

THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO
ARGONAUT

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019



Storming through the Palouse

Alex Brizee | Argonaut

Skiers cross-country ski near the Arboretum after UI announced school closures due to hazardous weather conditions Wednesday afternoon.

Snow storms bring spike in traffic accidents and school closures across Moscow and Pullman

Alexis Van Horn
 ARGONAUT

After heavy snowfall and freezing temperatures, the University of Idaho announced facilities would close Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning. While students enjoyed the time off by skiing across Moscow landscapes, traffic accidents

began to spike across town.

Although UI Assistant Vice President of Facilities Brian Johnson said this type of weather is common for Moscow winters, people should keep safe travel practices in mind while commuting.

“We’re quite fortunate,” said Casey Green of the Moscow Police Department. “The city was really ahead of (the snow) this time, in my opinion. They’ve been removing snow in the early morning hours and have started before the accumulations hit.”

Nonetheless, non-injury related acci-

dents have increased. According to MPD, seven separate reports were made for traffic violations on Friday.

As of noon Wednesday, at least 35 snow-related traffic violations occurred since Feb. 4. The accidents consist mostly of hit and runs, along with spin-outs and parking lot accidents.

“It’s been harder to get up on campus in my patrol car,” Green said. “I have to do some route-planning before I leave. I can’t go up on Line Street because it’s too steep for my car to start. I have to take this into account. It’s

especially tough when classes are in session because that’s when people are out.”

Green said city snow plows have cleared the roads to ensure local schools and businesses can remain open. However, the city of Moscow is not responsible for clearing the snow on University of Idaho’s campus. Students expressed frustration when UI remained open on Monday while WSU and local school districts closed for the day, starting a change.org petition to call for a closure.

SEE SNOW PAGE 4

CAMPUS LIFE

Parking stalls

A previously free parking lot has been turned to permit only, sparking discourse about parking availability at the University of Idaho

Kyle Pfannenstiel
 ARGONAUT

Michele Crout returned to her car one day in December to find the lot that she had been parking in for a year for free had been turned to a permitted lot.

Crout, who works as department manager for the University of Idaho Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, began parking on the street after this notice.

She isn’t alone in her change of habits. Dozens of other cars that used to fill the two triangular parking lots west of Patty’s Mexican Kitchen & Catering have dispersed since the change. Now, commuters are required to pay \$50 a semester for a lot that once cost nothing.

The lots were managed by the University of Idaho as Blue lots in the 2000s before they were leased out to a private individual, James Stephens, in 2005. UI purchased the lots in 1990, said Gerard Billington, a UI Real Estate Officer.

“There’s hardly anybody parking there ... so I just park on the street for free,” said Linda Moser, administrative coordinator at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

The change in parking at these two lots is the latest flashpoint in the discussion of parking availability in Moscow.

“If I can find free parking, I’m not going to

pay for it if I don’t have to,” said Moser, also a manager for UI Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

When the signs were posted, Crout initially thought she had missed something. Why was the free lot requiring a permit?

“Then I pulled out of the lot and I noticed there were signs that they were requiring permits ... it just said that your car would be towed away if you didn’t have a permit,” she said. “So that was kind of shocking.”

The property manager who converted the lot to pay-to-park, Stephens, said he gave ample notice before the change. Stephens put the notice up in mid-December, before winter break, which he said gave adequate time for people to buy a permit or find another place to park.

“I’ve been letting them park for free,” Stephens said. “And we pay taxes on it. We maintain it. It’s now time for them to pay a little bit.”

He also noted that the \$50 per semester lot is “considerably under the going rate for parking,” undercutting most of UI’s options. The key difference between Stephens’ permits and those from UI are that UI ones last a year, while Stephens’ last a semester.

SEE PARKING PAGE 4



Michele Crout



Alex Brizee | Argonaut

Car are buried in high levels of snow due to winter storm weather Wednesday, near Patty’s parking lot.

Staben teaching leave approved

State Board of Education approves UI President Staben’s transitional leave

Kyle Pfannenstiel
 ARGONAUT

The Idaho State Board of Education voted unanimously Thursday to approve academic transitional leave for University of Idaho President Chuck Staben to teach biology courses at the university next year.

The item was approved without discussion. UI Director of Communications Jodi

Walker said Staben is undecided if he will accept the position as faculty.

“He has not made a decision on his future,” she said. “This is one option available to him.”

Walker said in the meantime he is actively seeking other jobs while he remains president until the end of June.



Chuck Staben

Staben cannot approve his own academic transitional leave, according to the materials, so this request was brought before the Board.

Walker said the leave is paid, but a pay rate has not yet been set.

Staben would earn \$160,000 a year as a tenured professor. The item also stipulates he shall

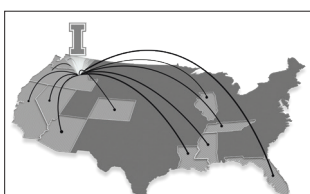
not be paid less than the highest paid full professor in that college.

Staben last taught a biology course in 2007 at the University of Kentucky.

The leave “would be used by Dr. Staben to prepare for a teaching assignment in January (2020),” according to board meeting materials.

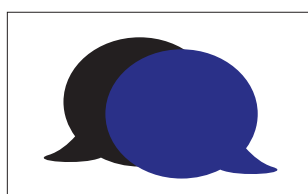
SEE STABEN PAGE 4

IN THIS ISSUE



A look at the newest additions to Idaho football.

SPORTS, 8



Campus parking needs an overhaul. Read our view.

OPINION, 9



Couple discusses how they met and started two businesses.

ARTS, 5

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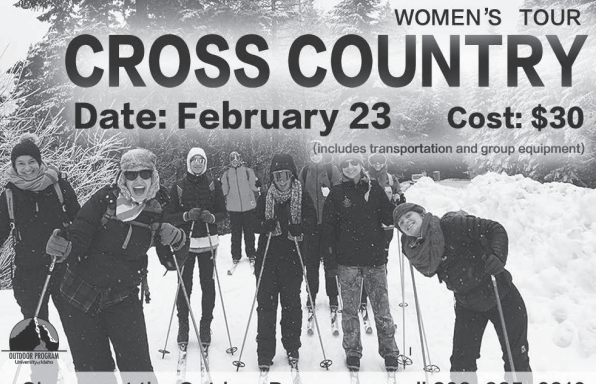


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A Crumbs recipe

Chocolate peanut butter cookie balls

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Ingredients

- 1 package of chocolate cookies
- 1/2 cup of melted white chocolate
- 1 1/2 cup of peanut butter
- 1/2 cup of peanut butter chips

Directions

- 1) Finely crumble the chocolate cookies or process them in short pulses through a blender.
- 2) The cookie mixture should be a fine and grainy consistency.
- 3) Fold in 1/2 cup of peanut butter, the melted white chocolate chips and the peanut butter chips.
- 4) Form into balls and place in the freezer for 10 minutes.
- 5) Once hardened, drizzle melted peanut butter over the top.
- 6) Sprinkle a touch of sea salt over the top of each cookie ball for a sweet and salty finish.

