or two Wallace floors have been renovated every summer, said Raymond Pankopf, director of Architectural and Engineering Services for University of Idaho Facilities Services.

"It's an older facility," Pankopf said. "And I'll just say it this way, time is due to

do something."

By the end of August, eight floors of Wallace have been "refreshed," as opposed to all-out renovations.

"A refresh of the architectural finish is replace floor coverings ... replace plumbing fixtures," he said. "As opposed to what we've always done in the past is estimated, 'Well let's gut this thing and redo it.'"

Pankopf said renovating one or two floors every summer was consistent with the amount of money they were allocated for the changes. Most of the people who worked on the floors were from the university, and Pankopf estimated the cost of materials used on each floor amounted to about \$300,000.

The university is picking up the pace next summer though by getting approved to draw from central funds and hire a team to renovate the remaining 12 floors of Wallace during the summer of 2016, Pankopf said.

He said the team is made up of a contractor and an architect. The contractor, Ginno Construction Company, is based in Coeur d'Alene.

The architect, Castellaw Kom Architects (CKA), is based in Lewiston and has worked with UI on previous projects, Pankopf said.

The team plans to begin work right after students go home for the summer in May and will finish just before they return again in August, he said. Currently, the university is working on getting both the Ginno Con-

struction Company and CKA under a contract by the end of September.

Pankopf said when the contract is confirmed they will have an official number for the project's budget, but he estimates it will amount to approximately \$4.2 million.

The newly refreshed floors will positively influence the student experience in future years, Pankopf said.

"The rooms are nicer, they're cleaner," Pankopf said. "And it shows the students that the university really cares about them."

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University of Idaho

Through the haze



David Betts | Argonaut

The air quality rose to an air quality index of 329, a hazardous level, Wednesday as smoke blew into Moscow. UI canceled all outdoor activities due to the smoke.

LAW

Old building, new center

ILJLC opened for classes Monday

Ryan Tarinelli
Argonaut

After years of construction, the University of Idaho Boise law program now has a building of its own.

"It feels like we have a real law school down here," said Lee Dillion, associate dean for Boise programs in the College of Law.

Located in the historic former Ada County Courthouse, the Idaho Law and Justice Learning Center opened for classes Monday, offering courses to both second- and third-year law students.

The Boise law program was previously housed in the Idaho Water Center, home to a number of other UI academic programs.

Although students have begun their classes in the newly renovated facility, the center will not have its grand opening until Sept. 24.

"Everybody around here has big smiles on," Dillion said, mentioning it was a relief to have everything up and running for the start of classes Monday. He said students have been flexible with the timeline and law faculty members in Moscow have supported the Boise program's effort over the years.

"They have been arm in arm with us," he said.

The College of Law plans to begin offering first-year classes fall 2017, pending approval from the State Board of Education and the American Bar Association.

Remodeling work on the building for the law school started in 2010, Dillion said, and the university began paying for tenant renovations in January.

The fifth and final phase of the renovation project began in January. The phase cost an estimated \$1.7 to \$2 million, Dillion said, and was funded through private donation.

He said the fifth phase focused on tenant improvements to the building, such as building interior walls, putting in ceilings and installing carpet.

Although he had some concerns the space would not be completed in time for classes, Dillion said he was surprised at how much the interior changed in a short amount of time.

In partnership with the Idaho Supreme Court, the center also holds the state law library, which is now managed by the university.

"It's just a marriage of convenience," Dillion said of the partnership between the Idaho Supreme Court and the university.

There are other functions to the center as well. Dillion said the center will be used for judicial education, providing a space for state court judges and clerks to receive training and continue their education.

Dillion said the center will also be used for civic outreach and education, promoting citizen education in the law.

Located on the Capitol Mall in Boise, Dillion said the former Ada County Courthouse is in a great location for the UI Boise law program. The building had served as a courthouse and holding jail from 1939-99 and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1974.

The center is adjacent to the Capitol Building, the Idaho State Bar office and the Idaho Supreme Court.

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File photo by George Wood | Argonaut

Workers began internal remodeling in January and finished in August. The Idaho Law and Justice Learning Center opened Monday for classes.

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GREEK

Finding a leader for Greek life

Search fails for sorority and fraternity life director

Ryan Tarinelli
Argonaut

Both candidates for director of Fraternity and Sorority Life liked the students and enjoyed the campus.

But citing concerns over salary pay, both took a pass on taking the position at the University of Idaho.

"We offered the position to one, and then the other — both of whom said 'no, thank you,'" said Jean Kim, vice provost for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

The search for a new director of Fraternity and Sorority Life failed this summer, but Kim said the university plans to start another search by the end

of September.

Kim said both candidates had concerns over the position's low salary and its "non-exempt" status. Non-exempt employees are paid by the hour where as exempt employees are paid an annual salary.

Under the previous director, Kim said the position was classified as exempt status and was paid through an annual salary.

After the previous director left the position at the end of the school year, Kim said the department of Human Resources decided to change it to a non-exempt status. Since many other positions around the country are listed as exempt, she said the non-exempt status was a concern among the candidates.

In general, Kim said UI faculty and staff salaries are lower than

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I think it's important that that person have had a professional experience working with Greek organizations and Greek

Jean Kim, vice provost for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

peer institutions.

"I mean they know what the positions are supposed to be getting," Kim said. "And so I think our lower salary level certainly didn't help us."

With the new search, Kim said they hope to complete the search

by November and have a new director start work in January.

"I am cautiously optimistic that we will be able to find the right person the second go around," Kim said, adding that starting the search during the school year might be better timing for the university.

In the summer, when the search began, Kim said good candidates are often not paying attention to job opportunities.

With the search during the school year, Kim said she hopes to have more student engagement in this search.

"I think the timing is better this time around," Kim said. She said she will see if the university can improve the salary rate for the position.

The university will be looking for a candidate with a master's

degree that has worked within a Greek life office as an assistant director, associate director or director, Kim said.

"I think it's important that that person have had a professional experience working with Greek organizations and Greek students," Kim said, adding that the experience would make them qualified to coach and mentor students at UI. She said there is also the expectation a candidate would have had three or four years of working in a professional capacity in Greek life.

Dean of Students Blaine Eckles currently oversees the responsibilities of the position, Kim said.

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FULBRIGHT

FROM PAGE 1

"When you are preparing someone to enter a new culture, there are some basic skills that you can teach and that you can learn to be more effective — what we call cultural general skills," said Susie Bender, executive director of International Engagement and Programs at the University of Idaho. "There's cultural general and cultural specific skills. We try to do a little bit of both."

Shalan said he hopes to take the cultural differences he learns through the program back to Egypt to change colleges there. While Egyptians study hard and are provided with a good education, he said, there should be more to student life.

"As far as the science itself, we're covered. But just the science does not create a good person," he said. "If I am very well educated in terms of engineering and have no cultural activities — no independence of thought, freedom to form organizations, to act independently — this is really critical to forming an independent thinker."

Highlights of the weeklong orientation included the chance to interact with Fulbright graduates and a trip to Hell's Canyon for a boat tour. Bender said the trip to Hell's Canyon was chosen to give participants a chance to network, to teach participants the history surrounding the canyon and to

allow participants see a unique, beautiful landmark.

This year marks the second time UI has hosted the Fulbright Gateway Orientation program. UI received a grant of \$66,399 from the State Department to fund the event, after the university was selected in a competitive nationwide application process.

