THE

ARGONAUT

THE VANDAL VOICE SINCE 1898

Friday, November 4, 2016

SKIRTS AND SUGAR SKULLS

uiargonaut.com



Kaela Watson | Argonaut

Sabor de la Raza, a traditional Latino dance group, performs at the Día de los Muertos celebration in the International Ballroom of the Bruce Pitman Center.

ASUI

Tearing down walls

ASUI urges Botello to convert open space into student lounge

Taylor NadauldArgonaut

ASUI senators urged their ASUI President Cruz Botello to move forward with plans to convert an open space in the Idaho Commons into a student lounge Wednesday.

That urge was directed at Botello via a resolution, written by Sen. Tanner Beymer and co-sponsored by every member of the senate, "calling upon Botello to immediately proceed with the previously approved plans to convert the space formerly occupied by the College of Education Administration to a student lounge, which shall be made accessible to the

Carly Scott

Argonaut

she's disgusted with this presidential election.

currently an undecided voter. She said she

usually self-identifies as politically moderate.

has already decided who she will vote for.

Like many Americans, Anna Slusser said

Slusser, a University of Idaho senior, is

On the other hand, senior Kylie George

In the primaries, Slusser and George were

"I was gunning for Bernie, like every

After Sanders left the race, Slusser said

behind Democratic candidate Bernie Sanders.

college student. I was let down that neither

(Clinton or Sanders) could swallow their

she was let down by who the American

pride and join forces," Slusser said.

entirety of the student body."

It is up to Botello to follow through with the plans, or continue the discussion.

"This is a project that is long overdue," Beymer said. "It's something that absolutely needs to be instituted as quickly as possible."

The resolution comes amid pressure put on Botello by University of Idaho administrators to continue discussion and possibly convert the space into an area for international students, and by ASUI to convert the space into a student lounge.

Dean of Students Blaine Eckles said the university is trying to increase diversity on campus. The administration proposed a lounge space for international students that



would also include support offices for those students.

ASUI Pro-Tempore Mattie Cupps said ASUI met with administration two weeks ago to discuss the open space. ASUI then received a proposal Nov. 1

by the administration to give ASUI a different space to work with — Room 111 in the Memorial Gym.

But that proposal to turn the space into an area for international students was not supported by the senators, as they exemplified during Wednesday's meeting.

Cupps said she and members of ASUI visited the alternative space that day.

SEE **TEARING**, PAGE 5

UI students speak out

on the presidential race

and upcoming election

STUDENT LIFE

The swing vote

people picked as their nominees. She said she thinks the people let Trump and Clinton

get too far.

"I think that we could have had much better candidates if we weren't so obsessed with social media," Slusser said.

She said she thinks the candidates do a lot of things just for the shock value, which distracts from the actual issues.

"The fact that we have let these kind of people to get this far in the election has been the biggest disappointment so far," she said.

Slusser said the one thing a candidate could do to win her over is talk about their policies rather than the other candidate.

"This would show that you're more presidential, obviously, than the other

candidate," she said.

Even though there are technically other options in the election, Slusser said that she doesn't think any third party candidates are viable options. She said she thinks Trump and Clinton have enough coverage by the media to drown out the other candidates' ideas.

"Both Trump and Hillary have gotten support from both of the parties. They've gotten too much and nobody will be listening to third party ideas," she said.

She also said she feels marginalized by the election system. Slusser said because Idaho only has four electoral votes, her vote won't count much in the end.

SEE **VOTE**, PAGE 5

Dance the night away

ASUI Dance Marathon to raise money for Sacred Heart Children's Hospital

Savannah Cardon Argonaut

Some dance shoes and a little boogie can go a long way while attending this year's Dance Marathon.

ASŪI will host the University of Idaho's first ever Dance Marathon Saturday — a six-hour event aiming to raise money for Sacred Heart Children's Hospital.

The marathon is a night to celebrate the funds raised for the hospital. The event will be complete with entertainment, music, food and opportunities to hear stories shared from children and families who have been treated at Sacred Heart. It will give the community a chance to band together in the fight against childhood illnesses.

The Dance Marathon is a national movement put on by the Miracle Network benefiting Children's Miracle Network Hospitals across the country, said Communications Board Chair Sarah Solomon.

The event will take place from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. Nov. 5 in the International Ballroom of the Bruce Pitman Center and is open to everyone.

Individuals are able to participate in teams or as individuals, said ASUI Pro-Tempore Mattie Cupps

"Anyone can participate. We encourage people to participate as a team to bring everyone together and fundraise as a team, but this is not required. Attending the event is not required, simply giving a donation is great as well," Cupps said.

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The Idaho women's soccer team enters the Big Sky quarterfinals Friday.

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There's a Vandal behind the green cup. Read Our View.

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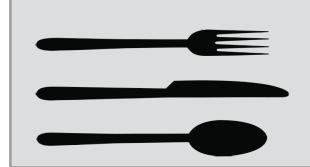
A Crumbs recipe

Eureka guacamole

While living in a camper in Eureka, Nevada, I learned to make the simplest guacamole. True to my tastes and the tastes of the people I lived with, I use way too much garlic and lemon juice. It's bold, it's weird - it's Eureka guacamole. This recipe serves one hungry person.

