

Argonaut

THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

FOR, OF AND BY THE STUDENTS SINCE 1898

Former director pleads innocent

University of Idaho alumnus faces felony misuse of public money and forgery charges

Angela Palermo
ARGONAUT

Former University of Idaho associate director of alumni relations pleaded innocent Monday to three felony charges after allegedly spending over \$2,700 in unauthorized purchases on a university card.

The Moscow resident, Tim Helmke, was charged with one count of misuse of public funds by a public employee and two counts of forgery, according to the state's

court portal. Helmke allegedly submitted false receipts for two purchases between 2019 and 2020.

UI Director of Communications Jodi Walker was unable to comment on the ongoing litigation but said Helmke's employment was terminated Oct. 30.

According to the Idaho State Legislature, the maximum penalty for a public employee found guilty of misusing public money is a \$10,000 fine, a 14-year prison sentence or both. Forgery is also punishable by a maximum of 14 years in prison.

The court portal lists Katherine Hawkins of Lewiston as the lead attorney on Helmke's case.

If found guilty, Helmke must pay restitution for the misused funds, in addition to other penalties imposed. He would also be disqualified from holding any position as a public employee if the job involves the "receipt, safekeeping or disbursement" of public money, section 18-5701 of the Idaho Code states.

Helmke, the former president of the Moscow Chamber of Commerce board of directors, resigned March 30 to "focus on personal matters," according to Mike O'Brien, vice-president of the board.

O'Brien will serve as acting president until the chamber's board elections in June. A new president will take over July 1, O'Brien stated.

In addition to his work at the chamber, O'Brien is the general manager of Best Western Plus University Inn. The hotel's trivia night is one of three main locations where Helmke allegedly used his UI purchase card to spend money, according to a probable cause affidavit.

Helmke is scheduled for a status conference May 10 with Judge John Judge at 1 p.m.

Angela Palermo can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu or on Twitter @apalermotweets

Kallyn Mai and Katelyn Hettinga

ASUI candidates view their ticket as an opportunity to bring different living groups together

Sierra Pesnell
ARGONAUT

Kallyn Mai and Katelyn Hettinga's Associated Students University of Idaho presidential campaign is dedicated to community, innovation and excellence. Both candidates focus on "brighter days for Vandals," as their slogan.

Mai, running for ASUI president, is a third-year student majoring in marketing and human resources with a minor in women's gender and sexuality studies. She describes her time as a UI student as second nature. After one ASUI term as a senator, Mai was motivated to continue forward in a different capacity.

"I loved my position in the senate, and after a while I moved up to the finance committee which was super awesome," Mai said. "I loved being more involved which was really great, so I always knew I wanted a higher position at UI."

Hettinga, Mai's running mate, is a second-year student studying agriculture economics and political science. Her current experience working as director of legislative affairs for ASUI gave her insight on how she can positively impact civic engagement at the university. An additional role Hettinga had her freshman year was as a Future Farmers of America State Officer.

This responsibility taught Hettinga that it's a leader's priority to create a healthy environment for people to share their views and contribute to change.

"I'm providing a space

that's safe for those people to share their beliefs with me, share their needs with me and then I can accurately represent that to all these different groups who affect their futures," Hettinga said.

Hettinga reached out to Mai after observing her involvement as a senator and her consistent record of speaking out thoughtfully during senate meetings. Mai viewed the collaboration as an opportunity to bring together different living groups. Hettinga has a background living in the residence halls, while Mai lives in a sorority chapter.

"We really feel like we can come together and help those two large groups of students on campus come together even more," Mai said.

Both candidates reflected on the ways they've been able to accomplish change in the community through ASUI. During Mai's term as senator, the COVID-19 pandemic posed a challenge for the senate to meet and create projects. Mai was able to brainstorm a thank you video for the staff at UI during the hardships.

"We made one thanking our essential workers at the university," Mai said. "They were putting in hours on the weekends, every day, to make students' lives better."

Civic engagement is a large portion of Hettinga's current position as director of legislative affairs. She recently created a publication that worked as a higher education report card. The report card looks at which members of Idaho

legislation are supporting higher education. "On top of that, I wrote a resolution commending the legislators that did make our honor roll," Hettinga said. "Everybody that got an 85% or higher just to celebrate the people who are supporting us in higher education."

Hettinga focused community on giving a voice to those at the university who are underrepresented.

"Bringing together all these different campus groups and giving representation, giving a voice to underrepresented students, whether that's LGBTQA+ identifying students or students of color who are underrepresented in ASUI," Hettinga said. "That's the kind of thing that we can do to improve our community and make sure that those students are getting brighter days."

The main point of innovation in their campaign is to continue the availability that HyFlex courses offer. Hettinga advocated for accessibility for students at different campuses.

To read more of this article, visit uiargonaut.com

Sierra Pesnell can be reached at arg-news@uidaho.edu

Joseph Garrett and Julie Attinger



The running mates hope to reconnect campus following the pandemic

Sierra Pesnell
ARGONAUT

Engage, connect and unite is the platform of ASUI presidential candidates Joseph Garrett and Julie Attinger. Current Vice President Garrett seeks to continue executive office as president with current Chief of Staff Attinger as vice president.

Garrett and Attinger's main initiatives focus on engaging, connecting and uniting. The engage aspect will center around bringing the university community together after the past year of social distancing due to COVID-19.

"We really want to engage the students in a community centered campus because, over the past year, we have not had that," Garrett said.

To connect is to adapt academic platforms and applications, Attinger said. They want to centralize UI applications to be more accessible. Another part of connect would involve eliminating BbLearn and transitioning to Canvas.

"A really big thing that's happening right now is

we're trying to get a student resource app going," Attinger said. "This would be a centralized place for all student platforms."

The last part of their initiative is to unite the UI community and prioritize including all members.

"The first thing we want to do with this is make everyone feel a part of the Vandal family," Garrett said. "We really want to prioritize diversity and inclusion efforts come this next year."

Both Garrett and Attinger share mutual experiences as former ASUI senators. Garrett served as a senator during his first two years at the university. Attinger has served as a senator for one year. They've been able to spend the past year working together under current ASUI President Lauren Carlsen. Attinger has worked under Carlsen's cabinet as director of finance in addition to chief of staff.

The duo decided to run together after Garrett proposed the idea to Attinger in January. Garrett said that Attinger enthusiastically agreed, and they've been working together on the campaign since.

"I really wanted someone who I knew that I would work well with and is an incredibly hard worker," Garrett said. "Julie fit all of those categories overwhelmingly."

Attinger attributed her experience working behind the scenes in her positions to giving her knowledge on

current projects going on within ASUI.

She credits Carlsen and Garrett for setting the example of the executive office.

"Just working closely with Lauren Carlsen and Joe, I've seen firsthand what the president and vice president have to do," Attinger said. "Going forward, I know what would be expected of me."

Garrett associated the current ASUI members with paving relationships with faculty and administration members, such as Dean of Students Blaine Eckles and President Scott Green. He wants to continue establishing those connections.

"We've formed relationships with them that's allowed us to get into a room with them and tackle these projects we're running on," Garrett said.

Garrett believed one of his main accomplishments in ASUI was helping create a senate with a notable dynamic. He acknowledged past and current president pro tempore, Aaron Bharucha and Jackie Uhling, for assisting him in projects and cultivating a productive environment.

Attinger oversees 12 members in the ASUI legislative cabinet and has found it rewarding to assist in their projects. She doesn't participate directly in all projects but enjoys offering a guiding hand.

"Being able to work with them and see them grow as well has been just super rewarding for me personally," Attinger said.

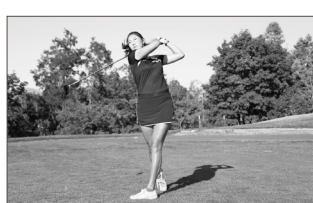
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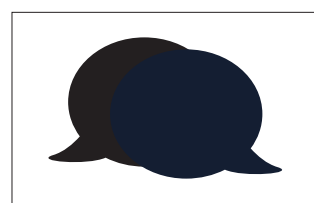
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RECREATION & WELLBEING

Intramural Sports

CR SOCCER



ENTRIES DUE: THURSDAY, APRIL 15

ENTRIES AVAILABLE AT UIDAHO.EDU/INTRAMURALS

Vandal Health Education

Register at uidaho.edu/vheworkshops

GYT

GET YOURSELF TESTED

#STDMonth

GYT is a time to encourage young people to discuss sexually transmitted infections (STIs), get tested and get treated for STIs to protect the health of individuals and their partners.

Outdoor Program



EARTH DAY HIKE

Elk Creek Falls, Idaho

TRIP: APRIL 20

STUDENTS: \$30 ALL OTHERS: \$45

Sign-up in the Outdoor Program Office

Vandal Health Education

Intuitive Eating Workshop



Get in tune with your body and hunger signals. In this workshop participants will learn all about intuitive eating, mindful eating practices, and best ways to incorporate it into your life.