Shenandoah Sampson, a program officer in the State Department's Office of Academic Exchange Programs, said colleges are selected to host the program for a variety of reasons including compliance to guidelines, available support at the college for the program and ability to provide an orientation applicable for many host institutions.

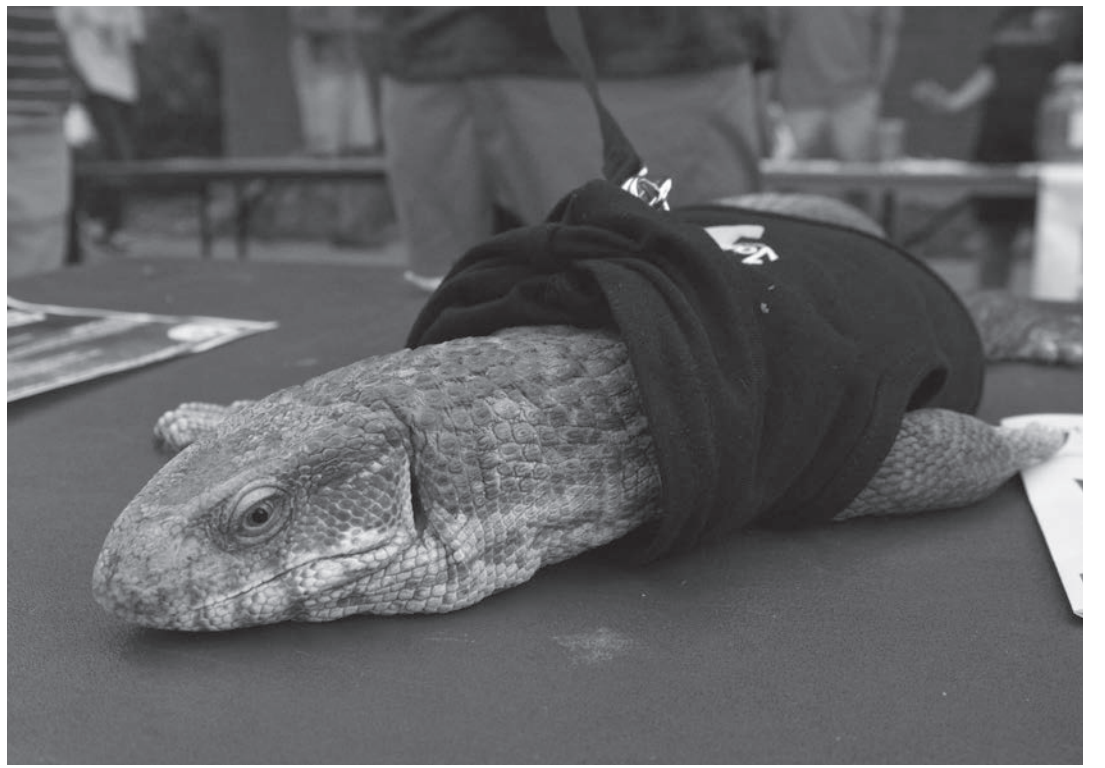
"We were very happy with the University of Idaho last year and are excited to do it again this year," Sampson said.

Hosting the program offers many benefits to the university and students, Bender said. She said hosting so many scholars raises the profile of the university.

"One of the reasons we applied for this grant is that Fulbright is a very prestigious organization," she said. "One of the ways raise the profile of a university is that you attract high quality students and scholars. And Fulbright are the highest quality of students and scholars."

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Reptilian Vandals



Jackson Flynn | Argonaut

Garrus the lizard sports his Vandal gear at the Virtual Design Society table at Palousafest Aug. 22.

SHOPLIFTING

FROM PAGE 1

"The University of Idaho is deeply disappointed in the behavior of these students and in their poor decision making," according to the statement. "The athletes involved have been disciplined by the coaches and their be-

havior will be investigated through the Student Code of Conduct process."

According to the statement, charges would have been filed if the merchandise had not been returned to the store immediately — consistent with store practice.

"Under the same circumstances, the university would

have taken the same action with any other student(s)," according to the statement.

The Argonaut will continue to cover this story as more information is made available.

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arg-news@uidaho.edu
or on Twitter @ryantarinelli

EDUCATION

FROM PAGE 1

"I would need to see data, but my impression is that the average GPA for students doesn't really fluctuate a lot," Stevenson said. "It's not a compelling dialogue at this time."

Stevenson's impression is right on the mark, according to research done by Pietrzak's department. Data put out by the department indicates there has been a slight increase in cumulative GPAs in recent years — the average GPA was 3.04 in 2014, up from 2.96 in 2001. The increase was small enough as to not be statistically significant, Pietrzak said. Data earlier than 2001 was not available at press time.

UI's peer institution Washington State University has seen a similar trend in GPAs in the same time frame, according to a study conducted by Rojstaczer. The data he compiled for WSU began in 1970, when cumulative GPAs were 2.81. Those numbers dipped in the 80s, hitting a low of 2.71 in 1984, but have inched upwards since.

Rojstaczer's data for WSU ends in 2007.

Without comprehensive data, it's difficult to see the bigger picture — but Cowan said to find evidence of grade inflation, he only has to look as far as his own parents.

"If you talk to my mother, you needed like a 3.5 to get on the Dean's List when she was in college," Cowan said, mentioning some colleges now have higher expectations.

Cowan said he thinks departments are raising the bar because the bar is being reached by more students.

A generational shift

Frey teaches a wide range of classes at UI, from ISEM 101 courses to upper-division ethnography courses. He said he's fortunate to be able to teach honors students, non-honors students, students in his field and students with a completely different set of interests.

"They're all just absolutely rich with experiences and aspirations," Frey said. "It's really exciting."

On the flip side, Frey said he holds himself to a rigorous standard when assigning grades, focusing on a student's level of mastery within the course as well as with the university-wide learning outcomes. Frey isn't a believer of grading on a curve, though he said each student should be measured as an individual.

"If all 30 students in a class achieve the expectations, it's going to be all As," Frey said.

While Cowan said he believes students' GPAs have gotten better over the years, grade inflation is not necessarily as negative as it's made out to be.

"It's not an indictment of the entire university system," Cowan said. "Professors aren't bending to the pressure of a society which demands greater attainment of degrees."

Pietrzak pointed out that over the decades, grades aren't the only

things that have changed — the student body has changed too. Students now have access to more technology and other resources than ever before, he said.

Cowan said the last two decades have seen a huge federal push for making degrees more accessible, especially through the investment of things like professional and academic advising, writing and tutor centers and disability services.

Suzi Billington, director of UI's Academic Support and Access Programs, agrees there's a distinction between grade inflation — professors handing out higher grades — and GPAs that rise simply because students are doing better in school.

Students from marginalized populations and students with learning disabilities are two groups that have struggled to achieve a higher education historically, Billington said. Yet, she said, the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act and funding from the Department of Education have helped these students and others be more successful.

"That doesn't affect grade inflation at all," Billington said of these resources. "It affects college success based on students' ability to be successful, and that's something different."

Staying afloat in the job market

If higher grades are being given out, the natural question is whether graduates are prepared for what comes after college.

Greg Walters has worked in human resources primarily at universities for almost 30 years. In that time, he has hired over 1,200 people. Many of them have been recent graduates into entry-level positions.

Walters, the executive director of UI's Human Resources department, said in the past decade he and his colleagues have noticed graduates often expect a higher salary and more opportunity for growth than the job market can offer. This, he said, frustrates them — but only at first.