Ingredients

- 2 avocados
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1/2 a lemon
- 3/4 cup pre-made salsa



Directions

1. Halve and pit both avocados and mush them up in a small bowl with a fork

2. Squeeze all the juice out of the lemon into the bowl and mix with the avocados 3. Add salsa and garlic and continue to mix

4. Pop open a bag of corn chips and enjoy

> Lyndsie Kiebert can be reached at crumbs@uidaho.edu

Cat Demon







Lars Roubidoux | Argonaut

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> 301 Bruce M. Pitman Cente Moscow, ID, 83844-4271 or arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

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SCOCO +TAX

DIVERSITY

Recognizing the relationship

UI recognizes 10 Native American tribes at flag dedication ceremony

Jack Olson

Often, symbols of diversity on a college campus are tucked away, far from visiting eyes and minds.

This is about to change at the University of Idaho with the Tribal Flag Dedication Ceremony at 12:15 p.m. Friday on the first floor of the Bruce Pitman Center.

"U of I has had a long history with tribes," said Sydel Samuels, director of the Native American Student Center. "The flag dedication and the permanent location of those being posted at the Pitman Center is going to be able to create permanent foundation, a visual representation of our Native people on campus — that we are here."

UI entered into a Memorandum of Un-

derstanding (MOU) with 10 nearby tribes in 2007, committing itself to providing services, support and initiatives on campus to help Native American students, Samuels said. The 10 flags being unveiled Friday represent those tribes.

UI President Chuck Staben will provide an introduction before the performance of an honor song and prayer to open up the ceremony. Samuels said Staben and representatives from the 10 tribes will speak on the significance of the event. Two Native American artists will also have their work displayed, he said.

"So the actual flag dedication will be important because the Native students here on campus will have a place to feel like they're represented," Samuels said. "I think when we have people come onto campus, they see the commitment of the university to tribal nations."

The prominent location of the ceremony is important to Sienna Reuben, a UI senior and member of the Nez Perce tribe.

"It's not pushed back somewhere in the corner or anything," Reuben said. "They're seeing it. Just letting people know that we are still here and that we have an alliance and that it's important."

Samuels was also happy with the permanent location of the flags, and said they may be used for ceremonies such as graduation or convocation.

"It's visual, it's in a busy area," Samuels said. "It will create more questions. It will create, 'Oh, there must be a Native Center here,' and, you know, people come to the Native Center asking more questions."

UI is helping Native American students with scholarships and programs, and Samuels said Staben is supportive.

"I'm excited about the direction that we're going as a university," Samuels said. "I think we still have a lot to do, but I feel like our students are being empowered to have a voice and to get out there and share some of our history. To say 'University of Idaho is our campus."

uiargonaut.com

Rueben said it's a good feeling knowing the ceremony will take place and recognize the connection the tribes and the university share.

'When I first got here, I didn't realize that kind of relationship they have," Reuben said. "As I got more into it realized it's a pretty big deal — the university is considerate of these tribes. It's a really good feeling."

November is Native American Heritage Month, and Reuben said the flag dedication is just one of many events.

"And it is a big deal for a lot of Native American students here, because a lot of them come from those MOU tribes too," Reuben said. "So them seeing that their flags are posted up just makes them feel more important, more significant."

> Jack Olson can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

Salmon catches an award

Argonaut

With less than a year of experience, Michael Salmon has already gained his first award by being named the Staff of the Month by the University of Idaho Staff Council.

As a transfer enrollment specialist in the Office of the Registrar, Salmon's main role is to help students transfer to UI. Salmon said his goal is to help students make the transition to the university as smooth as possible.

Salmon said he knows the difficulties that come with moving well. His father was in the Air Force, so his family lived in Virginia, Florida, California, England and Japan — just to name a few.

"I was a military brat, so I moved around every two years or so," Salmon said. "But I moved to Moscow while I attended school here from 2004 through 2009."

After finishing his education at UI, Salmon decided to stay in Pullman in 2011. He said he prefers the Moscow-Pullman area more than anywhere else he's lived because he has family on the West Coast. He also has several friends in the area and said he enjoys the overall atmosphere of the community.

"I really prefer the smaller town atmosphere," Salmon said. "Which that tends to get lost in bigger cities."

Before getting a job at UI, Salmon worked at The Breakfast Club for several years. It wasn't until a friend informed him of an opening at the Office of the Registrar when he decided to apply for a job on campus, he said.

"My friend worked in the registrar's office for a while, and when an opening came up he wanted us to work together," Salmon said. "I applied and got the job, but then he left two weeks later."

Salmon said he wanted to work at UI after he graduated. Since then, he has exceled and received the nomination for the Staff of the Month award from his supervisor, Rebecca Frost.

"I was out of the office for the day," Frost said. "But when I came back I had a voicemail from a young lady who called to specifically compliment Michael on the way he handled a more difficult transfer issue."

Frost said when students transfer schools there are some things that don't transfer correctly like credits. When she was in college, she said transferring credits was difficult, and it helped to work with dedicated employees to ease the process along. That is why staff like Salmon are important.

UI Staff Council recognizes a new Staff of the Month

"It's very important to me that my staff takes the time to work with the students and make sure that they get the best service they can," Frost said. "And I was really happy to hear that about Michael, because what he does is not easy."