Start to finish: 45 minutes
 Servings: 24

Hailey Stewart
 can be reached at crumbs@uidaho.edu

Snowy school day

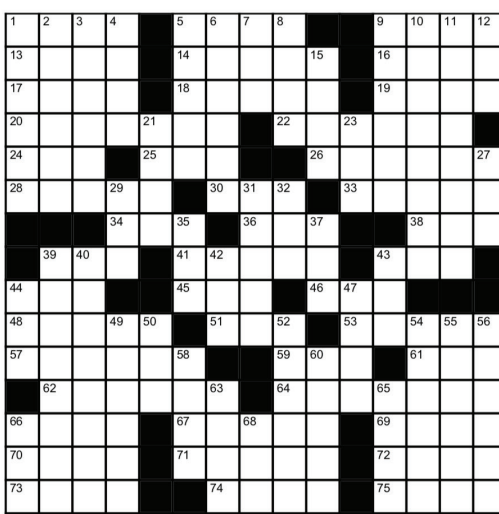


Avery Alexander | Argonaut

CROSSWORD

Across

- 1 Easy marks
- 5 Auction actions
- 9 Stone
- 13 ___ of Man
- 14 Ridgeline
- 16 Race track shape
- 17 Larger ___ life
- 18 Hermit
- 19 Snowbank
- 20 Doom
- 22 Current
- 24 Miner's find
- 25 Bring to bear
- 26 Vile
- 28 Taxi ticker
- 30 Electricity source
- 33 Kitchen appliance
- 34 Silent ascent
- 36 Knock
- 38 Capture
- 39 Store posting (Abbr.)
- 41 Cherish
- 43 ___ el Amarna, Egypt

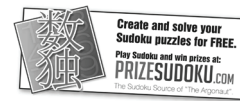
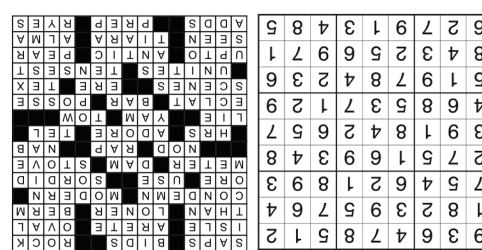
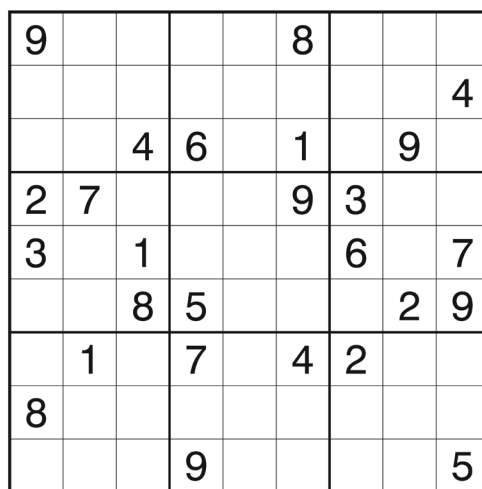


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Down

- 1 Friends, for one
- 2 On the beach
- 3 Celestial body
- 4 Transit
- 5 Unguents
- 6 Pressed
- 7 Cozy room
- 8 Flower holder
- 9 Singer Goulet
- 10 Cooked too long
- 11 Mardi Gras, e.g.
- 12 Airline to Amsterdam
- 15 God of love
- 21 Continental coin
- 23 Old PC platform
- 27 Cotillion girl
- 29 Nav. rank
- 31 Fragrance
- 32 Disfigure
- 35 Calendar square
- 37 Favorite
- 39 Had breathing spasms
- 40 Yielded
- 42 Apply gently
- 43 Low card
- 44 Bandleader
- 47 Receptive
- 49 Negative particles
- 50 Asian occasion
- 52 Go to bed
- 54 Hard, like a stare
- 55 Oil source
- 56 Some role players
- 58 Plane reservation
- 60 Summation
- 63 Scissors cut
- 65 Joust verbally
- 66 Can. neighbor
- 68 Feather's partner

SUDOKU



THE FINE PRINT

CORRECTIONS

UI STUDENT MEDIA BOARD

The UI Student Media Board meets at 4:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. Questions? Call Student Media at 885-7825, or visit the Student Media office on the Bruce Pitman Center third floor.

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

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Snow woes

Streets and sidewalks covered in snow and ice pose challenges to people with disabilities

Jordan Willson
ARGONAUT



Rula Awwad-Rafferty

When it snows, many students, faculty and staff members dread trudging through slush and trying to maneuver their cars on slick streets.

Harsh weather conditions can be dangerous and inconvenient for everybody, but especially for members of the University of Idaho community with disabilities.

Leah Feaster, a third-year transfer student and U.S. Army veteran, said she is worried about campus accessibility for people with disabilities.

Feaster said she noticed many paths were not cleared when she went to class Wednesday morning — even wheelchair ramps and a path leading to the art and architecture building's outdoor elevator. These are areas Feaster said she thought would be cleared first.

Feaster, who uses a cane, said she was late to class Wednesday because she had to walk through deep snow. She said she feels bad not being able to make it to class, but her professors have been understanding, stressing that they want everyone to be safe.

"People who have disabilities don't want to be a hindrance," Feaster said. "We want to be treated equally."

UI Veterans Assistance provided Feaster with traction devices for her shoes, but Feaster said many buildings around campus do not have stools in entryways for students to sit and take the devices off.

Brain Johnson, assistant vice president of facilities, said the facilities crew works all night to prepare campus for school to begin. Johnson said the crew begins plowing streets at 2 a.m., begins plowing sidewalks at 4 a.m. and begins shoveling stairs and entryways at 5 a.m.

Usually by 5 a.m., facilities and other university safety and security departments have come to a decision about whether campus will be safe by the time people start arriving, he said.

Rula Awwad-Rafferty, an interior design professor who teaches a universal design course at UI, said Wednesday morning some roads had been covered in gravel and some sidewalks were cleared, but many areas were inaccessible.

There is a limit to how much can be done, and employees' hard work is appreciated, Awwad-Rafferty said, but there should at least be sand applied to sidewalks that cannot be cleared so people can gain traction.

Even where sidewalks are cleared, often there is not enough room for someone using a wheelchair to successfully turn, Awwad-Rafferty said.

Not maintaining sidewalks or marking areas with cones or flags makes campus difficult to navigate, she said, and it excludes people with a wide range of disabilities — both visible disabilities, such as the use of a wheelchair or crutches, and invisible disabilities.

"If you are not making the place accessible and inclusive, then you are constantly excluding people," Awwad-Rafferty said.

Campus closed 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, and students were notified via Vandal Notice, a text message similar to a Vandal Alert. Campus also closed Thursday morning until 10 a.m. via a Vandal Notice.