Wednesday, April 14
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
via Zoom

Register at uidaho.edu/vheworkshops

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FITNESS FOUNDATIONS

Learn foundational movements, different exercise modalities, beneficial warm-up selections, and various programming options.

Free 5 week Course Tues. & Thurs.

2 - 2:50 p.m., in the SRC Weight

To register or for more information, contact Laura at spat0530@vandals.uidaho.edu

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FULL COURSE: MAY 19 - 23 COST: \$700

REFRESHER COURSE: MAY 22 - 23 COST: \$325

Taught by Desert Mountain Medicine

Sign-up in the Outdoor Program Office uidaho.edu/outdoorprogram

Live Well. Play Well. Be Well.



University of Idaho
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A Crumbs Recipe

Spaghetti

This recipe has been a part of my family and leaves tons of leftovers. Luckily, I have the perfect way of repurposing it into lasagna. Grab a pot, turn on the stove and get cooking.



Savanna Rynearson | Argonaut

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. 80% lean ground beef
- 1 tbsp virgin olive oil
- 1 ½ tsp minced garlic
- 2 tbsp dried basil
- 4 tbsp Italian seasoning
- ½ tsp garlic powder
- ½ tsp onion powder
- ½ tsp black pepper
- 1 tbsp sugar
- ¼ cup beef broth
- 1 tbsp beef Better Than Bouillon paste
- 28 oz can of diced tomatoes
- 24 oz pasta sauce

Directions:

1. Dice the onion.
2. Grab a large pot, add olive oil and put on the stove at medium-high heat.
3. Add minced garlic to the pot and cook until aromatic.
4. Add diced onions to the pot.
5. Put in the dried basil, Italian seasoning, garlic powder, onion powder, black pepper and sugar into the pot.
6. Add in beef broth.
7. Add ground beef when onions are just starting to turn translucent.
8. Chop and stir ground beef with a spatula until brown.
9. Add the can of diced tomatoes and do not drain them.
10. Add the tomato sauce.
11. Put in the beef Better Than Bouillon paste.
12. Lower heat, simmer for about 45 minutes and stir occasionally.

Prep Time: 15 minutes

Cook time: 45 minutes

Servings: 8-10

Savanna Rynearson
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arg-life@uidaho.edu

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CORRECTIONS

In a prior issue Rachael Eastman's last name was spelled incorrectly.

THE FINE PRINT

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.

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

- Letters should be less than 300 words typed.
- Letters should focus on issues, not on personalities.
- The Argonaut reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, length, label 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:
875 Perimeter Drive MS 4271
Moscow, ID 83844-4271
or arg-opinion@uidaho.edu

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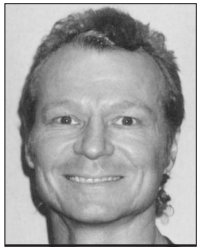
UI passes new groundwater hydrology degree

The graduate program will provide training for students pursuing a career in the field

Royce McCandless
ARGONAUT

University of Idaho Faculty Senate passed a proposal Tuesday approving a Master of Science in groundwater hydrology, a program that will provide specialized training in addressing the state's water needs.

The new graduate program at UI stemmed from requests by the Idaho Department of Water Resources as well as graduates within the industry, according to Chair of Geography and Geological Sciences Jerry Fairley.



Jerry Fairley

The program is intended to meet the requirements for potential professionals pursuing employment within the specialized field.

"In order to practice groundwater hydrology, you actually have to be a registered professional geologist or a registered professional engineer in the state," Fairley said.

A program that can fulfill these barriers of entry is particularly beneficial in Idaho, where 95% of drinking water is sourced from groundwater.

According to an outline of the program, the advanced training required by the state to enter the field would be fulfilled by the master's program, offering a thesis and non-thesis professional option.

The program will be open to students with an undergraduate degree in geology in addition to students with enough upper-division credit hours in the Department of Geological Sciences, Fairley said.

Despite this graduate program being newly approved, hydrology already has a significant connection to the university.

More than half of the Idaho's Hydrology Section consists of UI graduates, according to Fairley.

The proposal states the program will stand as the only master's program of its kind in the Northwest.

The groundwater hydrology master program will become effective in the 2022-2023 academic year.

Royce McCandless
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Wendy's and Fair Food Program

Protestors highlight the important contributions farmworkers make to society

Daniel Ramirez
ARGONAUT

A Boycott Wendy's rally held by Movimiento Activista Social took place in Moscow Thursday, bringing awareness to the Fair Food Program and why Wendy's still declines to participate in it.

Wendy's, one of the five largest fast-food corporations in the country, is the only one who hasn't joined the program, which works to ensure certain rights of farmworkers are not violated.

University of Idaho student Pepe Maciel came to the rally to highlight the contributions farmworkers make to feed the rest of the country.

"This is important because it impacts the community," Maciel said. "There are a lot of views that make it seem like they are dispensable."

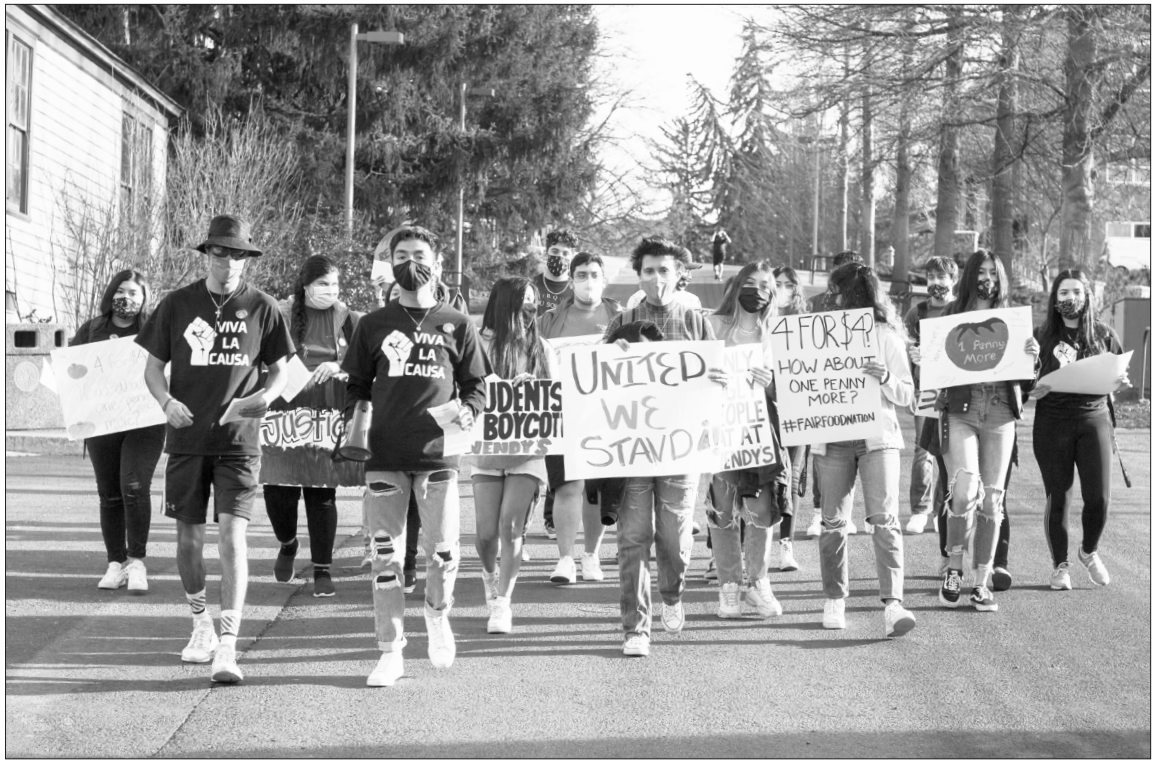
Another protestor, Daniela Aguilar-Carranza, came to show her support for farmworkers.

"It is currently farmworkers awareness week which, spreads awareness about the bad conditions they face," Aguilar-Carranza said. "I am a farmworker and come from a big farm working community, so when I'm here I'm supporting them."

Jeanette Orozco, retention specialist for the College of Assistant Migrant Program and the Office of Multicultural Affairs at UI, oversaw the rally at Wendy's.

"Some students are part of both CAMP and OMA and some are diversity scholars, but it was brought together by (Movimiento Activista Social)," Orozco said. "These are students that bring social justice issues to campus and bring awareness to what people think is important."

According to Maciel, the goal of Movimiento Activista Social is to bring cultural awareness to issues that affect marginalized communities, and not just those



(Top Left) Pepe Maciel leading students across the street to Wendy's (Top Right) Pepe Maciel practicing boycott Wendy's chants (Bottom) Students walking towards Wendy's

in Idaho.

The next event Movimiento Activista Social is holding is called El Color de Nuestra Tierra, another yearly event they host.

