

blot

Hey,
Good-Lookin'
The science of attraction

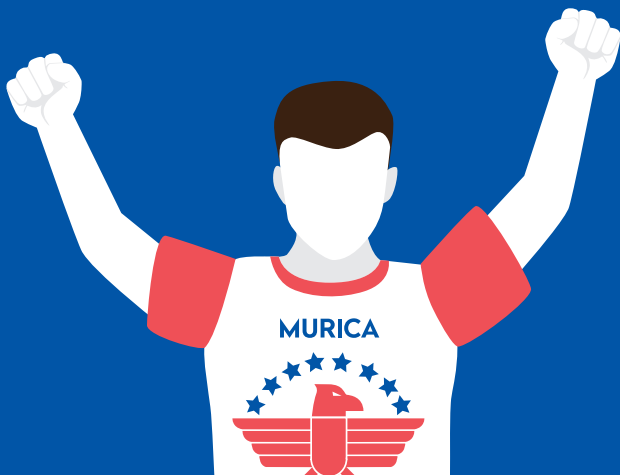
In the Glow

Screen addiction makes
sloths of students

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Grass is Greener

What happens when legal weed is 8 miles away?



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The Grass is Greener

Legal marijuana arrives on the other side of the state line in a few short months. Moscow and UI authorities plan to be ready when it does.

Not-So Deadly

The cardinal vices cemented their spot centuries ago as the summary of humanity's most disastrous pitfalls. Today, each rears its head in modern life.

Kids on the playground fall prey to some of the same temptations CEOs face in the boardroom — the difference lies in the consequences. Greed, lust, sloth, wrath, pride, envy and gluttony impact every level of society, from individuals up to corporations and entire systems of existence.

Whether you're watching "Gilligan's Island" or "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," the seven deadly sins are bound to come into play. They show up in Huffington Post headlines and Flogging Molly lyrics. Start looking for them every day — between classes or between commercials.

Humanity is hooked, for better or worse, so we may as well talk about it ... to a friend or a priest or a stranger or your cat. Or keep the confessions to yourself and read this.

— VH

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By the Light of the Screen



Netflix, Facebook, BuzzFeed, Minecraft and their equally addictive brethren make harmless hobbies at first, but overuse can turn students into sloths. **PLUS:** Facts about actual sloths.

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Sales are on and shopping is in season, but who's on your list — other than you?

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Those mustache-twirling business people might not be all bad.

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Everybody gets a little angry sometimes. Find out what really ticks people off and how to cope.

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Sin is a fact of life — or is it? Each belief and value system comes with its own set of moral codes and consequences. Find out where they differ.

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Students and alumni weigh in on Vandal pride.

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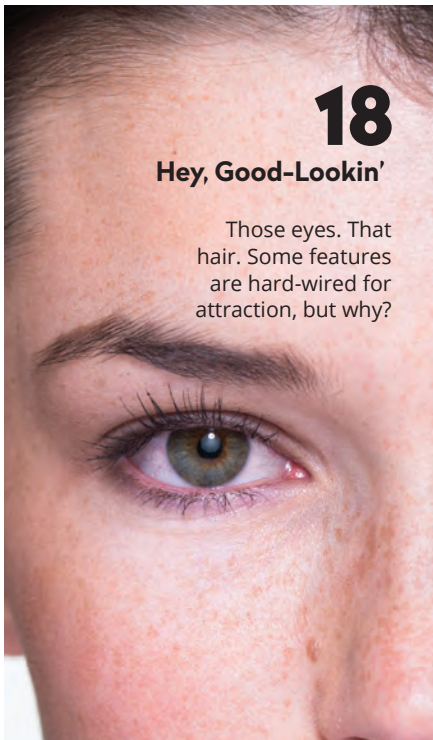
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Hey, Good-Lookin'

Those eyes. That hair. Some features are hard-wired for attraction, but why?

Look online for more stories, photos and our neat comic.

blotmagazine.com

Happy holidays, happy me

Story by Arianna Anchustegui
Illustration by Rebecca Derry

■ Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, turkey dinners, mistletoe ... Oh, and express delivery, gift cards, emptied bank accounts and mile-long lines at the register.

The holidays come but once a year and unfortunately Santa's elves aren't the only ones paying for those gifts under the tree.

The season welcomes the pursuit of possessions, but not always with the intent of giving. Amy Geffre, a Moscow shopper, said she expects to receive more than she'll give this holiday season. She earns an income from her job at Starbucks, but said she tends to spend extra cash on impulse buys.

"Whenever I have money I think 'I could get some more pants,' but if I wasn't so selfish I would spend more money on others rather than myself," Geffre said. "I don't need new clothes, I want them."

Others plan on giving as much as their income will allow, but expect to receive more. UI sophomore Ryan Chapman intends to purchase gifts for at least five people this year. He said humans, including himself, are inherently selfish and would rather spend money on themselves.

“

Everything a person does in some way or another, is to benefit themselves. You give to other people because it makes you feel good.

Ryan Chapman



"Everything a person does in some way or another, is to benefit themselves," Chapman said. "You give to other people because it makes you feel good."

Moscow businesses prepare for the shopping season by purchasing extra goods and scheduling additional hours for their employees.

Pam Hays, owner of Hodgins Drug and Hobbies, said her family members lend a hand during the busy buying season to keep up with holiday shoppers at the Main Street toy store. Predicting popular items and keeping them in stock are some of the biggest challenges she faces.

"If I've learned anything over the last years, it's to expect the unexpected," Hays said. "We basically try to second-guess as much as possible with the kind of things that we buy."

BookPeople of Moscow prepares for the holidays by purchasing extra books, games and gifts, along with holiday cards and catalogues.

The ultimate question seems to be how students decide what gifts to purchase on a limited budget. Freshman Olivia Frederiksen is unemployed, but still plans on dropping about \$300 on gifts for others. She said she doesn't expect to receive much this year.

"I don't expect to receive a lot, so I can spend a lot on myself," said Frederiksen. "I would rather spend more on myself."