Salmon said he appreciated receiving the Staff of the Month award because it encourages him to keep moving forward with the work he enjoys.

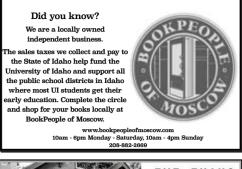
"It's really nice to know that I did, and am doing a good job helping the students who decide to come to UI," Salmon said.

> Andrew Ward can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu



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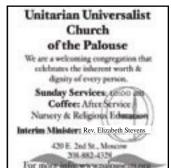
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DANCE

FROM PAGE 1

Not only does the event provide the community with a chance to come together for a cause, but it also acts as an event to strengthen the ties within the Vandal family.

"We want everyone to be there, and that's what were really excited about with it being a campus-wide philanthropy," Solomon said. "We want Greeks, residence halls, athletic teams, off-campus students, professors, administration and really anyone to participate.

All of the funds raised in this event will go toward Sacred Heart, where they can use it to fund better technology for treating their patients, painless treatments and other items to make children's time at the hospital more enjoyable, Cupps said

"All of the money is going to an incredible cause and is helping children fight for their dreams. Children are the future of our society and we need to be there to support them. Every child deserves a chance," Cupps said. "I personally met some of the strongest people I have ever met while visiting the children at Sacred Heart and I want to do this for them and show them they have people cheering them on."

Registration for the marathon requires a donation of \$5 and is open online with the link pro-

vided in the Vandal Dance Marathon Facebook page. By signing up as a dancer, the person agrees to stay dancing for six hours, Solomon said.

Registration will also be open at 5 p.m. before the event begins Saturday for those who



wish to pay at the door, Cupps said. Nissan, the event sponsor, will donate \$5 for every person who

participates, Solomon said. "This is an awesome opportu-

nity to come together as a community for something bigger than ourselves. There are people on our campus who have been affected by it and people in

the Moscow community will benefit from

Savannah Cardon can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

"It is not ideal at all. At all. To say the least, it kind of looks a little bit like a dungeon,"

Sen. Sam Balas added his voice to the mix. Balas also works as a columnist for The

"I find it fascinating that the university has taken an interest in increasing enrollment, and yet, instead of servicing the students that go here and ensuring that they're excited to go here, and servicing their needs and their wants, they have decided to attempt to pay lip service to

Balas said if the university wants to increase enrollment it needs to take the needs of the domestic student popu-

"If we are going to try and

down these walls."

According to the legislation, in an email to previous ASUI President Nate Fisher back in December 2014, the previous Interim UI Provost and Executive Vice President Katherine Aiken confirmed the space once occupied by the College of Education administration "will be committed back to students upon conclusion to the College of Ed renovations."

The space has since been renovated and vacated, and is currently not used by UI.

Sen. Catherine Yenne said there are no stronger advocates for international students than ASUI, but questioned the size of the space the administration proposed to ASUI as an alternative to the Commons.

'The administration has proposed a space in the gym that is two-thirds the size of the space in the Commons, yet this space is supposed to service 100 percent of the student

body?" Yenne said.

She said using the Commons as an international student space will only serve a small portion of the student body.

Yenne said the goal of ASUI's student lounge proposal is to integrate all students in a central location.

Botello said he plans to meet with Eckles Thursday to coordinate with UI Provost and Executive Vice President John Wiencek to discuss the student space and what Botello's decision will ultimately be.

"Due to the fact that this bill passed unanimously and this project has been in the works since before my time even in ASUI as a senator or as president, I'm leaning towards turning it into a student space," Botello said.

He said a decision on the space will possibly be made by the end of next week.

> Taylor Nadauld can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

Police log

Oct. 27

200 block East Southview Avenue, 5:50 p.m.

Someone keyed a "Trump" bumper sticker, damaging it.

Oct. 28

100 block South Almon, 5:27 p.m.

Brittany Stephenson, 26, was several misdemeanor citations related to a domestic battery incident. No arrests or no serious injuries. Parties separated.

Oct. 29

400 Block South Almon, 1:16 a.m.

Roommate dispute turned into a malicious injury to property citation and a DUI arrest for Alexander Moreno, 47.

920 Deakin, Sigma Alpha Epsilon,

Report of an altercation between two individuals "over a girl."

100 block South Almon, 6:53 a.m.

Brittany Stephenson, 26, was arrested for unlawful entry, cited for petty theft and domestic battery. She returned to this location from the earlier incident.

718 Elm Street; Sigma Nu, 10:37

Tucker Forbush, 23, was cited for battery after getting into a physical

altercation at this location.

Oct. 30

it," Solomon said.

720 Idaho, Delta Tau Delta, 1:08 a.m.

Several individuals were warned for a verbal altercation over people trying to get into the party going on at Delta Tau Delta fraternity whom were not on the guest list.

901 Paradise, LLC 24-hour Help Desk, 9:04 a.m.

An intoxicated, of age, individual visiting friends at UI was lost and wandering around the area of the LLCs. They were reunited with the people they were looking for.

Nov. 1

South Jackson Parking Lot, 12:43

A UI student on his "21 run" was highly intoxicated. He was passed out and vomiting outside his friend's vehicle at the end of his night. Officers requested an ambulance be dispatched to take them for a detox hold. No citations.