"The theme for this year is feminist movements in Latin America," Maciel said.

"Highlighting the past and present when it came to those movements."

El Color de Nuestra Tierra is at 5 p.m. April 24 in the International Ballroom of the Bruce M. Pitman Center.

For more information about OMA and upcoming events,

visit their website.

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ASUI elections are officially underway

Student body government was announced March 30

Carter Kolpitcke
ARGONAUT

Elections for the Associated Students University of Idaho kicked off last week with two

presidential campaign announcements.

Former ASUI Sen. Kallyn Mai and Director of Legislative Affairs Katie Hettinga announced their campaign on Instagram March 30.

The pair is running for ASUI president and vice president, respectively.

ASUI Vice President Joseph Garrett and Chief

of Staff Julie Attinger also announced their campaign March 30 on Instagram. Garrett is running for ASUI president and Attinger is running for vice president.

Mai and Hettinga's campaign will focus on three aspects of student life: community, innovation and excellence.

"We will lead the movement to create better days for Vandals," their slogan states.

Garrett and Attinger's campaign will focus on "engaging UI students with opportunities, connecting students to educational resources and uniting the student body."

Coinciding with the presidential race, a new

batch of ASUI Senators will be elected. A list of candidates has not yet been released.

Voting will take place April 19-21. The winners will be announced at the ASUI meeting April 24.

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Argonaut Religion Directory

First Presbyterian Church
A welcoming family of faith, growing in Jesus Christ, invites you
Sunday Worship Online 10:30 am
www.facebook.com/moscowfirstpres/
Visit our website for latest updates
405 S. Van Buren, Moscow
208-882-4122 • http://fpcmoscow.org
Norman Fowler, Pastor

Lutheran Campus Ministry
at the University of Idaho in The Center at 882 Elm St
Our usual events - dinners, bible studies, worship, and conversation - will be adapted this year due to Covid-19.
Follow us on social media or contact us for current information
Facebook: @lcm.uidaho
Instagram: @luminuidaho
Karla Neumann Smiley, campus minister
lcm@uidaho.edu
(208) 882-2536
ELCA

Bridge Bible Fellowship
Pastors:
Mr. Kirk Brower - Senior Pastor
Mr. Kim Kirkland - Assistant Pastor
Mr. Nate Anglen - Assistant Pastor
960 W. Palouse River Drive, Moscow
208-882-0674 | www.bridgebible.org

Trinity Reformed Church
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30 am & 11:00 am
101 E Palouse River Dr.
208-882-2300
www.trinitykirk.com
office@trinitykirk.com

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Palouse Ice Rink moving locations

Moscow's hockey rink will soon be replaced by a bigger facility

Haadiya Tariq
ARGONAUT

The Palouse Ice Rink is celebrating its 20th anniversary this week since it first opened to the community in 2001.

Initially built as a temporary setup, the rink was not meant to withstand two decades of use. Now, plans are in action to build at a permanent location with full facilities.

According to Director of Fundraising Christina Randal, the current rink is just three-fourths the size of an average rink.

"We can't host tournaments for above five or six-year-olds," Randal said. "If we do adult scrimmage, it's like four-on-four instead of six (or more)."

Northwest River Supplies, a local sporting goods company, has been a significant supporter of the project. After moving out of the large building on South Blaine Street, NRS sold it to Palouse Ice Rink at a reduced price.

Renovations were meant to start in February, but the rink is still figuring out how to fund the project in its entirety.

"Once we get the financing ironed out, we'll be moving forward with renovating the building," Randal said. "We'll have a full-sized sheet of ice. It'll bring a lot of people to town."

The rink is halfway to a goal of \$1,250,000. Many local businesses have contributed to the rink's fundraising, including the city of Moscow, who

donated \$1 million to the rink back in 2016.

Randal said the newer facility would be able to stay open late, appealing to the college student demographic. The rink will be able to stay open longer in the year as well.

"We'll be able to have more programs," Randal said. "We'll be able to expand our offerings, and more people will have something to do in the winter, right here, in town."

Due to the rink's current size, local hockey teams are forced to play their home games in a different town, often Cheney, Washington.

Wyatt Tatakis, president of University of Idaho Men's Ice Hockey, sees the new rink as an opportunity to help expand the team.

Tatakis has been a part of the team for four years, practicing at the Palouse Ice Rink since being a freshman.

"It's tough because it's not a full sized rink," Tatakis said. "We can't really play traditional five-on-five hockey."

While the small rink seats fans close by, at the glass, the team can't play actual league games there. The rink is only used for practices and exhibition games.

"It could absolutely skyrocket the team," Tatakis said. "I think having a five-on-five rink is the next step we're looking for to grow our team."

The men's ice hockey team began struggling with recruitment and establishing themselves as a club, according to Tatakis.



Anteia McCollum | Argonaut

A goalie leans against the net waiting for the puck to come to his side of the rink during a match between the Vandals and Team #3 in the Palouse Ice Rink on Feb. 28, 2021

In addition to a full-sized sheet of ice, he hopes for a larger locker room that can be used by two teams, along with proper bathroom facilities instead of the current porta potty.

"That building was only supposed to last for 10 or 12 years," Tatakis said.

Tatakis sees the new rink as a benefit to the whole community.

"Lewiston, Clarkston, Pullman and Moscow can all have an ice rink within a 30 or 45 minute drive that they wouldn't have had access to otherwise," Tatakis said. "I think it's going to generate an influx of people to the area because it's one of a kind at this point."

Funding is still in consideration and

renovations have not yet started, but Randal still hopes to open it in fall 2021.

"We are not sure yet, there's a lot of moving parts," Randal said. "We're hoping to still be able to open in the fall, but it depends on how quickly the funding comes in."

With the Palouse Ice Rink's 20th anniversary on April 8, there will be an open house at the future rink's location from 5-7 p.m.

Haadiya Tariq
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Public health officials talk vaccines

Answering all of your vaccine questions

Haadiya Tariq
ARGONAUT

University of Idaho's COVID-19 Vaccine Town Hall included representatives from Gritman Medical Center and Public Health - Idaho North Central District, who answered questions following the district's move to open vaccines to people age 16 and older.

To achieve herd immunity and move away from the pandemic, the university is encouraging community members to get vaccinated. However, they're not required.

"The short answer is no, we will not be requiring vaccines in the spring nor next fall," Dean of Students Blaine Eckles said.

"Some institutions have moved in that direction. The University of Idaho is not moving in that direction and we're not looking to require that."

Director of Human Resources Brandi Terwilliger said university staff can use sick leave to get vaccinated.

Anna Fullmer, clinical lead of Gritman Medical Center's vaccination clinic at the Student Recreation Center, said it's important people use the scheduling system for appointments to avoid bottlenecks at the site.

"They'll give you a consent form and some literature on the vaccine

that you're receiving," Fullmer said. "Once you get those and get the consent filled out, you'll be moved forward to the registration area where they'll need your ID and insurance card."

Once paperwork is dealt with, individuals are asked about their allergies before given the vaccine. After, people should be monitored for at least 15 minutes on site.

While individuals under the age requirement cannot get the vaccine, Gritman's Chief Medical Officer John Brown recommends their family members be vaccinated to reduce the risk of spread. Though, the pediatric population is not as vulnerable as older individuals.

The vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna are mRNA vaccines while Johnson & Johnson's is a viral vector vaccine. The mRNA vaccines actually contain material from the virus that causes COVID-19, known as SARS-CoV-2. Vector vaccines contain a modified version of a different virus instead, with SARS-CoV-2 material kept within it.

The vaccines also see a difference in their number of and time between doses. Pfizer-BioNTech calls for two doses 21 days apart and Moderna's two doses are 28 days apart. Johnson & Johnson's is a single dose vaccine. Brown said that the goal of vaccines is to get maximum immunity with the minimum amount of time and doses. With Johnson & Johnson's vaccine, taking multiple doses does

not significantly impact efficacy. The other two dose vaccines are different, however.

According to Brown, the different number of doses needed with Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna's vaccine is based on achieving maximum immunity.

While the vaccines may include mild temporary symptoms like swelling around the injection area, fatigue and headaches, more serious side effects are less common.

"We're talking like several cases out of hundreds of thousands of people," Brown said. "So, you know, very, very rare sorts of things."

Those in the panel recommended taking 30-45 minutes to be vaccinated, including a 15 minute period for symptom monitoring.

The panel concluded with most speakers encouraging that individuals schedule appointments.

"I think that for society as a whole, getting vaccinated is clearly the right thing to do for your community," Brown said. "For you as an individual...I know that some of you are young and healthy and the chances of you having a permanent problem from getting COVID-19 is low, but it's not zero, and I still think your best playing of the odds is to get vaccinated."

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How military programs handled COVID-19

Training cadets and minimizing the spread of COVID-19

Daniel Ramirez
ARGONAUT

Since the start of the pandemic, the University of Idaho's military program has been finding new ways to train cadets and adapt to COVID-19.