"They're very smart, so they learn," Walters said. "They're also way more technologically advanced and are more comfortable with change. They're more accustomed to learning things quicker."

This summer, Cowan, who sits on the National Campus Leadership Council, helped survey student and business leaders nationwide to learn how to make higher education more accessible and degrees more attainable. One thing that stood out to him, he said, is that leading employers say recent graduates are some of the brightest they've ever seen.

Cowan said this led him to wonder whether grades still measure what they need to in order to gauge student readiness in the real world.

"GPA measures a specific set of skills," Cowan said. "It measures your ability to perform in particular castes and assignments — how well you can write a paper and how

well you can give a presentation."

GPA, however, is much less effective when trying to measure what Cowan calls "soft skills."

"It's much harder to measure a student's ability to survive in a work environment," Cowan said. "Are they successful and creative collaborators? Do they see the bigger picture? Are they able to work towards a larger goal? That's not captured by a raw GPA."

Walters said that based on what he has seen in recent years, most universities focus on academics and don't necessarily prepare graduates for entering the working world.

Cowan agreed. "I think everybody agrees the pedagogue has grown to recognize the value of extracurricular experiences," Cowan said. "Everyone emphasizes internships, work experience, service learning projects and participation in clubs and organizations as part of creating an engaged and active citizen."

For that reason, Cowan said that a 3.5 GPA versus a 3.9 GPA is no longer enough for employers to distinguish a good candidate from a great candidate.

That's why, Walters said, when he vets job candidates, their grades are rarely his primary concern.

"The workforce is changing," Walters said. "(Graduates) appreciate what they've learned, and they want to put it to use very quickly."

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Argonaut Religion Directory

immerse
College Ministries

Bible Study-Fellowship-Events
Sunday Morning Van Service
(Look for Trinity's maroon van)
9:45am, at ULC bus stop
(returning shortly after Worship)

sponsored by
Trinity Baptist Church
www.trinitymoscow.org/ministries/immerse
Contact: Jessica Curry, 208-595-5383
curj757@vandals.uidaho.edu

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Mr. Nathan Anglen Assistant Pastor

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SPORTS



Idaho soccer gears up for its home opener against New Mexico State Friday at Guy Wicks Field.

PAGE 8



Vandal safety Russell Siavii shows frustration during the first half of Idaho's 34-10 Dads' Weekend loss to South Alabama Sept. 27 in the Kibbie Dome. File photo by Philip Vukelich | Argonaut

FOOTBALL

A different look

Vandals will have new schemes, players in secondary this season

Korbin McDonald
Argonaut

The Idaho Vandals only managed to nab eight interceptions on defense last season, which was tied for 99th in the country.

That's a number Aric Williams, who is in his first season at Idaho as the new cornerbacks coach, wants to see improve.

"If that ball is in the air, we got to have the mentality in the secondary that we're going to go get it," Williams said. "If it's in the air, dive for it. We gotta want that ball as much as we want to eat."

A player that has been hungry for interceptions throughout fall camp has been safety Russell Siavii.

While there is no official tally, the 6-foot-2, 208-pound junior from Wahaiwa, Hawaii, has racked up close to, if not more intercep-

tions in fall camp than the whole team did last season.

But Siavii is quick to give the credit elsewhere.

"You do your job, you get (defensive line) pressure, it's easy to make plays," Siavii said. "With someone like Tueni (Lupeamanu) in your face, it's hard to throw a good ball, and I'm there to just make a play."

Williams also might know a thing or two about interceptions, as he was a standout cornerback at Oregon State from 2001-04 and was named to the All-Pac 10 first team after his senior season there.

While Williams sports an impressive resume as a player, his coaching pedigree isn't far behind.

When he was the cornerbacks' coach at Montana, Williams was the position coach for Trumaine Johnson, who was a two-time FCS

All-American and was selected 65th overall by the St. Louis Rams in the 2012 NFL Draft.

Williams said the Idaho secondary has come a long way since his arrival last spring.

"We're better from where we started," he said. "I watched pretty much every game, multiple times from last year and I do see we're running better ... We want people to turn on the film and say 'wow, those guys play fast and they play physical.'"

Of course, Williams wasn't the only addition to the Vandal coaching staff. New defensive coordinator Mike Breske made the short eight-mile move east from his old position in Pullman as the Washington State defensive coordinator.

Prior to his three-year stint with the Cougars, Breske and Wil-

iams worked together at Montana.

"Me and Breske have worked together before, so I know his personality, I know how he is," Williams said. "It's everyday that is an exciting day for Breske. He's animated and a great defensive mind and I'm learning everyday from him."

The two will have their work cut out for them as they will have to determine which players will start the first game of the season against Ohio Thursday.

And from the sound of it, only one player looks to be cemented into a starting role — which is Siavii at safety.

"Russell is kind of our leader back there within the secondary," Breske said. "He's having a great camp, and is kind of our quarterback back there on defense."

At the other safety position, there

has been a heavy rotation of players, including sophomores Desmond Banks, Jordan Grabski and Armond Hawkins, along with junior Jordan Frysinger. All of which are competing to start, Breske said.

"If you look at our roster, a lot of our safeties were corners at one time," Williams said. "Our philosophy, we want to get cover guys, we want to get corners ... and the guys that can tackle and aren't afraid to hit, we'll see if they can play safety. But we want those corner skills — coverage, speed — and we'll make the adjustment."

At cornerback, it's much of the same as Breske named five players — senior Jayshawn Jordan, juniors Isaiah Taylor, Kendrick Trotter and D.J. Hampton, along

SEE DIFFERENT, PAGE 9

VOLLEYBALL

Facing the unknown

With Coba's return, the team dynamic is expected to grow

Luis Torres
Argonaut

The long wait for volleyball season is finally over.

The Idaho Vandals begin their quest for the Big Sky Tournament Friday against No. 18 Hawaii at the Stan Sheriff Center in Honolulu. Idaho will also play Oregon State Saturday and Wichita State Sunday as part of this year's Chevron Rainbow Wahine Invitational.

Oregon State and Wichita State earned votes for the NCAA rankings but didn't make the top-25 list.

One of the major stories going into the first week of play is the return of senior setter Meredith Coba, who sat out late in the 2014 season with a knee injury.

Coach Debbie Buchanan said Coba is the second player in her previous 15 seasons to sustain an ACL injury.

Buchanan said Coba will be ready to go this weekend and said she took her injury quite well.

"She's definitely moving well," Buchanan said. She's stronger. She came back, set a great tempo, touched on the balls good, we didn't have to worry about catching any of that stuff up. Even when she came back that first day, you couldn't tell that she was favoring one (knee) or the other, so that's a good sign when you come back."

Katelyn Peterson, a senior outside hitter, said Coba told the team that it was her first

real adversity she had to face and is hungrier than ever to return this weekend.

Peterson said Coba's return is an opportunity to play the game she loves with more meaning.

"After working through all those challenges, working so hard to come back and actually getting the opportunity to play again, there's so much more on the line and a lot more motivation than she already had," Peterson said.

"She had her hard moments but she was so optimistic the whole time," Peterson said. "We are just trying to be there for her, be understanding and make sure we knew we are there for her and just offering any support that we could. Knowing that end goal was for her to be back out playing the sport that she loves and she's seen her hard work paid off, so it's been awesome to watch."

Senior defensive specialist Jenna Ellis said the situation was hard for the team.

Both Ellis and Peterson praised Coba's perseverance on returning to the court as an uplifting moment.