As for when to go holiday shopping, more than one in three adults brave the Black Friday crowds, according to research by the Consumer Electronics Association. And while some people might be finding gifts for friends and family, freshman Chloe Davies expressed a different reason for heading out early the day after Thanksgiving.

"I'll be shopping for clothes and I'll be shopping mostly for myself," she said. "I like spending money on myself."

"College students are so stressed that maybe we think we need more," Frederiksen said. "Maybe we really don't though." ■



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It's Personal

Individuality — not envy — drives students to pursue their passion for fashion

Story by Elena Harrington
Photography by David Betts

■ For some, accessories aren't optional outfit decoration — they're necessities. And those who pursue them are less concerned with what others have and more driven by a personal appreciation for the art, design and functionality accessories embody.

Crystal Truong, a University of Idaho senior studying clothing, textiles and design, is one such fashionista.

"I've always been interested in the way people dressed," Truong said. "I like the idea of communicating through the clothing that you wear."

While some deem the quest for fashion frivolous, others find inspiration that reaches beyond the physical articles of clothing. They revere fashion as one of the most powerful artistic mediums of self-expression.

Truong works on design sketches from her laptop at every opportunity.

"I guess I have always been very creative," Truong said. "I've always experimented with different styles. I've tried it all, and it's always fun."

She said personal style expresses confidence above all else. Fashion is personal for her, and she finds inspiration in the industry, not envy.

"I'm envious of the trends that are going on on the runway, definitely. But, the way women wear clothing is all different," Truong said. "You may be inspired by the way someone wears something or what they're wearing and you want to have it to make it your own thing, but I think I'm more focused on showing my own personal style through new clothing."

Truong senses judgment at times, but she said it's part of the process and not everyone has the confidence to dress in a manner that stands out.

UI sophomore Scott Kozisek, a finance and accounting student, takes a stand in any pair of his designer athletic shoes.

About four years ago, Kozisek discovered his passion for Air Jordans, a brand owned by Nike and basketball legend Michael Jordan. He went to the Boise Towne Square Mall a few hours before it opened on Black Friday to get a pair of the sought-after shoes deemed "Air Jordans" or just "Jordans" by fans of the shoes.

"I was one of the first people in

line, and when the doors finally opened, I was able to get my first pair," Kozisek said. "That was just when I absolutely fell in love."

Now, Kozisek said he has lost count of how many pairs of he owns. He estimates his collection at about 25 to 30 pairs, including some he has never worn before. Kozisek is enticed by the history and style Air Jordans represent.

"I am big into basketball, so seeing Michael Jordan play in them and then being able to have them and know that these are what one of the best basketball players played in," Kozisek said. "So, it's kind of cool to be able to relate to him that way."

With a median price point of \$160, collecting Air Jordan signature sneakers is not a low-cost hobby. Despite Kozisek's passion, he understands why some people may find his enthusiasm for athletic shoes a bit excessive.

"I know a lot of people think I'm ridiculous for it," Kozisek said. "Sometimes, I'm like, 'why do I have all these, I really don't need them.' But, it's my passion."

Li An, a clothing, textiles and design junior from China, shares Truong and Kozisek's love of style. Whether in America or abroad, she said her style often makes her stand out. She said fashion allows her to express what is unique and special about her and engage with others on a deeper level.

"The most attractive thing is your heart — your personality" An said. "Fashion is just a way to open your heart to everyone." ■

“

I'm envious of the trends that are going on on the runway, definitely. But, the way women wear clothing is all different.

Crystal Truong ■

"It's awful that people think this is a very shallow industry, because we are very creative and it is art," Truong said. "It's art on our bodies, and people either want to paint or they don't."



“

For me, fashion is a way to represent yourself. It can show your heart and how beautiful every day is.

Li An —



Family, faith, film

The man behind the conservative columns

Story by Victoria Hart

Photography by Jessica Greene

■ In less than two years as an Argonaut staff member, Andrew Jenson has made a name for himself at the University of Idaho. The 20-year-old junior wrote his first opinion article in spring 2012, and after a few lively responses, earned himself a spot as a regular columnist.

He tackles religion, politics and party culture, and his staunchly conservative views generate positive and negative reactions from campus readership. Far from being wary of debate, Jenson welcomes responses and thrives on the discussion they create.

"I like reading other people's opinions, I'd rather see what people think of my articles even if it's negative," Jenson said. "My family's always been one that's interested in politics and religion in general."

The third of six children, Jenson said family plays a significant role in his life. Despite the hour-long commute to campus, he prefers to live with his parents and three younger siblings in their home outside Kendrick. He said commuting to school costs less than living on campus, and that he's grateful for his family's generosity. His older brother and sister live in Indiana and Illinois, but the Jenson siblings are close nonetheless.

"Family is not just family," Jenson said. "Family is the best friends that you'll have in your life... They're not only my brothers and sisters, but my best friends. That's something that — it's clichéd — but I wouldn't trade for the world."

Jenson said their close-knit ties are rooted in faith. The family attends services at a Missouri Synod Lutheran church each week.

"We're very traditional in that sense," Jenson said. "We value family really, really highly — that's one of the biggest

things, especially because we all share the same faith."

They also share a love for movies — watching old films and making new ones. He and his sister Katy, now 15, started recording home movies about three years ago and Jenson discovered his passion for filmmaking.

"Those videos were terrible," he said. "They were not very good. We used to do them all in one take, but we learned eventually."

His sister took up photography and Jenson decided to study broadcast and digital media at UI. He said big-time filmmaking might not be in his future, but he'd like to produce "fictional, narrative films" someday.

For now, the Alfred Hitchcock fan stays busy chopping and stacking wood for winter and pursuing his passion for movies. "Vertigo" is his favorite.

"I love what he did with that movie," Jenson said. "I like films that have that Hitchcockian sense about them, and this film has a lot of atmosphere and is just so well put together."

His family tends to re-watch classic films, but Jenson said he's making an effort to stay up-to-date with modern movie-making innovations. Most recently, the super-friends and action scenes of "The Avengers" impressed him. Jenson said he'd borrow Iron Man's suit any day, but relates more closely to Captain America's mindset.

