ARGONAUT

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THE VANDAL VOICE SINCE 1898

Friday, March 4, 2016



Jessica Gee Argonaut

ASUI's medical amnesty bill cleared another hurdle Tuesday when it was unanimously endorsed by the Idaho House of Representatives Judiciary, Rules and Administration Committee.

ASUI Lobbyist Nate Fisher said he is excited about the outcome of the hearing, since he has been working one-on-one with committee members to answer any questions they may have.

"Now that we have the support of the Judiciary and Rules Committee, the bill will be brought to the House floor where every member can vote on it," Fisher said. "If it is passed on the House floor, it will move onto Senate."

He said the legislation will be heard on the House floor early next week at the latest. Fisher said if the bill is passed in the House, the Judiciary and Rules Committee in the Senate will vote on it and the process will be repeated. If the bill makes it through Senate, Fisher said it will be up to Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter to either sign it or veto it.

ASUI Director of Policy Nick Wren traveled to Boise for the hearing, and said the unanimous approval of the bill has made him optimistic about the future of medical amnesty in Idaho. Wren said a few legislators spoke up at the hearing to provide constructive feedback on the bill.

"Specifically, Committee Representative (Patrick) McDonald said he had a few con-

cerns about whether it would raise drinking rates or if it would affect Emergency Medical Services," Wren said.

He said the one aspect of the hearing in particular that seemed to have an effect on the committee's vote was UI student Seth Guyer's testimony.

Guyer went to Boise to share a personal experience with the committee which he said would have played out differently if Idaho had had a medical amnesty law in place.

Guyer told the story of his freshmen year of college, when he waited with a sick friend for an ambulance and in turn was issued a Minor in Consumption (MIC).

SEE **AMNESTY**, PAGE 5

TUITIONS & FEES

Requesting conservative increases

Tuition and fees proposal to go before State Board mid-March

> Hannah Shirley Argonaut

University of Idaho President Chuck Staben has approved a proposed 4.5 percent increase to the fiscal year 2017 undergraduate resident tuition and fees, including a 2 percent increase to the dedicated student activity fee.

According to a statement released Wednesday afternoon, the proposal will be presented to the UI community April 6, and the final presentation to the State Board of Education will be held April 13-14 on the UI campus.

Staben said the central question in the decision-making process was how to balance the financial burden placed on students with garnering the resources needed to maintain an excellent university.

"We try to be conservative in what we are trying to fund," Staben said. "In the tuition and fee process, we took a lot of guidance this year from what the students feel important."

ASUI President Max Cowan, spokesperson for the Dedicated Student Activity Fee Committee, said the recommendation they presented to Staben was largely based on a student survey sent out last month.

Cowan said the survey, which got over 800 responses, found students were particularly concerned with two areas — the portion of their funds allocated to Intercollegiate Athletics and the perceived lack of accountability with how their fees are spent.

SEE **PROPOSAL**, PAGE

STUDENT LIFE

Springing into school spirit

Student Alumni Relations Board begins new tradition with first annual I Heart Idaho Week

Corrin Bond

When Trevor Kauer and Cailin Bary realized there weren't many spring semester events aimed at fostering school pride, they were inspired by other universities to

create an I Heart Idaho Week.

Kauer, president of the University of Idaho Student Alumni Relations Board (SArb), said after they heard about events like I Heart UCLA Week at a conference, they decided to orchestrate something

similar at UI.

"We learned about it and we were like,
'You know, we haven't done anything to
instill Vandal pride or promote Vandal
pride in the spring semester," Kauer said.
"In the fall, we have Homecoming and
that's a huge thing and Vandal pride is a
huge aspect of that."

Kauer and Bary, one of the committee chairs for I Heart Idaho Week, spent the whole year planning for the event.

"The idea behind it is it's the same amount of spirit as Homecoming, there's just no competition," Bary said. "It's straight-up a week for all students to show their love for UI."

Each day of the week running February 29 through March 5 follows a different theme

Bary said the event began with Make it Great Monday, during which SArb tabled outside of the Idaho Commons and encouraged students to do good deeds around campus, like complimenting a stranger or holding the door open for someone.

"Students had a chance to pick a good deed out of a basket," Bary said. "A great way to start off the week is to have students do nice things for other students."

Kauer said other I Heart Idaho Week events included Tradition Keeper Tuesday, which gave students the chance to learn about UI traditions and the history of campus buildings, and With Love, Wednesday, in which students could share what they love most about Idaho.

Kauer said computer science students within the College of Engineering teamed up to create a special Theophilus Tower light show for I Heart Idaho Week's Light Up with Love event Thursday.

SEE **SPIRIT,** PAGE 5

INFRASTRUCTURE

Running on schedule

Education building, IRIC set for completion later this year

Ryan Locke

With their set opening dates less than a year away, the university's two largest construction projects, the College of Education Building renovation and the Integrated Research and Innovation Center (IRIC), are progressing on schedule.

Corinne Mantle-Bromley, dean of the College of Education, said education faculty and staff are on schedule to begin moving into the building between mid-June and mid-July and opening in August for the fall 2016 semester.

Mantle-Bromley said that six months ago, workers were focused on asbestos abatement. Since then, she said work has been focused on rebuilding. At this point, Mantle-Bromley said the building's exterior has been completed and work is progressing on the interior. She said new windows have been added, plumbing has been completed, new walls have been put in, offices and classrooms have been partitioned, and workers are currently putting in carpeting and concrete flooring and beginning to paint the interior.

Mantle-Bromley said much of the redesigned space is intended to be more student-friendly, and various study spaces have been added during the remodel, including several small, enclosed rooms where students can have a private space to

Mantle-Bromley said they have also added seating for students throughout the building where students can gather before or after class. The remodel will also add a large new tiered classroom, larger than any that existed in the building previously, to allow space for larger classes. She said there will be a seminar room specifically designed for distance teaching. The building will also be provided with brand new computers, video screens and wireless capabilities.

"It's going to be a fabulous new state-of-the-art building," Mantle-Bromley said. "I think it's going to be a building where people hope that they get classes because it'll be such a high-tech building and really student-friendly."

Brian Johnson, assistant vice president for facilities, said construction on the IRIC, the university's forthcoming collaborative research laboratory, is also progressing smoothly and on schedule.

SEE **RUNNING**, PAGE 5

– IN THIS ISSUE



Sun Belt denies contract extension for Idaho Football

SPORTS, 6



Reallocation of student fees doesn't help all students. Read our view.

OPINION, 9



A recap of all that the 88th Academy Awards had to offer

RAWR

News, 1 Sports, 6 Opinion, 9 University of Idaho Volume 117, Issue no. 45 Recyclable

Ingredients

■ 1/2 cup cream cheese

■ Small jar baby dill pickles

■ Thin-sliced honey ham lunch

meat (amount by preference)

A Crumbs recipe ===

morning before class, store them in the fridge and enjoy after a long day.

Cream cheese, pickle and ham roll-ups

Despite the seemingly strange combination of ingredients, this is the perfect snack for salt cravers

Directions

1. Lay out ham slices on a plate (2 or 3 slices for each

2. Fold the stacked slices into a half-circle and spread

4. Share as a party appetizer or eat as a snack - no

3. Place pickle on cream cheese at edge of ham and roll

roll-up is ideal, but more is good for meat lovers)

thin layer of cream cheese over folded ham

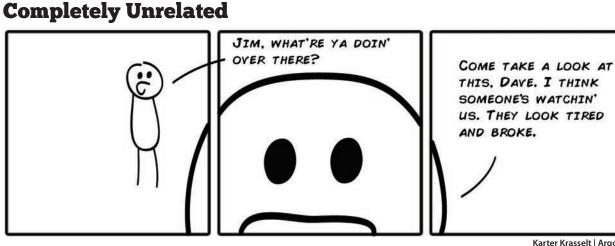
who are looking for something with more nutritional value than a bag of chips. Make these in the

like a tiny burrito

matter what, refrigerate.