"We're all really excited just to have her back," Ellis said. "It definitely was upsetting but we had great players trying to step up and time flew by and now here she is."

In situations when an athlete is injured, team support comes into play. Buchanan said it is a team effort rather than one person leading the way.

Until they play against Hawaii in front of an enthusiastic crowd, Buchanan said they can't assume how the other

SEE FACING, PAGE 9

Trusting the process

First week of season consists of sibling reunion

Luis Torres
Argonaut

Jenna Ellis and the Idaho volleyball team start their season by facing three competitive opponents in Honolulu.

But it's Saturday's game against Oregon State that has a special meaning to Ellis, a senior defensive specialist.

The match will feature a sisters reunion as Jenna's sister Kayla, a freshman defensive specialist/libero, plays for the Beavers.

Despite their family making the trip to Honolulu, it's all business for the Ellis sisters as soon as the match begins, knowing they are entering their second of three games in a span of three days. Jenna is looking forward to play against Kayla.

"We're both there for volleyball," Jenna said. "But it'll be nice to have the support from our family and to see her across of the net will be super comforting too. We've always played with each other. The only time we've ever been against each other was at practice."

When facing siblings, there are times when they talk back and forth to each other in order to gain a competitive edge. But Jenna said it's quite the opposite.

"It's been really supportive," Jenna said. "She has funny comments, just jokes. But for the most part, we pretty

much support each other and have that kind of relationship."

Jenna described Kayla's playing style as very similar to hers and she is happy Oregon State has her on the team.

"Same size, slightly taller," Jenna said. "She's a very scrappy player, quick defender, I think she's going to do awesome things at Oregon State."

Kayla played at Century High School in Pocatello where she was a two-time Idaho Gatorade Player of the Year and named to the Idaho State Journal team three times in her high school career.

Even though Jenna is facing her sister this weekend, it won't stop her from staying focused on what's ahead in Hawaii, as the team will face No. 18 Hawaii Friday and Wichita State Sunday.

"We're really excited to go to Hawaii because of the great competition," Jenna said. "It's great to come out of the gates facing tough opponents. Not only will it push us to be better because it will probably set us at a higher standard for our play, but it'll just bring that competitive edge and really just push us to the next level."

Jenna said the team is focused on having good ball control. She said the Big Sky Conference has great ball control teams and having good ball control will help the Vandals build a solid, dynamic team.

Jenna characterized Idaho as a team of hard workers and is working to be quick on defense in a conference that has a fast swing.

SEE TRUSTING, PAGE 9

SOCCER



Yishan Chen | Argonaut

Idaho battles for possession of the ball against Central Washington Aug. 18. Their first regular season game is against New Mexico State at 5 p.m. Friday at Guy Wicks Field.

Idaho prepares for Aggies

After one win and one loss on the road, Idaho soccer hosts NMSU in opener

Ben Evensen
Argonaut

The Idaho women's soccer season started as fast as the school year did, with a win and a loss in the first two games.

After beating Indiana State in Missoula, Montana, on Aug. 21, the Vandals lost to Washington State in Pullman on Monday to sit at 1-1 on the year.

Idaho will look to rebound when it hosts former WAC-foe New Mexico State 5 p.m. Friday at Guy Wicks Field in the home opener.

The Aggies are 0-2 with two home losses to Eastern Washington and rival New Mexico.

Despite the winless record, Idaho coach Derek Pittman isn't taking the Aggies lightly.

"Every game is difficult," Pittman said. "New Mexico State took Eastern Washington to overtime recently and they're going to come in here looking for a victory themselves. So we need to prepare for them the same way we prepared for WSU. We need to make sure we're doing the things we need to do on both sides of the ball."

One of the biggest names to watch in the New Mexico State game, as well as the coming games after, is freshman Kayla Watanabe. The forward from Honolulu was named Big Sky Conference Offensive Player of the Week in just her first week of collegiate soccer.

Watanabe scored the first Vandal goal in the Indiana State win Aug. 21.

Idaho and New Mexico State last played in 2013 during conference play when both schools were together in the Western Athletic Conference. Idaho won both matches that year.

After the Aggies, the Vandals won't return home for three weeks. They play four road games before their next home game.

Idaho will travel to Boise and take on Boise State Sept. 4, followed by a game Sept. 7 at Eastern Washington. Idaho then flies to Memphis, Tennessee, for a game against Arkansas State Sept. 11 and a game against Memphis Sept. 13. The Vandals return home to play South Dakota Sept. 18 and Seattle U Sept. 20.

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

Vandal freshman wins Big Sky honor

Kayla Watanabe named Big Sky Conference Offensive Player of the Week in her first week of collegiate soccer

Ben Evensen
Argonaut

It's not often that a freshman is able to be given an honor like conference offensive player of the week, let alone do it in just her first week of collegiate sports.

But that's exactly what Idaho freshman Kayla Watanabe did through just two games for the Vandals, as she was named Big Sky Conference Offensive Player of the Week Tuesday.

When asked about what the individual honor means, Watanabe is quick to talk about how it affects the team as a whole.

"It shows our team definitely has potential this season," said Watanabe, a forward from Honolulu. "That we definitely can win."

Watanabe credits her teammates for the award.

"Obviously I wouldn't have been able to win it without (my teammates)," she said. "They're always so caring and they helped make the transition (to college) so much easier."

Against Indiana State, Watanabe scored the Vandals' first goal in the 49th minute en route to a 3-1 Idaho victory. She led the team in shots on goal with three and had

five total throughout the game.

Watanabe comes to Moscow from Honolulu and the Mid-Pacific Institute.

As a senior in high school, she was the Division II top scorer and team player of the year. Her team was the state runner-ups that year, but Watanabe won a state championship her junior year at Mid-Pacific. Her club team won the State Cup in 2012 and was runner-up in 2013.

"Kayla is exactly what we expected her to be," Idaho coach Derek

Pittman said. "She's a dynamic, very brave, attacking player. She's willing to put herself in a position to score goals and do whatever it takes to be on the end of a cross or beat a defender to set up her or a teammate."

Pittman is very pleased with Watanabe's play thus far.

"That's why we recruited her here," he said. "She's done an excellent job of fitting into our style. But again, it wouldn't be done without the players around her ... We're very proud of her for (winning the honor)."

Idaho returns to action 5 p.m. Friday against New Mexico State in the home opener at Guy Wicks Field.

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



WATANABE

CLASSIFIEDS

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Coordinator, serves as the program coordinator for the development and implementation of the Palouse Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Reports to the Palouse Conservation District Projects and Grants Manager. Requires excellent communication skills in working with private landowners in a non-regulatory environment. Knowledge of habitat restoration techniques, conservation planning, and conservation practice implementation is required. Must be able to hike for extended periods and carry equipment over rough terrain, at times in inclement weather conditions. Requirements: B.S. in natural resources or closely related field and min. two years experience working in natural resources. Full-Time, At-Will, Exempt status; Salary range \$40,000-\$50,000 (DOE) plus full benefits package. View complete job description at www.palousecd.org. Send resume & cover letter to: CREP Coordinator Search, Palouse Conservation District, 1300 NE Henley Ct. #6, Pullman, WA 99163. Review begins August 24, 2015. Open until filled.

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R Daily 6:50 9:20
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FOOTBALL

Practice report

Date:

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Format:

Full pads — wrap up but don't take down and quarterbacks are off limits from hitting.