"There's a moment where Scarlett Johansen says, 'You'd better not mess with these guys, they're practically gods,' and he jumps out of the airplane and says, 'There's only one God and I'm pretty sure he doesn't dress like that,'" Jenson said. "That's what cemented my love for that guy. I just love that he's so upstanding and morally upright." ■

Hellish Reality

The truth about sin

By Andrew Jenson

A sin is a sin is a sin. From murdering a human to simply thinking about it, no sin is better or worse than another — barring unrepentance. Sin separates us from God. Thereby, as Martin Luther once said, sin is Hell itself. Unfortunately, sin is manifest in every aspect of every moment of our lives. We practically breathe it. Worse yet, we enjoy it.

Sin is even present in our "good works." We like to think there is some element of good in us, especially if we assist fellow human beings in their troubles. But that good is sadly non-existent. Even benevolent emotions are a far step from goodness or love.

Thus, the need for Jesus Christ. As Luther wrote, we would have no remedy for sin without Christ. Only through Christ can we find solace and comfort from our woeful state.

Sin is a devastating reality, no matter what form it comes in. But that does not mean hope is lost. The Gospel still shines brightly in our dark world. It is the beacon of salvation.

From financial crisis to better business, American capitalism is a GAME OF GREED

Story by Ryan Tarinelli
Photography by David Betts

It's easy to get greedy when you've got a hotel on Park Place. If you're interested in how economic inequality affects greed and other social behavior, check out a study by researchers at UC Berkeley. Their findings suggest that as wealth increases, so does greed. Google it for more details.

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With 2 Houses	270
With 3 Houses	400
With 4 Houses	\$550
With HOTEL	\$50
Mortgage Value	\$50
Mortgage cost	\$50 each
Hotels	\$50 plus 4 Houses

■ It has been a little more than five years since the 2008 financial crisis brought the global economy to its knees. The crisis — which would result in the largest economic disaster since the Great Depression — left Americans in shock. The financial crisis is a primary example of societal greed in recent history, said Terry Grieb, a finance professor at the University of Idaho.

"The classic example of moral hazard in our system was the situation leading to the 2008 financial crisis," Grieb said. "There were moral hazards for so many different groups of people."

Grieb said top financial decision makers were greedy and had a large impact on the crisis, but were not solely responsible for the crash.



“Blame for the 2008 crisis has to be broadly distributed,” Grieb said. “You can blame the banks, and you should, you can blame the regulators, and you should, but it goes beyond that. You can blame the mortgage brokers, you can blame Congress...and you can blame the consumer.”

However, industries responsible for the financial crisis are not representative of business as a whole, but many consumers still stereotype companies and businesspeople as greedy or selfish, Grieb said.

“It’s a stereotype that is used to put business in the worst possible light, so I think you can’t say simply that it is or isn’t greedy,” Grieb said. “Whether it’s business or any other aspect of life, people act with self-interest in mind.”

Jeffery Bailey, professor of management and human resources at UI, said the majority of businesses provide positive products and services for consumers.

“It’s a very important message that businesses do good things for the world,” Bailey said. “Businesses create and add value, it’s a wonderful thing.”

Grieb said consumers and businesspeople respond to incentives, which are a large part of innovation and economic growth. He said all forms of business have positive and negative connections to greed, and it is key to identify where greed is a detriment to companies and society.

“In the sense that people respond to self-interests, there is an element of greed in most everything we do,” Grieb said. “There are good and bad elements to that, and there are places that self-interest is beneficial to society at large, and places where it’s not.”

Bailey agreed and said there is a distinction between positive and negative effects of selfish behavior. He said most of the time people want to do the right thing and act with good morals, but that is not always the case.

“Sometimes that drive gets distorted to say ‘I need to make myself better, and I don’t care what happens to other people,’ and when that occurs then you have problems in business,” Bailey said. “It’s not good for business when other businesspeople are out there thieving, or in other ways behaving poorly.”

Grieb said one way companies use greed to create a



Whether it’s business or any other aspect of life, people act with self-interest in mind.

Terry Grieb —

positive impact on society is by increasing their value for shareholders. He said the issue is hotly debated throughout the business community, but believes it will ultimately lead to a sustainable business model.

“When I say maximizing shareholder wealth, I mean not just today, but in the long run,” Grieb said. “It doesn’t do anybody any good for me to behave in any ways as a company that spikes my stock price today, but bankrupts me next month.”

Grieb said long-term growth means taking care of the shareholders, which includes personnel who rely on the business to stay afloat.

Governments across the globe implement regulations on businesses to reduce the incentive to cheat and get ahead. Grieb said well thought-out industry regulations prevent individuals and companies from partaking in greedy activities.

“We have to have well-regulated industries that make for level playing fields,” Grieb said. “A good regulation creates minimal burden for the company involved, while achieving as much as possible, the desired outcome.”

Grieb said another key idea in reducing greedy activity in business is an overall responsibility from business leaders to act ethically for the sake of their own business and the economy.

“It’s not that business ethics don’t exist, they do, but I think we can certainly can adopt an attitude of continual improvement,” Grieb said. ■





By the light of

THE SCREEN

Story by Cara Pantone

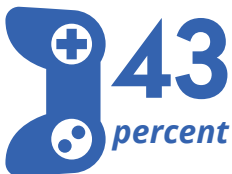
Photography by Tony Marcolina and David Betts

■ The mesmerizing lights of the computers, phones and gaming devices that are so prevalent in the lives of college students often seem innocent, but these devices are the centerpiece of an emerging social problem:

screen and Internet addiction.

Percent of adults who own each device

Source: Pew Research Center



Approximately 5.9 to 13 percent of Internet users exhibit disturbed Internet use, and 15 percent of university students in the United States and Europe know someone who is addicted to the Internet, according to Janet Morahan-Martin, a psychologist at Bryant University in Rhode Island. But there's a disparity between the number of students who experience screen addiction and those who actually seek help.