CRUMBS

Campus Wellness Fitness Challenge **Final Testing** Wednesday, March 9th Tuesday, March 8th ASUI DEEC **Climbing Center Climbing Festival** Saturday, March 5 **UI Climbing Center beginning at 9am** Day of Registration \$30 For more information visit uidaho.edu/climb **Intramural Sports**



Karter Krasselt | Argonaut

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Lyndsie Kiebert can be reached at

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Outdoor Program

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Upcoming Entry

Due Dates

4 on 4 Volleyball Co-Rec Basketball

Roller Hockey

Co-Rec Ultimate

Softball

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Mon, Mar 7

Tues, Mar 8

Tues, Mar 8

Wed, Mar 9



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CROSSWORD

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Corrections In the March 1 edition of The Argonaut, the article titled "The excitement of discovery

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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

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at 885-7825, or visit the Student Media office at the

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Letters must be signed, include major and provid
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:

ers to: 301 Bruce Pitman Center Moscow, ID, 83844-4271 or arg-opinion@uidaho.ed

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Moscow Mardi Gras King Jesse Stone (John's Alley) and Queen Angie Temple (The Garden Lounge) wave to the crowd during last year's celebration.

Eve Gentry | Argonaut

Partying down Main Street

For more news content, visit

Moscow Mardi Gras celebration benefits local youth

Katelyn Hilsenbeck Argonaut

Moscow will get its annual taste of the historic New Orleans tradition of Mardi Gras Saturday.

The Moscow Mardi Gras is a non-profit organization that benefits youth organizations in the Moscow-Pullman communities. The celebration for youth and adults takes to the streets the first Saturday in March.

"It's a total family-friendly activity," said Genevieve Bode, Moscow Mardi Gras president. "There's going to be lots to do."

The activities begin at 1 p.m. Saturday. The event is headquartered at the Moscow Moose Lodge, but businesses throughout Moscow partake in the festivities. Bode said there will be dance and music performances, games and a scavenger hunt.

The event will conclude with the annual parade at 4 p.m. on Main Street.

"It all really comes down to the kids," Bode said. "That's why we have really tried to extend the daytime."

At 9 p.m., the event will turn to adultsonly entertainment. Five locations will host musical acts: local bands Mojo Green will play at John's Alley, the Flying Mammals at the Garden Lounge, Bare Wires at the Eagles Lodge and the Intentions at One World Café. The Intentions performance is open to those under 21 years.

"The highlight for the nighttime is of course the bands," Bode said.

Although the day's events may seem like

a party, the benefits run much deeper. "All the money does go back into the community through the youth grant program,"

Bode said local youth organizations submit grant applications and the Mardi Gras board reviews and selects applications after the event is completed.

"People forget that it's not just a pub crawl," said Kathy Sprague, co-owner of Safari Pearl and former Moscow Mardi Gras president. "It raises thousands of dollars for kids in this community and that really is the focus."

For Sprague, the highlight of the event is the children's enjoyment.

"They think they've gone to Disneyland some years," Sprague said.

Sprague said she first became involved with Moscow Mardi Gras when she was a college student. When Sprague got older and became a business owner, she said it was a no-brainer to get involved and stay involved with Moscow Mardi Gras.

More info

Advance tickets can be purchased for \$15 until 5 p.m. Friday at Kenney Bros, Safari Pearl, Zeppos, Residence Inn and the performance venues. Tickets will be \$20 at the door. Tickets are good for more than one venue.

She said one year, the local Special Olympics received a grant for two new busses to transport participants. The busses were airconditioned, and were able to safely transport children who were prone to heat-induced seizures.

"The thank you letter we received had me in tears," Sprague said. "That took a weight off a lot of people."

> Katelyn Hilsenbeck can be reach at arg-news@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @Katelyn_mh

Filtering overflow

Ubuntu Committee asks Faculty Senate for help promoting MLK Art and Essay Contest

Erin Bamer Argonaut

Erin James said she easily gathered more than enough funds for the second annual Dr. Martin

Luther King Jr. Art and Essay Contest this year. "I've never had such an easy time getting funding for something, which is so great," said James, chair of the University of Idaho's Ubuntu Committee.

But the problem wasn't low funds, James said.

It was a lack of submissions. The Ubuntu Committee reviews policies and programs that have to do with diversity on campus, and part of their job is to promote diversity as well. To do so, in 2015 former Chair Jeff Dodge and former Chief Diversity Officer Carmen Suarez started the MLK Art and Essay Contest as one of the groups primary annual projects, James said.

UI graduate and undergraduate students can send in an essay or artistic piece that follows a prompt about equality and social or racial justice. This year's stu-

dents were tasked with taking inspiration from the MLK Day keynote speaker Alicia Garza to create a piece of writing or art that imagines a way for UI to be a more

caring and diverse community. The winning student in the category of undergraduate art, graduate art, undergraduate essay and graduate essay each won \$500, and honorable mentions in each category received \$100. Though James said they happily gave money to the winners, there were so few submissions that they actually had money left over.

James said the Ubuntu Committee received six undergraduate essays, three graduate essays, 14 pieces of undergraduate art and only one piece of graduate art.

"We didn't have one student from English submit any work, even though they had written essays for their classes and there was \$500 on the

James asked Faculty Senate for help promoting the contest next year and discussed ideas at the meeting on how to better advertise the competition.

Faculty Sen. Stephan Flores of the College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS) said he was surprised the project did so well with funding when he saw what groups donated money to it. For this year's contest, the Ubuntu Committee received funds from ASUI, the College of Law, College of Graduate Studies, CLASS, the Office of Diversity and Human Rights, Graduate and Professional Student Association and the International Programs Office.

Flores said he was surprised that the College of Art and Architecture hadn't donated to the project, considering the art component.

"I realize, saying that, that colleges contribute to diverse populations of students in all kinds of ways," Flores said.

James said the donors reflect the history of the contest — CLASS didn't donate to the contest until this year, perhaps because James is from

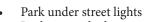
CLASS. James said next year they would contact the College of Art and Architecture as a potential donor, but she said she isn't as worried about getting enough money as she is about getting more students involved.

Faculty Sen. Yun Chung of the College of Business and Economics said the contest may apply to more students if they offer more types of categories outside of the liberal arts. James said in future years the contest may benefit from having broader prompts and more categories.

Erin Bamer can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu







- Lock your vehicle
- Take valuables out of your vehicle
- If you must leave valuables, lock them in your trunk where they aren't visible to people passing by

Police log

Feb. 25

700 block Lynn Avenue, 12:27 a.m.

People sitting in a vehicle were reported for playing loud, bumping music and revving their engine. Officers gave the passengers a warning. 500 block East D Street, 12:07 p.m.

Caller reported stray chickens were being bothersome.

Feb. 26

Deakin Avenue, 2:42 p.m.

People visiting campus for Jazz Fest were offended by the lyrics of songs being played at multiple fraternities. Officers contacted multiple houses and asked them to choose G-Rated songs. 1000 block Paradise Creek Street, 10:52 p.m.

Complaint that a vehicle door was open.

Feb. 27

Blake Avenue, 1:43 a.m.

Caller said he had been struck and knocked unconscious at a fraternity party. Investigation is ongoing.

Perimeter Drive, 11:58 p.m.

Person reported unconscious. It was a Jazz Festival participant who is believed to have simply lost consciousness.

Feb. 29

South Main Street, Bucers Coffeehouse Pub, 4:59 p.m.

Owner called to report the roll out sign for the sidewalk had been stolen sometime between Friday night and Saturday morning.

March 1

1600 block Christopher Lane, 8:24 a.m. Caller reported identity theft. IRS told him he had already filed his taxes,

but he hadn't yet done so. East 3rd Street & South Blaine Street, 3 p.m.

School was about to get out and there was a moose walking around outside. Animal control responded. South Line Street, UI Commons,

6:24 p.m. Student reporting theft of backpack and phone.



Perseverance and policy

Best-selling author Paul Loeb visits campus to address student engagement, social change

Lyndsie Kiebert

In a time when so many young people are grappling with the current political scene of the United States, best-selling author Paul Loeb strives to encourage these young people to have a voice — to talk about the issues, he said, rather than the

Loeb, who is currently a Seattle-based Huffington Post blogger, gave his keynote address, "Soul of a Citizen" Tuesday evening in the Vandal Ballroom. In the address Loeb said the biggest barrier to partaking in change is holding oneself to a perfect standard.

candidates' hair.

"All of us have this idea that in order to enact social change you have to be impossibly perfect, you have to have all the answers," Loeb said. "None of us will ever be that."

Loeb's message was based around the concept that activism is possible for students with the application of several ideologies.

Loeb visited Moscow as part of the University of Idaho's James A. and Louise McClure Center for Public Policy Research's goal to bring specialists in public policy directly to students.