Practice rundown:

- Stretches
- Position warm-ups
- Offense walkthroughs red zone plays
- More specific position drills — quarterbacks worked with wide receivers, defensive line went against offensive line and other positions worked within their respective groups.
- One vs. one — wide receivers went against defensive backs in a one-on-one drill, with quarterbacks throwing to receivers.
- Punt coverage/kickoff coverage
- Team — 11 vs. 11
- Skelly — seven vs. seven
- Closed practice with the first-team offense working against the scout-team defense, and vice versa.

Notes:

Senior linebacker Marc Millan was back in full pads after nursing a hamstring injury throughout fall camp. Idaho coach Paul Petrino said Millan will have to earn his way back into the starting lineup.

"Marc has to go to win his way back, though," Petrino said. "Right now, Kaden

(Elliss) is ahead of him with all those practices, but it's great to see Marc back out there, no question."

Junior punter Austin Rehkow booted a punt around 70 yards during the punt coverage part of practice.

The offensive line is still in a heavy rotation. Junior Mason Woods and sophomore Jordan Rose have both been shuffling between guard and tackle. Nothing appears to be set on the first team offensive line besides junior Steven Matlock at center and senior Dallas Sandberg at one of the guard positions.

The much-anticipated debut of junior college transfer tight end Khalin Smith ended Tuesday. The 6-foot-5, 245-pounder had his first practice in full pads for the Vandals after his arrival to Idaho was delayed by waiting on if he passed a summer class or not.

Smith looked the part, too, as the tight end pulled down a few nice grabs and looked to be getting a good grasp on the offensive playbook. Between him, junior Deon Watson and junior Buck Cowan, the Vandals will have plenty of depth at tight end this season — all have impressed throughout fall camp.

Freshman quarterback Kareem Coles was taking snaps as the scout-team quarterback. Idaho's first opponent, Ohio, is expected to start senior Derrius Vick, who in limited time against the Vandals in last season's contest, rushed for 86 yards on just four attempts. Coles fits the bill, too, as he has plenty of speed to pull off his best Vick impression.

Korbin McDonald can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @KorbinMcD_V

Smokin'

Smoky conditions could affect games, events for Vandal athletes

Smoke decided to roll into Moscow and settle in nicely on the Idaho campus Wednesday. If the Northwest wildfires continue to rage, then the smoke won't be going anywhere soon, which could lead to problems for Idaho athletics.

In fact, the poor air quality has already impacted the soccer team. The Vandals were scheduled to play Washington State this past Sunday night in Pullman, but due to air quality concerns, the game was moved to Monday night.

Idaho hosts New Mexico State 5 p.m. Friday at Guy Wicks

Field, and if the air quality index value is in the unhealthy region or worse, then the game could be cancelled, postponed or perhaps even moved to the Kibbie Dome.

As for the football team, it's a good thing it plays in a dome.

The Vandals open their season against Ohio Thursday night at the Kibbie Dome, where it's a little tougher for smoke to settle in the stands and on the playing field.

If smoke continues to stick around until Thursday, it will probably be present at the Dome, but probably not enough to put the players, coaches, fans and anyone else in the Dome at risk.

Vandal football fans should just be grateful their team plays

indoors, because if they played outside under the sun, you never know how bad the fires would be next week and if that smoke would carry over to the Palouse, impacting the game.

It will be interesting to see how the Washington State-Portland State football game pans out as the two teams play each other Sept. 5 in Pullman. The game is about a week away, so a lot can change in that time, but it would be a huge disappointment if the Cougars didn't take the field Sept. 5.

Cross country is a sport that you would think the athletes would be suffering the most from the smoky atmosphere. The Idaho cross country teams will open their season at the Washington State Invitational Tuesday in Colfax, Washington.

I'm not sure where or if the

cross country teams have been practicing this week, but hopefully they weren't outside on Wednesday. A sport in which the goal is to run as hard and as fast as possible is not one suited for the smoky conditions.

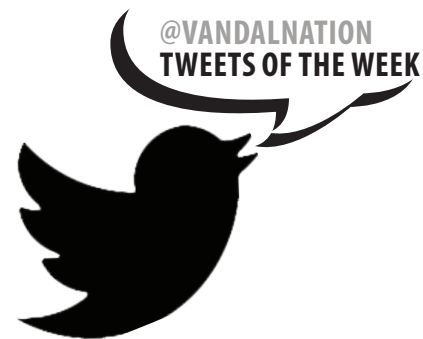
Hopefully, the smoke clears enough so the WSU Invitational isn't cancelled for the athletes and coaches' sake. I am sure the athletes are ready to compete against other people besides their own teammates and the coaches are looking forward to seeing how their teams stack up against other schools.

The smoke hasn't done the athletes any favors this week, but let's hope it clears quickly so no games or events are cancelled.

Garrett Cabeza can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @CabezaGarrett



Garrett Cabeza
Argonaut



@Idaho_Vandals

The John Friesz bobbleheads have arrived! Buy your season tickets to get yours! #GoVandals

—The official Idaho Vandal twitter account tweets a picture of the new John Friesz bobblehead.



@TheoLawson_Trib

Lots of mixing and matching on Idaho's O-line. Seems like when Rose is at guard, Woods is at

tackle. But Woods still seeing work at guard.

—Lewiston Tribune reporter Theo Lawson tweets about the offensive line competition at Idaho football practice.



@JoeRJames3

Daily Reminder that Wofford plays the Idaho vandals...a team that has won 5 games in 4 years this year. They're FBS, we can beat them tho

—A Wofford fan by the name of Joe James fires shots at the Idaho Vandals for the two teams' upcoming contest against one another on Sept. 19.



@CoachDPittman

Thx @IdahoVolleyball @VandalsWBB @VandalFootball

@VandalHoops supportVSF @IdahoSAAC & all the @Idaho_Vandals Fans for the support tonight

—Idaho soccer coach Derek Pittman tweets thanks out to all the fans who supported his team in Pullman this last Monday for the Vandals' game against Washington State.