Military and Veteran Services Director Jason M. Nierman said staff have been taking steps to ensure cadets are safe while training.

"Under different service departments, whether it's Army, Navy or Air Force, each one has guidance they push out to their units," Nierman said. "They would defer to the most cautious guidance."

The program still needed to meet tasks, conditions and standards, despite the ongoing pandemic. While the standard for training, content and education stayed the same, according to Nierman, the departments had to get innovative on how they

would implement it.

"Tasks are what you're going to do, the condition is the environment where you complete the task and the standard is the quality of the task," Nierman said.

Observing various safety protocols, the program divided trainees into small groups to allow distance between them during physical training.

Over the last year, Nierman said the department didn't have any large COVID-19 outbreaks where several students tested positive at once.

"We did have some students that tested positive, but there weren't any large outbreaks or shut down of departments," Nierman said.

To read more of this article visit uiargonaut.com

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THE ARGONAUT

Life

LIFESTYLES, INTERESTS, FEATURES AND ENTERTAINMENT

Kascha Quilts

A museum in Genesee shows 30 plus dedicated years to quilting

Emily Pearce
ARGONAUT

In a small town outside of Moscow, Kascha Quilts is filled, covering ceiling to floor from the basement to bathrooms, with quilts. With over 350 pieces, Karen Hagen has been quilting away for over 30 years.

Located in Genesee between Laurel and Ash street, Hagen opened the space to the community and fellow quilters to admire her work. She is also a part of Palouse Patchers and has participated in quilt shows and competitions.

"Palouse Patchers is for quilters from Moscow, Pullman and the little towns around, whoever wants to belong to it," Hagen said. "They have a quilt show every year, except last year, and I would always put in my latest quilts."

She has also been able to travel to Boise State University and cities in Oregon like Pendleton, Bend, Medford and the Oregon Coast on quilt tours.

Palouse Patchers is holding a quilt show this April with floral-themed quilts that are available

to be viewed at the Prichard and One World Cafe, Margaret Donelick, Palouse Patchers co-chair, said.

Over the years, Hagen hasn't sold any of her pieces except for a few duplicates. Storing her quilts on vertical shelves to prevent creasing, she created KASHA, a tax-deductible non-profit, to display her work from over the years.

"This really started in June when COVID-19 was going on starting in March ... I was getting it pretty well together," Hagen said. "COVID-19 has been going the whole time that I've had it open so it isn't like I've had a big, quilt guild of people from, you know, the Tri-Cities or somebody come in a bus and look, which may happen once it's over with."

Hagen has been working on adding her own special touches to the space, including painting the basement floors in a cow-print pattern, maintaining weeds and the building.

She grew up in Viola on a dairy farm with a musically and artistically talented family and has lived most of her life with her husband and son. She first learned how to quilt in 1975, seven years before her mom passed

away. Hagen said that she is saddened because she could have seen her mom doing projects with her.

"I was in my 30s when I learned and had already wasted a lot of time," Hagen said. "It sort of took over my life, although not exactly, I've always worked full time and hand quilting takes a long time."

A part of her museum is a quilt of her mother, adjacent to a quilt of her son. Almost every piece in her museum is hand quilted and every piece has special meaning to her.

With leftover fabric, Hagen plans on holding quilting classes with schools around the area. Her classes would involve their teacher reading a child's book and the children making themed miniature quilts off of the books.

Kascha Quilts is located at 145 North Laurel St. in Genesee, open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

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Emily Pearce | Argonaut

(Top Left) Karen Hagen stands in front of her quilt set "Alphabet Fun I" made for a Palouse Patchers challenge (Top Right) Pictures of Hagen's family used for reference creating "Face of Flowers - My Mother" (Middle Left) Lace details on one of Hagen's many unique quilts (Middle Right) "Jewels of the Sea," a crazy-quilt made of silky, gleaming fabric and embroidery (Bottom Left) Inspired by marquetry pieces and wood veneers (Bottom Right) Hagen poses in front of her second "Alphabet Fun II" quilt set

Sexual Assault Awareness Month event calendar

Raise awareness, advocate and learn this April

Katarina Hockema
ARGONAUT

April 9 - Crafternoon at the Women's Center

Head to the Women's Center to make a bracelet to show awareness & support for victims of sexual assault.

Date: April 9

Time: 12 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Memorial Gym 109

April 13 - Serving Survivors of Sexual Violence Panel

Listen to expert panelists from Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse on how to appropriately interact with and support survivors of sexual violence.

Date: April 13

Time: 6:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Location: Via Zoom
Join the Zoom Panel Here Meeting ID: 831 1319 3827 Passcode: 665933

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UI theater students win awards

Students win awards for acting, scene design and sound design

Ryan Hill
ARGONAUT

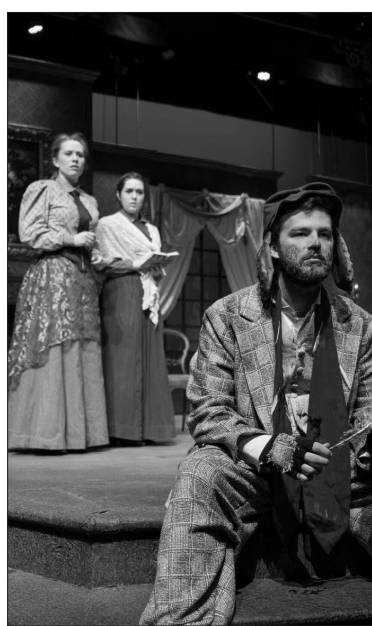
The University of Idaho theater department has been making incredible work, even while facing challenges through the COVID-19 pandemic.

Theater students Hannah Verdi, Brindle Brundage and Andrew Yoder were honored with top awards in the Region 7 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. The theatre festival gives college theatre students a chance to show off their talent to judges who previously worked at Broadway to win awards for their regions, and national awards as well. Idaho is in Region 7, along with Washington, Oregon, Northern California, Northern Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Alaska.

Normally, it would be held in a city near its region, and be a chance for winners to travel to the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., but it was online this year due to COVID-19. Each student won an award for a different section of theater that they excel at.

Verdi won the Regional Musical Theatre Scholarship for musical theatre, a \$600 scholarship to the Open Jar, a New York City Broadway actor training program. This is Verdi's first time winning the award, for her performance singing "I'm Not Pregnant, I'm Fat" from the musical "R.R.R.E.D — A Secret Musical" and "Her or Me" from "Miss Saigon." Verdi said for this year, she was going to do something different for the festival, compared to what she did for the last three years.

In past years, she would choose



David Harlan | Courtesy

musical theater songs that were meant to impress the judges. Her freshman year she chose songs "Breathe" from "In The Heights" and "I Want the Good Times Back" from The Little Mermaid Broadway Musical. Her sophomore year, she chose "All Falls Down" from "Chaplin: The Musical" and "Five and a Half Minutes" from "The Woman Upstairs."

"The entire festival was on Zoom this year, we couldn't go to it because of COVID-19," Verdi said. "So, I was like, 'you know what, screw it I'm (going to) pick songs that I want to do instead of trying to structure it in a way that I could possibly win the scholarship.'"

Brundage, who won last year her set design of "Little Women," won three awards for which included her work on UI plays such as "The Revolutionist" and "The Moors."

This year, she was able to show off her scenic design in the play "The Moors" which premiered in Spring of 2020, before the play closed due to COVID-19. The play

"The Revolutionist" had to be done over Zoom. While actors can tell the story, it is the design that sets the mood for the story and can wow the audience.

"I made renderings and models, going through that design process as if the pandemic wasn't a situation," Brindle said. "Then take my favorite and most important elements from that design into Zoom."

Having to compromise for Zoom created challenges, but she was still able to produce fantastic scenes for the plays.

"Actors lead the story with their actions, but it helps visually that there's like a visual metaphor of what the show means," Brindle said.

In addition to the awards, she also won a one-week internship at Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas. This workshop helps scenic designers better their work and offers them great advice for scenic design, along with hands-on experience that they can use.

Yoder won his third consecutive award for sound design for his work on the production of "The Moors."

Originally, he wanted to be an actor, but got into sound design when he was introduced to it by a graduate student. Yoder said sound design tends to not be a popular choice with many theater people, and very few go into it. However, he enjoyed it so much that he worked with the students until the mantle was handed down to him.

"This award has been kind of surreal," Yoder said. "I don't even know how to react anymore."

Yoder said for his work with "The Moors," he made the sound design feel like a mixture of The Addams Family and Jane Eyre. He made the sound fade in and out during the play, where the audience wouldn't know there was no sound until it all sucked away

during intense scenes.

His proudest moment was during the climax of the play, where a character thinks they are being applauded for their work but then it's revealed that it's the sound of rain, surprising the audience and making them realize this character is insane.