"Paul Loeb is a breath of fresh air on a campus that needs it," said Priscilla Salant, director of the McClure Center. "He's not focused on how many Ph.D's we put out, or what football conference we're in — he is focused like a laser on student engagement."

Salant said a large part of why Loeb's visit was valuable is because his message is about practicing citizenship — one of the McClure Center's intended learning outcomes.

In his address, Loeb told a story he heard from Mahatma Gandhi's grandson about how Gandhi's original career as a lawyer went terribly — the future activist simply could not win a court case. In addressing the fear that comes with attempting to act with the perfect standard in mind, Loeb used this story as inspiration.

"If somebody is hesitant, they will always be more confident than Gandhi was in his first few court cases," Loeb said.

Loeb brought up the story of Rosa Parks - as the famous story goes, Parks refused to give up her seat to a white person on a bus. Yet Loeb pointed out that Parks was not just one person — her demonstration was part of a larger movement and a larger support system.

'You need a community," Loeb said. "You can start with three or four people, but you need to keep each other going when times get tough."

Loeb also said real change starts by asking the logical questions, and that Rosa Parks is just one example of intentional action that makes such change possible.

He also discussed the importance of getting others engaged, saying it could harbor unexpectedly pleasant results.

"You could end up involving someone who becomes the next Rosa Parks," Loeb said. "A future Nobel Peace Prize winner could be living in your dorm, but only if you engage them.

Finally, Loeb addressed the key ingredient for furthering engagement in any civil initiative: perseverance.

'Whatever you're doing in working for change, there are going to be setbacks," Loeb said. "Hope is essential."

Loeb said he began partaking in initiatives for change as a high school student



Irish Martos | Argonaut

Keynote speaker Paul Loeb presents "Soul of a Citizen" Tuesday at the Vandal Ballroom in the Bruce Pitman Center.

during the Vietnam War, but that his passion for activism grew as he went to college and later worked for a small political magazine.

"It was more gradual, versus 'Boom, I've seen the light," Loeb said.

Loeb's two best-selling books, "The Impossible Will Take a Little While" and "Soul of a Citizen," are centered around movements toward social change and the activists who took part in them. Loeb said he has also written about atomic weapons workers, grassroots peace groups and more. His field of expertise touches not only on civil engagement, but environmentalism and war ethic as well.

Loeb's most recent venture, the Campus Election Engagement Project, is an initiative to encourage young voters to take part in political movements on both local and national levels. Loeb was compelled to start the project after hearing students' main reasons for not voting: they don't know how to register, they don't know enough about the candidates or they think the political system is too corrupt and their vote means very little.

Loeb said the Campus Election Engagement Project, based out of Columbus, Ohio, is meant to prompt universities to help stu-

dents access this missing information. This can be done by offering a non-partisan questionnaire to help students better understand which candidate's policies best line up with theirs, and by going to students to help them register to vote rather than waiting for them

to reach out. 'You have to really go out to people, you have to get out from behind the tables," Loeb said. "It's harder, but the difference - night

In response to the claim that democracy is simply too eroded for a students' vote to mean anything, Loeb said voting is merely one tool in a plethora of tools a student can use to make a difference.

"You can't build a house with any one tool," Loeb said. "Voting is a tool among others you can use to bring about social change."

Though Loeb has been speaking on college campuses since the release of his first

book over 30 years ago, he said his recent campus visits are especially useful because they help propel him into further developing his work with the Campus Election Engagement Project. He also said that even though the project is largely based online, the intended outcome should lead to inperson discussions about politics.

"Hearing answers as to why students don't vote validates what we do," Loeb said. "It might be a virtual project, but the focus is really on face-to-face interaction."

> Lyndsie Kiebert can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @lyndsie_kiebert

ADMINISTRATION

Making the Vandal brand Works to protect Ul's logo

UI Director of Trademarks

Kevin Neighbors Argonaut

As the University of Idaho Director of Trademarks, Sue Smalley's said she is energized by being a Vandal.

Her position deals with the legality of trademarks and licensing. She has to make sure people honor the UI logo and brand to keep the Vandal name strong. To do this, Smalley is in charge of registering trademarks with the U.S. patent and trademark offices. This includes registering school organizations and affiliations.

Smalley said she enjoys the legal aspect of her job as much as she loves being a Vandal.

She said the best part of her job is getting

to do something different every day. "I come into work and and even if I have things I planned on doing, I open up my email and go, 'Well I guess I'm not doing that today. I'm doing something

Some days she said she will get an email from her boss informing her about local companies using UI logos on their products. When this happens she has to communicate with them the rules and legal process required to use the UI logo.

She says it's simple.

"When that happens I assume they don't

know better," she said. "It's mostly an educational thing."

Smalley said she gets most of her tips on improper brand use from talking to regular people each day. People will have products or talk with her about orga-

nizations using the Vandal logo or brand, and she often discovers illegitimate use

When this happens Smalley said she reaches out to the organization to tell them what they can and can't do.

Smalley said her first task when she took her job six years ago was with the



content, visit

local fabric store. "People were begging for (Vandal) fabric," Smalley said.

She said she worked with the store to allow use of the Vandal brand and logo in their fabric stock. As a Vandal alumna, she said

she was excited to get the legal process going to make that happen.

Smalley said she finds the fun in her job by building fans, encouraging people to wear their gear and be Vandals.

Kevin Neighbors can be reached at arg-arts@uidaho.edu



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SPIRIT

Bary said of all of the events, she's most excited for the Great Late Potato Bake, which will be held at 10:30 p.m. Friday at the Campus Christian Center.

"We're taking over the Campus Christian Center and we're selling baked potatoes for students," Bary said. "Idaho is

ARG

content, visit

uiargonaut.com

known for our potato industry, so you can show up for \$3 and you can get a baked potato with toppings like sour cream and butter."

Kauer said for the final event of the week, students are encouraged to show their Vandal pride at the basketball game between UI and Idaho State University Saturday at the Cowan Spectrum.

This is the first year SArb has hosted the event and Kauer said he looks forward to seeing how the week develops in the years to come.

"In the future, we hope to gain some funding and be able to do really big things and do kickoff events and maybe pre-Mom's Weekend events," Kauer said.

Kauer said he would also like to incorporate faculty and administration into I Heart Idaho Weeks in the future and organize events like Meet a Professor or Pancakes with the President.

"I would like to see the week move into having different departments, maybe have professors and faculty partner with us," Kauer said. "To make an event to show that we have our admin-

istration and we have our professors but we all love Idaho, I think it brings together the Vandal family."

When it comes to the future of the event, Bary said they intend to focus on expanding the week through more advertising and

"I'm excited to build this tradition because I would love for it to be a week that all of campus gets to be excited for and all of campus gets to look forward to," Bary said. "That's kind of the point of any transition, right? Is to connect all of campus."

a larger social media presence.

Corrin Bond can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @CorrBond



Irish Martos | Argonaut

Aaron Hensarling (left) picks a random act of kindness for I Heart Idaho Week Monday at the Idaho Commons.

PROPOSAL

The committee's response to this was a \$12.42 reallocation within the dedicated student activity fee from Intercollegiate Athletics to Academic Support and Access Programs.

Staben said this shift will continue to benefit student athletes while putting Vandal Academic Support Services, currently offered through the Athletics Department, under the umbrella of Tutoring and College Success, and that while the Athletic Department has voiced legitimate concerns, he is confident the Provost's office will continue to manage the program effectively.

The Athletic Department could not be reached for comment.

"Our student athletes bring so much to our school," Cowan said. "Our student athletes have been recognized for their academic accomplishments, they're incredibly smart, hardworking, dedicated, and bringing those areas together brings us together for the academic mission of the institution."

Also included in the dedicated student activity fee is a \$5.20 increase for Change in Employee Compensation, a \$5 increase to ASUI, the Graduate and Professional Student Association and the Student Bar Association, a \$2 increase to the LGBTQA Office and a \$0.16 increase to cover a crisis phone line through the Counseling and Testing Center.

Included in the Facility Fee, which is proposed to increase 3.8 percent, is a \$15 per semester cost Staben hopes will go toward the funding of an arena near the Kibbie Dome where the Idaho Fan Zone stood last fall.

Cowan said such a space

would be able to host basketball and volleyball games, as well as conventions and similar events.

Staben said students have been supportive of the possibility of such a project, but its future depends on whether additional funding sources can be identified.

