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Just Over Broke

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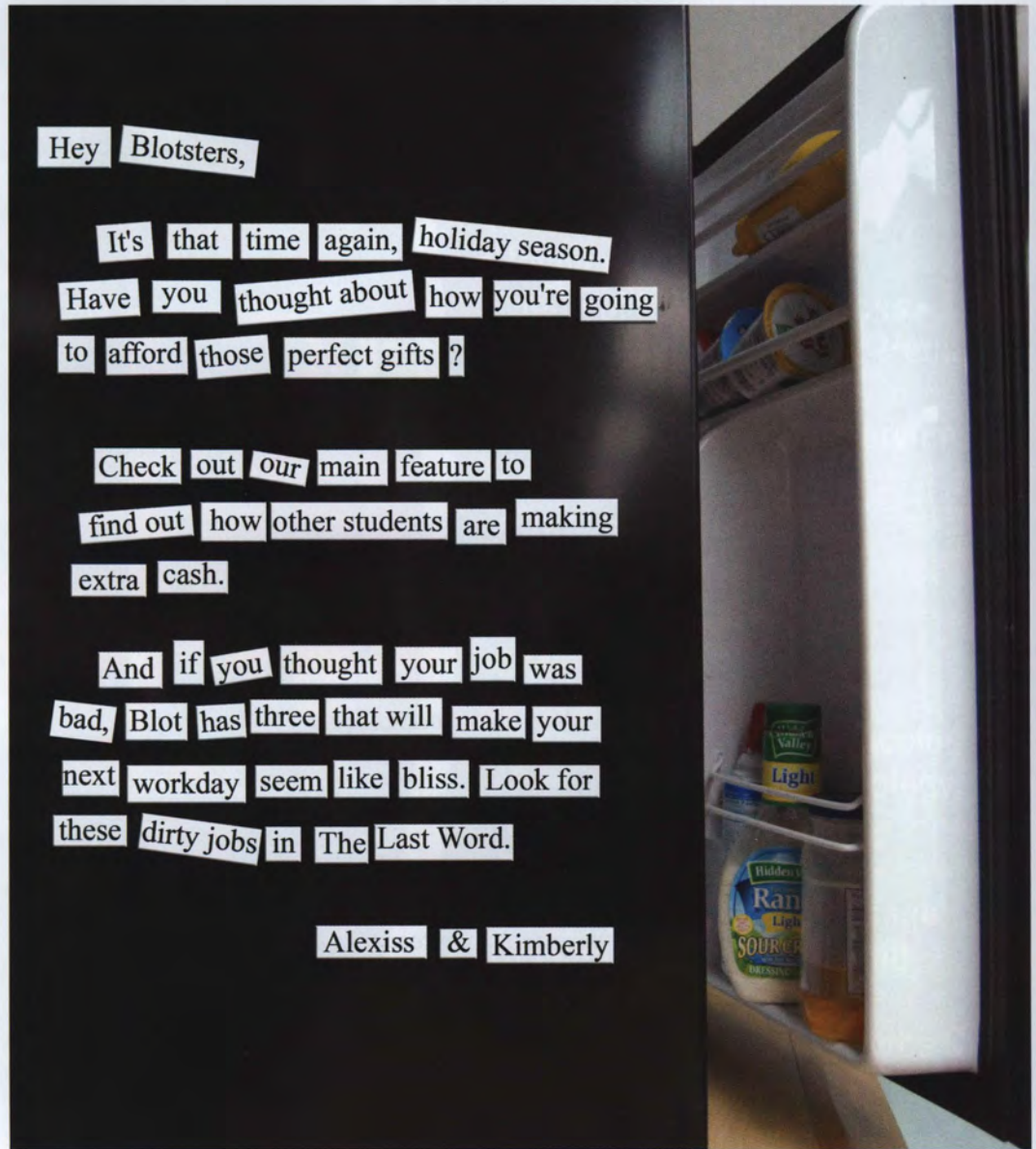
Hey Blotsters,

It's that time again, holiday season.
Have you thought about how you're going
to afford those perfect gifts ?

Check out our main feature to
find out how other students are making
extra cash.

And if you thought your job was
bad, Blot has three that will make your
next workday seem like bliss. Look for
these dirty jobs in The Last Word.

Alexiss & Kimberly



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THE little things IN LIFE

BY KEVIN OTZENBERGER
+ PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAKE BARBER

Two walls of what look like stainless steel oven doors surround a long table littered with vials, cages and plastic containers. The stainless steel doors open to reveal a variety of butterflies, beetles and other insects pinned to their display boards. Live tarantulas, hissing cockroaches and giant millipedes live in tanks. Some insects scamper across the room—totally loose.

With all its inhabitants, it's no wonder it takes more than a few knocks to get Frank Merickel to answer his door.