300 block North Washington Street, 3:12 p.m.

A roommate took other roommate's checkbook and forged four checks to themselves.

North Almon Street, Pad Mini Storage, 8:31 p.m.

A truck was reported as being stolen from a storage unit. A suspect was identified and the truck was signed as a stolen vehicle.

Cupps said.

Argonaut.

what looks good," Balas said.

lous seriously.

unite the people of this school, the last thing we need are walls," Balas said. "Mr. President, tear

Despite being undecided,

Slusser still plans on voting

Tuesday. She said she'll prob-

ably make up her mind while

she is in the ballot box.

FROM PAGE 1

don't," she said.

For George, she said her mind has been made up ever

since Sanders was defeated. "There's no way in hell that I'm voting for Trump," she said.

Slusser said she thinks this election has proved that anyone "My parents will kill me if I can be president.

"I think for a while it was just like white male granddads could be president, but these last two elections have shown that literally anybody can be president," she said.

> Carly Scott can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu





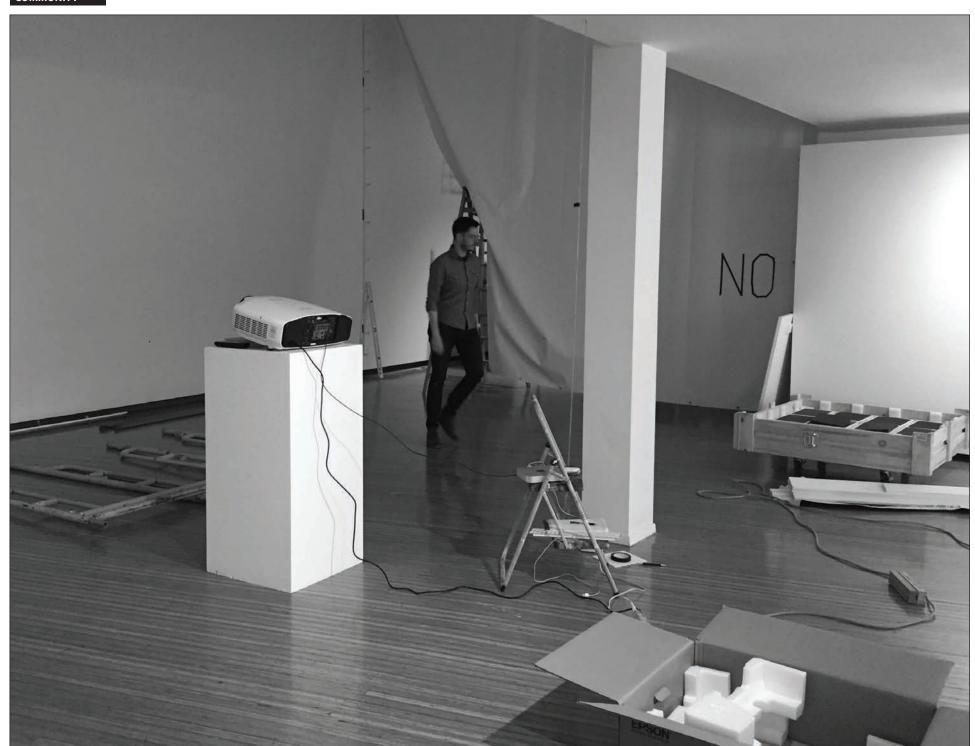


QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Don't cry because it's over smile because it happened"

— Dr. Suess

COMMUNITY



Jonathan Moore installs an art exibit inspired by technology, media and the effects technology has on war, using projections and algorithams at the Pichard Art Gallery.

Art, drones and action

A preview of the new exhibit at the Prichard Art Gallery

> **Justin Johnson** Argonaut

A gun shot. A text message. Two entirely separate actions, with very similar outcomes: a target. How has technology helped Americans as a society? How has it destroyed users?

It seems with every step towards creating a new device or gadget, the impact of it can be both successful and destructive. This is the theme artists at the Prichard Art Gallery hope to convey.

The event will start 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 4 and run until Jan. 28 at the Prichard Art

Entering the space, the director of the gallery, Roger Rowley, and two of the artist's Jonathon Moore and Fabio Piparo, were busy working on setting up one of the pieces.

Moore, an artist from Los Angeles and

Piparo, an artist from New York both focus on interactive media art. "Kinetic works, sculptures that move, a mix of things,"

A blend of bringing art and technology together, this form of artwork encompasses any and all forms of media: photos, internet and projections to help bring its message and creativity to life.

Since meeting in college at the Savannah School of Art and Design, the two artists have been collaborating for over a decade. The work and the theme they want to present are how technology has become such an integral part of people's lives, and

how it also comes with repercussions. In one of their pieces, a chandelier of six-shooter pistol's are hung up to the ceiling with the barrels pointing down. These aren't real firearms, however, rather toy cap guns spray painted white and hooked up to a computer that sends signals to fire off the pistols.

These gunshots are supposed to indicate when a drone strike has been made and the

number of people killed will be the amount of shots that'll go off.

"The data that is sent to the guns is in real time. It's a lot more than an art piece or a video game. They'll go off at the time it happens, even at night when no one will be here," Piparo said.