Staben said he is always optimistic when approaching the State Board of Education with tuition and fee proposals, but more than anything he's happy to see students engaged and curious about where their tuition and fee dollars go, and hopes this is a culture that will continue on the UI campus.

"Students have every right to know where their money is going, but should also have the confidence we are working to make good choices," Staben said. "I'm very pleased to have worked with student government on some of those choices."

> Hannah Shirley can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @itshannah7

AMNESTY

FROM PAGE 1

"I could have avoided the whole situation by leaving, but I decided to stay since I was the only one who knew anything medical about my friend," Guyer said.

For more news

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uiargonaut.com

Guyer said later, he tried to join the military, but said he did not qualify for the job he wanted

because the diversion program mandated for individuals with an MIC required that he go to counseling sessions.

He said standing in front of a committee who essentially makes or breaks laws was intimidating at first, but he believes his story swayed a couple legislators.

"Medical amnesty would have helped me out a lot. I perceived the situation as I was trying to do the right thing and I was still penalized," Guyer said. "People are still affected by it even if it isn't on your record."

> Wren said Guyer's testimony likely helped legislators see the benefits of amnesty medical from a student's perspective.

"I'm not going to say it swayed the vote, but it definitely helped," Wren said. "This was a huge stepping stone for medical amnesty. I like our odds."

> Jessica Gee can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @JessicaC Gee

RUNNING

FROM PAGE 1

Johnson said construction on the IRIC began around the same time as the education building, but will be completed a few months later, since it was a larger and more complex project involving an entirely new structure.

Johnson said the work during the last six months has largely focused on constructing the building's glass, brick and steel exterior. The exterior of the building has been completed and work on constructing the interior is underway

and ceilings as well as systems such as electrical wiring and plumbing will be the focus during the coming months as the building nears completion. Johnson said the interior of the building is de-

signed to be flexible, with multi-use laboratories which can accommodate whatever type of research is being done by a given group.

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"It's meant to house collaborative research where rather than unit research or 'X' working privately in his or her own lab, it's set up to support teams of researchers that may have participants from many dif-

ferent schools of expertise in researching more complex problems and questions and working as a collaborative team," Johnson said.

Johnson said the building is on schedule to be completed by its previously stated end date of Johnson said adding walls, floors fall 2016. Students will begin using the building starting with the spring 2017 semester.

can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



Argonaut Religion Directory

mmerse Collegiate Ministries

Bible Study•Fellowship•Events Sunday Morning Shuttle Service: 10:00am, at LLC bus stop

(returning shortly after Worship) sponsored by **Trinity Baptist Church**

Service Times

9:00 am - Prayer Time

9:30 am - Celebration

6:00 pm - Bible Study

www.trinitymoscow.org

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hat will transform the world'

6:30 - 8:30 pm - CROSS - Eyed

at the Commons Aurora roon

6:30 pm- Every 2nd and 4th

208-882-2015

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CROSSing

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Pastors:

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960 W. Palouse River Drive, Moscow 882-0674 www.bridgebible.org

Moscow Bible Meeting at Short's Chapel 1125 E. 6th St., Moscow

Sunday Worship Service — 10 a.m **Christ Centered** Biblical, Conservative, Loving

PastorJosh Shetler. 208-874-3701

6 First Presbyterian Church A welcoming family of faith

Sunday Worship 10:30 am Sunday College Group 4:00 pm at Campus Christian Center 405 S. Van Buren fpcmoscow.org 208-882-4122 Moscow, Idaho

Pastor Norman Fowler

715 Travois Way (208) 882-2627 ice@thecrossingmo nail:office@thecrossingmoscow.co www.thecrossingmoscow.com Find us on Facebook! Moscow First

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Worshipping, Supporting, Renewing 9:00 AM: Sunday School Classes for all age 10:30 AM: Worship starts

United Methodist Church

The poeple of the United Methodist Church: open hearts, open minds, open doors. stor: Susan E. Ostrom mpus Pastor: John Morse 22 East Third (Corner 3rd and Adams) scow ID, 83843

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse We are a welcoming congregation that celebrates the inherent worth & dignity of every person Sunday Services: 10:00 Coffee: After Service Nursery & Religious Educa Minister: Rev. Elizabeth Steve 420 E. 2nd St., Moscov

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9:30 am - Fellowship (coffee & donuts) 10:00 am - Worship Service Children (AWANA), Youth, Internationa

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If you would like your belief-based organization to be included in the religion directory please contact Student Media Advertising at 885-5780.

SPORTS



Transfer Kinsey Gomez finds success on the track

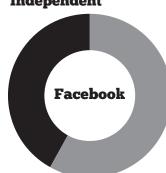


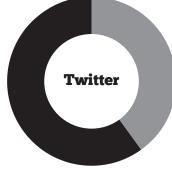
Sun Belt | Courtesy Big Sky Commissioner Karl Benson speaks to the media during a press conference earlier this year. Benson announced the conference's decision to part ways with Idaho in 2018.

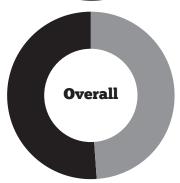
POLL: THE FUTURE OF VANDAL FOOTBALL

Big Sky

Independent







Polls were conducted on VandalNation social media

Without a home

Conference declines to offer contract extension to Vandals

> Josh Grissom Argonaut

The Sun Belt Conference released a statement Tuesday morning declining contract extensions to the University of Idaho and New Mexico State as a football-only members.

"We are disappointed by the Sun Belt's decision," said University of Idaho President Chuck Staben in a university statement. "But we are optimistic about the options before us and we are continuing to diligently consider our future affiliation as an opportunity to find the stability and full participation we have not experienced in the Sun Belt."

Sun Belt President Denise Trauth announced the conference decision Tuesday morning during a media teleconference.

"This was a strategic decision that was reached following a thorough and complete review of our options," Trauth said in the conference statement. "The Sun Belt's presidents and chancellors strongly believe it is in the best interest of the conference to have a core membership of 10 football teams that are geographically located within the 'footprint' of the conference and that these 10 members also compete in conference sports."

The University of Idaho initially joined the Sun Belt as a football-only member from 2001-2004, before leaving to join the Western Athletic Conference (WAC) from 2005-2012.

The WAC dropped football after 2012, forcing Idaho to play as an independent during the 2013 season.

The Vandals rejoined the conference in 2014 as part of a fouryear contract extension.

Idaho went 4-12 in conference play during the 2014 and 2015 seasons. The Vandals finished with a 4-8 record last year, beating conference opponents Troy, Texas State and Louisiana-Monroe.

The Sun Belt Conference was expected to vote on the topic of a contract extension during a meeting with league presidents March 10, but Staben said the decision came 10 days early.

Sun Belt Commissioner Karl Benson said there was no official vote from conference presidents on the issue. Sun Belt officials instead decided to exchange information following presentations from Idaho and New Mexico State.

"There were no votes taken," Benson said. "It was a matter of being able to share information and compare notes, and that's not uncommon."

The Sun Belt commissioner said geographical location played a key role in the decision, but bowl game appearances would have outweighed other considerations.

This was a strategic decision that was reached following a thorough and complete review of our options.

> Denise Trauth. Sun Belt president

"I think that it would have absolutely been a factor, had there been greater on-field success by either university," Benson said. "But it didn't happen and the decision we had to make was not based on what might happen in the future."

Staben said the university would evaluate whether to accept a football invitation to the Big Sky Conference or play an independent schedule during the fall 2018 season.

SEE **HOME**, PAGE 8

Staff predictions

The Idaho men's basketball team hosts Idaho State at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Cowan Spectrum. This will be the Vandals' final regular season game of the year

Prediction: Idaho 69 - Idaho State 63

With an automatic bye in the postseason

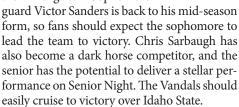
tournament potentially at stake for the Vandals, the team will enter its season finale looking to earn a crucial day of rest next week. Idaho will be aided by the presence of sophomoreguard Victor Sanders, who sparked the Vandal offense in the 66-62 victory



over Eastern Washington. However, junior guard Perrion Callandret appeared to aggravate a previous foot injury during the game against the Eagles, possibly limiting his effectiveness on the court. Despite this setback, the Vandals will earn a low-scoring victory over Idaho State.