For the past 28 years, Merickel has been the curator for the William F. Barr Entomological Museum in the University of Idaho Agricultural Science Building. Merickel said his post "exemplifies the land-grant nature of UI."

His duties include collecting, surveying, identifying and processing specimens.

The museum holds more than 1 million specimens and an extensive entomology library. Merickel said the museum has been an active scientific depository on campus for about 100 years.

He said insects have interested him since he was five.

"I grew up on a ranch in southern Oregon in the middle of nowhere," he said. "We didn't see people all that often, so insects kind of captivated my fancy. I was raising ants and feeding honeybees and all kinds of things when I was 6 years old."

Merickel's regular chores include cleaning out tanks. What appears to be foliage in one cage is actually a mature walking stick—the same species walking freely about the room.

"This is an Australian walking stick," he said. "In its first stage it's very active and looks like an ant or something that can sting."



Live walking sticks crawl over pieces of wood in the William F. Barr Entomological Museum.



Frank Merickel, curator of the William F. Barr Entomological Museum, talks with biology students about Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches.

Merickel pauses for a moment to remove the plant trimmings from the tank, causing much of the plant's mass to begin crawling sluggishly.

"When they molt, they become much more sedentary," he said. "They change into various shapes with each stage getting larger each time."

Merickel said he was anxious to change out the tanks to begin the next breeding cycle for the caged specimens.

He said he frequently receives insects in vials from locals who have found curious specimens in their own homes. He said he is "a prime contact" and encourages such inquiries.

"People are kind of scared about insects and don't know much about them," he said.

Throughout Merickel's career of extensive field collection, he has made many discoveries. He said the area provides scientists with a lot of work.

"Idaho is a fascinating state from that standpoint," he said. "I've done a lot of sampling of insects in our cedar growths and have often found species that are not known to science at all. I've had a few things named after me that I collected, and that has been fun."



PHOTO BY NICK GROFF

SHIFTING GEARS

Bike cops have the advantage of “stealth” over those in patrol cars BY ALANA CURTIS

It's dark and chilly, but Moscow is bustling on a Saturday night.

Students traverse Greek Row, meander through A Street apartment parking lots and cram into house parties scattered throughout town. While some have heard about a silent force that prowls the streets snuffing out wrongdoers, others roam carelessly, drink in hand.

Covert law enforcement officers, known as bike cops, often catch offenders by surprise since they blend in with familiar faces in the dark.

“They know we're out there,” Moscow Police Department Officer Casey Green said.

Green, one of the eight Moscow police officers who patrol the night by bicycle, said he has been mistaken for a citizen several times.

“We'll be sitting under a street light ... and a group of people will walk by and say, ‘Oh, be careful, the bike cops are out,’” Green said. “They freak out because

they don't recognize you for what you are until you're on top of them.”

In the daylight, Green's occupation is obvious due to his cumbersome apparel—a heavy, bright blue coat, helmet, radio and utility belt.

In a place like Moscow, he said the elements are an obstacle when patrolling by bike. But as long as officers are willing to put up with conditions like cold weather and rain, Police Officer Joe Knickerbocker said they will ride year-round.

Because bike cops have the advantage of “stealth” over those in patrol cars, planning routes is an important task when patrolling by bike.

“You can ride into parties without a whole lot of people noticing,” Knickerbocker said.

At night, without the telltale police cruiser to give them away, stealth comes easily for bike cops—so easily offenders sometimes come to them.

“I've had people walk up to me with a beer in their hand saying, ‘It's cold out here. Oh my god, you're a police officer!’” Green said.

Because of their increased proximity to citizens, bike cops hand out more minor in possession or open container citations than most other charges. Green said the most common offense is urinating in public.

“You'd be surprised how many people pee outside,” he said.

For Green, the few disadvantages that come with patrolling by bike are worth it because of the dissolved barrier between the police and the public.

“There's always the good wrecks that happen,” Green said, motioning to a hole in the knee of his left pant leg.

“It gets kind of embarrassing when you're trying to sneak up on people and you fall over sideways,” he said. “Invariably all the stuff we carry looks like a yard sale. Your stick is over here, your magazines are over there and your radio is hanging off and dragging on the ground behind you. People are laughing at you, but it's a good way to break the ice.”

Breaking the ice is why Green, who rides around 40 to 50 miles per week, said he prefers patrolling by bike to patrolling in cars.

“That is essentially the root of community policing—face-to-face contact with people in a non-traditional manner,” Green said. “It's a real good way to do the job.”



from occupied homes. They had run out of their primary wood resource—abandoned houses.



A Functional DESIGN

In about an hour, 25 University of Idaho students created eight solutions to John Bender's seven-year problem.

Bender, a resident of Clarkston, has had to use a wheel chair and walker due to an unknown neurological condition in which his muscles slowly deteriorate. Bender's only exit from his home is the front door. The steps leading to the back door are too steep for him to maneuver.

"Any time he wants to go to the backyard, he has to go out the front door," Bender's wife Mary said.