Chuck Morrison, University of Idaho Testing and Counseling Center counselor, said it is likely addicts don't recognize or want to admit they have a problem. Morrison said students who struggle with screen addiction rarely come forward to receive help. In the decade Morrison has worked with students at UI, he has seen the problem escalate.

"I would estimate that about 2 percent of UI students are struggling with Internet addiction. Although it isn't a large percentage of students, it has a big impact on the individuals," Morrison said. "I personally define an addiction as a compulsive problem that interferes with a healthy lifestyle. In terms of substance abuse, Internet or screen addiction is very similar in that people are dependent on that one thing."

While screen addiction is defined differently by experts, most agree with Morrison and say symptoms of uncontrollable Internet use include social and relationship struggles, damage to academics or other responsibilities, deterioration of health, and anxiety when denied access to the Internet. While Internet addiction is not yet classified as a disorder, some

“Our life is in our computers. They are a form of communication, a way to do assignments, a gaming device... it's an all-inclusive life, and we're dependent on our devices.”

Chris Wilkins

psychologists report over-zealous Internet users develop unhealthy behaviors.

College students, who are often comfortable with technology and go to it regularly for entertainment and communication, might find it difficult to detect when a normal activity and resource becomes a problem. UI student Chris Wilkins said it is easy to justify use of devices.

"Our life is in our computers. They are a form of communication, a way to do assignments, a gaming device... it's an all-inclusive life, and we're dependent on our devices," Wilkins said.

This idea of an "all-inclusive life" on devices is understandable, especially when it comes to social media websites. Morrison said online interaction is an easier alternative for those who may struggle to cultivate person-to-person communication.

"It is much less intimidating talking to someone through a screen rather than in person," Morrison said. "However, this affects intimacy and it is far less likely to be fulfilling and take the place of a life partner, family friends, etc. While there is some value in online communication, the gratification is different."

A study conducted at the University of Florence connected Internet addiction to poor social skills and low self-esteem. The latter is central to developing Internet addiction because it is "implicated in lapses of self-control, with the problematic aspects of heavy Internet use acting as direct expressions of such lapses," the study stated.

Online group gaming sites are also gaining popularity, but present a major opportunity for



addiction. Massively Multiplayer Online games, or MMOs, are a prime example of this. One reason is their popularity, another is the fact that interpersonal behavior and relationships are central features of MMOs.

Joseph Arveson, part owner of Strategy & Games in Moscow, said he has struggled with MMO addiction in the past.

"I started playing Ever Quest 2, and for a long time it never seemed like I was addicted. I have an addictive personality and a competitive nature," Arveson said. "Gaming gave me tasks to accomplish, in a way, and people to hang out with. It wasn't until I realized I was scheduling work and life around gaming that I recognized I had a problem."

It is not uncommon for college students who become addicted to screen time or Internet use to have an overall addictive personality and become easily absorbed by a single activity. Morrison said this is the case with most addictions, including drug abuse and gambling.

Arveson said it took stepping back and re-evaluating his life to shift his focus to a healthier activity.

"I still game, but instead of being involved with games and MMOs where you play for hours and hours, I changed my direction," Arveson said. "Gaming, for the most part, is just a hobby of mine now."

Social media and gaming are prominent areas of Internet addiction. Researchers recognize movie and television websites such as Netflix and Hulu as other

potential problem areas for Internet users. For most college students, these are an easy escape from daily pressures and an innocent hobby. But even "How I Met Your Mother" can become problematic when it interferes with responsibilities and other aspects of life. Wilkins said he knows other students who struggle with managing their movie- or show-watching time, and that he sometimes has trouble controlling time spent on these sites.

"You make deals with yourself that you'll only watch one more episode or one more hour, then you fall into a pit of laziness and you regret it later," Wilkins said.

Although that glowing light beckons from iPhones and computer screens, students should be aware of how they spend time with these devices.

"Even though it isn't easy, you have to suggest to yourself that you need to look outside your bubble of what seems important," Arveson said. "When you're dealing with addiction, you have to find other things you enjoy to replace it, change your focus, make goals and look outside your bubble." ■

If you or someone you know is struggling with screen addiction, contact the UI Testing & Counseling Center for help at 208.885.6716.



■ Prior to Kristen Bell's over-the-top reaction to a sloth on the Ellen DeGeneres Show, the most famous of the hairy, smelly creatures was a cartoon named Sid.

While Sid the Sloth may have been the best comedic relief in a series of films about the iced-over Earth melting, he didn't quite capture the slow-and-steady nature of the mammal that the occupies tree limbs of South America. Here are a few facts to get the story straight. ■

- While there is some discrepancy, it appears most sloths move between 6 and 13 feet per minute. Don't believe us? YouTube videos of sloths moving from tree to tree look like they're in slow motion.
- There are two types of sloth, a three-toed sloth and a two-toed sloth, which can be identified by looking at their hooked claws. There have been many instances of sloths

that die while hanging from a tree and remain that way after death — frozen in the exact position in which they died.

- One of Sid's more realistic features was the green tint in his fur. Sloths have a symbiotic relationship with green algae. The algae grow in the coarse dirty hairs of a sloth, and provide a greenish camouflage.
- Sloths only reproduce once a year and only get together to procreate. The rest of the time, sloths are independent mammals.
- Their slow and steady, low-risk lifestyle means a sloth can live up to 40 years.

**All facts according to the World Animal Foundation and Animal Planet.*



FEELING

THE FURY

Vandals talk about what makes them ticked

Story by Victoria Hart

Photography by Philip Vukelich

■ Parking tickets, hippies, rain, CHEM 111, group work and gossip are among more than 50 frustrations reported by University of Idaho students and staff through an informal survey.

Schoolwork, classes and professors led the way in what makes people angry. Lazy people, ignorant people, noisy people and stupid people also ranked high among stimulators of wrath.

Nearly half of respondents said they handle anger in a healthy way. The most common tactic for cooling down was doing something creative or calming, such as listening to music, watching a movie or playing video games. Almost one-fifth of respondents said they talk it out, venting to friends and family. Exercise and prayer were also common methods of dealing with anger.