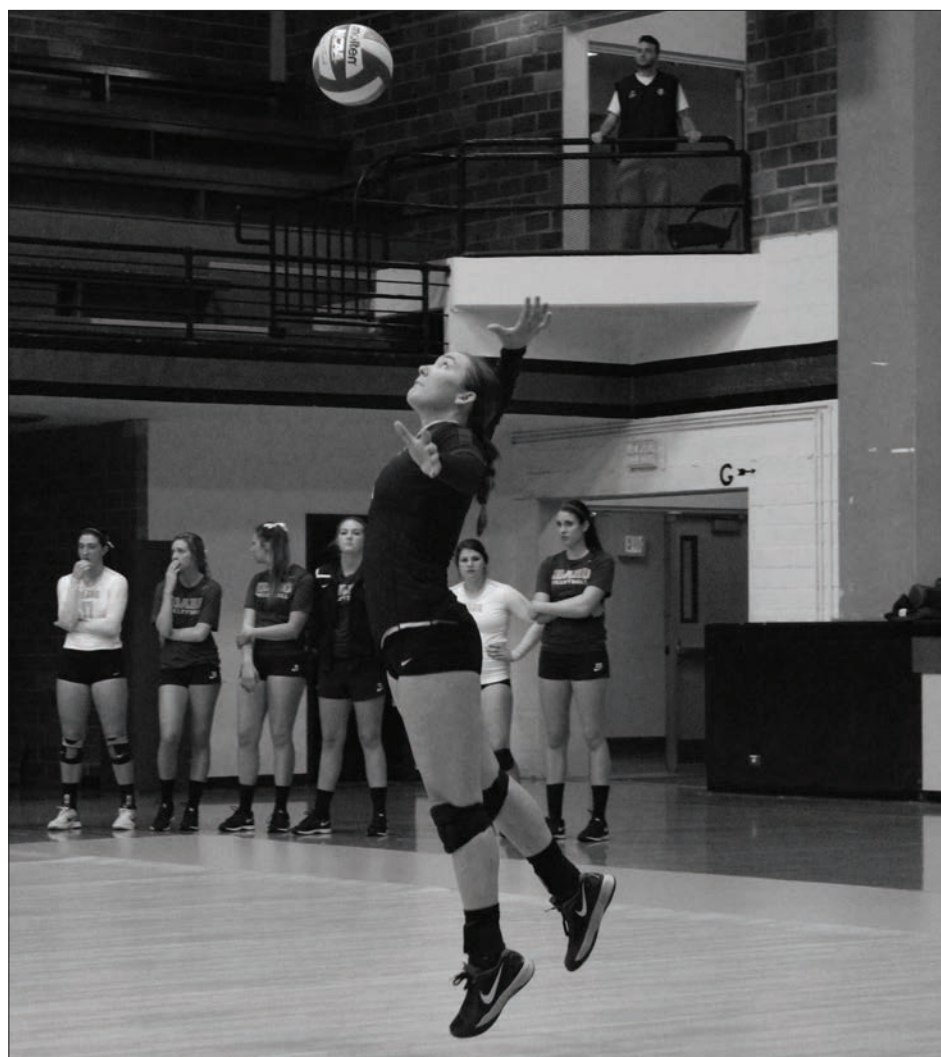


@CoachShu_UI

Want to be a Vandal? Tryout meeting Mon 8/24 at 3pm- Team Room B in Kibbie

Dome. Must be full time currently enrolled student. #GoVandals

—Running backs coach Jason Shumaker tweets out information for a tryout to be a walk-on for the football team.



File photo by Jose Bendeck | Argonaut

Senior defensive specialist Jenna Ellis serves during a game last October at the Memorial Gym. The Vandals play Friday against Hawaii in Honolulu.

DIFFERENT

FROM PAGE 7

with sophomore Dorian Clark — all competing for the two starting cornerback spots.

"We got a good group, we just gotta grow up," Breske said. "We'll see. We got some more practice in. I don't want to name starters yet, but we're going to continue to be competitive."

Idaho coach Paul Petrino said one of the areas that has improved the most from last season is the secondary.

"I like the depth, I like the competition and I like that they all have to go against each other each day," Petrino said.

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FACING

FROM PAGE 7

will do, no matter how well or poor each team they'll face played last season, especially when they begin playing against other teams in the Big Sky Conference. Buchanan said the Vandals will be facing challenges that'll help them once they face their first Big Sky opponent — Northern Colorado Sept. 24 at Memorial Gym.

"Anything can happen in this first weekend," Buchanan said. "We have the choice to either schedule really easy and get those wins or you play tough teams and you try to get the win that way. RPI (Rating Percentage Index) wise it's gonna help us more to have a tougher weekend than an easier one with wins. There's times that you can get a win and you drop on your RPI points versus playing a tough team and maybe you lose that game but you're gonna have a higher RPI just because of your strength of schedule."

Luis Torres

can be reached at

arg-sports@uidaho.edu

TRUSTING

FROM PAGE 7

"It gives our hitters a different perspective when they go up against maybe a little bigger blocks," Jenna said. "Both people that we play have good ball control. The Big Sky has good ball control, so it's a little bit dif-

ferent style of play."

Jenna hopes her team steps up to win the Big Sky Championship. Her personal goal is to maintain a solid passing percentage all season.

For now, Jenna said the team is focused on accomplishing short-term goals rather than the big picture.

"This year we're really

emphasizing the process to get there," Jenna said. "As that comes closer we'll kind of see how our team is running, what it looks like, what teams are competing. But until then, we're focusing on the process."

Luis Torres

can be reached at

arg-sports@uidaho.edu



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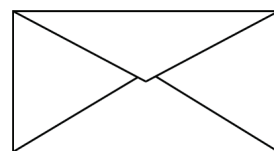
Kickoff is 6:00 – Idaho VS Ohio University
North Kibbie Activities Field

(Just north of the Dome and next to the main Stadium Drive parking lot)

GET TICKETS TO THE GAME @ GoVandals.com

University of Idaho

OPINION



Send us a 300-word letter to the editor.

ARG-OPINION@UIDAHO.EDU

OUR VIEW

Beautification with purpose

Construction projects will have positive benefits

Construction season is coming to a close. Most of the bulldozers and jackhammers have disappeared for the winter, but the long-term effects of the many projects are still waiting to be seen.

The most notable projects are the new crosswalks, which add beauty and pedestrian safety, the construction of the Campus Visit Office and Welcome Center in the Bruce Pitman Center and some lighter construction on the roads that cut across campus.

When it comes to the crosswalks on Deakin Avenue and 6th Street, many students grumble that the money is going to waste on improving campus aesthetics. However, something as simple as changing

the look of a street crossing may just sway a prospective student toward attending the University of Idaho.

The signs that were built last year on 3rd Street entrances to the university may not have added any functionality to UI, but they make it easier to see the university and it helps direct potential students inward.

Almost all of the construction that is taking place aligns with UI President Chuck Staben's goal to increase student enrollment at UI over the next few years.

When touring prospective colleges, many students examine how the campus looks, and that can make all the difference. If these small improvements make people feel more welcomed on campus, it could mean more students would be willing to enroll.

These changes can make stu-

dents feel more at home at UI.

In terms of the costs of these projects, the budgets are actually managed fairly well.

Some smaller renovations, like at the Pitman Center, will cost less than \$500,000, while other larger projects like the refreshes to more than half of Wallace, will come in at just over \$4 million, according to the estimates provided by Ray Pankopf of UI Facilities.

This may seem like a lot, but compared to what other colleges sometimes spend, the amount appears minimal.

While most of these construction projects don't appear to have a direct impact on current students, especially juniors and seniors, it is important to think about the meaning of the projects and what they are trying to accomplish.

For example, it is important to keep in mind that if something

simple can sway a student to enroll, it benefits the entire campus. As enrollment increases, so does the amount of revenue generated by the university. If that amount increases, perhaps the administration will make other changes with more immediate effects for enrolled students.

Investing the money in small projects now could make way for larger projects in the future.

Besides, not all of the construction will be useless for most of the currently enrolled students. The College of Education will reopen in the fall of 2016 and the new IRIC building will also be completed next fall.

Construction may seem pointless to some, but these are steps in a good direction to improving our campus as a whole.

— CW

OFF THE CUFF

QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM OUR EDITORS

Board Games

I don't think there will ever be an age where Clue isn't fun, and Monopoly doesn't tear families apart.

— Jessica

Birthdays

I still accept gifts every anniversary of my birth, but it gets less fun when I ask for presents like towels or grocery money or a textbook. Hey, at least I get a massage today.

— Claire

New car

Nothing better than driving around in a car that is 20 years younger than my last one.

— Jordan

Smoky out there

If you're already stressed about school, just take a deep breath of fresh air. Oh, wait a second.

— Garrett

Ouch

My greatest hope is to one day finally learn that a pair of cute flats just isn't worth the blisters.

— Corrin

Loving this

Having my Fridays free for the entire semester is totally worth those 8 a.m. classes Tuesdays and Thursdays.