All three said they were glad to win awards and appreciated feedback. All said they are given feedback by people who work on Broadway, including actors, set designers and sound mixers who judge their work and interact with them.

Verdi said she got to interact with an actress who was in the original cast of the Broadway musical "Hairspray." The actress told her she could see Verdi on Broadway.

"For somebody that's in your field to tell you that you're perfect for your field is so validating and honorable," Verdi said.

Brindle got to meet Jay Duckworth, a scenic designer who worked on "Hamilton." He presented her award to her, and Brindle was tongue-tied but was able to talk with him about scenic design and her own work.

"When you work so hard, you don't always get acknowledged," Brindle said. "But when you do, it's the best thing in the world."

For Yoder, he was able to meet with many famous people such as Jeff Sherwood, who got him a fellowship with Eugene O'Neill during the summer of 2020. He said it was the most educational experience he ever had.

"Just getting to work directly with other professionals, those are the kind of highlights for the people I've got to meet throughout this process," Yoder said.

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Get out and 'Plant the Palouse'

Participate in voluntary environmental conservation with PCD

Katarina Hockema
ARGONAUT

Residents of Moscow, Pullman and beyond who want to get involved in volunteer programs designed to conserve the Palouse are in luck this spring.

The Palouse Conservation District hosts several initiatives, events and projects in the area to encourage everyday people to learn about their environment and how to take care of the outdoor spaces around them.

These activities are organized and advertised through GivePulse. This is a platform to list, find, organize and measure the impact of service-learning, community engagement, philanthropy and volunteerism in the community, according to their webpage. This platform is used to organize the Plant the Palouse initiative.

As described by the "about" section of Plant the Palouse registration page, this project will help to improve water quality along Palouse's streams and create habitats by planting native trees and shrubs. Volunteers will have an opportunity to get their hands dirty and give back to the

Palouse at various sites within and outside the city of Pullman limits.

According to the registration page for Plant the Palouse, the Palouse Conservation District's mission is "to foster the voluntary conservation of natural resources by providing the tools, education, technical expertise and financial assistance to support (the) local community." Palouse Conservation District works through voluntary, incentive-based programs to assist landowners and agricultural operators with the conservation of natural resources throughout the district.

The Plant the Palouse project began at 1 p.m. on March 17 and will continue until April 17, ending at noon.

Diana Armstrong, a Moscow resident and member of the Palouse chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby, registered for the event upon learning about it at a Lobby meeting. According to Armstrong, Plant the Palouse's environmental impact aligned with the Lobby's goals to soil carbon emission, slow global warming by protecting watersheds and providing shade for plant life.

Registered volunteers are instructed to meet at the start of the three-hour session at 1615 NE Eastgate Blvd, Suite H in Pullman, Washington, the Business Incubator building for Palouse Conservation District. There, volunteers meet with an AmeriCorps member responsible for coordinating the volunteer group and escorting the volunteers to the conservation site.

AmeriCorps is a voluntary civil society program supported by the U.S. federal government, foundations, corporations, and other donors that engages adults in public service work with a goal of "helping others and meeting

critical needs in the community," according to their website.

Three AmeriCorps volunteers, Erica Jansen, Patrick Wholin and Audrey Martinez, were present at a planting session on March 31. All three members have experience as paid volunteers working within the Washington Service Corps, more specifically with the Palouse Conservation District on a ten-month service term.

Jansen is the online administrator through GivePulse and a coordinator for Plant the Palouse. In these roles, she manages registrations, emails, volunteer questions and helps to organize registered participants during the volunteer sessions, while also gathering and organizing equipment and dividing tasks among the group.

"I would highly encourage (potential) volunteers to get out and volunteer," Jansen said. "It's a great way to service the community. Just get out with friends and family and learn more about the Palouse and what we do."

Wholin, another coordinator with the project, works as the Resource Conservation Technician for the Palouse Conservation District, leading the field crew of three AmeriCorps members during sessions as a former volunteer for both AmeriCorps and the Washington Conservation Corps. Wholin implements different initiatives for planting willows and bare roots, building up stream banks structures, general landscaping and maintaining about 20 different conservation sites on the Palouse this spring season.

"I think it's really important ... working again to see firsthand what goes on (with) the different plants around here and learning about the watershed and about pollution and how we can work to help to beautify this area and



Katarina Hockema | Argonaut

Patrick Wholin and volunteers stand at the work site

keep it pollution free," Wholin said.

Some of Martinez's initiative responsibilities, particularly pre-COVID-19, included supporting the education outreach programs for the Palouse Conservation District by visiting classrooms in-person to teach students about environmental initiatives. Currently, members are educating by filming videos, science garments and hosting planting sessions like Plant the Palouse.

"I'm here to help facilitate community members and come teach them about what conservation efforts are going on in the Palouse," Martinez said. "(I'm) also showing them ways they can implement different riparian buffers on their own properties."

Martinez encourages interested volunteers to participate even if they may not prefer to help with planting or outdoor work.

"I think one of the biggest things to recognize is if you

like to do outdoor stuff we have a lot of that, but there are also options for educational outreach," Martinez said. "If you want to work on other activities that are more indoors, but still envelop the idea of conservation, we definitely have those opportunities."

Volunteer groups are limited to eight per session with mask-wearing and social distancing enforced at all times. Gloves and tools are provided for participants, but volunteers are advised to wear long pants and close-toed shoes, dress for rain or shine and provide their own transportation and water during the session.

To learn more about Plant the Palouse and other upcoming Palouse Conservation District projects, visit their website, Facebook page under Palouse Conservation District, or Instagram account @palouseconservationdistrict.

Katarina Hockema



Katarina Hockema | Argonaut

Palouse Conservation District building sign

VandalStore
The official store of the University of Idaho

EPIC GEAR EVERY DAY

Students paint plants in pots



Kim Stager | Argonaut

(Top) Natasha James (Left) and Lauren Fereday (Right) host the flower pot painting event (Middle) Olivia Niemi paints green triangles on her flower pot (Bottom) Students sit at tables in the ISUB painting flower pots

Each student painted something different, showing the diversity

Kim Stager
ARGONAUT

On March 31, Natasha James and Lauren Fereday set up a table in the Rotunda in ISUB filled with a variety of plants, pots and painting supplies.

This two-hour long activity had students engaged talking and laughing with friends, mixing paint colors to create various shades and

painting unique designs.

Meghan Kelly, a sophomore majoring in Sociology, painted her pot with the word "dotty" over a sunset-colored background and a white rim lined the top of the pot dotted with black spots.

Olivia Niemi, a sophomore majoring in Psychology, painted her pot with various shades of green triangles and a white rim also lined the top of the pot dotted with green spots.

Jay Gaines, a senior majoring in Anthropology, painted her pot in various shades of pink and red with

white clouds standing out from the background and black hearts.

Chuck Tatman's pot was still a work in progress, but it was filled with many shapes and colors.

The students seemed to enjoy their time in the Rotunda spending time with their friends on that warm, spring day.

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Sports

Bringing diversity to Idaho's golf scene

After searching the world for a place to land, Idaho wins these golfers' hearts

Ryan Hill
ARGONAUT

The roster for the University of Idaho women's golf team is filled with names of student-athletes from all over the world. From England to Taiwan, golfers choose UI as the place to stay throughout their collegiate career.

Valeria Patino, from Coronado, Panama, and Vicky Tsai, from Taipei City, Taiwan, are two international students on the women's golf team. Both have an extensive background in golfing.

For Patino, her dad is a professional golfer in Latin

America, so golfing was a part of her life from the very beginning.

"I was five years old, and I stopped a couple of times," Patino said. "But then I came back and got myself very serious for the sport when I was 11."

Patino said she put a pause on playing a couple of times because she was the only girl involved in her area. She said the boys she played golf with when she was younger were not always the most welcoming and kind players.

She got back into it after seeing other golfers playing and decided she missed the sport. Her father told her if she wanted to play, she had to do just as well with her academics as she did with golf.

Tsai was originally a badminton player until she was 12 years old, then she began

focusing on academics as well. She took up golf after noticing a golf range near her house a couple of years later, figuring it would be a good way to spend some time with her brother, who was invested in the sport. After honing her golf skills, she realized she could use golf to apply for scholarships to attend college in the U.S., so she stuck with it.

Both players said they dreamt of studying in the U.S. and they worked for years to get scholarships in golf. They received and reached out for many offers, but their search led them to Idaho.

Patino said she was originally looking at schools in the South because she had moved to Texas with her family two years prior, with hopes of increasing their

ability to speak English, and didn't want to be too far from her family. UI was the last university to offer her a scholarship to play with them. She said she was hesitant at first, but her father convinced her to at least look at the college before turning it down.

"Idaho was the first one I visited," Patino said. "I just fell in love with the town, the people the teammates. Everything was just combined."