Both Moore and Piparo have worked on an exhibit similar to the one in Moscow, the two have a similar piece in Taiwan.

This powerful presentation of how technology can be used towards progressive and destructive means is not about picking and choosing sides, but understanding what new technology can do.

"Most people can see these bits of data and believe it's all a black and white situation, but there really is this gray area in it. We want to bring an awareness of how technology shapes our lives," Moore said.

Rowely said that this will have a meaningful impact.

Entering the gallery, patrons will be introduced by a projection of three dancers with small drones flying over them. They

will be flying above the dancers, moving in a synchronized flying display. As patrons watch, the gun shots will fire at their respected times bringing a duality of peacefulness and uneasiness, knowing that someone, somewhere has been killed by a drone strike. Rowley calls it "a distant remote form

of violence." Additional displays by other artists will be showcasing the impact of war, guns and technology. Guests can walk through the art exhibit and come out with a collective perspective.

The exhibit, "Real & Implied: EEVEN-PLAY" will feature works from Moore, Piparo as well as Rosemarie Fiore and Suzanne Opton. A talkback with the artists was held 5 p.m. Thursday at the Pichard Art Gallery. Admission is free to all that want to be a part of a powerful and engaging presentation at the Prichard Art Gallery.

> Justin Johnson can be reached at arg-arts@uidaho.edu

The price of stardom Indie dramedy "Don't Think Twice" is a pleasant surprise

"Don't Think Twice" follows a popular improvisation comedy troupe called The Commune, consisting of Jack, played by Keegan Michael-Key, Samantha played by, Gillian Jacobs, Miles played by Mike Birbiglia, Allison played by

Kate Micucci, Lindsay played by Tami Sagher and Bill played by Chris Gethard.

The group performs improv comedy at the famous Improv America theatre, until the theater announces its impending closing. When Jack and Samantha get auditions with the popular comedy series "Weekend Live," the group's future and friendships are thrown into turmoil.

"Don't Think Twice" is a profoundly relevant movie, one that could only be made in 2016. The film doesn't shy away from the grim future of live entertainment and the bleak reality of show business.

Seeing the Improv America Theatre deteriorate little by little is heartbreaking,

especially after a bright and optimistic opening explaining the cultural significance of improv comedy.

"Weekend Live," an obvious "Saturday Night Live" satire, is billed as the crème de la crème of comedy, only to be revealed as a

hellhole of business. In today's digital physical world, this film is truly a product

of its time, and for viewers invested in old-school entertainment, a truly moving experience.

It's a film that makes viewers think about how grim the future could be, not just for live performances, but for the rose colored

future everyone has picked out for themselves.

This film spotlights that the future isn't so bright and that makes it a more daring film than the audience might think.

Miraculously, all of this reflection is done through the eyes of fun characters. The film takes its time to establish each role in the group, shown mostly through hysterical improvised comedy routines, so that by film's end, the audi-

ence really gets to know them. In the film, Miles is a part-time acting teacher who sleeps with half his students,

Bill is dealing with a hospitalized father and Allison, affectionately nicknamed "Data," is working on a graphic novel. All the characters play a key role in

the film and everyone has a vital part.



That makes it all the more engaging when the group begins to fall apart, turning what was at first a happy-go-lucky improvised comedy into a surprisingly bittersweet drama about what fame will do to even the best of friends.

This all comes to a head in the Commune's final show, which is a fantastic scene that must be seen to be believed.

"Don't Think Twice" defies expectations and is better for it. Working as both a comedy and a drama while also reflecting on the times, it is one of the year's best films and an experience you won't soon forget.

> **Bradley Burgess** can be reached at arg-arts@uidaho.edu

TELEVISION

Parody and politics

Pop culture parodies of current issues have merit

During any election year, news coverage of the presidential race goes into overdrive. CNN, Fox News, MSNBC and all the major

news networks go the extra mile to make sure that America is informed about the facts of the world and every minute of information about our next president, whoever that may be.

But beyond the news, most
Americans watch other programs
that tackle current issues. Shows like
"Saturday Night Live," "The Daily
Show" and "Last Week Tonight with John
Oliver" keep modern viewers up to date
With the week's issues and news. They just so his an
happen to make jokes about those issues.

Bradley Burgess
Argonaut

Trevo

Comedy can very often be written off as nothing more than a cheap joke. However, what few realize is how timely comedy can be. Even shows like "Modern Family" take on issues of gay couples and the average American family. They just put a comedic spin on those issues.

But these shows can start a conversation around the issues that are raised in these jokes

If "The Simpsons" makes a joke about Donald Trump, viewers will not only laugh, they will think about the joke and want to know more.

In the case of political parody shows like "The Daily Show," they catch people up to real world news events in the midst of comedy.

Trevor Noah can crack about Trump and his antics, but also keep the public informed about said antics through his comedy.

For example, this past Halloween, Noah took his comedy routine to a bold extreme. His episode was set in an imagined world where Trump wins the presidency and steers America

into the apocalypse. According to Noah's vision of Trump's presidency, comedy is illegal, African-Americans are outlawed and President Trump has a Secretary of Offense.

While some may argue that Noah's joke was a little too edgy, he nonetheless made a point about the danger of Trump's potential election. That episode will most definitely get a conversation happening about not just Noah and the lengths he went through to make a joke, but the implications of the world that Noah imagined.