— Erin

The whole journalism community

Is mourning the loss of two members after the event in Virginia Wednesday. It's a tragedy when simply doing your job ends with the loss of your life.

— Katelyn

Oh Sheit, it's X

What a song. Thundercat is on top of his game. I highly recommend a listen.

— Ryan

Sweater weather

All I can think about is pumpkin spice lattes and Halloween. Seriously.

— Tea

Shower thoughts

If I self-diagnose myself as a hypochondriac, does that inherently make me a hypochondriac?

— Jake

Treat yourself

Use a Pilot G-2.

— Hannah

I've seen worse

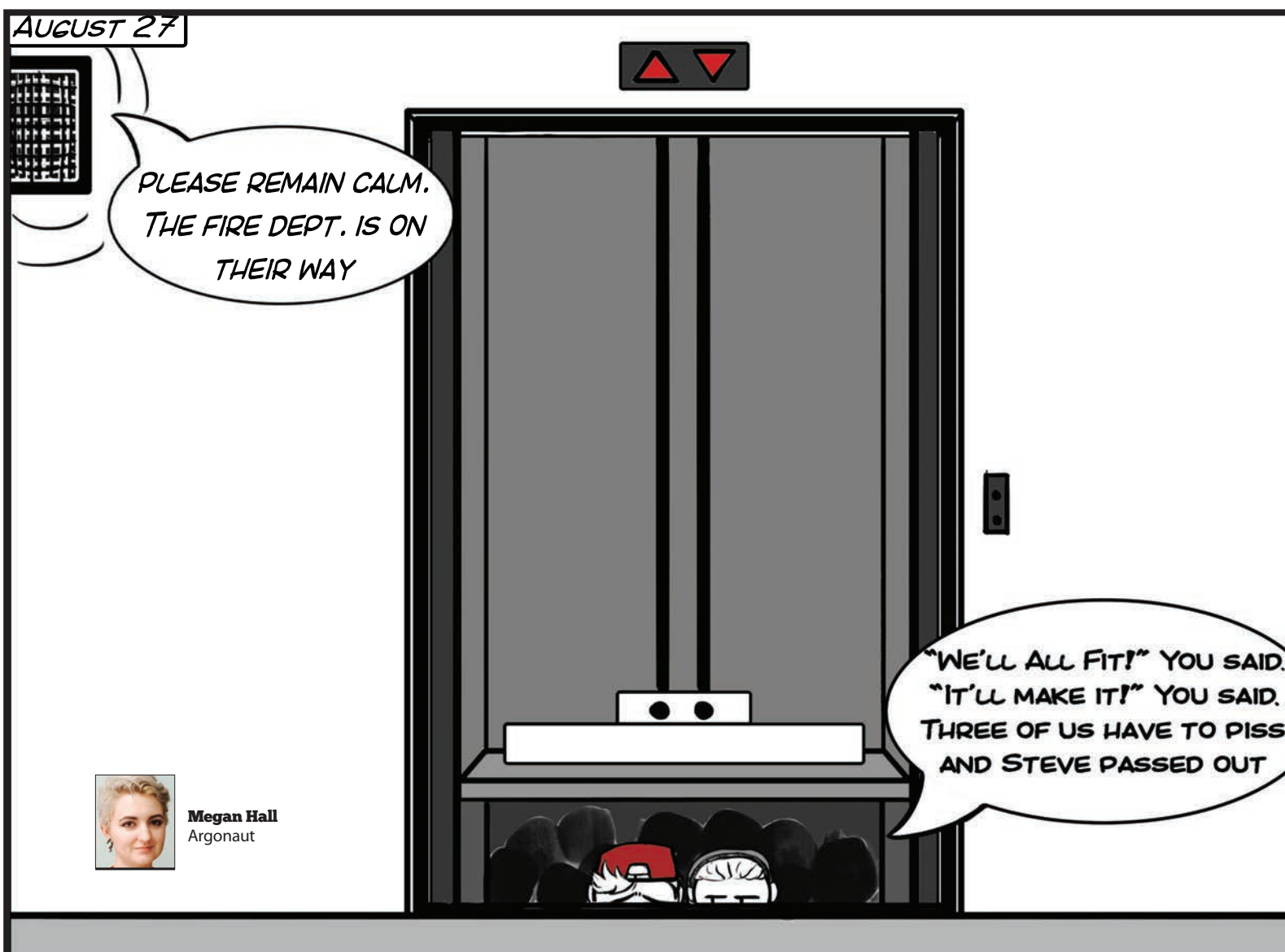
If you think it's smoky now, you should have been in Seattle the day pot was legalized.

— Korb

Erin

I am very sorry I failed to turn my OTC in to you on time. To make up for it, I will buy you a Jimmy John's sandwich during any production night of your choosing.

— Jack



Megan Hall
Argonaut

Not quite 'quitting'

Why dropping classes early is the best choice

Congratulations! You've made it through "silly week!"

The first week of school is primarily used for professors to introduce their courses and hand out syllabi to their new batches of students. In return, students generally use this time to not pay attention to their professors and take advantage of the extra five days they have to put off the actual work.

But silly week can serve a bigger purpose to students than many of them realize. The first week is an opportunity for students to decide which courses are actually worth their time and energy.

The deadline to drop a course without adding a 'W' to a student's record is always ridiculously close to the first day of classes. This year, the deadline is next Friday for full-term courses, less than two weeks after the start of term.

With such a short deadline, students aren't given much time to come to a conclusion about the classes they're enrolled in. But students ought to take advantage

of these two weeks to consider if one or more of their classes are important enough for them to see through to the end of the semester.

Dropping a course should never be seen as "giving up." For one thing, most students have legitimate reasons for dropping a class. Also, giving students grief for "quitting" doesn't achieve anything. All it does is make them feel bad.

There is no specific list of acceptable reasons for dropping a course. A student shouldn't hesitate to drop a class if they're uncomfortable with it. It could be because they know they won't get a good grade, or because they feel like they won't get anything out of the curriculum they'll be taught. All of these are legitimate reasons for a student to leave a class.

I have only dropped one class during my college career so far — accounting. I stuck it out for over a month, but I was miserable and knew I was already going to drop my business major so the course

“The bottom line is that dropping a class isn't something to feel ashamed of.”

Erin Bamer

wouldn't help me in the end. I had an 'A' in the class when I dropped, but I knew that wouldn't last.

If anything, I regret not dropping my accounting class sooner. In hindsight, it sucks that I worked so hard for a month only to realize that the work I was doing wasn't worth my time. Once I finally dropped it, I was much happier and the rest of my semester went a lot smoother.

Professors usually encourage their students to drop courses too. While they want their students to enjoy themselves and learn from

what they teach, most professors — the good ones at least — tell students to drop a course if they feel it would result in a poor grade on their record.

Some students are ahead of the game already. They stuff their schedule full of 18, 20, even 22 credits worth of classes, then they go to all of them during silly week and choose the one or two classes they dislike the most. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, give it a go for future semesters.

The bottom line is that dropping a class isn't something to feel ashamed of. It certainly is a serious decision to make, but students should never delay doing it if they're really sure they won't gain anything out of a course by the end of the semester.

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Erin Bamer

Chapters of expenses

UI should utilize open-source textbooks to minimize student expenses

With the first week of classes coming to an end, it's time for me to buy textbooks.

Unlike some of my friends, who show up to class having all of the required materials, I choose to wait.