Tsai said UI was the first college to reply to her inquiries to join a program, so she decided to check out the school. She said she had visited the U.S. previously with her former coach but had only visited California. She was surprised when she turned out to be wrong after assuming Idaho's weather was similar.

"When the first winter came, it surprised me a little bit because, it was actually a little longer than I thought," Tsai said.

Despite the winter, Tsai said she enjoys Moscow because of its beauty and its small-town vibes. Being from a big city like Taipei, which is very crowded, she said it's a nice change of environment for her.

Both women said they love the team, the coach and playing golf. It has given them both opportunities to improve their golfing skills, make friends on the team, and fulfill their dreams of living and learning in the U.S.

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University of Idaho spirit squad cheers through the pandemic

Vandal spirit squad comes together as a team to make the 2020-2021 season the best possible

Morgan McDonough
ARGONAUT

The University of Idaho Vandal spirit squad has faced many challenges while trying to adjust to the uncertainty the pandemic brings. Vandal cheer and dance spent their season creating and adjusting the safety protocols so they could ensure they were getting the practice they needed.

Cheer and dance were unable to perform at any games last fall because Vandal Football's season was postponed until this spring. The spirit squad continued to practice through the cancellation of the Vandal football's fall season by following strict protocols and guidelines. These protocols included temperature checks before practice, regularly asking the team if they were showing symptoms and always wearing masks.

"I think my main concern of the season was just trying to keep everyone safe and healthy," said coach Katie Doman. "Overall, we didn't have any specific outbreaks within our team, we had a strict protocol, and I was



Saydee Brass | Argonaut

The Idaho cheer squad raises their Pom poms on March 27 in the Kibbie dome



Katie Doman | Courtesy

The Vandal spirit squad in the middle of cheer practice during the pandemic

terrified of the thought of someone getting sick. Our protocol ensured we were keeping everyone safe by social distancing, using hand sanitizer, wearing masks and temperature checks."

Doman said the most difficult part of the season was having to think outside the box when it came to training. The squad did virtual practices, beginning with trial runs over the summer to determine whether the method would work.

"With this season being such a unique situation, this team is probably one of the closest teams I have coached," Doman said. "The pandemic has channeled an outlet in everyone, which has brought the team closer together."

To keep everyone in

check throughout this difficult time, Doman said she focused on keeping her leadership stronger than ever by hosting meetings every other week during the fall semester. Those meetings were used to work through different scenarios and issues that came up throughout the season.

"Presenting my side on issues and presenting a side they might not see helped them to be more reasonable," said Doman. "I also reminded them regularly that this a tough time and people are going through a lot of stuff."

With the help of Doman, senior cheer captain Peyton Goodman was able to step into a leadership role and guide the team through a

difficult time.

"Being a leader means you have to be there for people, and you have stepped into a role which people look up to you," Goodman said. "I have this reminder in the back of my head that reminds me to be positive around the team. Being able to vent, even to your mom or coach, is how you can get

“The pandemic has channeled an outlet in everyone, which has brought the team closer together.”
- Katie Doman

through these frustrations caused by the pandemic, as well as not letting those attitudes affect your


performance.”

The Vandal spirit squad was able to cheer on the team at three of the Vandal Football home games in the spring season. Goodman said her junior and senior seasons both helped her grow as a person and a performer, though they helped in different ways and one was significantly more difficult to handle than the other.

"I am excited for the Vandal spirit squad to come back next season

and be able to be more involved with the community," Goodman said. "The community involvement I had in Moscow has made my cheer experience. Moscow supports all aspects of University of Idaho and the cheer team, pandemic or not."

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THURSDAY April 8	FRIDAY April 9	SATURDAY April 10	SUNDAY April 11	MONDAY April 12	TUESDAY April 13	WEDNESDAY April 14
	Men's Tennis - University of Montana @ Missoula, MT 12:30 p.m.	TF/XC - WAR XIII @ Spokane, WA All day Men's Golf - El Macero Classic @ Davis, CA All day Women's Tennis vs. Portland State University @ Lewiston, ID 1 p.m. Football - Eastern Washington University @ Cheney, WA 1:05 p.m.	Women's Tennis - Montana State University @ Bozeman, MT 10 a.m.	Women's Golf - Big Sky Championship @ Molalla, OR All day	Women's Golf - Big Sky Championship @ Molalla, OR All day	Women's Golf - Big Sky Championship @ Molalla, OR All day

Vandals lose on Easter Sunday

University of Idaho ends Big Sky Conference season with a 5-3 record, losing against Eastern Washington

Morgan McDonough
ARGONAUT

On Easter Sunday the University of Idaho soccer had their last game of the season against the Eastern Washington Eagles. The team ended the season 5-5 going 5-3 in the Big Sky Conference season.

Friday's match showed the Vandals could handle the Eagles, with the Vandals taking a 2-0 victory. Both teams made four shots on goal, and the Vandals made one goal in each half while the Eagles failed to break through the home team's defenses. The Vandals took the first two shots, but the Eagles took the next seven.

However, as shown by the final score line, the Vandals stood strong against the Eagles' offense when they eventually scored a goal 35 minutes in. The Vandals translated this advantage into the second half, where they scored a goal just 10 minutes in.

The Vandals played their defense effectively, preventing and blocking out every goal attempt made against them for the rest of the game.

Outstanding players for the Vandals include redshirt senior forward Myah Merino, freshman forward Maddy Lasher, junior midfielder Maddie Haas and senior midfielder Kaysie Bruce. Merino made four shots, two shots on goal and one goal. Lasher made one shot, one shot on goal and one goal for the Vandals. Haas and Bruce both had one shot.

Sunday's match had a vastly different outcome for the Vandals, resulting in a parallel 0-2 loss against the Eagles. Eastern Washington scored one goal each half, similar to Idaho's performance in the previous match.

The Vandals began the match similar before, quickly making three shots against the Eagles, including two shots on goal. However, the Eagles turned around the momentum quickly, getting some shots off and



Saydee Brass | Argonaut

(Top) Grad Student midfielder Taylor Brust kicks the ball up the field and away from a Sac State player on March 28 in the Kibbie Dome. (Right) Junior Goalkeeper Fox prepares to make a goal kick on March 28 in the Kibbie Dome against Sac State. (Left) Freshman forward Jady Hanks takes the ball up the field on March 28 against Sac State in the Kibbie Dome

making a goal at the 16-minute mark. The Eagles then progressed to continue with the pressure, but the Vandals played a strong defense by blocking every shot for the rest of the half.

While the Vandals blocked out any further goals in the first half, the momentum of the match was still in favor of the Eagles, who continued the pressure in the second half.

This pressure whittled away at the Vandals defenses until the Eagles made a goal six minutes before the end of the game, securing a 2-0 win for themselves.

The players who shone in Friday's match made a repeat showing in this match, with Merino making three shots and one shot on goal, alongside graduate student midfielder Taylor Brust with three shots

and two shots on goal. While the Vandals did lose a five-game win streak, they still ended up with a positive score line for the BSC games.

This may be the end of the regular season for the Vandals, but that doesn't mean the work is done. They still might have a shot at the Big Sky Championships.

According to a press release from Idaho Athletics, the team

will spend their bye week watching other matches. If Eastern Washington loses at least one match in its showdown at Montana State University, Idaho will have a chance at the championships.

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Why professional Smash Bros. Ultimate players took a break

Pitfalls of online play include expensive gear, subscriptions, lag and lack of social interaction

Dylan Shepler
ARGONAUT

Before COVID-19, Super Smash Brothers Ultimate tournaments all happened in-person, which allowed the gaming community to thrive due to the increased social opportunities of being in person.

Last year, the pro Super Smash Bros. scene transitioned to an online format because of the pandemic. But with the introduction of a vaccine for the virus, it may soon be possible to return to an in-person format.

Competing in-person removes the need for decent wired internet, which can be accessed at sometimes unreasonable prices. It also removes the need to buy an adapter to connect the internet to the Nintendo Switch, the expensive handheld console Smash Bros. Ultimate is played on.

Not only is wired internet priced highly, but you must buy

Nintendo Switch Online as well, which is a subscription required to play any online service on the console. This subscription, at the bare minimum, costs \$19.99 a year.

This initial cost of entering online tournaments, alongside the constant spending needed to continue playing, has been taking a toll on competitor turnout. But that is not the only thing restricting online play for Smash Bros. tournaments.

The difference between online and in-person play goes beyond just the internet. When you go online, there's a certain delay that is inescapable because signals must travel all the way to a game server, then to your opponent's console and all the way back. For every button you press.

While multiple button command signals can travel through the at the same time, the distance between competitors guarantees some amount of delay, regardless of how good a competitor's internet is. This factor has been what has prompted many competitors to turn away. This can be

attributed to more specific issues of the game needing less skill to compete in as more factors, such as lag, are introduced.