Jamie Nekich Derrick, a clinical psychologist and professor of child development at UI, said less healthy responses to anger include bottling it up and behaving explosively.

While about 5 percent of people surveyed reported internalizing or suppressing their rage, about one-eighth said they act out — shouting, swearing or becoming violent.

Derrick, on the other hand, suspects repression might be a far more common response to anger because of the cultural pressure and guilt associated with the “bad” emotion.

Derrick said people often get angry when they feel personally wronged or blocked in pursuit of a goal, but regulating intense emotion works better than extreme reactions like suppressing anger or behaving impulsively.

The 10 percent of survey participants who take a step back and evaluate their anger, then seek a logical solution might be modulating their emotions in a positive way.

“Some anger can be productive,” Derrick said. “It’s helpful if it leads someone to take action on their own behalf.”

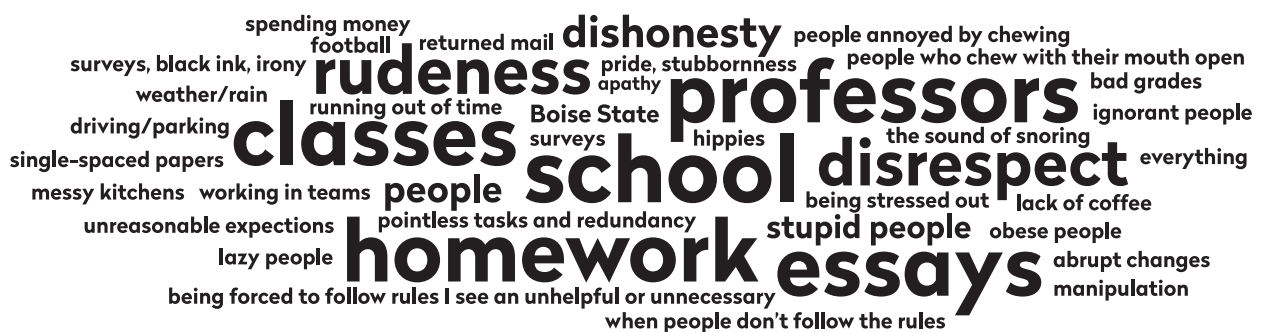
Derrick referred to a study that found people are more likely to respect leaders who show a “tiny bit” of anger, saying there’s power in the emotion when it’s controlled.

If anger, or any emotion or habit, starts interfering with daily life, Derrick said it might be worth seeking help. Often roommates, friends or close family become concerned about a loved one’s anger and recommend counseling.

More than a quarter of those surveyed reported feeling angry about twice a month, but Derrick said most emotions exist on a continuum and slight irritation or frustration probably occur much more often. These twinges of ire can be channeled for good, fueling self-assertion and persistence toward a goal.

“The thing is not necessarily to eliminate it completely,” Derrick said.

“There’s power in a little bit of anger.” ■



WHAT MAKES YOU **ANGRY**?

Check out blotmagazine.com and tell us what really grinds your gears or read other responses.

PREA



Father Caleb Vogel, pastor of Saint Augustine's Catholic Center, said defining sin is God's domain — not humanity's.

■ Lust, gluttony, greed, pride, sloth, wrath and envy: the classical seven deadly sins are a theme seen throughout human history. Religions and philosophies have tried to explain the phenomenon of sin for almost as long.

Protestant

Kurt Queller, a professor of linguistics at the University of Idaho and published biblical scholar, said the most common word for sin in the New Testament is the Greek word hamartia, meaning “missing the mark,” but there is a deeper meaning to sin within the Hebrew language.

“The most fundamental meaning (of sin) in Hebrew is breaking the faith, or breaking the covenant,” Queller said. “The central Hebrew idea of sin is rooted in a treaty. This actually comes out of the political realm before it became religious. In Middle Eastern politics there were these things called the suzerain vassal treaties which were uneven relationships between a more powerful individual, and a less powerful individual or group.”

Queller, a practicing Lutheran, said the Apostle Paul's conception of sin, and some of the quotes from the letters of John are particularly important in understanding sin.

“There is a phrase from the first letter of John, ‘we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves,’” Queller said. “That sounds at one level like a pretty hopeless view, but the teaching of Paul and of the Gospels is that freedom from sin is a free gift from God, it isn't something that you can earn.”

Queller spoke of humanity trapped in a system that forces compliance in the suffering of others — a kind of contemporary original sin.

“The world economic system is a system of injustice,” Queller said. “So the world is a bloody mess — literally and figuratively.”

Buddhist

Jay Feldman, an instructor of philosophy at UI and a practicing Buddhist, said the

ACH

Local religious leaders discuss the meaning and consequences of sin

Story by Andrew Deskins
Photography by Jesse Hart

notion of sin doesn't exist at all in Buddhism. Sin traditionally requires a God to set the rules — something non-theistic Buddhism lacks. Feldman said the closest thing Buddhism has to sin is a series of precepts, but he stresses they are not categorical rules.

"For Buddhists, the information that helps us determine the way we should act is the fundamental nature of life itself," Feldman said. "The first claim that Buddhists might make is that life is very paradoxical, and to make hard and fast rules is to deny the very nature of life itself."

Feldman said an important element of Buddhism involves the concept of karma, or intentional actions that have consequences, or as Feldman described them — ripples on the world pond.

Catholic

Father Caleb Vogel, pastor for Saint Augustine's Catholic Center, described the broken world referred to by Queller as the consequence of original sin. He said the story of Adam and Eve is a theological attempt to understand the broken world.

"The story of Adam and Eve is that Adam and Eve chose against God. (They said) 'Thank you, but we can do it on our own. I get to be the determining factor of what is good or bad,' well no, that's God's domain," Vogel said. "God, who is love, allows for freedom, and so he allowed for his love to be rejected, and a new race was sinned into being and was once again subject to the natural order: death and illness."

Vogel said only Christ has the power to restore a state of full communion with God. He called sin an offense against God, reason, truth and right conscience. He said it includes any thought, word, deed or omission contrary to the law of God. He used the metaphor of a breeze through a room to describe the grace of God and how sin affects it.