The couple planned to create a second exit for Bender in case of an emergency by installing a lift at the back door, but they ran into a problem—the price.

BY MALLORY NELSON
+ PHOTOGRAPHY BY TYLER MACY

"We had sticker shock, I guess you could say," Mary said.

The Benders contacted a local agency to help them locate grant money. The agency gave them the phone number of a student at the University of Idaho.

Chris Olenyik, a graduate student in the Department of Architecture and Interior Design, is UI's Freedom by Design team captain. The UI FBD program was founded last year to help people with disabilities by making modifications to their homes. The newly formed chapter joins a host of FBD programs sponsored by the American Institute of Architecture Students at universities throughout the country.

"It all snowballed really, really quick," Olenyik said. "We already actually had clients come to us before we were an official organization."

Olenyik said clients are eligible for the program if they are not financially able to complete the projects on their own. He said the Benders met the criteria and were attractive clients because they listed no time constraints.

THE PLAN

"This is our first project, and we're trying to see how things operate," Olenyik said. "It's nice to get our feet wet and not to be in a rush."

The program not only involves individuals with physical challenges but professionals and architecture students looking to participate in the process.

"It's an experience that encompasses all aspects of architecture and design," Olenyik said. "We are students doing everything, but we have architects and construction mentors to give advice about materials and schedules, and they're present on build days."

Frank Jacobus, UI FBD adviser and architecture professor, said the program provides one of the few opportunities for architecture students to see the entire design process.

"The extension of the academic experience into this new realm where they're serving clients who are actually really in need is great," Jacobus said. "To see how good design can affect people's lives is the main thing."

Jacobus said networking, learning about team dynamics and practicing entrepreneurship are other benefits of the program.



THE PROCESS

After conducting a formal site survey and assessing Bender's needs, UI FBD members will collaborate with students from the Washington State University FBD program to complete three projects.

The students plan to remove the carpet from the main level of the house and remove a 2-inch step from the front door. The changes will allow Bender to move easily around his home.

The students have created several designs for a secondary exit. The designs include a backdoor landing with an attached ramp or a series of larger steps that Bender can use with his walker.

At the UI FBD design meeting in October, members created eight designs for the new exit from the Bender home.

WSU FBD team captain Samantha Colvin said the 20 students who attended the first design meeting at WSU struggled with the same problems UI students encountered.

"[The Benders] run a daycare, so we don't want to tear up their backyard," she said.

Basing their selection on cost and the client's needs, Colvin's team narrowed their designs to three options, which they plan to present at the next FBD advisory board meeting.

"We've never really worked with the University of Idaho before because we're both new chapters. It's really

nice to have somebody who has gone through the same training to bounce ideas off of," Colvin said.

THE PROJECT

The advisory boards from the WSU and UI FBD programs will choose the best designs from both schools and present them to the Benders. Once the design is established, the real planning will begin. Students are responsible for raising money for additions to the Bender home. Olenyik said the team is currently organizing fundraisers between classes.

"We are students. Our first priority is our education. We want to be realistic to the scheduling," Olenyik said. "We're not like Extreme Home Makeover. We try for smaller projects we can complete. We only want to take on projects that can be completed in a series of weekends."

Olenyik said he hopes to finish the flooring this semester and to tackle the ramp project spring semester.

The couple said their alternative, obtaining a grant, would have been a much longer process.

"We've been very impressed with the people we've met," Bender said. "It's nice to see young adults getting into something to help other people."





Just Over

BROKE

Without parents padding the wallet, students manage to scrape by

Written By
Sarah MacDonald

For many students, college life is a careful balance between independence and preserving the bond that makes homemade cookies and occasional rent bailouts possible.

But with the current economic situation and dwindling job market, dipping into the parental checkbook isn't always enough. Students are being forced to live and learn at a rapid rate, holding jobs long before they reach graduation.

About 66 percent of the 2007 University of Idaho graduating class took out loans to pay for school, resulting in \$21,609 of debt. According to a study by the American Council on Education for the 2006-07 academic year, 75 percent of all undergraduates under the age of 22 have jobs to pay for education costs.

It seems a summer's worth of flexing burger-making muscles at Jack in the Box or becoming a connoisseur of Egyptian cotton sheets at Bed Bath & Beyond isn't cutting it anymore. Between summer jobs, a life savings, student loans and the crisp bills that are slipped inside of birthday cards, some students still find themselves needing more money to survive.



“I WILL BASICALLY BE RIDICULOUSLY BROKE BY THE TIME I GRADUATE.” — SARA PRITCHETT

Rodney Dunn, associate director of UI Student Financial Aid Services, said besides the regular paycheck, jobs also benefit student grades and the general college experience.

“Students who work while going to college are more likely to graduate,” Dunn said. “They are more successful, learn better time management and are more responsible. Working is good, but working too much is a disaster.”