One professional competitive player is Marss, who stopped going to tournaments in February 2020 because of all the extra factors of online play. Seven months after he stopped going to tournaments, he went to his first tournament online and had a fairly difficult time adjusting. He documented his struggles in a YouTube video.

One of the only good things that came out of online tournaments was the ease of access once you've purchased the online setup, along with the condition of ignoring the many other unavoidable downfalls of playing remotely. With online tournaments, you can play from your own home in a tournament based wherever you want because you don't have to be in person.

But for many players the cost of playing online outweighs the benefits. Many would rather be competing in person where there is no lag or expensive equipment



Flickr | Courtesy

Nintendo GameCube Controller

to deal with, not to mention the fact that socializing is necessary for someone's sanity.

While the struggle of the scene going online has been an issue for the community, these issues may soon end with the COVID-19 vaccine rolling out quickly across the world, allowing players all over to

compete in person with more confidence and safety. This would allow the Smash Bros scene to flourish again the way it did pre-pandemic.

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Opinion

Building our own inclusive community

The Women in Science Society provides support and community for undergrads

There are no female faculty members right now on the fisheries side of the Fish and Wildlife Sciences Department. I have not had a female professor in a science-based class at the University of Idaho since my sophomore year.

While I have never been the only woman in a classroom, it has often been close; just last semester, I was one of two women in a class on fisheries management.

Being outnumbered in a classroom isn't inherently bad, but when it's a consistent pattern it can create a culture where it feels like it's normal or like we should be outnumbered. Things that wouldn't be acceptable in a more balanced classroom tend to slide past without comment: here and there a joke about M-R-S degrees and there a professional conversation that includes unsolicited advice on whether to have children.

Almost universally, lectures fail to acknowledge the past contributions of women to a field, leaving us to wonder whether we are the first or if our work is just not worth mentioning in the textbooks.

Everyone deserves to feel like they have a supportive community. For those of us who have been "the only one" in a classroom or program, groups like the Society of Women Engineers, the National Society of Black Engineers, the Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native American in Science and the Women in Science Society can feel like a safe haven.

It's incredibly validating to know you're not alone.

In the absence of a particularly representative classroom community, these student groups empower us to build our own. When the UI WSS chapter was started in 2018, I remember feeling

overwhelmed by how many of my peers were as excited about the group as I was. It was as if we had all been waiting for someone to bring us together.

I joined the mentorship program, and I instantly had a more experienced student excited to chat with about which classes to take, what applying to grad school was like and what jobs I should investigate. WSS was a rare space in which I instantly felt like I belonged.

It makes me truly proud to wear my WSS t-shirt to school and represent this organization that has brought so much joy to my time as an undergrad. They flood my social media

with empowering quotes and profiles on amazing scientists both past and present.

In the pandemic, they have brought us together for game nights, meditation sessions, networking events and professional workshops. In WSS, we lift each other up as friends and as future

colleagues in a workforce that has not historically welcomed us.

I believe that each cohort of WSS graduates leaves the Vandal family a little more accepting, supportive and inclusive. One day, maybe the group will seem like a silly relic from a time when women felt like they needed to seek support in order to feel welcome in STEM fields. Until then, WSS provides an invaluable service to our UI community, connecting and encouraging cohorts of scientists who will go on to change the world.

WSS, NSBE, SWE, SACNAS and all student organizations like them create a more equal and welcoming campus, building a STEM community that reflects the full diversity of our institution. We should be proud that these groups exist at the UI.

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The Real Truth About Voluntourism

How to help other countries without seeking personal gain

We've all scrolled through our Instagram feed late at night, seeing photos of people you talked to maybe twice in high school and your ex posting about his new girlfriend, which you definitely don't take personally, when suddenly you stumble onto something new.

Someone from your high school has posted about their weeklong mission trip to Africa. The caption is a paragraph about how their life has been changed forever and how they "have made a difference" in the world. The comment section is plagued with responses such as "what an amazing experience" or "thank you for enriching these kids' lives."

This is a newfound issue happening across social media and quickly being addressed with criticism on Twitter. The phenomenon, that is spreading across upper middle class religious teenagers in America, is what Twitter refers to as "voluntourism" or the "white savior complex."

Typically, religious teenagers or young adults have been going to third-world countries under the guise of a "mission trip." They spend no more than a few weeks there, helping with their youth group before heading home.

That is, of course, not without taking multiple photos and posting about their trip describing how enlightened they feel.

Overall, despite their good intentions, the trip is little more than a morale booster. It's benign reassurance they are, in fact, doing something good for the world. These mission trips are thin-veiled attempts at instant gratification.

While there, students convince themselves they are doing a great deed. They're extremely undertrained and unaware of their own work. In fact, the townspeople often have to train the newcomers.

The amount of money it takes to fly a bunch of people out, transport them, feed them and give them shelter for a few weeks is an extremely large sum. That money should go towards the same people they claim they are "saving."

Unfortunately, people don't like to spend money on things that don't benefit them.

The same people who would gladly drop \$3,000 on a trip to Africa to help

build homes, would turn up their nose if asked to donate \$200 to that same organization. People shouldn't kid themselves when they go on their weeklong "mission trips." They want the experience, not to make a change.

But then again, the ever-asking question is asked, "How could these teenagers learn what it is like to live in poverty?"

Go to Portland, or really any major city. Do a food kitchen, help communicate with the homeless there or try to help build homeless shelters for them. But they won't. Why? Because there's a certain stigma to the homeless, no gratification to be found by helping them from your peers. You can't post that on Instagram expecting the same comments.

It's a pity that a formerly good idea was turned into an experience-crave for so many. Most who go want to make a difference but aren't doing it the right way.

If you want to make a difference, start by researching nonprofits and donating or helping those in need in your own cities, instead of traveling across the world to find others.

There is no shame in going to help these countries if you are qualified in doing so and plan to stay for more than a few weeks. Two weeks is not enough to "change" the lives of anyone there. By all means help, but make sure it is out of selflessness and not for future Instagram updates.

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“Giving that money to a non-profit organization would make a greater difference than acting like you're helping



The problem of rap at the Grammy's

Examining the mishandling of the rap and R&B category from the Grammys

The 2021 Grammy Awards Show recently happened, and their operations need to be discussed, specifically regarding the rap music category. The Grammys are the pinnacle of musical achievement, or at least how they are portrayed. In the echelon of awards a musician or producer can achieve, the Grammys always hold superiority over other awards such as the MTV Music Awards as well as the Billboard Music Awards and the People's Choice Awards.

What is known about how the Grammys determine winners of their awards is the fact that they are classified in three categories: voting, professional or student members. This seems to indicate that the Recording Academy (the organization that determines the winners) is made up of the nominees' peers. Nominations are determined by submissions sent to either a member of the Academy or registered media companies. Once the nominees are decided, members can vote in the four general categories as well as 15 other categories.

This method of determining nominations and winners has led several people to accuse the Grammys of being an opportunity to push artists or labels the Academy members have relationships with rather than be a fair, objective process.

So far, none of these claims have been factually proven, but there is one category that they have historically mishandled over the

years: the category of rap music. The first issue is that the category of best rap album of the year wasn't established until 1996. This means a lot of classic albums such as "The Chronic," "Illmatic," "Straight Outta Compton," "Paid in Full," "Reasonable Doubt" and others aren't even officially recognized by the highest-standing organization of musical achievement despite being regarded as some of the best work to come from the genre.

At first, the Grammys seemed to have a true grasp on the category of Hip-Hop. From 1996-2000 The Notorious B.I.G., Nas, Wu-Tang Clan, 2Pac, The Fugees, Jay-Z, A Tribe Called Quest and even Coolio were all artists who received nominations or awards from the Academy.

An organization that seemed hesitant to even recognize the category had finally come around to showing and highlighting the best rap had to offer.

However, sometime around the mid-2000s to 2010, there was a shift in focus from the Grammys in Best Rap Album of the Year category. The category deferred to whatever was selling the most instead of what was actually the best of the best or just deferring to giving the award to artists who have already been recognized by the Grammys. Eminem won the 2010 award for Best Rap Album of the Year for his album "Relapse," despite having an overall score of 59 on Metacritic and often being considered one of his worst releases. Perhaps the biggest mishandling of the category, however, is the 2014 award show.

In 2014, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis won Best Rap Album of the Year over other nominees such as Kendrick Lamar, Kanye West, Drake and Jay-Z. This was met by immediate backlash from fans, with Macklemore apologizing to Kendrick Lamar and admitting he should have



Yeezus | Kanye West

won the award. Despite the backlash from this, the Grammys didn't even learn from their mistake right away. Eminem received the following award the next year over Schoolboy Q's "Oxymoron" project, which was higher reviewed on Metacritic as well as other well-respected rap and music publications such as XXL and Pitchfork.

This trend of whatever sold the most instead of what was more well-received continued until the 2018 Grammy's. Artists such as Freddie Gibbs, Royce Da 5'9", D Smoke, Cordae, 21 Savage, Tyler the Creator and the often overlooked Rapsody have all received nominations.