When The Boston Globe ran a false front page of their paper imagining a similar scenario of Trump as President, they were



ridiculed and called out. Noah, however, uses parody as opposed to a false statement on the front page of a respected news source. The Globe failed for trying to do something they don't regularly

do. Their job is to report the truth.

Noah, on the other hand, is not a newsman. He is a comedian and as such, can make a statement like this based on current events instead of repeating them exactly. As a result, he is essentially the common man, reacting to the current goings on.

Everyone has an opinion about something and comedians are no exception. Opinions can be true or false, but they can also start the conversation and feed more opinions. And comedy is certainly one form of that.

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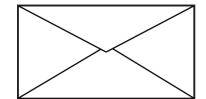
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OPINION



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'Be good to each other'

The artist behind the new Starbucks cup is a UI grad — and that's rad

hogo Ota didn't know where Idaho was on a map when he was accepted to the University of Idaho in the

What he did know was that is was his mother's dream for him to have a college education. After five Japanese universities rejected his applications, Moscow, Idaho, became Ota's next destination.

That was 14 years ago.

Flash-forward to 2016 — students bustle about the Moscow campus, a good majority of them gripping green and white paper cups of coffee. These Starbucks cups are not a new sight on campus, but starting Nov. 1, they became not just a source of caffeine, but a source of Vandal pride. The intricate detail on the cup — depicting 132 faces connected by a singular line — is the work

The coffee giant commissioned Ota, who now fronts his own company known as Tireman Studio in Seattle, to design the cup

as well as other decorative aspects for Starbucks this holiday season including window decals and more. He's done work with Starbucks before, including a community poster series and a handpainted mural on the doors of a new store in Ferguson, Missouri.

According to an article about Ota published by Starbucks, he came up with the idea while simply drawing on a notepad in his Seattle studio. The overall concept of Ota's work on the green cup has to do with everyone in the world being connected. On the cup they're connected by one line, and in reality the human race is one huge community.

Ota, originally from Gifu, Japan, said he wanted his art on the cup to bring peace and make everyone feel happy together. The slogan accompanying his artwork is, "Be good to each other."

Still, the design is nothing short of personal — it incorporates caricatures of Ota's grandmother, wife, toddler son and friends from across the world. He even incorporated his mother into the cup, telling Starbucks, "She is the reason I moved here in the first place."

Ota's first American experience hap-



pened in Moscow, and from here he made himself known. It took talent, but more than that, it took determination.

So this holiday season, celebrate his success. Share his story with friends, family

and Facebook. Support his art by not only checking out his work for Starbucks, but also show Tireman Studio some love. His company's website showcases posters and other projects they've created, all unique and artful.

To think a man who spent his higher education in North Idaho — a place not necessarily know for its diversity or inclusivity — created this art is a testament to Moscow and a testament to the university. A man from across the world found a home in Idaho and it resulted in art about world harmony — this is a sentiment worthy of notice.

UI has churned out some incredible human beings, and no matter their discipline or background, they all have something in common: They're all Vandals. Ota is a Vandal, and with every green cup, a piece of UI is being dispersed across the nation.

How neat is that?

– LK



The wrong kind of college

The Electoral College is ineffective and should be replaced

When someone in America votes for a president, they are not voting for a candidate

- they are voting for someone who will cast their vote for them. The Electoral College is full of delegates who do the actual voting, and they don't technically have to vote for the candidate the people favor.

Doug McAdam, a Stanford professor of sociology who studies American politics, argues that four out of five Americans exercised no real electoral voice in the 2012 presidential election because of the Electoral College.

With the current system the only voters determining the outcome of a presidential race reside in a handful of battleground states, which makes up merely 20 percent of the country's total population. For the rest of the population, voting for a minority presidential party can be an exercise in political powerlessness.

In 2012, only 54 percent of eligible voters cast a ballot. Eliminating the Electoral College could empower people to actually vote because they would be directly impacting the outcome of the election. The use of a popular vote system could also encourage more political parties to participate in the election because then there would be a fair

chance of winning.

Argonaut

The Electoral College seems to set the stage for a small group of people making all the decisions in other areas of government.

Professors involved in a study at Princeton University and Northwestern Univer-

> sity found the U.S. government now represents the rich and powerful, not the average citizen. The results provide substantial support for theories of Economic-Elite Domination, meaning a small economic elite holds the most power, and Biased Pluralism, which says policies tend to tilt toward the wishes of corporations and business.

The current American political system does not lean toward theories of Majoritarian Electoral Democracy, meaning government by the people is interpreted as government by the majority of the people, or Majoritarian Pluralism, which says a majority of the population is entitled to a certain degree of primacy in society and has the right to make decisions that affect the society.

Basically, America is now an oligarchy, which is government or control by a small group of people — not a democracy. Still, Americans enjoy elements of democracy such as regular elections and freedom of speech and association — and yet when considering the Electoral College, the U.S. is technically no longer a democracy.

The current system also results in lobby-

ists and special interest groups influencing the decision makers.