"To get a breeze going through we have to open some windows, but I can do things in my life that shut the window — that's what we call a mortal sin," Vogel said.

One of the most well-known aspects of Catholicism is confession. Vogel explained that the tradition comes from an act of Christ.

"Jesus, when he rose from the dead, appears to the disciples and he says to them 'peace be with you,' and then he breathes on them which is Bible talk for giving them his spirit," Vogel said. "Then he says to them, 'receive the Holy Spirit whose sins you forgive are forgiven, and whose sins you hold bound are bound.'"

Unitarian Universalist

The Rev. Elizabeth Stevens of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse — a church that welcomes people of all faiths — stressed that sin is a normal part of being human. She said Unitarians believe salvation is achieved through character, a departure from the beliefs of Queller and Vogel. Stevens said the Unitarian Universalist church grew out of the rejection of Calvinist ideas of total depravity. She said Unitarian Universalists haven't believed in original sin for 400 years — and they don't believe in hell.

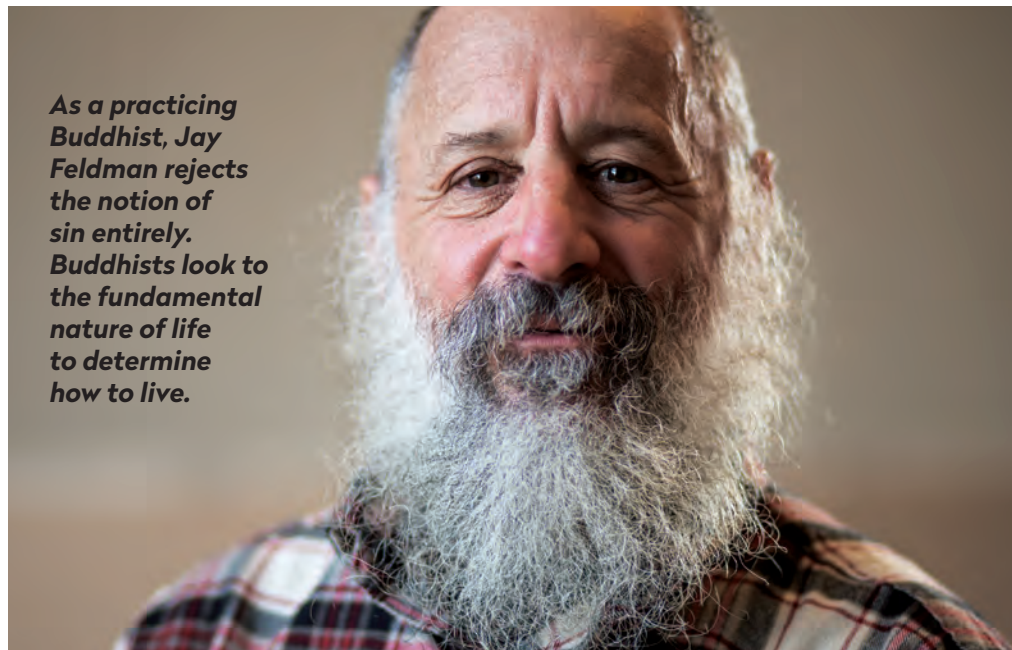
"Our ancestors concluded the only hells that exist are the ones we create for each other," Stevens said.

Stevens sometimes gives a sermon called "Revising the Seven Deadly Sins." One of the retooled lists of seven deadly sins mentioned in the sermon comes from Gandhi: wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, science without humanity, knowledge without character, politics without principle, commerce without morality and worship without sacrifice. She said these sins aren't so much against God, but against fellow people and being a Unitarian Universalist is about striving to improve.

"As each of us individually learns to aim better, learns to be true to what is best in us, we begin to make the world a better place," Stevens said. "We become sources of salvation."

While there are almost as many ways to describe sin as ways to actually sin, one thing is clear — the forces of the seven deadly sins are likely to continue shaping human history until it comes to an end. ■

As a practicing Buddhist, Jay Feldman rejects the notion of sin entirely. Buddhists look to the fundamental nature of life to determine how to live.





Ancient Greek artists valued facial symmetry, but it's attractiveness may be rooted even deeper in human history.

Navigating the Face

- Dilated pupils signify sexual attraction
- Larger than average eyes and lips suggest youth and fertility
- Longer eyelashes suggest youth and fertility
- Mathematically average-sized physical features such as nose and ears

Hey, Good-Lookin'

It's not always about looks ... then again it might be

Story by Michaela Delavan

Photography by Philip Vukelich

■ Let's talk about sex — more specifically, what makes us want it.

While it may seem as though some people just have it going on in the physical department, a lot of factors are at play.

"I think the limbic system turns on and then the cortex comes up (with) a nice story for why it turned on," said Kenneth Locke, who teaches Sex & Sexuality at the University of Idaho. "That's my explanation."

Attraction can't be explained by looks alone, but psychologists like Locke dig deeper into attraction — evolutionary psychology deeper. According to Locke, evolutionary psychology seeks to uncover the functionality in why people are attracted to each other.

"Lust, as with many of the deadly sins, has an evolutionary explanation for why we're wired to have that inclination," Locke said. "Consider a saint — such a paragon of virtue is unlikely to dabble in the sins of the flesh, and so is unlikely to pass down their genes compared to someone who is more lustful and impulsive in their sexuality. Those are the genes we inherit."

Saint or otherwise, humans tune into specific physical cues that determine attraction. Facial symmetry and familiarity, age, smell and even varying hormone levels can affect attraction.

"We can say that it's superficial to focus on physical traits, but for the majority of people, that is the initial thing that pulls someone in," said Erin Chapman, who teaches an Intimate Relationships course at UI.

Ideas of beauty based in facial symmetry date back to the Greeks, who adhered to symmetrical ideals in their sculptures.

"Psychologists tend to think the brain is wired that way because it worked," Locke said. "People that were attracted to a symmetrical individual were more likely to leave healthy and fertile offspring than people who were not attracted to such individuals."