Prediction: Idaho 73 - Idaho State 67

The stakes are high in Saturday's matchup, as the Vandals will look to earn a first round bye and end the regular season on a high note with a home win over the Bengals. Sophomore



Prediction: Idaho 69 - Idaho State 66

The Vandals will host conference rival Idaho State this Saturday at the Cowan Spectrum as the final home game of the year. The Bengals have had some trouble playing on the road, while Idaho will be looking



to seize an automatic first round bye in the conference tournament with a win on its home court. Idaho will have the momentum in its favor after last week's victory over Eastern Washington. The Vandals will earn a thrilling win to close out the regular season.

Prediction: Idaho 73 - Idaho State 64

The energy in the Cowan Spectrum will be the push the Vandals need to get another victory as the team prepares for the Big Sky Conference tournament. Sophomore



Victor Sanders appears to be getting back into the swing of things, which will add to the offensive production of the Vandals. Sanders and his teammates will take control of the game early on and ride a wave of momentum to the final buzzer.

Prediction: Idaho 85 - Idaho State 83

Although both Idaho and Idaho State are two of the teams battling for a bye in the Big Sky tournament next week, the Vandal have an advantage. Idaho has both sophomore Victor Sanders and junior Perrion Callandret back, although Callandret's recent foot



injury leaves his status questionable over the weekend. The game will be competitive throughout, but Idaho will earn a hard fought win.

OBITUARY

Gone, but not forgotten

Former football recruit loses battle with cancer

Josh Grissom Argonaut

University of Idaho student assistant coach and former West Valley recruit Jace Malek died Sunday morning, losing his battle with cancer one year after his diagnosis.

The University of Idaho confirmed Malek's death with a statement offering condolences to his family.

"I am thankful Jace Malek was part of our team," Idaho head coach Paul Petrino said in the university statement. "I know everyone feels the same. Jace made me a better father, better coach and a better person."

Malek excelled as a fullback

and defensive end at West Valley High School in Spokane. high The s c h o o l recruit



was also a state wrestling finalist in Washington for three years

Petrino and offensive line coach Kris Cinkovich recruited Malek heavily after West Valley played Pullman High School during Malek's senior season. Petrino's son was a quarterback for the Greyhounds at the time.

"We got back and said, 'We need to figure out who No. 99 is for West Valley," Petrino said in an October interview with Sports Illustrated.

After reviewing the senior's highlight reel in depth, the Vandal football program offered Malek a scholarship.

The recruit was diagnosed with osteosarcoma the day before National Signing Day February 2015, after visiting an orthopedic specialist in regards to lingering pain in his hip. Despite the devastating news, the University of Idaho and Vandal football head coach Paul Petrino honored the original scholarship offer to Malek.

"I called him and said, 'Jace, you've already been part of this family for a long time, all you need to worry about is taking care of yourself," Petrino said in the Sports Illustrated interview.

Malek joined Idaho during the fall semester as a student assistant coach after doctors attempted to remove the tumor with a right leg amputation.

In the team's opener against Ohio University, Malek participated in the pregame ceremony at midfield as an honorary team captain. The college freshman donned a black Vandal jersey with the No. 99 on the back.

After the team's 27-13 homecoming victory against Louisiana-Monroe Oct. 24, Petrino presented Malek with the game ball. In a video of the post-game activities, Petrino can be seen calling Malek the "most special kid I've ever been around."

In the Homecoming postgame interview, Idaho sophomore quarterback Matt Linehan spoke highly of Malek's impact on the program.

"I'm never going to forget about him as I go forward through life," Linehan said during the Oct. 24 press conference. "What he's gone through, then to continue to have a smile on his face every day, despite what he's going through, it's pretty incredible."

Petrino said Malek would leave a lasting impression on the program.

"I am grateful and honored that he was a part of my life," Petrino said in the university statement. "We love him and will miss him."

Josh Grissom can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @GoshJrissom

FOOTBALL

Vandals release 2016 schedule

Schedule highlights include four nonconference games and five home matchups

Josh Grissom

The University of Idaho released the fall 2016 football schedule late Thursday morning.

"We are very excited for the 2016 season," Idaho head coach Paul Petrino said in the university statement.

Notable home Sun Belt Conference games next year include Troy, New Mexico State, South Alabama and Georgia State.

The team will participate in four nonconference matchups and eight Sun Belt games throughout the season, punctuated by two separate bye weeks.

The Vandals will host five home games and will play in a sixth Palouse matchup against Washington State Sept. 17.

The team opens the year in Moscow against Montana State Sept. 1, before departing for a three-game road trip against Washington, Washington State and UNLV respectively.

Idaho then kicks off its conference schedule with a home game against

Troy and a road contest at Louisiana-Monroe. The team has two more October matchups against New Mexico State and Appalachian State before its first bye week.

The Vandals have a total of three games in November, including a home matchup against South Alabama Nov. 26. Idaho will conclude its regular season schedule with a matchup against Georgia State in Moscow Dec. 2.

Josh Grissom can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @GoshJrissom Sept. 1 – Montana State

Sept. 10 – at Washington

Sept. 17 – at Washington State

Sept. 24 – at UNLV

Oct. 1 – Troy Oct. 8 – at Louisiana-Monroe

Oct. 15 – New Mexico State Oct. 22 – at Appalachian State

Oct. 29 – Bye week

Nov. 5 - at Louisiana-Lafayette

Nov. 12 – at Texas State

Nov. 19 – Bye week

Nov. 26 - South Alabama

Dec. 3 – Georgia State

OPINION

Where should Idaho go?

Idaho should consider move to Big Sky after boot from Sun Belt

On Tuesday, the Sun Belt Conference determined that the University of Idaho football program would no longer be a conference member once the 2017 season ends.

The decision speaks volumes, as the Vandals have struggled in the conference since rejoining in 2014.

A huge question haunts the Idaho football program: where should the Vandals go?

The answer is clear. Idaho should follow the rest of the athletic department and move the program down to the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) level and join the Big Sky Conference.

To be fair, moving down a division would have its consequences. For instance, many financial contributors want to see Idaho remain in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS).

Some fans fear that if the program moves down, it would result not only in the loss of boosters, but also the ability to schedule "big name" opponents that generate revenue for the university.

However, these fears do not outweigh the intangible benefits of moving to the Big Sky.

When the Vandals first en-

tered the Sun Belt in 2014, they posted a 1-7 conference record and finished the year at 1-10. The next season, the team saw some improvement and posted a 3-5 Sun Belt record and a 4-8 record on the year.

Despite some positives last year, these records speak for themselves. The Vandals had

more wins in 2015 than the past four seasons combined.

The limited performance in the FBS has resulted in a general loss of interest in the football program that stretches beyond the university campus. Home game attendance consistently

dwindles, especially late in the year when bowl game hopes have all but disappeared.

The Big Sky Conference stands as the last hope for the Vandals to bring competitiveness and former glory to the team. By facing opponents with smaller programs, Idaho may begin to find its edge on the field.

Travel is also an additional and expensive cost of staying in the FBS. Nearly all Sun Belt teams reside in the Southeast in states such as Louisiana, Georgia and Alabama. The cost of transporting an entire team and coaching staff would be much lighter on the pockets of the university if the football team transfers to a league with more regional opponents.

Close contact with Northwest

opponents would also provide a rebirth of old rivalries. Since the collapse of the Western Athletic Conference in 2012, Idaho has lost its identity as a team.

The longstanding rivalry with Boise State and Washington State used to generate excitement across the Palouse. Since that era has ended, the general excitement surrounding game day has failed to recover.

The ability to face programs such as Montana, Montana State and Idaho State in the Big Sky would offer the chance to rekindle some of that excitement, although on a smaller scale.

Rivalries are what give college football its identity. It's what makes Saturday afternoon a thrilling experience. It can be difficult for Idaho to create that interest when the team is playing a program that is unfamiliar to most students.

Vandal fans should remember that football is just a game. From a university's standpoint, it is also a business. Nevertheless, it is still a game to be enjoyed by the student-athletes and fans that call themselves Vandals.

The University of Idaho should make the right decision and move to the Big Sky. The decision should not be based on money or prestige. It should be about the student-athletes and the fans.

Brandon Hill can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu



@VandalFootball

Rest in peace, Jace Malek. Once a Vandal, always a Vandal! #MalekStrong

— The Idaho Football Twitter account tweets the news regarding the passing of former West Valley standout and Vandal recruit Jace Malek. The high school fullback was diagnosed with cancer the day before signing a National Letter of Intent with Idaho last February. Malek served as a student assistant coach for the Vandal football team during the fall semester.