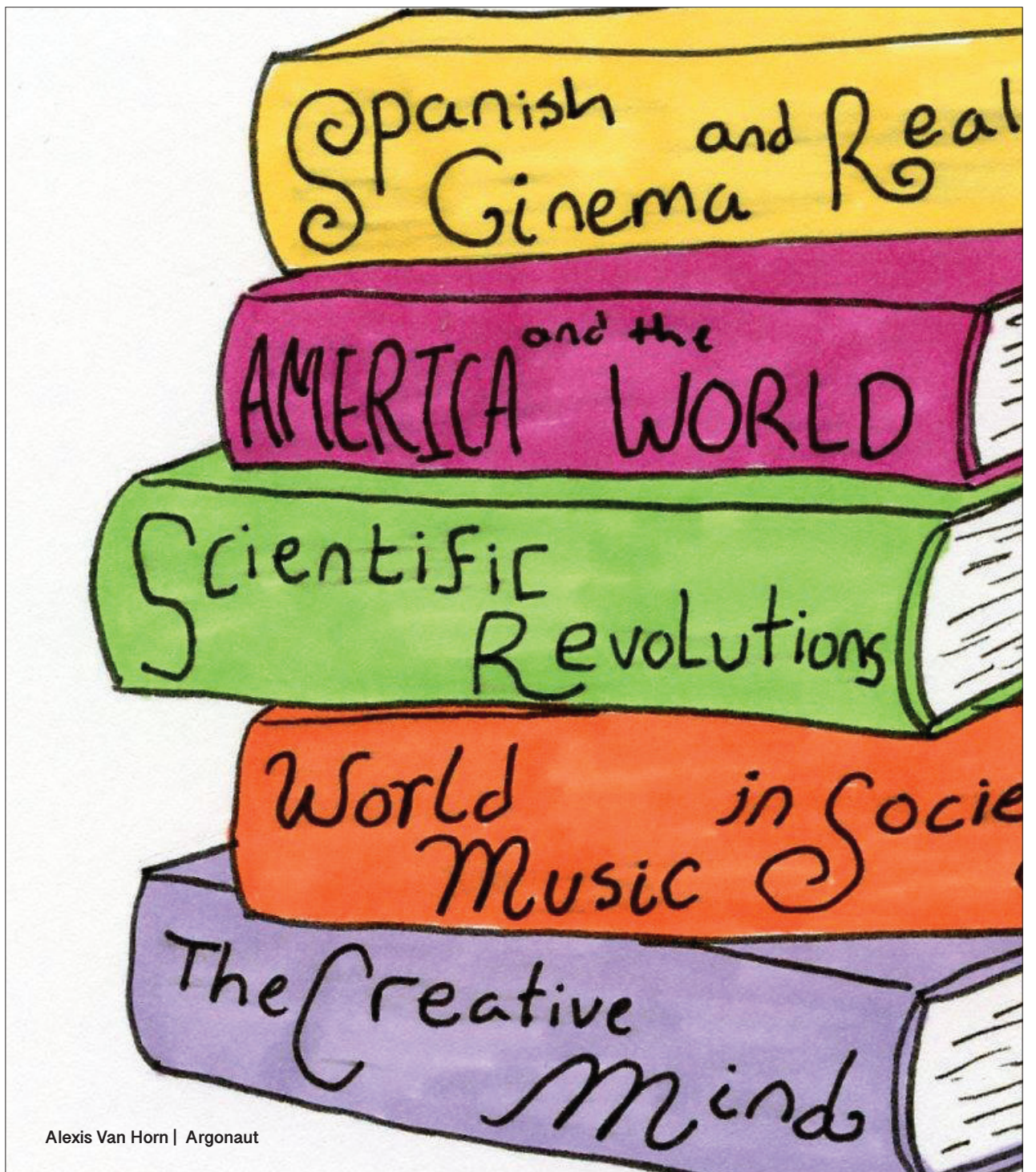
Vice President of Finance and Administration Brian Foisy said in a campus-wide email Wednesday night that the Vandal notice is "used to convey non-urgent information important to the university community." Meanwhile, he said Vandal Alerts are "sent for emergency notification where there is a potentially dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health and safety of students, faculty or staff."

Foisy also provided insight in the email on who decides snow days, involving several parties including Finance and Administration, Facilities, Latah County officials and Washington State University.

Johnson said snow days are relatively rare, but safety is always the primary consideration when deciding whether campus should close.

"If the conditions warrant it, we'll do whatever," he said. "If it meant multiple days of closure because it's not safe, that's what UI would do."

Jordan Willson
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Alexis Van Horn | Argonaut

ISEM courses saved

General education will see changes but ISEM courses remain for now

Andrew Ward
ARGONAUT

Integrated seminar (ISEM) courses are staying for another year, as the University of Idaho assigns a task force staffed by faculty, staff and students to revise the current state of general education, according to a campus-wide email sent last week by Cher Hendricks, vice provost of academic initiatives, and Dean Panttaja, director of general education.

In the email sent to university affiliates, Hendricks and Panttaja acknowledged passion shown by faculty members toward general education, and emphasized ISEM 101 and 301 courses will remain on the 2019-20 course catalog.

Hendricks and Panttaja, in the email, said responses from a recent general education feedback survey have shown "consistent themes related to faculty governance, strengths of our general education, and challenges we're facing, including financial sustainability and lack of assessment data."

They also said work on these issues

will begin later this month, when the university assigns a task force comprised of faculty, staff and students.

Hendricks said in an interview that she believes it is only fair to have a "fully represented" task force.

"We have staff members, such as academic advisers, who have a unique perspective to offer because they are front-line working with students on course scheduling," Hendricks said. "Students, of course, are affected by the general education curriculum and can offer their

perspective about how to best integrate general education into the majors."

Hendricks said the university will be working with Faculty Senate leadership to establish the estimated ten student representatives on

the task force.

To ease financial burdens for course delivery, they said in the email, "the provost has committed to cover instructional costs of ISEM 101 courses for (fiscal year) 2020 using one-time carry-forward funds."

Hendricks explained that "one-time carry-over funds" are unspent budget allocations from last year, and said it is "an exceptional case, as it is rare for the

provost to commit this level of funding."

Dale Graden, a professor of history and ISEM instructor, was particularly outspoken in favor of ISEM courses during the general education open forum at the first of the month. Graden said he is pleased that the university has decided to keep the courses for another year.

"I'm deeply appreciative that (the university) has held off," Graden said. "And, I really am hoping we can have a process by which (the ISEM courses) can continue, and we discuss things openly.

Also, a very key point here, is an immense amount of work has gone into this over the past 25 years."

Graden, who is a particular advocate for the ISEM 101 courses, said he believes connecting to first-year students with a transition-to-college class like ISEM is a key part of the freshman experience.

"You (connect) with kids in the freshman year, turn them on to college and you've got them for life," Graden said. "You turn them off, and it is hard to recover — and if we're so dependent upon enrollment, and trying to expand enrollment, I think ISEM is integral to attracting students here, and to help with retention."

Andrew Ward
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\$10 REGISTRATION FEE

PARKING

FROM PAGE 1

The most inexpensive rates for daytime UI parking is \$64 for Blue permit for a year, but those have been sold out since the end of the fall semester. The next cheapest option is a Red pass, which runs \$172 for a year. During the semester, the permits are sold on a pro-rated, meaning they are discounted to reflect the remaining days in the academic year.

Campus parking

The UI Parking and Transportation Services (PTS) has a set goal of turning the UI campus into one in which “a personally owned vehicle is not needed for mobility needs,” said Rebecca Couch, PTS Director.

She said their focus on the priorities of campus parkers, which they learned from a survey fielded last year, is parking space availability and expanding alternative transportation options.

To help reach that goal, the university has entered into a deal with Gotcha e-bikes to provide 50 bikes to campus for a bike-share program. They hope to launch the project in April, Couch said.

The program is part of the university’s efforts to encourage alternative transportation on campus through projects such as Zimride, in which students can pool car trips. Zipcar, meanwhile, allows students to rent cars hourly.

A previous deal with another bike share company, Spin, fell through last summer after the company pulled out in an apparent move away from bicycles and toward electric scooters.

Couch said the first year of the Gotcha e-bike program will be a pilot phase, after which the university will decide if it will continue with the project long term.

“We know that if it’s going to be successful, it has to grow,” Couch said. “We know there will likely be a higher demand, and we’ll have to add more bikes.”

With the focus on alternative transportation and space availability, Couch said officials have maintained “conservative” parking utilization rates on campus parking lots. This leads to permits such as Orange and Blue — high in demand and low in supply — being sold out early. Orange permits sold out the Friday prior to the start of the fall semester, and the Blue permits sold out at the start of the spring semester.