Chapman referenced love maps, which focus on familiarity and how being exposed to certain characteristics or traits while growing up can subconsciously affect who a person is attracted to later in life.

"In terms of what we're attracted to, I think to some extent it's socialized into us," Chapman said. "It's kind of like how people 'marry their parents.'"

“*We're sexual beings pretty much from when we're created until we die — it's just part of who we are.*

Erin Chapman

The theory is that, subconsciously, a person is more comfortable approaching someone who seems more familiar or similar to them. Even toys or TV show characters can create a type of familiarity.

"You feel like you know them," Chapman said. "There's not as much fear there — nobody likes to be rejected."

Age range is another common qualifier in the quest for a reproductive partner. People are most attracted to individuals that have reached reproductive age but are not too old, as both sperm quality and female fertility decrease with age.

"The brain is not randomly wired this way and you find these types of patterns across cultures," Locke said. "If you find this universality to it, you'd ask 'Why does the brain show this pattern so consistently?'"

The search for patterns has shown that people are attracted to the smell of different immune systems than their own, and

that the type of features women prefer in a mate changes during their menstrual cycle.

In evolutionary psychology, there's speculation that a person's body shape can be an indicator of social status and access to resources.

"It's not just what's visually appealing to us but also kind of what messages we're getting from it," Chapman said. "There's a layering effect from the messages sent by a certain trait or certain feature or certain look."

As Locke said, speculations are based on observations. Historically, people are attracted to body types that signify wealth and resources.

"If you look at some of the old paintings and art, you can see that the women are a lot more voluptuous," Chapman said. "That was considered beautiful."

Improved access to calorie-dense food has led to a change in socioeconomic signifiers and, as a result, what cultures find attractive.

"The attraction to the Barbie-doll style — long skinny legs — is somewhat uniquely Western, in fact modern Western, phenomenon," Locke said. "Cultures with more of a history of deprivation tend to be attracted to plumper females."

A lot of things have changed throughout Western culture, though. Good reproductive partners aren't always good conversation partners and bowing to evolutionary pressures don't ensure a good relationship.

"Sometimes people just find different things attractive," Chapman said.

Looks can be the initial hook, but it takes more than physical attraction to sustain a relationship.

"Lust is fragile," Locke said. "I don't think of it as a deadly sin, but it's certainly not the basis for a long-term relationship." ■



The grass is

GREENER

on the

OTHER SIDE

What happens when legal weed is 8 miles away

Story by Amber Emery

Photography by Jesse Hart and Philip Vukelich

■ It seems like everyone's doing it. Celebrities, politicians, teachers, friends, siblings, parents — more and more people are admitting to past and present marijuana use.

The societal shift toward marijuana acceptance in the U.S. is relatively new. Congress passed the Marijuana Tax Act 76 years ago, effectively criminalizing marijuana until the mid-1990s when a few states passed medical marijuana legislation.

Fast-forward to today — two states, Colorado and Washington, legalized the recreational use of marijuana. According to the Marijuana Policy Project, Initiative 502 sought to end marijuana prohibition in Washington and was passed Nov. 6, 2012 with nearly 56 percent of the vote.

With Pullman, Wash., only 8 miles from Moscow and the University of Idaho, Lieutenant Dave Lehmitz of the Moscow Police Department said his understanding of the law across the border is fairly simple.

"If you are 21 years of age, you can possess up to 1 ounce of marijuana legally in the state of Washington," Lehmitz said. "There's also going to be growing operations, there's going to be processing operations and there's going to be dispensary operations that will go into effect in the near future."

The new law may create issues for UI students who witness the historic drug policy implemented in Pullman and at Washington State University, UI Associate Dean of Students Craig Chatriand said.

"One thing I have heard Dean Pitman say from time to time is that we share an ecosystem," Chatriand said. "Our students mingle with their students, their students come over here and mingle with our students, so that's going to be an issue if their students have legal access to marijuana and our students don't."

In a survey of 54 people, about 70 percent said Washington's legalization didn't matter to them, while nearly 30 percent said they were

more likely to smoke marijuana when the drug can be legally purchased from dispensaries in Pullman.

Lehmitz said UI students charged with marijuana possession are not referred to university officials. He said that policy could change if there is an expansion of jurisdiction in the student code of conduct, a measure recently proposed by the Dean of Students Office that has yet to be added.

"Right now it's only for students on campus because the Student Code of Conduct only has jurisdiction on campus," Lehmitz said. "They're in the process of trying to change that. If changed, it would change what we report to the Dean of Students Office because let's say — if we find a grow in

"It's a concern — people buying it here and taking it over — but I don't think it's going to be that big of an actual issue," Tennant said. "Those people who want to partake and use marijuana are already doing it. In Idaho, they're already buying it illegally and they're already using it illegally. There's already a market in Idaho, I just don't see how people will be willing to travel over here, pay the taxes associated with it and run the risk of taking it back to Idaho when they already have a supply there."

Lehmitz said although marijuana is legal in Washington, if it is taken across the border to Idaho by UI students — or anyone — it is a misdemeanor crime. He said he anticipates a slight increase in marijuana-related charges in Moscow when dispensaries open in the coming months.

Almost **30%** of those surveyed are more likely to try marijuana now that it's legal in Washington.

an apartment complex and there are UI students living there, those students would be reported and held in violation of the Student Code of Conduct."

Chatriand said even if the jurisdiction expands to include off-campus behavior, he doesn't think Washington's marijuana legalization will affect UI students much.

"If the Student Code of Conduct jurisdiction expands, we're not going to be going out and looking for violations. It's not like we're going to be out on the border asking people what they've been doing," Chatriand said. "First thing, if it was going to be an issue at UI we would have to hear about it somehow, and if it's legal in Pullman I don't see how we would find out about it."

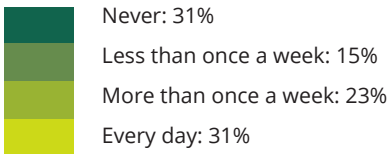
As far as transporting the drug across the Idaho-Washington border goes, it is illegal in both states and on a federal level, Pullman Police Department Commander Chris Tennant said.