Mason (E) Cardal

@masonpetrino7

Jace was one of the toughest people I have ever gotten to know physically and mentally! You will be missed my man!! I love ya!

— Pullman quarterback and Idaho signee Mason Petrino tweets about the strength and toughness of Jace Malek during the student assistant coach's battle with cancer.



@MattLinehan_10

Rest easy my friend. We will all miss you dearly #MalekStrong

— Idaho sophomore quarterback Matt Linehan tweets his reaction to Jace Malek's passing.



@McMurphyESPN

Idaho, New Mexico State denied extension as football only Sun Belt members & will no longer be league members after 2017 sources told @ESPN.

— ESPN College Football Insider Brett McMurphy tweets about Tuesday's announcement from the Sun Belt Conference. The Sun Belt denied a contract extension to both Idaho and New Mexico State. Idaho President Chuck Staben and Athletic Director Rob Spear said they are looking into other conference affiliations, including the Big Sky Conference.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Star-studded bench

Vandal women's basketball bench plays key role in wins throughout season

Tess Fox Argonaut

At the beginning of the season, Idaho women's basketball coach Jon Newlee wanted to create a team that could depend on one another.

Newlee said he hoped that the whole team could start shooting rather than rely on one or two people to score.

In a game against Iowa State Nov. 28, the Idaho bench scored 46 points in the 97-65 win.

When the team played Northwest Christian a month later, the bench contributed another impressive performance with 30 points.

In the Feb. 4 meeting against Southern Utah, the Idaho bench contributed 56 of Idaho's 93 points.

Newlee's early season goal had come to fruition.

In Wednesday's match-up against Weber State, Idaho emerged with a 77-70 conference win on the road.

Nine of the ten players that saw the court Wednesday scored at least two points. A total of 37 points came from the Idaho bench.

Sophomore post Geraldine Mc-Corkell led the Idaho reserves with 15 points. Senior post Renae Mokrzycki and freshman guard Taylor Pierce added 10 points apiece as substitutes.

Weber State's bench mustered a total of 14 points, as forward Emily Drake and guard Deeshyra Thomas provided the bulk of the Wildcat

offense with 17 points each.

The shooting abilities of the Vandals that were built during the season do not end with bench depth. Idaho is currently ranked fourth in the NCAA for 3-point goals made, averaging 10.5 treys per game.

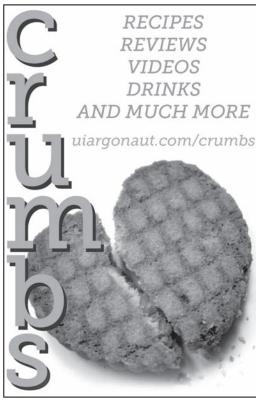
Senior guard Christina Salvatore moved up to eighth place in school history for 752 career rebounds Wednesday night. She surpassed the mark set by former teammate Stacey Barr.

This win provides Idaho an automatic bye in the first round of the Big Sky Tournament next week. The victory also guarantees that the Vandals will finish no lower than fourth in the conference standings.

Idaho and Eastern Washington are now locked in a battle for No. 2 tournament seed. If the both programs win on Friday, Idaho will be given the No. 3 seed for the tournament based on tiebreaker rules.

Tess Fox can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu







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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

'Bye' Wildcats

Idaho clenches first round bye with conference victory over Weber State

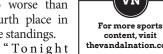
Mihaela Karst

The Idaho women's basketball team clinched a first-round bye in the Big Sky Conference tournament next week after a 77-70 victory against Weber State Wednesday night.

The Vandals sharp shooting took down the Wildcats in a crucial conference road win.

Wednesday's victory allowed Idaho to enter the weekend battling Eastern Washington for second in the Big Sky standings. With one game left in con-

ference play, Idaho can finish no worse than fourth place in the standings.



huge,"

Idaho head coach Jon Newlee noted. "We did not want to have to come down to the last game to figure out seeding."

Idaho took control of the game early in the first quarter with five consecutive points.

The Vandals caught fire in the second quarter with the help of senior Renae Mokrzycki, who came off the bench to score eight straight points to propel the Vandals to a 25-12 lead.

Freshman Taylor Pierce drained back-to-back 3-pointers in the final minutes before halftime to give the Vandals a 41-25 lead.

The Vandals shot 44.8 percent from the field and 50 percent from the perimeter in the first half of play.

Weber State finished the half shooting 29 percent from the field and 17.6 percent from 3-point range.

Weber State fought back in the third quarter to cut the deficit to 10 points. The Vandals responded with a 9-1 run, giving the team a 20-point lead over the Wildcats.

Despite Weber State's final attempts to pull ahead in the fourth quarter, the Vandals finished on top with a seven-point victory.

"I like the way we came out tonight," Idaho head coach Jon Newlee said. "We came out really focused, knowing what we had to do down here. I thought we played really well for three-and-a-half quarters."

Idaho finished the game shooting 47.2 percent from the field and 35.7 percent from behind the 3-point line. Sophomore Geraldine McCorkell

led the Vandals with 15 points while senior Christina Salvatore collected 11 rebounds.

Salvatore passed former teamnate Stacie Barr for seventh in school history for career-boards with 752 during Wednesday's game.

The Vandals will face Idaho State Friday at 6 p.m. in Pocatello.

Mihaela Karst can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu

TRACK & FIELD

Chemistry on the track Gomez's chemistry, confidence lead to two All-Big Sky honors

Luis Torres Argonaut

Achieving greatness on multiple platforms of distance running requires confidence, dedication and hard work.

distance Senior Kinsey Gomez employs these traits and more.

Gomez's journey was not an easy path. The senior transferred to her father's alma mater of Idaho and left Oregon State, a program where she had earned accolades for three and half years.

Gomez took the transition in stride, saving perhaps her best collegiate performances for last in the Big Sky Conference.

The Coeur d'Alene native won the 5,000-meter with a time of 17:02.64 at the Big Sky Indoor Championships in Bozeman last weekend. Gomez earned All-Big Sky honors in her winning event and the 1-mile race where she finished second.

"It was a really fun race and I was really lucky to have my (distance) coach Travis (Floeck) pick out the perfect race plan for me," Gomez said. "That just happened to go beautifully and played out exactly like he hoped it would. It allowed me to hang back and go for the win in the last couple of laps."

Floeck said Gomez's hard work lets her stand out from the rest of the team.

"(Gomez) is one of the most dedicated workers I've have ever worked with," Floeck said. "Our plan for the race worked out perfectly ... I couldn't be any prouder of her in last week's tournament."

Gomez said Floeck's coaching has been an instrumental part of her success at Idaho.

"Travis has been such an awesome coach to have working with," Gomez said. "I've never had a coach that's just been this willing to work one-on-one with the athlete in order to make them as successful as they can be. He's just as invested in my success as I am and he has all the same dreams, so we're working together to make it a reality."

Idaho track and field director Tim Cawley said the chemistry between the pair has been beneficial for both of them.

"Her relationship with Travis has been fantastic," Cawley said. "They do a great job together and you can tell she trusts him implicitly. It's got to be an open communication back and forth so you can fine tune things."

Floeck said he worked with Gomez early in the season to build self-confidence after a mishap during the 3,000-meter race.

"She wasn't running with the type of calmness a runner should have," Floeck said. "She was a little bit off on being confident but it wasn't her fault. Her spike fell off during the race and I think she handled it well but something had to be done to build her confidence."

Gomez described the incident as an aspect of the tight packs of indoor running.

"I got caught up into a really big pack in the 3K and someone stepped in my heel and took my shoe off," Gomez said. "It was so crowded to run in those types of races while in outdoors, the races are less tactical."

Floeck said the pair have worked on approaching each race with more confidence.

"After what happened, it actually became a blessing," Floeck said. "We evaluated how she approaches and prepare her races.

That all came into cultivation at the Big Sky Championships because of her hard work she has done throughout the season."

For more sports

content, visit thevandalnation.com

Gomez said multiple stress fractures and personal frustration led to her decision to leave Oregon State.

'When I was a lot younger, I thought you had to be at one of the big conferences in order to excel," Gomez said. "But I didn't realize that in order to perform at your best, you have to find that perfect fit for you as an athlete and not so much where you're at. After transferring here, I have just been able to focus more on the last year I have of eligibility to make it the best that I have left."