But even then, management of these lots is more complicated than selling limited permits. Through data gathered on campus parking, PTS found that Blue lots on the east side of campus experience high demand, around an 80 percent utilization rate, while Blue lots on the west side of campus experience moderate demand, ranging from 30 to 61 percent utilization.

Orange lots, while also with wide variance in utilization rates, are sold at even more conservative rates, with an overall utilization rate of 72 percent.

Purple lots, on the other hand, are “very

highly utilized” and always have been, according to Couch. While lots on new Greek Row (Nez Perce Drive) are often available, she said spaces on old Greek (Elm Street) are few and far between, with the lots sitting at 99 percent utilization rates.

The two triangular lots

Stephens has owned a dirt lot to the west of Patty’s since 2005, in addition to leasing out the two triangular parking lots to the north.

He is currently working with the city of Moscow and his bank to develop the property. Stephens — guarded about his plans — declined to share more details while the project is in the works. He said he hopes to move forward on plans to develop the dirt lot in the next year.

Stephens said his decision to charge came after he received notice from the city about people parking in the dirt lot he owns. The letter, which The Argonaut obtained through a public records request, thanked Stephens for his “willingness to work with us to resolve this issue.”

Stephens entered into a 55-year lease on the property in 2005, but postponed the lease for several years, said Gerard Billington, a UI Real Estate Officer.

Stephens also owns the right to a strip of parking stalls along the northwest end of the triangular lots, which factored into the UI’s decision to lease him the lots, according to Billington.

“When we did the lease in 2005, those parking lots were not viewed as crucial,” he said. “They were fairly lightly used and they’re not part of the parking plan because we granted a long-term lease in 2005.”

Billington said before Stephens acquired the dirt lot, the university had rights to use the strip of parking stalls Stephens now owns. Because of this, Billington said the university chose to lease to Stephens.

“When the railroad sold the property to Stephens and his partner, we didn’t have access to the entire parking area,” Billington said.

Until parking on the street becomes no longer an option, both Moser and Crout said they’ll continue parking there. Crout said she recently bought permits to park on campus, but she doesn’t plan on purchasing one again.

“I bought parking permits in the past to park on campus, but as the parking price gone up and been farther away from where I work, I’ve just reserved to street parking,” she said.

Moser said she may consider purchasing a permit for the lots if parking on the street becomes too crowded.

“If it starts getting so congested on the street that I can’t find a place to park and it’s affecting me to get to work late, I will pay the \$50. It’s not some insurmountable amount,” she said. “But as long as I can easily find a place to park, I’m not going to pay.”

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or on Twitter @pfannyyy.*

STABEN

FROM PAGE 1

“This time is also anticipated to be used to evaluate Dr. Staben’s research and whether that can be incorporated into the existing research programs or whether Dr. Staben would develop an alternative research program within the department,” the materials show. “Given the advances in this field, Dr. Staben believes it would be in his best interest and that of his future students to allow him time to prepare such an assignment.”

The leave must also be approved by Provost & Executive Vice President John Wienczek, Walker said.

Staben has been with UI as president since March 2014. His contract is set to expire in June. Staben will earn \$385,230 in his final year at UI.

In a campus-wide email Thursday, Idaho State Board of Education member Emma

Atchley said the search for a new University of Idaho president is coming along.

Atchley said that the Presidential Review Committee met with and revised applications for candidates. The committee will conduct the first round of interviews in the coming week, after which five candidates will be named.

The five top candidates will visit the Moscow campus around the first of March, she said.

She maintained that the search website “will continue to have feedback capability.”

“While the candidates may not be taken on statewide tours like prior searches you may remember, we want to give the faculty, staff and students at our centers the opportunity to meet the candidates through regional ZOOM meetings and to provide their valuable feedback,” Atchley said.

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Alex Brizee | Argonaut

Students play volleyball in deep snow after their game was cancelled.

SNOW

FROM PAGE 1

“This isn’t wildly unusual winter weather,” Johnson said. “People need to take caution when commuting, whether they’re walking or traveling by car in campus or in town.”

UI closed campus 1:30 p.m. Wednesday to allow “employees to travel home safely,” according to a Vandal Notice. Campus was again closed Thursday morning until 10 a.m.

Johnson said the impact of the snow is all a matter of perspective.

“For folks that routinely deal with snow, it’s just a part of their regular job,” Johnson said. “For most people on campus, it’s something different, though. The snow berms or slick areas are different for visitors on campus.”

Green and Johnson encourage stu-

dents, faculty, staff and community members to keep winter travel safety in mind when walking and driving. Green said people should clear the snow from headlights and blinkers as well as their windows.

“(If you don’t), people can’t see when you’re signaling or if your headlights are on,” he said. “Take a moment or two to clear those off.”

According to the Weather Channel, Moscow was under a winter storm warning until 1 p.m. Wednesday, but snow showers are forecasted until Feb. 27.

“Stay calm, take your time, don’t get in a hurry,” Green said. “Appreciate the city and state for what they’re doing — and the county, too — they have a lot of ground to cover.”

*Alexis Van Horn
can be reached at
arg-news@uidaho.edu*

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DEADLINE FEB. 17

UNIVERSITY

A program all its own

UI Virtual Technology and Design Program offers unique learning opportunities for students

Nicole Hindberg
ARGONAUT

The University of Idaho Virtual Technology and Design Program started in 2001, when mediums such as reality were only available to those who were doing specialized research.

But now, virtual technology is everywhere, especially on UI's campus.

The program has changed since its founding, but faculty members John Anderson and Brian Clevley have been around since the beginning.

"In 2001, virtual reality was well advanced, but it wasn't commercialized or mainstream. It was mostly used for specialized research," said Anderson, head of the VTD program and an associate professor. "Today, the program is using virtual reality and augmented reality in the classroom every day. Students use these types of technologies to solve real world problems."

In 2019, the degree remains as unique as ever, not just at UI, but nationwide.

"This degree is kind of our own. It's not like accounting or other common degrees throughout colleges. We are a little unique, and what makes us unique is virtual technologies and solving problems," said Rayce Bird, a VTD studio instructor.

Technology changes each day, and with advancing science comes changes in curriculum.

This means students and faculty must be adaptable. However, Bird said those modifications also mean a closer working relationship between faculty and students.

"The technology is drastically different and, that's our challenge. We are the leaders in this, and we have to be willing to change and our students have to be ready to take on all kinds of challenges, because the tools they learned yesterday are going to change tomorrow," Bird said. "We almost have to have a better relationship with our students because there's so many different things with this degree."

Students who graduate from the program often use their degrees for visualization work in science fields, as well as film and gaming entertainment.

But virtual reality simulations can have many uses, such as employee trainings for a variety of jobs. Companies can prepare their workers for dangerous tasks they might come across.

"Walmart bought 17,000 virtual reality sets for workforce training," said Clevley, a senior VTD instructor. "I couldn't believe it, I thought it was a misprint in the articles I read."

In UI's program, Anderson said they

are focusing more on the design aspect of the degree.

"This program is unique, there's not much like it. There is some focus on video games and some focus on just the technology aspect of it," Anderson said. "But we strive more for the design degree. ... We can create anything our minds can see."

While the program has changed plenty in the 18 years it has been offered at UI, one thing has remained consistent — the faculty are always looking to the future to provide better opportunities for students, including online courses and certificates.

"We want to stay adaptable for (the) future; we want to hone in and refine types of jobs out there and pick up on jobs for our students before they exist," Bird said.