Working too much leaves less time for academics and some are forced to drop out, Dunn said.

“Worst case scenario is [students’] grades suffer so much that they drop out of school after they have borrowed,” he said.

Students in this situation usually end up worse off than if they never went to college in the first place, Dunn said. In an attempt to avoid this, some

students abandon their four-year plan to take fewer classes and work more hours.

Sara Pritchett, a third-year business student at UI, goes to school part time and clocks in almost 30 hours a week at One World Café.

“It’s hard balancing school and work,” Pritchett said. “It takes a lot of self control.”

Although she was able to pay for school the past two years with scholarship and grant money while attending Boise State University, Pritchett now takes out about \$5,000 in student loans each semester to pay for tuition.

“I will basically be ridiculously broke by the time I graduate,” she said. “And the economic situation isn’t going to help.”

Regular working hours aren’t the only way students make extra cash. A growing trend is the donation of plasma at Bio-Medics, which has plasma centers



Sara Pritchett cleans up at a café to help pay her way through school.



PHOTO BY JAKE BARBER

Kristen Pilcher works the information desk to take care of the bills.

in Pullman and Moscow. Plasma is taken from the blood during an extended donation process. A single donation can take up to two hours to complete. Donations can be made two times in a seven-day period, averaging over \$200 monthly.

"The money is the biggest part," said Montana Skovlin, a 25-year-old UI fishery resources major. "But it's also a very morally sound way of gaining money."

Skovlin said she overcame her fear of needles to partake in the plasma donating process in September.

"It's uncomfortable, but tolerable," she said.

Skovlin is a resident assistant for the UI Living Learning Community and receives free room and board. Plasma donation money is her main source of income.

"I do it just for spending money and gas money ... I haven't really gotten to the point where I am able to save yet," she said.

Like Skovlin, who opted for an RA position through the university, many students choose

to work on campus. Whether they grind espresso beans at Common Grounds, clean the Student Union Building after hours or serve up rice bowls at Mein Street in the Idaho Commons Food Court, students have their hands in almost every aspect of campus life.

Kristen Pilcher, UI ecology and conservation biology student, spends her on-the-clock time at the information desk in the Commons and the Student



PHOTO BY JAKE BARBER

Montana Skovlin donates plasma to earn extra spending money.

Union Building. She said she works about 17 hours per week. Although she sometimes works until midnight, she said her grades are holding steady.

"We are allowed to do our homework when it's slow, like in the evenings and at night before closing," Pilcher said. "So [the job] doesn't really interfere with my schoolwork."

Although she is one of many students who take out loans to pay for tuition, Pilcher said she tries to save about \$200 a month for trips and for after graduation.

**"I HAVEN'T REALLY GOTTEN TO THE POINT WHERE I AM ABLE TO SAVE YET."
— MONTANA SKOVLIN**

"I want to pay off my student loans before going back and getting my master's degree," she said.

Another campus employment opportunity is financial aid awards. Sophomore Mike Bonham, a UI productions and operations management student, opted for UI's federally based work-study program. Bonham works in the UI International Programs Office.

“[STUDENTS] SHOULD KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY THEY NEED TO MAKE ... AND WHETHER OR NOT THEY NEED TO FIND A RICHER BOYFRIEND OR GIRLFRIEND.” — RODNEY DUNN

“I wanted a job for extra money,” Bonham said. “I knew work-study was very flexible with students’ schedules because they know that education comes first.”

There is a cap on how much work-study money each student can earn in a semester—usually \$1,000—making weekly hours low.

“I only work 10 hours a week over the course of two days,” Bonham said. “I would work more if I could, but I wouldn’t be able to get a second job.”

Bonham is just one of 695 UI students who have accepted the work-study option this semester, but not everyone who is offered work study accepts it. According to Dunn, that is precisely the way the system is planned.

“The amount of money offered through work study is far more than what is actually available,” he said. “It’s like airlines that overbook their flights. If everyone shows up, they are in trouble. They overbook and plan accordingly. We do the same.”

Dunn stressed the importance of meeting with a financial aid adviser when money is tight. He said every student has an adviser, whether they like it or not, and advisers are more than willing to help.

“If I had to give the students one financial tip,” he said. “It would be that before they leave for the summer, they should know exactly how they are going to pay for the following semester. They should know how much money they need to make, what scholarships they need to apply for and whether or not they need to find a richer boyfriend or girlfriend.”



Mike Bonham makes ends meet with a work-study job.



PHOTO BY JAKE BARBER



1



3

PHOTOGRAPHY

1 Nick Groff

Payette Lake in McCall captures a view of snow-covered mountains and old pylons from a dock last winter.

2 Tyler Macy

Students casually walk by a teepee near the Idaho Commons on Columbus Day.