Gomez said this spring was the first indoor season she has been completely healthy.

"It was really fun to be able to get that base and race a couple of times and get a couple of rust busters out of the way and remember how much I love to race," Gomez said. "It just made me really excited for outdoor to come in more fit than I have ever been."

Cawley said Gomez's performance this season after her injuries has been amazing.

"Not everyone thought she was able to make it back to the team," Cawley said. "To see her grow and build the confidence and poise she displayed last week was pretty darn impressive. Her speed, the strength — everything was starting to

come together."

Cawley said the 10,000-meter would showcase to the crowd Gomez's attitude on the track. He said he expects her to

move further into the NCAA

"The last time she ran outdoors, she ran the 10K at the first round of the NCAA championships but missed nationals," Cawley said. "She's at a place that she has a shot to make the championships in the final round, not just the first round." Gomez said she did not initially like competing in the 10,000meter race.

"It's kind of those things where you fall in love with the event that's your best event," Gomez said. "When I was younger, my dad always told me that I was going to be a 10K runner and I told him, 'No dad, I'm going to be a miler,' because it sounded way more fun. 'I don't want to do 25 laps."

Gomez said after competing in the event for several years it became her favorite outdoor event.

"When I got to college at Oregon State and tried it out, it was just a whole different challenge to run the 10K," Gomez said. "A lot can happen in 25 laps, and it really plays the aerobic strengths to track which is fun."

Gomez and the rest of the Idaho track and field team will begin the outdoor season Mar. 26 at the Mike Keller Invitation-

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FROM PAGE 6

"Those are the two primary options, although there is still flux among various NCAA conferences," Staben said. "We don't know if there will be any other conference available to us. We can go independent, and we do have an offer from the

Staben said the University of Idaho would make a decision on conference affiliation in the near future.

"The invitation from the Big Sky is until May 4, so we anticipate sometime before then we will decide whether to accept that invitation," Staben said. "We could always ask the Big Sky to extend that offer. At this point though, that is the offer that is on the table."

Staben said the program

would remain in the Sun Belt Conference until after the 2017 season, when the conference contract ends.

University of Idaho Athletic Director Rob Spear said he has not ruled out the opportunity of the Vandal football program joining a more regional Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) league.

"We will explore all options, and I really believe that there is an opportunity out west for another type of league," Spear said. "This is another challenge for our department certainly, but it's not a challenge that we haven't faced before and we will work through it."

Spear also said the decision by the Sun Belt Conference would not initially impact the contract of Idaho head coach Paul Petrino.

"We are in the Sun Belt for the next two years, so we have some time to work through that issue,"

Spear said.

Spear said the focus of the program would be to find stability within a competitive conference.

"One thing that we will do in the future is control our own destiny," Spear said. "And that's one thing that we are going to put at the forefront here, is being able to control the next move, because we've been in this reactionary mode for too long. It's very important for the University

of Idaho to control its decisions." Spear said the athletic department discussed the policies regarding transfer reque case students decided to leave the Vandal football program.

"We've certainly had conversations," Spear said. "We understand the rules ... we feel that we are protected, that the studentathletes would certainly have a



a transfer, but it would through the normal transfer process." Staben said

right to request

the university will

consider all available options before making a future decision.

"The University of Idaho will continue to assess how to provide the best experience for our student-athletes and fans," Staben said in the university statement. "Football is an important part of the college experience. A strong, stable athletic program complements the university's great demic programs, enhances the student experience and engages our alumni and fans."

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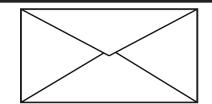
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OUR VIEW

Benefits for more than athletes

Student fee proposal doesn't correct criticism, but it's a start

Then someone isn't involved in something or does not benefit from it, it is easy to criticize.

Students, for example, were quick to criticize where their money for student fees goes.

ASUI conducted a survey on student fees and received more than 800 responses, according to ASUI President Max Cowan. He said the most common concerns were the portion of funds dedicated to athletics and accountability with fee money.

Their criticisms are justified.

Intercollegiate Athletics receives the largest portion of the Dedicated Student Activity Fee, coming in at \$127.96 for the 2015-2016 school year. Sixteen athletic programs and about 350 students benefit from these funds, according to the ASUI student fee page.

As a result of the criticism, University of Idaho President Chuck Staben recently approved a reallocation of the funds — \$12.42 of the Dedicated Student Activity Fee that goes to Intercollegiate Athletics will now go to Academic Support and Access Programs

for athletes. The Dedicated Activity Student Fee Committee recommended the proposal.

For more opinion content, visit While the money is now going uiargonaut.com to a different place, this is not a shift in who benefits from the \$12.42. The money will still be used for academic success for Vandal athletes. The only change is that Academic Support Services will manage the money instead of the Athletics Department's general fund.

This increases transparency and accountability, because the funds are earmarked for athletes' academic support, but it does not alleviate the second concern — the amount of fees designated for athletics.

The academic success of athletes is crucial. The goal of all students should be to gain an education in preparation for life after college. Everyone needs to keep this goal in mind.

Having the funds reserved for academic support is a step in the right direction, but it has not gone far enough.

The reallocated fees should go to the academic support for all students, not student athletes alone. After all, athletes are students first and could benefit from the same academic support, which they already have access to, as other students. Students have a right to be

concerned with and invested in how student fees are spent, because for many, they are coming out of their pockets.

Students should continue to voice their opinions on how their money is spent. Eight hundred voices responded to ASUI, but that is only roughly 7 percent of UI's student population.

Alongside the reallocation, UI also presented a 4.5 percent increase in tuition for resident undergraduate students for the 2016-2017 school year.

The amount may seem like a lot, and with the rising cost of tuition, no one wants to pay more. But, the funds are necessary to keep offering the programs UI does and pay faculty and staff appropriately.

Those 800 voices were great, but students need to continue to voice their opinions. It's only through speaking out that the university will know what matters to its students and what will best help them succeed.

– KH

Nicole Moeckli Argonaut Sorry, Vandals. It's not you, it's me. Big Sky has sent you a friend request. Do you accept?

I can't get no education

Claire Whitley

Argonaut

I have a very negative opinion of the Idaho public school system, and maybe that's because of the way it mistreated me.

I skated through high school without once opening a textbook outside of class and I rarely ever had to do my homework at home. I refuse to accept that I'm "just that smart," as I am well aware that I am not.

Students were forced into classes based on age rather than skill level. This meant a straight-A student like me was in the same class with some idiotic redneck who didn't fully grasp the concept of nouns versus verbs and who probably never made it beyond basic arithmetic.

Being in classes with these low-achieving students made it hard, if not impossible, to actually learn something. They disrupted class and rarely paid attention. They failed tests, which made the teacher look bad. Then the teacher would try to save their reputation by teaching to the dumbest student in the room.

Meanwhile, pupils who were actually trying to pay attention and gain knowledge were forced to repeat the same lessons over and over again for days on end until they stopped paying attention altogether.

The idea of teaching to the lowest skill levels in class means that "high-achieving" students never had to study. To some this seems amazing, and those students appear to be all

good grades, and that is ludicrous.

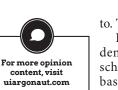
around geniuses. But it's not amazing and those students are not geniuses. Many of the same students struggle through college because they have no study habits.

In small-town Idaho, I was harassed because people thought I was smart – a know-it-all, in fact. The snide comments people made behind my back were hurtful. I was hated because I got

Why should I have to put up with the spiteful opinions of others because they can't seem to comprehend simple subjects? Ironically, the same people who looked down on me for my intelligence would also ask me for help.

Administrators, teachers and parents never fully seemed to understand my frustration. I told them how I felt, but they just smiled and said, "It'll get better." But it didn't. It was never better in the 12 years of public school I was forced to attend. Then, when I came to college, I was woefully unprepared to study.

To be honest, there is no true solution to this problem. Small towns are stuck in their ways and have such low budgets that they can't do anything about it even if they wanted



Public education fails to challenge students, doesn't reach academic excellence

to. That being said, it isn't hopeless. Instead of grouping students based solely on age, rural schools should look into abilitybased grouping.

Ability-based grouping separates students into classes based on achievement-level and skill. High-achieving students can complete more complex and indepth concepts while low-achieving students can focus more on the broad view in order to learn the basics. This method is largely used in Japan, where there are more teachers and students, so transferring it to rural Idaho might not work well. But it's worth a shot.