Nicole Hindberg can be reached at arg-arts@uidaho.edu



Rayce Bird



John Anderson



AWARDING

FROM PAGE 5

In honor of Women's History Month, the Virginia Wolf Awards banquet will be held March 28.

"We host the ceremony in a banquet

fashion, so that we can give the award-ees the honor they deserve," Sedano said. "They have done a lot for our community, so we want to do a lot for them."

Whoever nominates the winners is able to walk them to the stage and talk about them at the banquet — by either reading their nomination letter or introducing

them and expanding on what they do, Sedano said. Winners are able to reserve a table for anyone they would like to bring, such as friends and family.

"I love the aura of a banquet in general — but I think the coolest part is seeing the reactions of the people being honored," Sedano said. "It is really nice to be a part

of that moment and witness these intimate moments that people have. Everyone in the room is proud of them and thanking them for everything they have done."

Allison Spain can be reached at arg-arts@uidaho.edu or on Twitter at @AllsionSpain1

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Applicants must have at least sophomore standing and be available to interview the evening of Tuesday, March 26.

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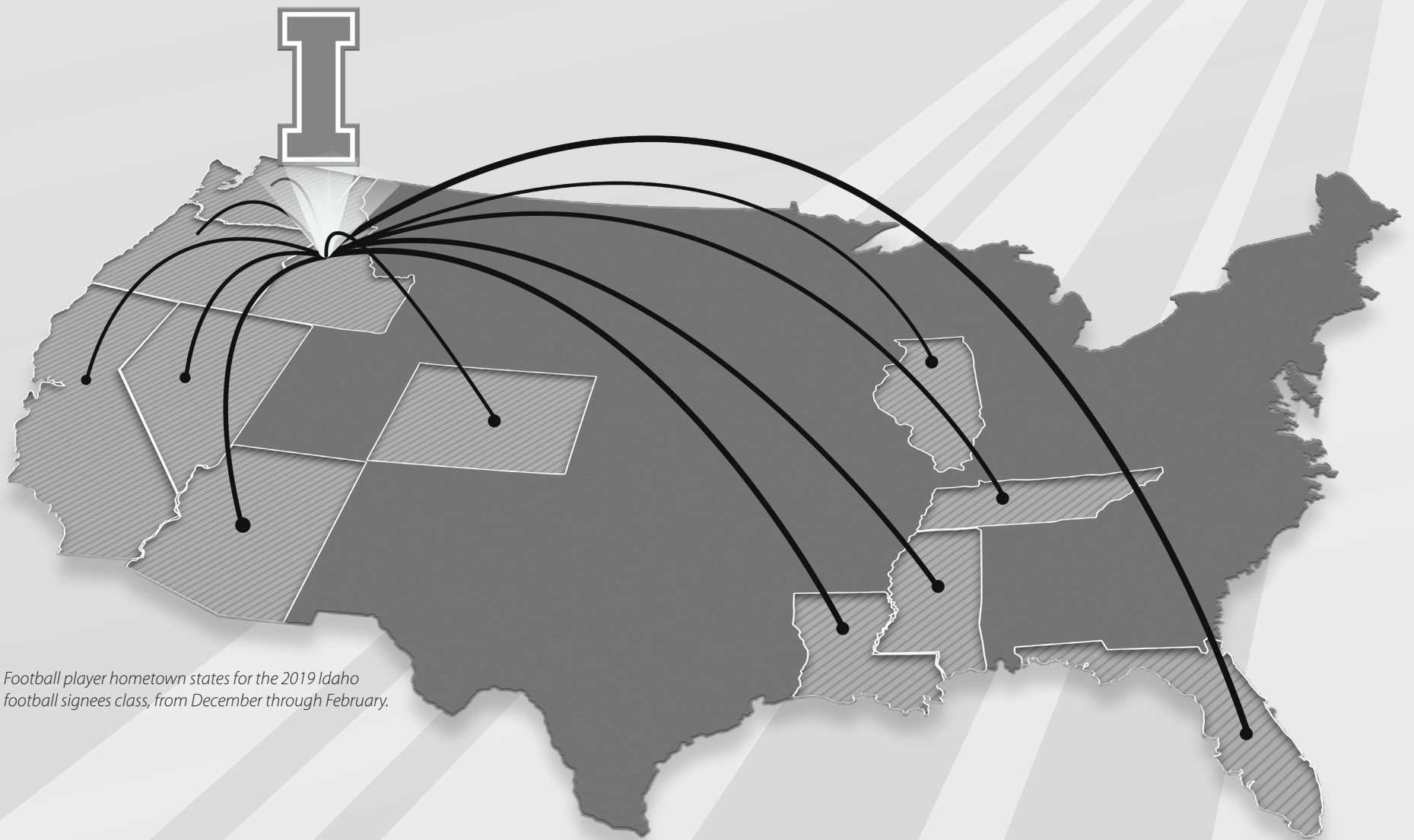
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FOOTBALL

New faces for Vandal football



Football player hometown states for the 2019 Idaho football signees class, from December through February.

Grayson Hughbanks | Argonaut

Idaho finishes with a strong recruiting period, ranking in the top 50 of the FCS at No. 37

Chris Deremer
ARGONAUT

Idaho football rounded up its signing class last week, bringing in 11 new Vandals to help further the success of the program.

Idaho now has 26 new student-athletes overall joining the team, with nine of them enrolled in the spring semester.

"If this isn't our best class we've signed here, it's definitely one of the best classes we've put together," Idaho head coach Paul Petrino said in a news release.

The Vandals added depth on offense to fill holes on defense after many veterans on the defensive side of the ball left the team.

Idaho found much talent at linebacker and wide receiver positions throughout recruiting, making it an intriguing storyline heading into the upcoming season. The Vandals brought in a few running backs as well to find somebody to fill the void left behind by Isaiah Saunders.

The new additions include nine high school seniors and two FBS transfers that will be able to play right away for Petrino's squad.

The two FBS transfers happen to be brothers transferring over from Boise State. Kayode Rufai played in 19 games for the Broncos at defensive end, while brother Mujeeb Rufai redshirted last season and will have four years of eligibility playing at defensive back.

Kayode will have two years of eligibility remaining and Mujeeb will be able to spend his whole career as a Vandal after being redshirted in the 2018 season.

Idaho brought seven recruits out of the state of Arizona, including three-star prospects and twins Hayden and Hogan Hatten from Saguaro High School in Scottsdale.

Hayden made second team all-conference at the tight end position during his senior year at Saguaro High School, leading his team to a state championship. The three-star prospect caught 38 receptions for 763 yards and averaged over 20 yards per reception. Hayden will work to add on to the depth for the Idaho offense at a position that has been under utilized the past few seasons.

Hogan was an All-Region linebacker during his senior season, finishing

with 52 tackles with 10 of them being tackles for loss.

Teammates David Eppinger and Daseau Puffer played together at Chandler High School in Chandler, Arizona, and will continue playing together in Moscow.

Eppinger made second team all-region at defensive back and ranked as the seventh-best cornerback in Arizona by USA Today. At wide receiver, Puffer made second-team all-region for Chandler, helping his team to three consecutive 6A state titles. Puffer caught 10 touchdowns during his senior season and finished with 693 yards receiving.

Sully Shannon, from Brophy Prep in Phoenix, will also join Idaho after being named Premier Region Defensive Player of the Year at linebacker. Shannon finished his senior season with 100 tackles and five interceptions.



Paul Petrino

Idaho landed second-team all-state selection Nehemiah Parker from Mountain Home, Idaho, as well as eastern Washington offensive linemen Josh Guzik out of Rogers High School in Spokane and Jack Schuster from Richland High School.