PHOTOGRAPHY

- 1 Nick Groff
Brink Hall looms in the darkness of a cold, Moscow night last winter.
- 2 Nick Groff
A University of Idaho student takes time out from class to swing away in Ghormley Park.
- 3 Nick Groff
The holiday tree in downtown McCall glows bright at Christmas time last year.
- 4 Nick Groff
Lights illuminate winter frost on the steps of University of Idaho's former Administration Building.
- 5 Tyler Macy
Fall colors begin to show outside Morrill Hall.



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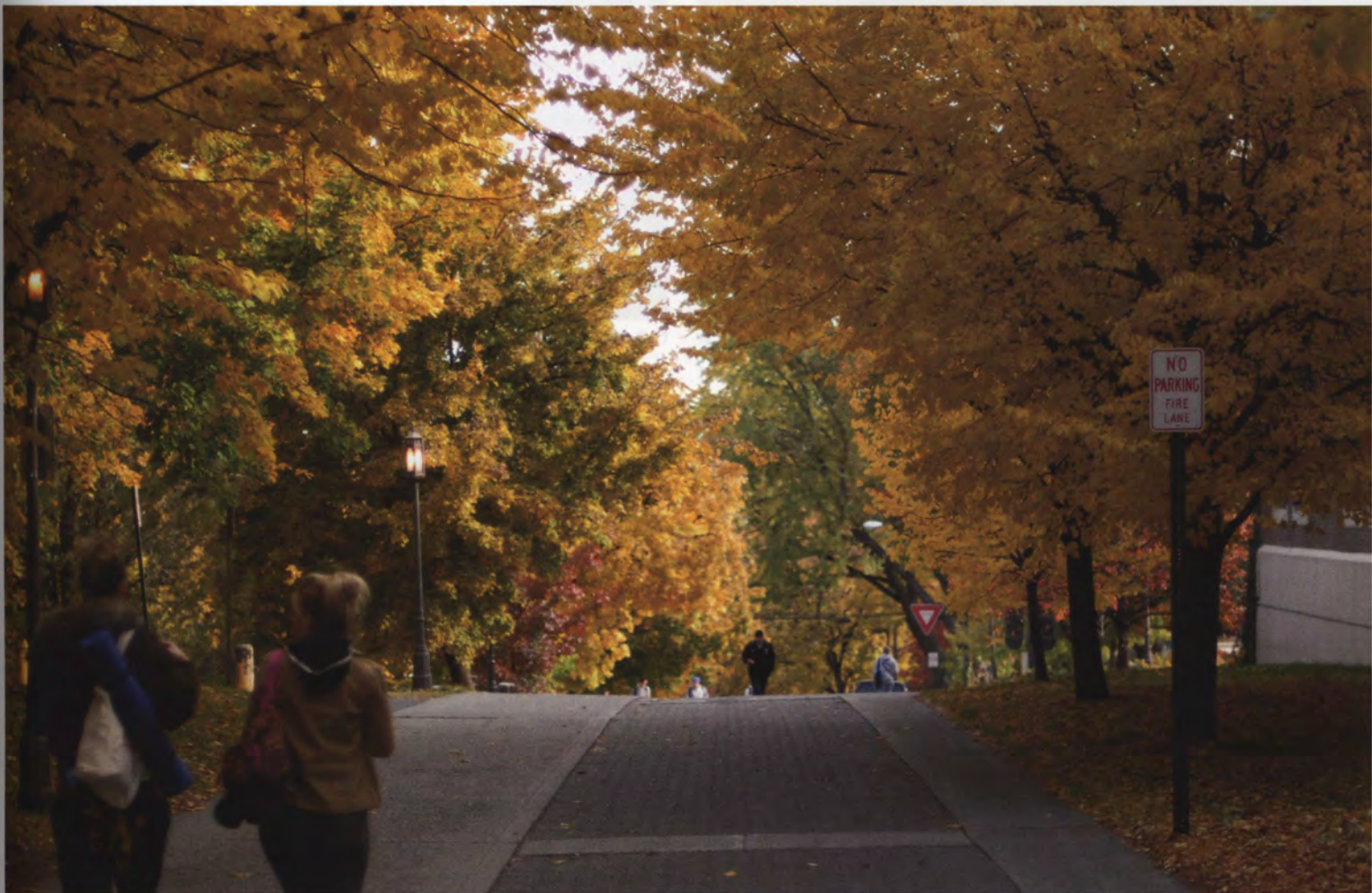
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The Ink Trail

In 1952, students conducted "panty raids" at sorority houses by buying panties for