Although the professors at the University of Idaho may claim certain textbooks are required, I like to decide for myself if I think the book is worth buying or if there are alternatives that would work just as well.

Between sharing books with friends, using the library and finding online resources, I can sometimes get away without buying the required textbook for a course. It makes a lot of sense, especially if the syllabus makes it clear the curriculum will only cover a few of the chapters.

When talking about a book that will set me back more than \$100, the decision is a simple one for me. But it's a decision I'm a little scared and ashamed to admit to my professors.

I know I'm not alone. Research has shown that 65 percent of students have decided against buying a textbook because it was outside their budget. Since 1977, textbook prices have risen at three times the rate of inflation.

With prices becoming prohibitive, and so many students making the

choice to forgo some of the books altogether, we need a real conversation about how to make textbooks affordable. This is where open-source textbooks enter the discussion.

Open-source textbooks are available to students and instructors for free, because they aren't under copyright as with ordinary textbooks. Instead the publisher is removed from the equation, allowing knowledge to pass directly from the professor and author to the student, saving hundreds of dollars in the process.

GUEST VOICE



Max Cowan
ASUI President

Professors are already encouraged to engage in scholarly work, and producing an open-source textbook should be no different. Giving their knowledge and expertise to ensure that academic understanding is accessible to all is invaluable. Furthermore, when this work is credited as scholarly activity, it falls within the scope of their

job description. Some institutions have already begun to build their offerings of open resources.

Rice University started an initiative called OpenStax where professors work together to create peer-reviewed texts with the goal of reducing the cost of college for all students. With 18 texts covering many core courses such as biology, statistics and sociology, you would be hard pressed not to find at least one course in your time at the university that could have used these free textbooks.

After looking through the books

produced by OpenStax, I was amazed that they were of comparable, if not better, quality than many books published by large companies.

The most beautiful part of open-source textbooks is that they are meant to be shared. Your professors can require these free texts without having to write their own book.

The Associated Students of the University of Idaho (ASUI) have already begun working on building knowledge of these resources. Working with the President, Provost and many other faculty across our campus, we want to build an initiative to convert some of our most basic courses to free textbooks.

The Washington State Board of Community and Technical Colleges converted 81 high-enrollment classes to open-source textbooks. In just four years, they saved students \$5.5 million.

We know that UI is capable of taking the same kind of bold action to address the rising cost of education. Working together as students, we can share our stories.

Don't be afraid to say that more than \$1,000 a year is too much to spend on textbooks. Encourage your professors to consider these alternatives to expensive textbooks, and with the dedicated work of ASUI, we will be able to ensure that all students are able to afford the education we deserve.

Max Cowan is the president of ASUI. He can be reached at mgcowan@uidaho.edu.



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Blinded by the white

Filmmakers should consider accurately representing communities in their stories



Jessy Forsmo-Shadid

Look! Is it a bird? A plane? Nope. It's just another Hollywood movie where marginalized groups are saved by the beautiful white savior.

This isn't new with Hollywood movies in any sense. White people have always dominated the big screen. But the act of whitewashing roles and general themes of movies and TV shows has become more obvious, especially with films like "Pan," a movie based on the classic children's story Peter Pan, and "Stonewall," a movie based on the events of 1969 — the Stonewall riots.

The story of Peter Pan has been told for years and years. There are books, films and costumes dedicated to the story and the characters. This year's film "Pan" follows the story of Peter Pan and his journey to Neverland.

Actors such as Hugh Jackman, Amanda Seyfried and Rooney Mara feature in this film, which will most likely bring in more viewers. But there's a problem with the story.

Tiger Lily, a Native American character from the story of Peter Pan, is played by Rooney Mara. If you don't know who she is, she is an actress who has starred in films such as "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" and "Side Effects."

Having a familiar name will help bring in viewers for the movie, but the fact that the director shot down Native American actresses to give the part to someone who isn't of that race is a problem.



People of color need to have the opportunity to have their stories told right. It doesn't matter how wonderful an actor is.

Jessy Forsmo-Shadid

Not only does Hollywood compromise a Native American actress' opportunities for a bigger name, but the industry has also begun to erase parts of our history and the people who have made an impact in it. The film "Stonewall" would fall into this category.

The trailer of "Stonewall" is about a white, gay, cis-gendered male named Danny who makes the journey to New York. There, he would be invited into the LGBT community. He would get to know about the social justice movement. In the trailer, it shows Danny throwing the first brick and starting what is known now as the Stonewall riots.

This is a cute story and all, but because the movie is called "Stonewall," because it is supposed to represent a crucial historical moment, the movie should have involved more of the real story.

The Stonewall riots were actually started by Marsha P. Johnson, an African-American drag queen and Sylvia Rivera, a Latina transgender woman. Johnson was known to be the first one to fight back and throw something. In fact, there was no man named "Danny" who played a big part in this historical event.

You may think that in the grand scheme of things, it doesn't really matter as long as some kind of story is told. But erasing the work that Johnson and Rivera did is not fair for the LGBT community, and especially the transgender community.

It's like having Bradley Cooper play Martin Luther King Jr. It doesn't give credit to the community who were involved.

People of color need to have the opportunity to have their stories told right. It doesn't matter how wonderful an actor is. Erasing the story, discounting the work done by people of color and not giving actors of color a chance to tell a story is a problem.

When will Hollywood take the time to think about other communities represented in the stories they're attempting to tell instead of focusing on the level of revenue they could potentially rake in?

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

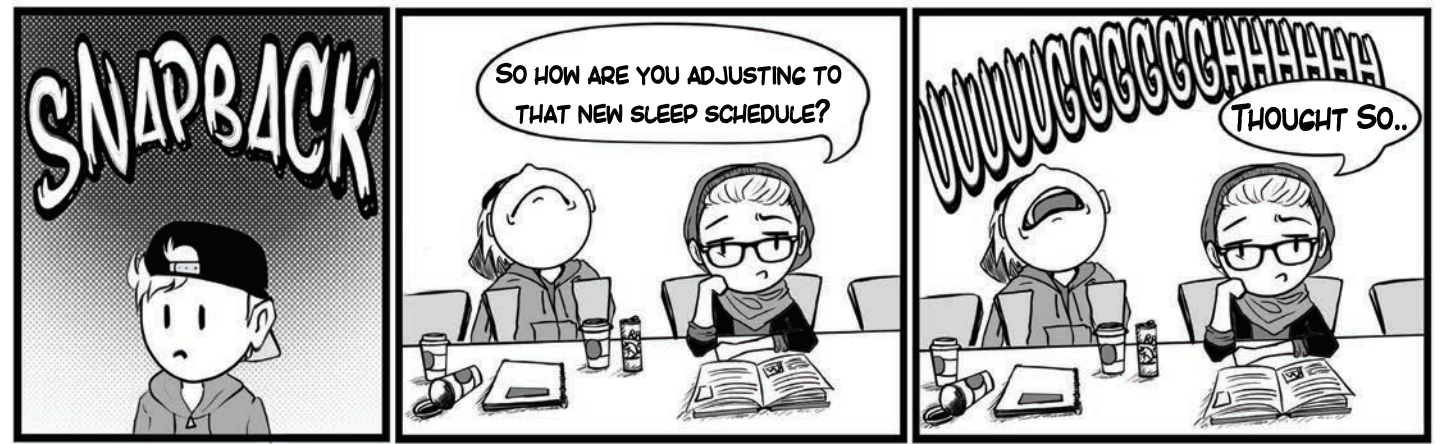
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