Parker caught seven touchdowns and hauled in 33 catches for 505 yards throughout the season, earning second-team all-state and first-team All-Great Basin Conference.

Kaleb Covington was one of the Vandals' final additions throughout Signing Day and will help bring more depth for the wide receiver position. Covington caught 42 passes for 809 yards and 12 touchdowns and rushed for 425 yards on 52 carries. The former running back and now wide receiver could serve as a double threat for the Idaho offense.

Including early signees, the Vandals will have five new wide receivers to add on to a wideout core lead by Jeff Cotton and Cutrell Haywood.

"The assistant coaches did a great job of filling our needs and adding a couple of just really good players," Petrino said.

Petrino said each of the new signees should be prepared to play right away.

According to Hero Sports, Idaho ranks 37th amongst the FCS with this recruiting class.

With an exciting offseason for recruiting, fans will have an opportunity to see the unit come together when spring football picks up in the upcoming months.

Chris Deremer can be reached at arg-sports@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @Cderemer_VN

26 New student-athletes since December



Three transfers from Boise State



7 Transfers from the state of Arizona

37th Among all FCS recruiting classes



First ranked in Big Sky, 11th overall in FCS

STAFF PICKS



MEREDITH SPELBRING — “SPLASH SISTERS” FERENZ AND PIERCE, WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

It is really hard to look anywhere other than the women’s basketball team. Taylor Pierce entered the 400-club following 400-made 3-pointers, while fellow Splash Sister Mikayla Ferenz became the Idaho basketball all-time leading scorer. To say the two are on a roll would be an understatement.

BRANDON HILL — MARIANNA PETREI, WOMEN’S TENNIS

Likely the most underrated Vandal athlete, Petrei has been stacking up the wins for years. Her dominant performance over the weekend helped Idaho get its first win of the season. Expect big things from the Vandal senior this season.

CHRIS DEREMER — MIKAYLA FERENZ, WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

It’s a popular vote but deserving. Ferenz is now the best scorer in Vandal basketball history and has a great opportunity to lead Idaho to a NCAA tournament berth this year. Not only should she be Athlete of the Week, but Athlete of the Year as well. We will never see another talent like Ferenz again, so it’s time to savor the remaining moments that are left.

JONAH BAKER — ENRIQUE MARIN, MEN’S GOLF

After finishing the first tournament of the ‘spring’ tied for 25th, Marin now has nine consecutive top-25 finishes dating back to his junior season. Here’s hoping the snow clears up by the golf team’s next bout in early March at Gonzaga.

READER PICKS

VN

Reader picks

The Vandal Nation readers make their pick via social media for Vandal Athlete of the Week

CALVIN BURTON — MIKAYLA FERENZ, WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Mikayla Ferenz is the easy pick here, come on guys.

JOSEPH BRADLEY GROVER — KASEY PEACH, HOCKEY TEAM CAPTAIN

Had a hat trick in the game against WSU. Made the win possible.

KYLE DENNIS — MEN’S HOCKEY TEAM

Hockey had a huge game in Moscow against WSU, one of those guys won it in shootout.

ETHAN PARKER — MIKAYLA FERENZ AND TAYLOR PIERCE, WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Gotta be either Mikayla Ferenz or Taylor Pierce in women’s basketball for two huge performances against both Montana schools.

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- *The LEGO Movie: Second Part*
PG13 2D Daily (3:45) (4:05) 6:20 6:45 8:50* 9:20*
Sat-Mon (10:45) (1:15) (1:30)
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PG13 Daily (3:50) 6:50 9:50* Sat-Mon (1:05)

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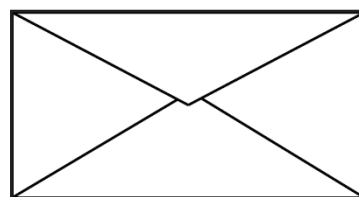
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- *Isn't It Romantic*
PG13 Daily (5:10) 7:30 9:50
Fri-Mon (12:30) 2:50
- *Happy Death Day 2U*
PG13 Daily (4:05) 6:40 9:10
Sat-Mon (11:20) (1:40)
- *The LEGO Movie: Second Part*
PG13 Daily (3:45) 6:20 8:50
Sat-Mon (10:35) (1:10)
- *What Men Want*
R Daily (4:20) 7:10 9:55 Fri-Mon (1:20)
- *Cold Pursuit*
R Daily (3:35) 6:45 9:35 Sat-Mon (12:50)
- *Prodigy*
R Daily (5:00) 7:20 9:45
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OPINION



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EDITORIAL

Parking in the wrong direction

Parking at UI does not have a simple solution — but it needs one, and soon

Driving to campus is supposed to be a time-saving and convenient transportation option for students. Although Downtown Moscow is a pedestrian-friendly area, when tasked with deciding whether or not to walk or drive for errands, it is highly unlikely one would choose to walk.

Driving is supposed to make life easier.

Yet students seeking this convenience on their commute to campus are likely to be sorely disappointed. Parking on the University of Idaho campus is brutally limited, leaving students circling the various lots hoping to find a spot. The daily life of a college student is busy on the low end, non-stop on the high end — circling a parking lot hoping to hit the parking spot lottery is not a gamble students can afford to take.

While some forego driving altogether to avoid the hassle, others simply chose to find other places to park. Throughout the fall, students began to create their own parking lots, even at the expense of the seemingly unclaimed property and others who walk through the area.

A gravel lot off Sixth Street behind Patty's Mexican Kitchen and Catering turned into an overcrowded parking swap as students flocked to the free parking steps away from campus.

What once was a gravel lot heavily lined by tall grasses turned into a muddy swamp as students drove onto it at all angles, slicking

up the surrounding walkways many use to cross on to campus.

The properties were recently reclaimed, physically barring students from parking on the lots. Once again, many students were left without an affordable option for parking.

It is a clear and frustrating problem to those who rely on their car to get to class or to work on the UI campus.

It is not one with an easy solution, but it is one that needs to be solved — and fast.

Not unlike any other university, UI has a number of areas across campus it greatly needs to invest in. But it must invest in a parking solution for students and faculty.

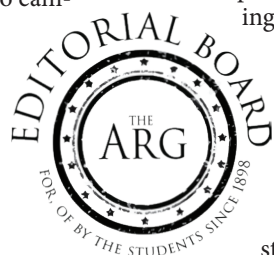
The administration wants to continue to expand the student body, which to some may just sound like more cars on campus without a home. If UI wants to continue to bring in more students and keep the ones it has, make it easier for them — not harder.

Expanding the UI campus to contain more parking makes little sense. The cheapest and largest lots for students are already relatively removed from campus.