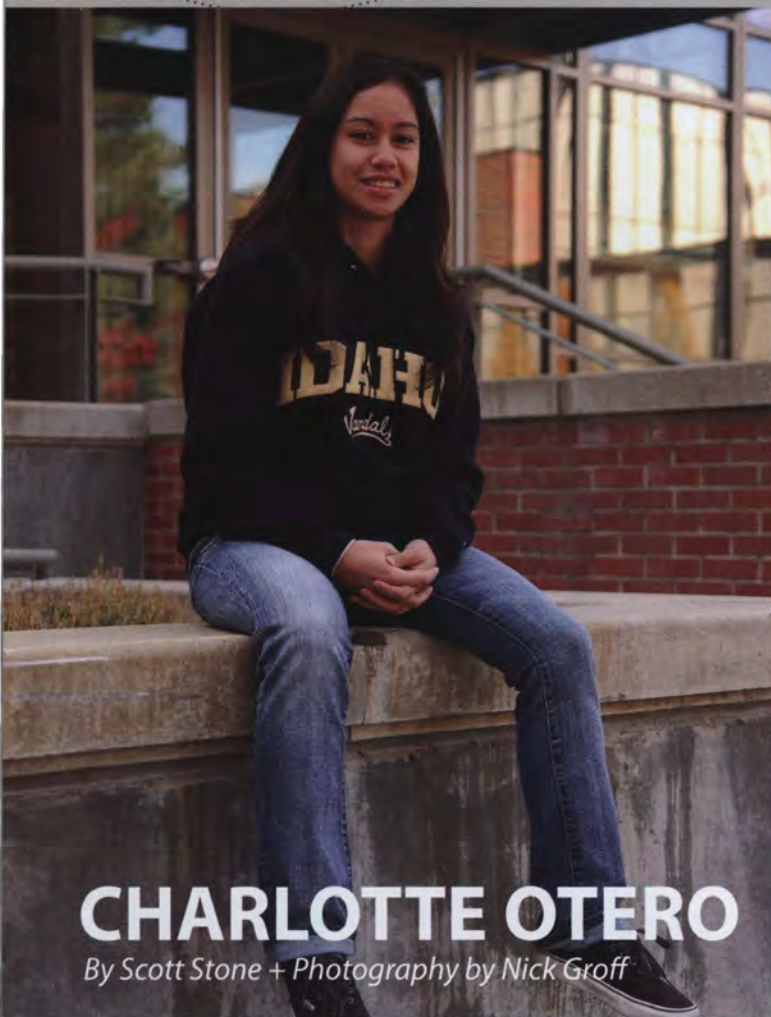


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a charity auction. One especially large pair was sold to Willis Sweet Hall for \$51.60.



CHARLOTTE OTERO

By Scott Stone + Photography by Nick Groff

Charlotte Otero took the reigns as starting point guard of University of Idaho's Women's Basketball team her freshman year.

"I'm looking for leadership out of [Otero]," Newlee said. "She's a junior which kind of qualifies her as a senior in our group."

Otero said she wants to use her experience to help her team.

"I've been through the most," Otero said. "I've been here the longest. I know the university. I know the conference. I just want to be that leadership on the team."

Originally from San Diego, Otero said she never expected to be living in Idaho. She said the transition was hard.

"It was so cold," Otero said. "I had seen snow driving past it [but] I had never been in it until I came here. Now I actually kind of like being in Idaho ... Moscow's kind of home now."

Otero said she is used to the warm beaches of San Diego where she spends her time surfing and playing with her dog Kloke, who was named after teammate and guard Rachele Kloke.

Otero said her favorite part about Moscow is the atmosphere.

"Everyone knows each other and you're kind of recognized as being an athlete on campus," she said. "It just feels like a big family at the University of Idaho."

Otero will graduate next year with a business marketing degree. After that she said she hopes to pursue a job in a sports-related field so she can stay close to her sport.

She also has an interest in graphic design and learning about new technology.

"I'm a big computer nerd," she said. "I don't really like to admit that."

STATS

- WAC All-freshman team
- Tallied 280 assists and 76 steals her senior year of high school
- Sixth all-time in California state assists
- Played in 57 consecutive games at Idaho



Charlotte Otero took the reigns as starting point guard of the University of Idaho's women's basketball team her freshman year. She hasn't seen the bench since.

Otero said she was surprised when she found herself in the starting position. When the coaching staff recruited her, she said she was told that Division I basketball would be tough and the point guard spot competitive.

"I just tried my best," Otero said. "As the team got smaller and smaller, I just took advantage of what I could and did what the team needed me to do."

Otero has been playing basketball since fifth grade. After four years of undefeated division play in high school, she said she knows what it is like to be in the spotlight.

As a junior, Otero is the oldest player on the team this year. Idaho women's basketball coach Jon Newlee said Otero's young teammates will be looking to her for answers.

The Ink Trail

The first football game between UI and WSU in 1893, players competed in baseball pants



MAC HOPSON

By Scott Stone + Photography by Nick Groff

In 1982, Phil Hopson led the Vandals to a NCAA Sweet Sixteen appearance. Following graduation, he moved to Argentina where he continued his career in basketball.

While there, Hopson had his first child, Mac, a son who would later follow in his father's footsteps and rebuild the program his father worked to create.