In the small town where I grew up, I felt like I was some sort of leper because I would read, write and think for myself without needing the assistance of an adult. Every day, I woke up and dreaded going to school. I didn't want to face the ridiculous people who sneered at me when they thought I wasn't looking, or the teacher who was perpetually amazed that I completed one of his elementary-level assignments in less than 10 minutes.

To be knowledgeable in that town was to be feared and hated.

Claire Whitley can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @Cewhitley24

QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM **OUR EDITORS**

Advice for life

Be stubborn about your goals, but flexible in your approach.

- Lyndsie

Make-a-Wish

One little girl named Amelia, who had a tumor, recently chose to pick up trash for her wish.

- Jessica

Mainstream music

Like it or not, today's top 40 music for the most part is trash. Listen to independent or old school music and appreciate the artists who are naturally talented.

- Luis

Mainstream music

Like, do we reflect pop culture? Is pop culture a reflection of us? Who even are we? What does

Mainstream music

it all mean? Asking for a friend. - Hannah

Excuse me, have you even

listened to "Work" by Rihanna? - Jake

#IHeartIdahoWeek The Student Alumni Relations Board is starting a new tradition on campus and it's really rad. It's not too late to partake in events, like the Great Late Potato Bake at the Campus

Christian Center tonight. -Corrin

Campus events

Why do I have responsibilities? All I want to do is attend book readings and political discussion groups.

- Austin

Equality

As a young sports journalist, it's very discouraging to see stories like Erin Andrews'. Sigh.

- Tess

Productive days

They are the best. One second you're stressed, and the next day it's all under control.

- Tea

Productive days

I agree with Tea. One day you are studying for three tests, and the next you are spending your day relaxing.

- Tordan

Break up

The Sun Belt ditched Idaho quicker than a blind date. Hopefully the conference will regret the decision when the Vandals reach a bowl game next year.

- Josh

Clean water

In the U.S., clean water is not something we should have to worry about. Unfortunately, the condition of Flint's water shows us we have some worrying to do.

– Katelyn

Prison privatization

Prior to October 2015, Clinton was still being funded by those corporations. Not that I think we should hold this against her, but I can't help but be a little disgusted by the idea that she was on their bankroll.

Trump 2016

Officially not funny anymore.

Wait

Are midterms next week?

– Erin

Sleazy Yeezy

Misogynistic lyrics highlight hip-hop's underlying flaw

It's hard to escape the influence that musical artists have in people's daily lives.

Beyonce utilized a Super Bowl halftime performance as platform for the Black Lives Matter movement, while Kesha took a public stand against the producer accused of sexually assaulting her.

Whether it's through Twitter posts or newsstands, celebrity performers are bound to dominate headlines on a consistent basis.

Kanye West has taken this exposure to an entirely new level. The rapper and self-proclaimed "god" was the center of a slew of bizarre incidents, including an unexpected outburst on the set of Saturday Night Live and his claims on Twitter that he was \$53 million in debt.

But perhaps the most controversial incident occurred when West referenced singer Taylor Swift in a track on his latest album "The Life of Pablo."

In the album's fourth track "Famous," the rapper claims that he might have sex with Swift because he "made that bitch famous." When I first heard the track, I was irritated for two reasons.

The first was the lyrics proved that West must be completely uneducated regarding the popularity of fellow musical artists, especially Swift.

The rapper's unexpected outburst during Swift's accep-For more opinion tance speech at the MTV Video uiargonaut.com Music Awards occurred in 2009. That was the year when West's "808s and Heartbreak" sold 1.7 million records, while Swift sold 8.6 million copies of her album "Fearless" worldwide. She was definitely an A-list celebrity well before Kanye's now infamous tantrum.

The second reason was that West's statement was inherently misogynistic.

Don't get me wrong — I'm still one of the more passionate fans of hip-hop on the Moscow campus. In fact, I used to be a fan of West back when "The College Dropout" was released in 2004.

As I sat in my dorm room irate over



I began to realize that the issue is bigger than Kanye West. It is an aspect the entire rap genre routinely struggles with.

the rapper's lyrics, I began to realize that the issue is bigger than Kanye West. It is an aspect the entire rap genre routinely struggles with.

The reason why I cringe at the sexist and violent lyrics of Eminem and Dr. Dre is the same reason why I cannot stand jabs by the eccentric personality that is Kanye West.

The immense publicity that Josh Grissom these artists hold can impact our lives in a negative way, especially in cases of sexism and misogyny.

> Listeners should instead be focusing on hip-hop artists who are striving to make a difference in regards to women.

One such rapper is Kendrick Lamar. The Compton artist strives to produce music that examines black consciousness and paints a picture of race dynamics in a divided country.

Another artist who has taken an anti-misogyny stand is J. Cole. In 2013's "Wicked Smile," Cole tells women not to allow disrespect from men who attempt to criticize them. These artists provide a

stark contrast to the unruly and sexist attitude of West, because they stand for a cause. Meanwhile, Kanye raps contain pointless lyrics describing wild sexual encounters with models.

As for my thoughts on Kanye West — I have little sympathy for the man and his alleged \$53 million debt.

In fact, I might encourage others to illegally download his album.

> Josh Grissom can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @GoshJrissom



Snapback



Senka Black



Bad sense of humor

AW MAN, MY CAR GOT BOOTED...





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In defense of ink

Lvndsie Kieber

Argonaut

The stigma surrounding tattoos is tention to changing trends. lettina up, as it should be

I always wanted tattoos.

My friends and I would spend hours brainstorming and sketching out our ideas, and yet none of mine ever came to fruition. Part of it was my own fear of needles, but the other part had to do with stereotypes and social stigmas of tattoos.

Tattoo shops always seem to be depicted as seedy and unsanitary, while tattoo artists are shown to be thugs or spidery, impersonal men and women.

But more than simple stereotypes which are easy to overcome by setting foot in nearly any tattoo shop — the stigma surrounding body art is what kept me from getting tatted up for so long.

Tattoo naysayers have a few go-to phrases. "Are you sure you're going to like having that branded onto your body forever?" "Employers don't hire people with tattoos," or the always lovely, "Tattoos are just trashy."

As with every other topic, these people are entitled to their opinions and beliefs surrounding body art. But thanks to changing times, these viewpoints are rapidly becoming the minority.

Upon coming to college, it became clear to me that more young people have tattoos than I'd originally thought. In response to the question, "Are you sure you'll want that on your body for-For more opinion content, visit uiargonaut.com ever?" the answers vary, but fear of getting tired of the chosen design is not common.

One girl told me that regardless of whether the art on her body holds true as a representation of her as she ages and changes, the tattoo will always be a representation of who she was at the time that she got it — it was an answer I never forgot, and I now apply it to my own beliefs surrounding body art.

Clearly visible tattoos are a slippery slope, however, when options for employment are brought into question. I do not condone throwing fits when employers deny someone a job based on tattoos. Business owners have rights to their own hiring policies. Instead, I want to call at-

In 2007, CBS News estimated that 23 percent of college students had at least one tattoo. This number has undoubtedly increased in the last nine years, and while in the past someone with copious

tattoos could say goodbye to any chance at certain career paths and job positions, more tattoo-adorned people are working in corporate or government positions now.

Though claiming that employers can't discriminate based on body modifications is not realistic, understanding that some employers are ap-

proaching the issue more open-mindedly is important.

Lastly, the statement that tattoos are simply trashy — the snobby backlash to body art culture — is also based on stereotypes that people with tattoos are either white trash or gangsters. And, granted, poorly done tattoos can seem less than tasteful and let off a trashy vibe to those who choose to view tattoos in such a light. But again, stereotypes rarely reflect the reality of a stigmatized topic.

Tattooists are artists. The fact that their canvas is human skin may not go over well with some, but these people are nonetheless skilled and passionate about what they do — and what they do is continually being recognized for the art form that it is.

Despite my apprehensions, got my first tattoo last week. The experience was entirely positive - my tattooist was a middle-aged woman with a warm laugh and welcom-

ing, clean studio. I endured my fear of needles long enough receive a simple tattoo above my ankle and left the shop in high spirits.

Tattoos may face disdain from many, and that is OK, but it is exciting to see this art form clearing a more positive space for itself. The stigma is still there, but society is taking steps toward accepting the personal choice of body modification.

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