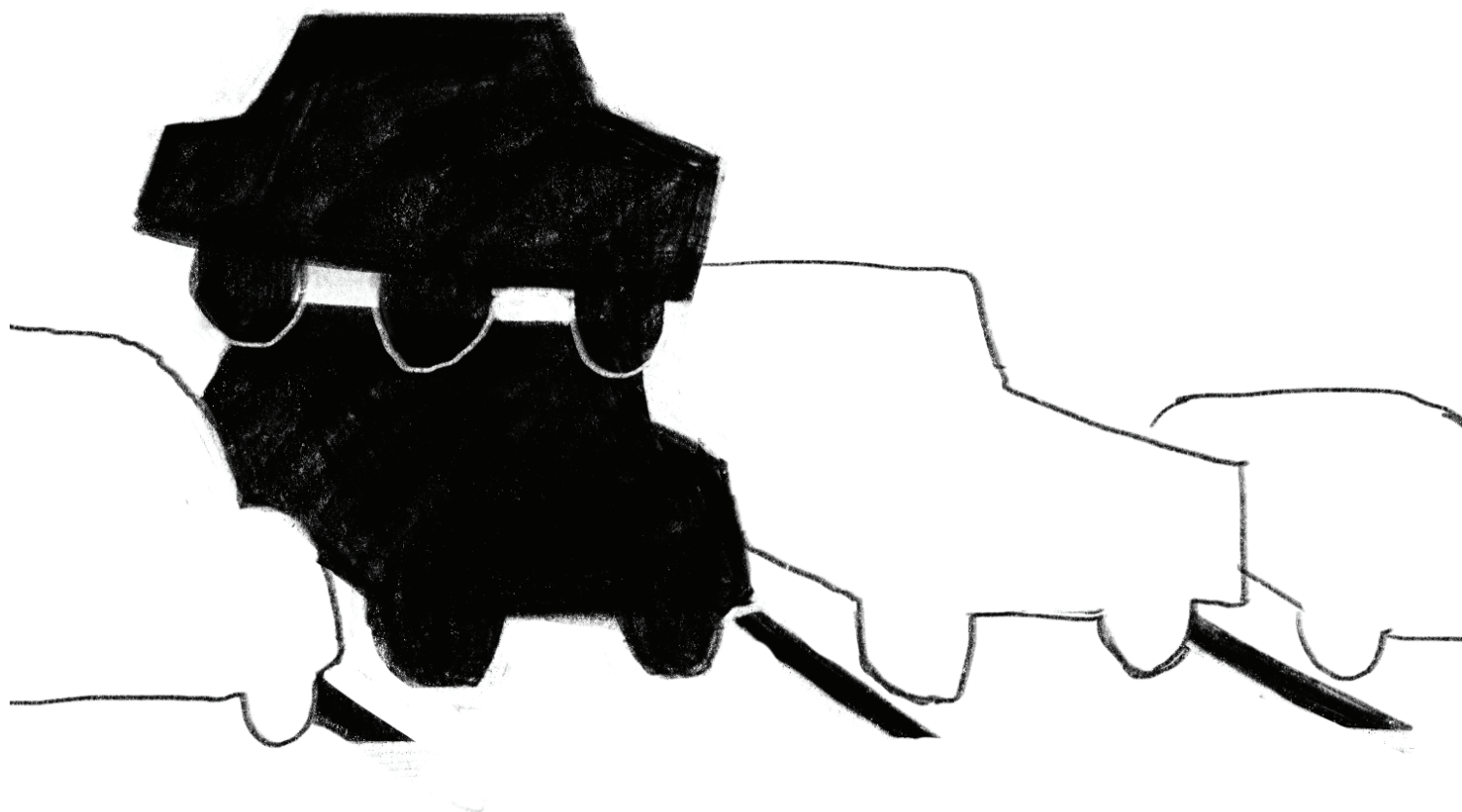
Building up where parking already exists may be the only solution. While not inherently simple, it would at least provide an option for those who may need it most.

Sometimes a student's day comes down to something as simple as knowing they can easily park on their own campus.

— Editorial Board



POLITOOON



ON-CAMPUS PARKING



Ethan Coy
Political Cartoonist
ARGONAUT

COLUMN

Shots, shots, shots, everybody

There is absolutely no reason not to get vaccinated and it's irresponsible to do otherwise



Olivia Heersink
Columnist
ARGONAUT

As the daughter of a nurse practitioner, there was no question whether I would be vaccinated or not.

Each age milestone was met with the appropriate shot, starting when I was just a month old.

However, even if my mother wasn't heavily involved in the medical community, I would still have received my required immunizations. Why? Because they are in my — and others' — best interest.

For more than two centuries, vaccines have saved countless people from various diseases such as measles, smallpox, diphtheria and tuberculosis — illnesses responsible for killing millions throughout history.

And yet, many don't see vaccines as lifesaving drugs. Rather, these individuals, often referred to as anti-vaxxers, believe they

instead cause the very thing they are trying to prevent — sickness.

For 2019, the World Health Organization ranked vaccine hesitancy as one of the world's top 10 health threats — a major cause of alarm.

"According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the percentage of children who are unvaccinated has quadrupled since 2001, even though the overall utilization of most vaccines remains high," The New York Times reports. "More than 100,000 American infants and toddlers have received no vaccines whatsoever, and millions more have received only some crucial shots."

While disease rates are currently low in the U.S. despite the lack of immunizations, if we let ourselves become vulnerable by not vaccinating, then the number of illnesses will rise exponentially, especially those that were once thought to have been eradicated.

In Idaho, children are required to receive certain vaccines — such as mumps and tetanus — before they can attend public, private and parochial schools.

But state law does unfortunately allow a parent or guardian to claim an immunization exemption for their child for medical, religious or other reasons. This needs to change.

The opposition often claims these medicines can also cause autism, but there is no scientific evidence of this.

Before a vaccine is approved and given to anyone, it is tested extensively. Serious side

effects are also extremely rare. No medical professional would administer — or advocate for — them if they were dangerous.

"CDC (officials) estimate that vaccinations will prevent more than 21 million hospitalizations and 732,000 deaths among children born in the last 20 years," according to the website.

People must realize immunizations aren't just for children. Adults can be at risk for vaccine-preventable disease because of age, job, lifestyle, travel or health conditions.

The only way to change the negative rhetoric surrounding vaccines is through education. When people come across anti-vaxxers, they need to speak up and provide them with the proper information.

Granted, no one loves a needle in their arm, including myself. But I'd rather endure a small amount of discomfort than a painful, possibly deadly disease, such as polio, cervical cancer or meningitis.

Although there is a small percentage of people who are allergic to specific vaccines or can't be vaccinated because of compromised immune systems, most individuals are perfectly fine.

Unless you truly can't, there is absolutely no reason not to get vaccinated and it's irresponsible to do otherwise — it's not just your health on the line, it's the health of those around you.

Olivia Heersink
can be reached at
arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

Vandal



Voices

QUICK TAKES FROM
THE VANDAL
COMMUNITY

Describe your experience with on-campus parking at UI.

A new outlook

When I was in college, I had a handful of complaints about parking. Tickets, unplowed parking lots in the winter, questions about parking garages. Then I graduated, went away for grad school, came back as a part-time employee, and learned a thing or two that should be better known.

UI Parking is unique for a university parking program in that it is essentially self-funded. There are no parking garages because there is no budget for that anywhere in the university coffers.

Since college, I learned that many things students assume are parking's duties are actually under the jurisdiction of facilities or some other department. Generally, my experience has been positive. Once when I needed to appeal a ticket during college, I simply filled out the online form and it was taken care of. Don't go to their desk and scream at people. That's not how that works.

— Shannon Kelly

Parking battle

Awful. The one year I paid for a purple pass, I parked in a really open, high-traffic area and my back windshield got hit with a golf club and shattered.

I'm now a senior who parks off campus and just walks because I've learned that the battle with parking/transportation is one that as a student, you will ALWAYS lose.

— Faith Marie Evans

Employee parking

I fundamentally disagree that employees should have to purchase parking permits in order to go to work at a land-grant university.

— Patrick J Hrdlicka

Time for a garage

So much of the parking is far away from where people need to be. More parking lots are being removed for buildings, yet no new lots are being made to replace them. More and more lots require Gold passes, which pushes the Red lots further away from the main areas of campus so those who can't pay nearly \$400 for a pass have quite a ways to walk. The lot east of Engineering and Physics would be a good spot for a parking garage.