"I came to help change the program around and become one of the best teams since my dad played," Hopson said.

A redshirt junior guard, Hopson said his parents have had a ball in his hand as long as he can remember. He attended Jefferson High School in Portland and earned a spot on the All-Portland Interscholastic Team while maintaining his academics. He was also a member of the All-Oregon All-Star third team, which was named first team all-conference. Hopson received most valuable player honors while a member of that team.

Hopson said he achieved one of his biggest goals when he land-

Idaho Coach Don Verlin said the team will be looking to Hopson, a redshirt junior guard, for direction this season.

ed a position on the Washington State University basketball team.

A year later, Hopson relocated to the University of Idaho.

"I think God put me here for a reason," Hopson said. "He made me go to Washington State for the experience and then he got me here. I feel like this is where I belonged all along."

He said he has looked forward to playing against his old team for a long time.

"I circled the date already on my calendar," he said.

Idaho mens basketball Coach Don Verlin said the team will be looking to Hopson for direction this season.

"One thing we've asked Mac to do is be a leader," Verlin said. "He's obviously taken on that role."

Guard Trevor Morris, Hopson's teammate, said Hopson's strengths show in everything he does on the court.

"Name one and he's got it ... he has got the whole package," Morris said. "He's definitely one of the hardest workers we have."

Outside the court, Hopson said he likes to spend time with his family.

He has 11 tattoos, mostly of family names and one of his dad's basketball number.

Hopson said he feels no pressure to keep up with his dad, but he hopes to make him proud.

"I just want to win," Hopson said. "I'm dedicated to this program. I'm dedicated to be a Vandal!"



STATS

- Averaged 16.7 points in high school
- Rated Oregon's third best point guard by northwesthoops.com
- Shot 45 percent from 3-point arc while at WSU

and old shirts without padding in a muddy Moscow field with no goal posts. Idaho won 10-0.

DIRT DIARIES

BY REID WRIGHT + PHOTOGRAPHY BY TYLER MACY

BUTCHER

Vandal Brand Meats

The most exciting part of Tally Ross' job is the killing.

"It's pretty cool to watch if you like that stuff," she said, leading the way onto the killing floor.

Sharp metal hooks and spray hoses dangle over concrete basins with large drains set into the floor.

"We bleed the animals ... after we stun them," she said. "First, you have to slit through their skin, then you cut the trachea. Some kids pass out."

A University of Idaho senior studying animal and veterinary science, Ross is an employee at Vandal Brand Meats. Owned by UI, the plant offers custom meat cutting, smoking, processing and packing of pork, beef and mutton.

"One of the fair animals had a big pus pocket on its head," she said. "It broke and ... pretty much got all over."

Razor-sharp knives clank inside the metal scabbard synched around Ross' waist as she clomps in her knee-high irrigation boots toward the gut room and opens the door.

"We keep the hearts," she said. "Some of the livers ... we sell a lot of tongue."

The room is occupied by several large, plastic trash cans filled with left-over animal parts. A bloody sheep skin clings to the sides of a translucent garbage bag on the floor. The aroma in the warm room is a mixture of fresh manure and organs stewing in bacteria.

Back in the main cutting room, Ross



takes a three-foot-long cleaver that looks like something out of World of Warcraft down from the wall and clutches it lovingly in both hands. She explains that it was once used to split animal sides but is now used to deal with nosey reporters.

"I've had bones cut me," Ross said, leaning against the cut table in her white, blood-splattered apron. "I've only cut myself with a knife once ... I've been pretty lucky so far, but if you play with the bull, you're going to get the horns."

Ross said lugging around large chunks of livestock can be tiring and hard on her back, but the job is not without its perks. She said employees get to take home the chunks of meat that get stuck in the machinery.

On the counter there is a jar of mayonnaise, a bottle of ketchup and a George Foreman grill.

"We had hamburgers for lunch," Ross said.

The Vandal Brand Meats facility is inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

PET STORE EMPLOYEE

Pets Are People Too

Pet stores are filled with puppies and kittens tumbling in wire cages, but there is more to their fuzzy exterior and innocent eyes.

"I've been peed on several times," Pets are People Too employee Lindsey Lanna said. "New kittens and puppies are a little stressed when they first come here. They throw up sometimes and get loose-stool diarrhea."

Shoppers can be unaware of such perils, Lanna said.

"People come to see the cute kitties and puppies," she said. "But a lot of people don't think about what the kittens and puppies do."

Lanna said cleaning up after animals is a never-ending chore. She begins



The Ink Trail

In spring 1935, the Greek Party stole ballot boxes in the Administration Building prior to



In today's sterilized society, it's all too tempting to turn a blind eye to people and places that remind us of entropy and decay. We jerk away in horror from grime, grit, blood, guts—and bodily expulsions because they are a grim reminder of the vengefulness of Mother Nature. This is an insider's look at the people that—for long hours and low pay—bravely stand up to these harsh realities and get them splattered in their faces.

her day by skimming dead fish out of the aquariums and disposing of them the old-fashioned way.