In 2009, 13,500 lobbyists and interest groups spent \$5.3 billion to influence Congress. The American people's trust in Congress has declined from 42 percent in

1973 to just 7 percent in 2014 according to a Gallup poll. Former President Jimmy Carter said, "Now, it's just an oligarchy with unlimited political bribery being the essence of get-

ting the nominations for president or being

elected president." What is the solution? Abolishing the Electoral College and changing to the popular vote would be a good start, but perhaps the most important thing to remember is the amount of influence and potential each

individual person has. Just because someone's presidential vote may not have much impact doesn't mean their voice isn't meaningful. Every person has the ability to impact the world. Every decision is a vote.

By choosing to take action and be the change they want to see, Americans can change the country more than any president ever could. The solution to the problem is not found out there, the solution is inside everyone.

Andrew Brand can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @theandrewbrand

OFF THE CUFF

QUICK TAKES ON LIFE FROM OUR EDITORS

World Series

Game seven will become a motion picture before 2030. Anyway, Seattle better make the postseason in 2017.

- Luis

Chicago Cubs

When Kris Bryant recorded the final out Wednesday night, the sport of baseball lost its last great storyline.

- Josh

No

I saw my first Christmas advertisement before Halloween, and now that it's over I've been bombarded. What happened to the ads about turkey stuffing or mashed potatoes? Does no one care about Free Food Day anymore?

– Erin

Hillary Clinton

Her biggest strength is that she really wants to help people and do what's best. Her biggest weakness is she often sees herself doing no wrong to achieve those things. With that in mind, I am so with

- Jack

Satire

I may not be into politics, I may not even be into watching news networks, but shows like "The Daily Show" or "Last Week Tonight" and newspapers like "The Onion" are still a great way to stay caught up in the stream of information.

Break

Can I go home and eat turkey yet?

- Tess

Countdown

Counting the days until I get to go home and snuggle my kitty. I cannot wait until break.

– Mihaela

Sunshine

I don't know how long this weather is going to last, but I love waking up to warm rays of sunlight more than my alarm.

- Hailey

Bad grade nightmares

I now know I'm on the last stretch of the semester when I wake up at 3 a.m. after a nightmare of getting an 'F' on an exam. The intensity is real people, especially when I remembered getting an 'A' on that test. Phew.

Catherine

Fun fact

Otters hold hands when they fall asleep, so they don't drift apart. #otterdorable

- Kevin

OTCs

I hate them.

– Tea

Celebrate

Just finished up a trip to Lewiston for a procedure. Now I get to sleep all weekend.

- Diamond

Bagels

Why do we, as God-fearing Americans, not pronounce "bagels" the same way we say "bag?" Think about it.

- Griffen

Making memories to music

"PA Nights" by Mac Miller.

Lvndsie

Mashed potatoe meta

The beauty of potatoes and how they can help people conquer life

As people age the more they become aware of human suffering. Some choose to delve deeper to understand what it means to be human. Men like Socrates, Aristotle and Bill Nye devote their lives to asking questions and finding answers.

What do I do? Well, I think about the most important thing of all. Potatoes.

Potatoes are the end-all, be-all of versatile foods. Everyone hates those nights spent laying in bed contemplating the most embarrassing moments they've experienced, unable to let go and accept the mind-numbing grip of sleep. Grab a potato, cheese grater and a frying pan. Boom — instant hash browns. Who doesn't love that? Soulless potato hating crazies, that's who.

To prevent myself from slipping into a

deep depression due to the crushing weight of my insignificance, I decided to study the etymology of the word "potato."

I bet many people, including myself, accredited the proliferation of the potato to the Irish. That is indeed false. The first po-

> tatoes were actually grown in South America, specifically by the Incans. The English first encountered what we today call the sweet potato, but to them it was known only as the potato. It wasn't until many years later that the English encountered the world's beloved tuber.

In reality, there are many problems in this world. Retreating to a potato wonderland sometimes isn't an option. On the other hand, how great are mashed potatoes? I, for one, love them made with Yukon Gold potatoes. The slight sweetness adds such depth of flavor combined with the salt of Lawry's Seasoning. The tang of the sour cream is like a cold bucket of water to the palette — cleansing the taste buds, allow-

Griffen Winget

ing for even more potato goodness.

Food is an escape for many. It is where they go to forget about their troubles. Whether it is potatoes, ice cream, potatoes, pizza or potatoes, it does not matter. What matters is that they don't have to struggle with problems that they don't have answers to. I am one of those people. Maybe not with food so much as with writing stories about potatoes. It is important to ask questions like, "is a hotdog a sandwich?" or "why don't we pronounce bagels the same way we pronounce bag?" These existential questions that make us rethink how we see the world are my escape — the little dollop of sour cream on the baked potato that is life.

Pointless questions like these are exactly that: pointless. However, they provide a breath of fresh air. The world is full of tragedies — whether manmade or by Mother Nature, they are all terrible. All of them, big or small, create a huge weight that may seem impossible to bear. Taking a moment to seriously consider whether potatoes are as amazing as I have made them out to be

takes that weight off. That, to me, is invaluable. Having arguments over the nature of hot dogs far exceeds debates about presi-

I'd like to conclude with my favorite potato recipe — a call back to a simpler time filled with sippy cups and naptime. I'd like to share the classic mashed potatoes with a little twist. Start with boiled Yukon Gold potatoes (it's very important that they be Yukon Gold as those are the unequivocal best tater). Next add cream cheese, whole milk and butter to a bowl and mix. Add that to the potatoes, throw in some seasoning salt, a little paprika and boom — amazing mashed potatoes. They are the ultimate comfort food distraction.