— Aarika Ravelle

Daily Commute

Awful. I refuse to pay the ridiculous prices for a parking pass on campus, so I choose to ride my motorcycle every day. Ninety percent of the time it's awesome because it's fast, free to park, and the parking is in prime spots on campus.

— Spencer Colvin

COLUMN

A PETA hatin' hippie

This vegetarian of eight years still hates PETA as much as she did on day one



Alex Brizee
Column
ARGONAUT

I eat out with my friends, I don't have a protein deficiency and I don't care if you eat meat — what am I? I'm a vegetarian.

The common misconception is I'm a hippie who hasn't showered in a year, I make kombucha in my basement or yell "meat is murder" at you for eating what

the majority of the population does? No, that's not me.

The idea all vegetarians or vegans are People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) loving freaks who just want to shout at meat-eaters and not actually make a difference is ridiculous.

PETA — an animal rights organization — definitely knows how to get its name out there. It gets a lot of publicity through some pretty drastic means. It makes me wonder if they are actually turning people from meat-eaters to non.

When I became a vegetarian eight years ago, it wasn't from the sheer fear that a PETA activist was going to beat me up with a bundle of kale for not eating tofu, it was because I wanted to.

Fear tactics can work, but they don't truly educate people on issues. Rather, they brainwash people.

This week was the 2019 Westminster

Kennel Dog Show and PETA was back at it again with more intense tactics, shaming anyone that doesn't stand with the group.

PETA felt the best way to influence people was by using props of dead dogs outside the show to argue against those in the Westminster Dog Show who prefer purebreds while neglecting dogs in shelters.

PETA's arguments are usually not wrong. Saving dogs from shelters is probably one of the best options when searching for a new pet. However, it's the way in which PETA makes a point that is problematic.

Showing me a prop of a dead dog doesn't make me want to listen. People love their dogs — showing them a dead one just makes them sad instead of eager to engage in fruitful debate.

You can't put animals on a pedestal and then exploit them in your sick game, you either say animals are above all and treat them as such or don't.

A lot of facts about being a vegetarian are true, it isn't healthy for the human body to consume too much red meat. If we all were vegetarians, no one in the world would be hungry, milk is not actually good for you and methane gas levels from cows are off the charts.

But, when you hear PETA, the common thought jumps to radical liberal hippies, not the facts.

People are extremely concerned with their well-being and the well-being of the planet. If PETA spent more time telling people how being a vegetarian or vegan could help instead of scaring children with gruesome visuals of dead animals, maybe more people would listen and we would live in a better world.

*Alex Brizee
can be reached at
arg-opinion@uidaho.edu
or on Twitter at alex_brizee*

GUEST VOICE

Being more heart conscious

Use February to think more about your diet and health habits



Valerie Zwaanstra
VANDAL HEALTH
EDUCATION

February marks "Heart Awareness Month," which is the perfect time to discuss the benefits of the Mediterranean diet not just for your heart, but for your whole body. People who live in countries around the Mediterranean Sea have shown a decreased incidence of cancer and have better respiratory health, and research supports these are the benefits of having a healthy Mediterranean Diet.

The U.S. News Best Diet's says the

Mediterranean diet is the best diet overall, with a list of ratings from 1-5 based on weight-loss for short-term, weight loss for long-term, how easy it is to follow and how healthy the diet is. Weight loss for short-term rated at 2.9/5, weight loss for long-term rated at 3.1/5, easy to follow rated at 3.8/5, and how healthy the diet is rated at a 4.9/5, making it almost perfect for the healthy diet criteria. The overall diet was rated 4.2/5, with the DASH diet following at 4.1 overall. (health.usnews.com)

According to Dr. Richard Besdine, a professor and geriatrician at Brown University, the Mediterranean diet can improve cognitive health, decrease risk of heart disease, preserve overall bone density, and has even shown to decrease the rate of cancer mortality compared to those who did not follow the Mediterranean

diet. It is no surprise the Mediterranean diet is strongly recommended by doctors.

The key components of the Mediterranean diet include fresh fruits, vegetables, extra virgin olive oil, nuts, legumes and whole grains. Fish and poultry can be eaten in moderation, along with sweets and red meats. A glass of red wine has even been said to be beneficial for the health, but of course this is only if it is kept to the one glass. This diet is healthier than most because it is focused around a plant based diet, with healthy fats like extra virgin olive oil used to replace butter or other alternatives.

Contrary to popular belief, fat is required for the body to function at full capacity. The difference with the Mediterranean diet compared to other diets is it is loaded with healthy fats. Olive oil, nuts, and avocados are filled with fats our brains

require to stay "sharp" and decrease the risk of mental decline (health.com). The heart also thrives on the Mediterranean diet because it is primarily plant-based foods and healthy fats, giving the body the nutrition it needs to function properly. In a 12-year study, researchers studied 25,000 women who consumed a Mediterranean diet and found that it greatly reduced inflammation, which decreases the risk of heart disease.

There is no denying the benefits of the Mediterranean diet and can improve one's overall health. As we enter the second month of the year and New Year's resolutions start to get harder to maintain and follow, consider the Mediterranean diet. You won't regret it.

*Valerie Zwaanstra
Vandal Health Education*

Hamp & Doc: "Doc" Skinner and the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival

Dr. Lynn J. "Doc" Skinner as told to Alan Jay Solan

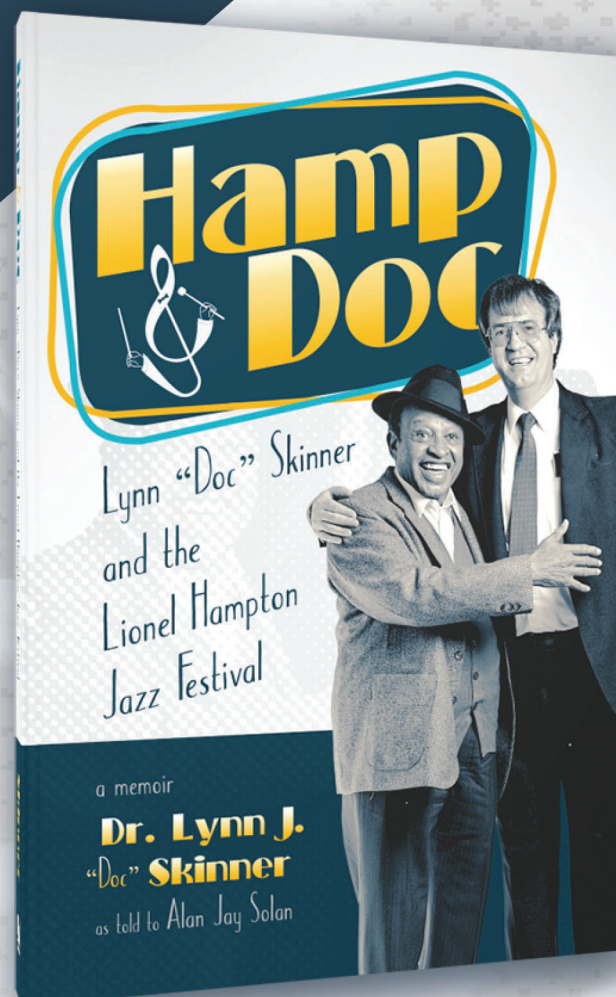
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If ever I met an angel, it's Doc Skinner.
Benny Green, jazz pianist