"We give them a porcelain funeral," she said.

Hamster and bird feces are the hardest to clean, Lanna said.

"The birds will flap their wings and their poop will fly out," she said. "It's like glue when it sets."

Lanna said she takes out five pounds of animal waste a day. She has to sanitize her hands frequently, she said, resulting in dry skin. The back room is used for breeding rats and mice. When the rodents give birth at the store, it can be in litters of up to 15, Lanna said.

"It's kind of bloody," she said. "Then the placenta comes out."

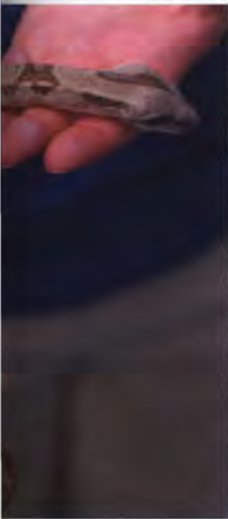
Lanna classifies rodent adolescence in three stages: pinkies, fuzzies and hoppers.

"We feed the pinkies to the garter snake," she said.

Rodents are fed to different snakes based on their size. Lanna said it's part of the natural process, and working at a pet store is a dirty job.

"I go through khakis like crazy," she said, pointing to a cat food stain running down her leg.

"It's fun," Lanna said. "But not as glamorous as people think."



JANITOR

University of Idaho

Rich Kline plunges his brush into the toilet.

"Diarrhea is one of the uckiest ones," he said. "It tends to splatter."

Luckily Kline, a team cleaning specialist for the University of Idaho, is an expert in chemical warfare.

"We have this stuff called Lightning 230," he said. "You can't leave it in the toilet for too long ... it'll eat the porcelain. If you miscalculate when you're mixing it, you'll hear it fizz and pop."

Kline cleans the Student Union Building. Shifts usually start at 6 p.m. and run as late as 2:30 a.m.

"It's decent," he said. "But it gets groady sometimes."

Rummaging through his cleaning cart, Kline said he has noticed a higher occurrence of projectile vomit during SUB Ballroom dining events. He said dinner the previous week was a prime example.

"Somebody barfed," he said. "They kinda got it in the trash can, but they kinda didn't."

Kline said he meets some unusual people in the SUB late at night.

"There's this one guy, late 40s, long hair—he'll sit by the tree over by the fireplace with a piece of cellophane and talk to himself ... every time you try to get near him, he'll take off."

Once, Kline returned to a bathroom to find he was not alone.

"This gal came in ... she was sitting there taking a dump and eating her peanut butter and jelly sandwich," he said.

She left the rest on the floor. Kline said some people don't care.

"See, somebody just pissed all over there down the wall," he said, wiping it all the way to the floor.

Most students are friendly and smile

at him, Kline said, but some will throw things on the floor right in front of him.

"Then there's the people that come into the bathroom and have sex," he said, citing a recent occurrence at the north end of the building. "Don't know why they'd want to do it so close to the alley."

Kline said he also works as an inventor. He's finishing work on a device that cleans mechanics' tools called the "Tool Sauna." He hopes he'll be returning to school soon, and the job is temporary.

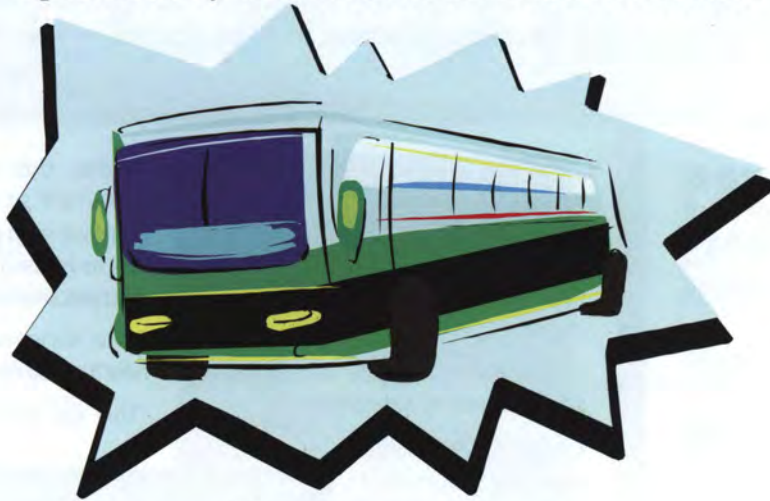
"I wouldn't recommend anyone making it a lifetime venture," he said.



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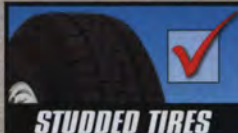
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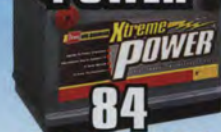
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