Next time life's hardships are too much to bear, just remember all the silly, pointless questions and maybe that weight will feel a little bit lighter.

> Griffen Winget can be reached at arg-opinion@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @GriffenW

President Obama and the hope he gave the U.S.

I intend to do some justice.

The question is whether that justice is properly deserved or earned, and I believe

To paint a portrait of someone who was able to balance the demands of arguably the most difficult job on earth in such a manner that repaired the dilapidation the previous office left it in — that is quite a person. I wish to look at what has hap-

pened in the last eight years, to see where the president has truly taken us and what he has actually accomplished. Those who call this man the worst president the United States has ever had can't see very far into the past.

As millions of Americans gawk at the upcoming election ballot, perhaps it's time to take a gander at the accomplishments of President Barack Obama, and to compare his years in office with his predecessors.

Myriad viewpoints have been extended on Obama's presidency, with innumerable conclusions, and mine is just another of these. Regardless of this subjective nature, I hope the efforts Obama has made will stand testament to the phenomenal job he has done with what he was handed.

The presidency is as much a job of publicity, image and presentation as it is of policy work, big decisions and

> international dealings. Obama first connected with the American people through his incredible and unique ability to speak. He is able to convey honesty

with a true, unrehearsed tone that

resonates with people. After many promises and aspirations given throughout his campaign, Obama was left with a long

list of things to do after he was elected. He not only prevailed over the accusations of unnatural U.S. birth largely because of the color of his skin, but he also continued to deal with the slurs that all candidates for the presidency are sure to encounter. To become the first African-American president has been well acknowledged, and many see the importance of this huge step toward equal opportunities.

Throughout his years in office, the President has worked to fulfill the promises he made, often to no avail.

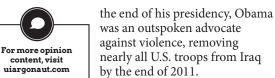
He could never have predicted the complete stubbornness that he would face in presenting his ideas to Congress, who often expressed their unwillingness to listen to him and his supporters.

This is a classic example of political bigotry at the expense of the American people, yet Obama's tireless efforts to fulfill his goals could not surpass it.

However, the executive order has been a good friend to the President. This highly debated tool is not very democratic, hypothetically, but Obama has shown how it can be used to create democratic results.

Of his 256 executive orders (a scant number in comparison to Franklin D. Roosevelt's 3,721), he attempted to close Guantanamo Bay to little avail, along with other measures such as ending deportation of children whose parents brought them to the U.S. at a young age.

Time and time again, especially toward



He also worked to achieve the idea of universal healthcare in the U.S.

What may be most relevant of all to consider when looking at Obama's presidency is not what came to fruition, but rather what he worked to achieve.

One cannot blame him for the congress' refusal to consider most of what he proposed, despite the fact that Americans supported his ideas.

Whether it is his lack of scandals, or the fact that he has worked more diligently at the end of his presidency than ever, Obama should be given the tip of the hat. He should always be remembered for the work he was able to accomplish through his belief in America, and the ideals that make it the great country that it is. Will Meyer

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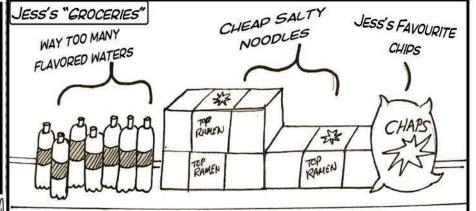
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Bee Informed



About Joe Biden's Shades



I've just been Biden my time to put these on.

Kyle Harty | Argonaut

Mailbox

Hock-Ptui

Caroline Nilsson Troy wouldn't want me to tell you that's the sound she makes when Boise State University is mentioned. Her joke about the rivalry between the University of Idaho and BSU isn't malicious, but an onomatopoeia for her undeniable love for UI.

Troy, up for re-election, is a third generation Vandal who graduated in 1984 as a member of Kappa Alpha Theta, the UI marching band and advertising club. She began her career at UI where she served as the lead fundraiser for the university for 12 years. Later, Troy's service to UI students advanced in her role as state representative.

I worked with Troy as an ASUI senator last year as well as intern for her directly when she passed HB-521: "Medical Amnesty." ASUI Lobbyist Nate Fisher proposed she sponsor the legislation due to her continuous support of the university and ASUI. The passage of medical amnesty, which gives limited immunity to minors in possession or consumption of alcohol who call for emergency medical help for themselves or a friend, was the most impactful legislation for UI students in my collegiate career. Troy was part of the first ASUI-generated state legislation to ever be passed and it truly impacts the lives of students.

I now fill Fisher's shoes as the ASUI lobbyist (I wear a women's six and he a men's eleven — plus he passed the first ASUI legislation, so you do the math on how big that is). Troy proposed that this year ASUI should work on legislation that would grant out-of-state college students residency-priced fishing and hunting licenses. Work on this legislation has been started and Troy will be the sponsor contingent upon her re-election.

This election, vote for Caroline Nilsson Troy — who cares about the lives of students and loves UI as much as you do.

Rachael MillerASUI Lobbyist