There has been much debate about the winners of the categories, with Cardi B and Nas winning the awards in 2019 and 2021 and Tyler, the Creator winning in 2019 (despite saying his album "Igor" shouldn't be categorized as just a rap album). However, it seems like the Grammys have finally shifted their focus away from whatever albums sell the most to genuinely being concerned about what albums have been received well by fans.

The process is still flawed and there is another discussion that needs to be had about the Urban Contemporary category, but whether it be because of the public outcry regarding how the category has been historically handled or because of a genuine desire to improve the representation and quality of the category, it seems that the category of Best Rap Album is being treated with a much more careful eye and ear than it has been.

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Don't be scared to change your major, no matter how close to completion

Though it seems scary and like a waste of money, doing what makes you happy is more important

It's never too late to change your major, sure. But is it worth it the closer you get to graduation?

I'm only a second-year student, a junior standing. I'm not too deep into my major. I can, luckily, adjust without too much struggle and hassle. Others have not been so fortunate, and I fear that this realization is a mere ticking time bomb for some.

I've spent countless hours Googling random major's salaries. I've scoured countless Reddit pages, blogs, articles and personal testimonies on the post-college job market. All signs point to everything working out, but I'm not convinced.

The job market for some degrees is rapidly diminishing, especially in the era of COVID-19. Majors that were once profitable and a sure-fire career starter have become nothing

more than a hobby that cost \$40 thousand. At what point is it too late to jump ship?

I don't think there is any right answer. However, the consequences of doing so only get harder as the days, weeks and months go by. Another semester pursuing a major you're unsure about is another semester potentially wasted.



Carter Kolpitke
ARGONAUT

That entire system seems wildly unfair. It's human nature to become specialized in a skill. But are we really supposed to do the same thing our whole lives? At this age and at this point in my life, I have no clue what I want to do. I have kind of an idea. Little whispers of a concept, I guess. But the thing? No idea.

Paying \$40 thousand to get a degree in a skill that might be useful seems kind of like a scam. I'm not saying it is, but the structure of this system seems fundamentally flawed.

We are effectively putting youthful, vibrant and determined students into a box. Once they get

put into that box, it's hard to leave.

That box determines the rest of your life, it seems like. It will determine where you live, how much money you make and how happy you will be. Realizing that box might be setting you up for failure, a year or so from graduation, is next to nothing the scariest aspect of college.

Hence, why I think it's never too late to adjust. It's always going to be worth it to change your major. Heck, it might be worth it to drop out.

Life is too short to do what you think you must do. The only important way to live is by doing what you want and doing what you feel is right. If a 180-degree career switch feels right for you do it. Don't hesitate because you feel like it's too late.

The fact of the matter is, it's never too late to live your life the way you want to live it. Even when the entire system seems like it's against you, your truth will always prevail. It might just take some time.

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Making time for the little holidays

With the end of the semester insight, don't forget to take a little time for yourself

Life has been hectic in 2021, but never more than during the few holidays we've had so far. From a New Year's Day filled with just as much anxiety as there was hope to Easter where many people were still unable to attend their church services in person.

Holidays have brought mixed feelings for me so far. Generally seen as a time to relax, do a bit of self-care and spend the occasion with family or friends, I've noticed many students spent their holidays bunked up in their dorms catching up on homework.

If students weren't in their dorms, they may have been like me and tried to visit home while getting their work done haphazardly as well. C's get degrees, right? Others may have just said "screw it" and taken the time for themselves without acknowledging they even had homework.

And to the poor souls who had to work over the holidays to make ends meet, how I wish you only had homework to worry about at the end of the day. However students spent their holidays, I'm willing to bet not a lot of them got to spend them in the ways they normally do. Take Easter for example, many people canceled their usual family gatherings to make sure everyone remained safe from the virus or were told their Easter Sunday services would be online instead of in-person.

What's the point of dressing in your Sunday best if you're just putting it on for a Zoom call or trapping yourself in your dorm so you can finally get to the top of the mountain of homework?

There isn't one. But despite the unusual pandemic holiday routines we all have, this year can be thought of as a test of fortitude. And we are winning, even if it doesn't feel like it.

The pandemic has beaten everyone down and with this spring comes the hope of going back to normal. Summer won't save us from

COVID-19 like it can with the common cold or the flu, but it can provide a much-needed break.

With only about four more weeks left in the semester, we are so close to the end it makes

me wish time would go by faster. I'm ready for people to be able to enjoy their holidays and break without having a nagging reminder of school in the back of their minds.

But before we can do that, we have to make it to the end of this marathon of a semester, reaching the finish line in whatever way we can. Spring has sprung and the end of the semester is right around the corner.

If you spent your holidays cooped up in a dorm or juggling family and homework, I encourage you to take some time for yourself, even if it's only 20 minutes. A mini holiday, if you will. Treat yourself to your favorite drink, sit down in the sun and just relax like you're at the beach.

Even if your Easter weekend didn't turn out like you had hoped, with colorful egg hunts and quality family time, it's much easier to make the next half-hour turn out just right. Take that break and take care of yourself. You deserve a little "holiday" self-care.

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The music industry is filled with label-based collectives

From TDE to Griselda, the music industry has some of the best collectives in years

Rap music occupies a space in the industry that is unlike many others. One aspect is its unique existence of collectives. In the history of rap, labels such as Death Row, Bad Boy Records, Young Money Records and Dreamville have doubled as collectives and have sometimes been embroiled in feuds, such as the aforementioned labels Death Row and Bad Boy Records throughout the 90s.

Some labels have collectives within, such as the group Black Hippy featuring Top Dawg Entertainment artists like

ScHoolboy Q, Kendrick Lamar, Jay Rock and Ab-Soul.

There are some collectives that feature artists from primarily one label but crossover into others, such as the relatively new Beast Coast featuring Pro Era Records artists Joey Bada\$\$, Kirk Knight and CJ Fly (amongst several Pro Era artists) and feature the Flatbush Zombies and The Underachievers, both acts who are not a part of Pro Era.

Despite there not being any beef akin to 90s labels feuds, aside from healthy competition, there is a debate over which label or collective is the best. The

ongoing discussions have three labels constantly brought up that each have a legitimate claim to best label/collective in rap today.

Those labels are TDE, Dreamville and Griselda.

Dreamville's argument for the best is the overall success of their latest collective project, "Revenge of the Dreamers III." J. Cole's collective as well as many

outside artists were locked in the studio for months bringing in rappers, singers, producers and sound engineers and had a competitive atmosphere to it in terms of who's songs would make the album.

This release in addition

to J. Cole's individual success and the recent success of other individual Dreamville artists such as JID, Earthgang and Ari Lennox has people insisting there is no collective or label better than them right now.

There is legitimate criticism, despite the constant mainstream growth of all the aforementioned artists, that label and the "Revenge of the Dreamers" project still feels like the label is just "J. Cole and Friends." Ari Lennox and JID are receiving more mainstream growth every day, however, so this might change soon.

To read more of this article, visit uiargonaut.com

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Financial tips to transform your life

Student Chelbee-Lynn Rosenkrance breaks down being smart with money

Have you ever thought about your relationship with money?

If your answer is no, I highly encourage you to read the book "Your Money or Your Life" by Vicki Robin and Joe Dominguez. I recently read it, and I am here to share what I consider to be the most important takeaways of the book's nine-step process.

The first statement that caught my attention in this book was "...how much is enough money for you to have a life you love, now and in the future?"

In this book, enough is defined as the peak of the fulfillment curve. Anything in excess is defined as clutter. Collectively, we think we have jobs so that we can pay our bills, but we spend more than we make on more than we need, and these consumption patterns

have caused global environmental damage.

This book is a great first step to breaking the hold of the "more-is-better" myth many of us believe.

I encourage everyone take the time to read this book, as it will transform your life. There are several steps that I find exceptionally important.

The first of many: find the amount of money that you have made in your lifetime by creating a balance sheet to show what assets and liabilities you have acquired.

After doing that, answer the question, "how much of my life am I willing to sell to have money in my pocket?" Furthermore, ask yourself, "what does financial independence mean to me?"

Answering those questions sets up the foundation to remodeling your financial life.

Establishing the actual cost it takes to maintain your job, and to compute your hourly wage, is the next step. This would include the

cost of commuting, costuming, meals, daily decompression, escape entertainment, vacations, job-related illnesses, injuries and any other job-related expense.

Finally, you must actively start keeping track of every cent that comes in and out of your life to effectively succeed these steps and to continue your financial success journey.

These tips are only the beginning to financial freedom. We are only at the tip of the iceberg. Robin and Dominguez continue to list out money advice in their collaborative book. It is a tremendous read, and I cannot recommend it enough.

Read to explore their words of wisdom further and take a deeper look into how you can transform your finances.

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