"I think what we're going to see is a rise of possession in the beginning but then it's going to go back to pretty much the way it was, or the way it is now," Lehmitz said. "I think we're going to see a little bit of influx with possession cases and people saying they bought it legally."

In Pullman, Tennant said, the law has worked in favor of marijuana users and drug crimes are at a historic low. He said marijuana smoke is no longer probable cause for an arrest or search warrant, which has yielded a decrease in drug-related arrests.

"There's been kind of a domino effect," he said. "When marijuana was still illegal, we would go to a noise complaint at a private residence and people were smoking dope, obviously you smell that from a block away at a party scene. So we would go in and shut down the party and find marijuana. But we also find Adderall, party drugs, there might be a grow in the basement."

How often do you smoke marijuana?



But after I-502 passed, police who answer a noise complaint and smell marijuana have no basis to get a search warrant because there's not necessarily illegal activity.

"Therefore, we don't go in, we don't get the Ad-derall, we don't get the heroin, we don't get the grow. So really our enforcement of drugs in the city has decreased dramatically," Tennant said.

Individuals who drive under the influence of marijuana will be subject to arrest in Washington and Idaho pending the results of a blood test taken after the initial traffic stop — the charge will be classified as a DUI if the test shows the driver is under the influence.

"Generally speaking, the active portion in marijuana that makes you intoxicated has a similar shelf life as alcohol," Tennant said. "So yes, the drug tests you take for a job or athletic team will show any use in the last two weeks — that's not the same kind of test that would be used for a DUI."

Tennant also said marijuana use is prohibited in places with public access, and people who use marijuana in public will be subject to fines and citations. He said he sees this being a problem

for out-of-state purchasers, such as UI students.

"If you're a UI student and you come over here to buy it, you have to give some thought to where you're going to smoke it," Tennant said. "It's illegal to take it home — if you don't have friends or family, or a private residence or a private spot to go to and smoking in public is illegal, where are you going to go? It's not a free-for-all."

Chatriand and Lehmitz said the most important precaution students can make in light of the policy change is taking steps to be safe.

"Reduce the risks associated with marijuana use," Chatriand said. "Make sure you have somebody to drive you. Make sure there's going to be people who will be able to watch out for the safety of others."

Tennant said Washington students should enjoy their new freedom but pay close attention to changing laws.

"Be an informed user," Tennant said. "If it is your intent to use marijuana, just know what the laws are — take a little time, it doesn't take a lot to research it on the Internet or ask your local law enforcement — and be safe about it." ■

Marijuana in Moscow: Know the rules

Moscow

"A first-offense possession of marijuana in Moscow is a fine of \$740 and you could attend a counseling class and \$300 of that fine will be waived upon a first offense," said Lt. Dave Lehmitz of the Moscow Police Department. "A first-offense of possession of drug paraphernalia—it's a \$640 fine and an additional \$300 can be waived if the person attends a substance abuse class."

"The second offense of drug paraphernalia is a fine of up to \$1,000 and six days in jail, and again they can waive \$300 of the fine," Lehmitz said. "A second-offense of misdemeanor possession of marijuana is six days in jail, a mandatory substance abuse evaluation means they'll waive \$300 of the \$1,000 fine."

University of Idaho

"For a first offense we follow the sanctions in the Student Code of Conduct. What we're going to ask a student to do is go to a class called 'Basics,' and they're also going to have to pay for that class," Craig Chatriand said. "We're also probably going to put them on disciplinary probation for a year and they're going to have to pay a \$25 administration fee — and depending on the situation, we usually contact their parents."

"The second time, students will be looking at a suspension. That's one of the minimum sanctions that we're required to give by the State Board of Education," Chatriand said. "So, the second time it gets to be more difficult to look at it as an individual situation. If they did it a third time? They might be looking at an expulsion."



Chris Tennant, of the Pullman Police Department, said Washington's legal weed isn't likely to attract Idaho buyers.

FINDING VANDAL PRIDE

Story by Claire Whitley
Photo by David Betts

■ From hometown heroes to family legacies, pride in a university — this university — runs deep. The University of Idaho draws students from all over the country and the world. Students from Alaska, Pennsylvania, Hawaii and California become Vandals, as well as those from Saudi Arabia, China, Portugal and Japan. Some alumni attend every Vandal football home game, no matter how far the drive.

Their stories aren't the only evidence of Vandal pride. We asked 55 people about their Vandal pride, and their responses said it all. ■

What do you love about the University of Idaho?

"I like the atmosphere around the campus and the small town feel of Moscow. It reminds me of home."

Monty, business graduate

"The focus on academics is what I love most and can appreciate. This focus gives us as students and as an entire community more credibility and pride."

Kyle Tucker, engineering

What does Vandal pride mean to you?

"Doing what you can for the school and the community."

**Mitchell Bresnahan,
mechanical engineering**

"Pride, to me, means that you are not ashamed to be who you are but represent with class."

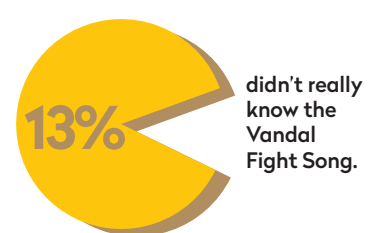
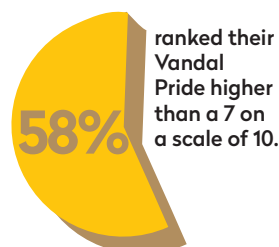
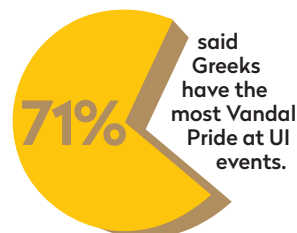
**Jason Svedberg,
mechanical engineering**

"When you are standing there and you are watching something Vandal related and you get choked up, and you can't really explain exactly why — it's just an overwhelming feeling."

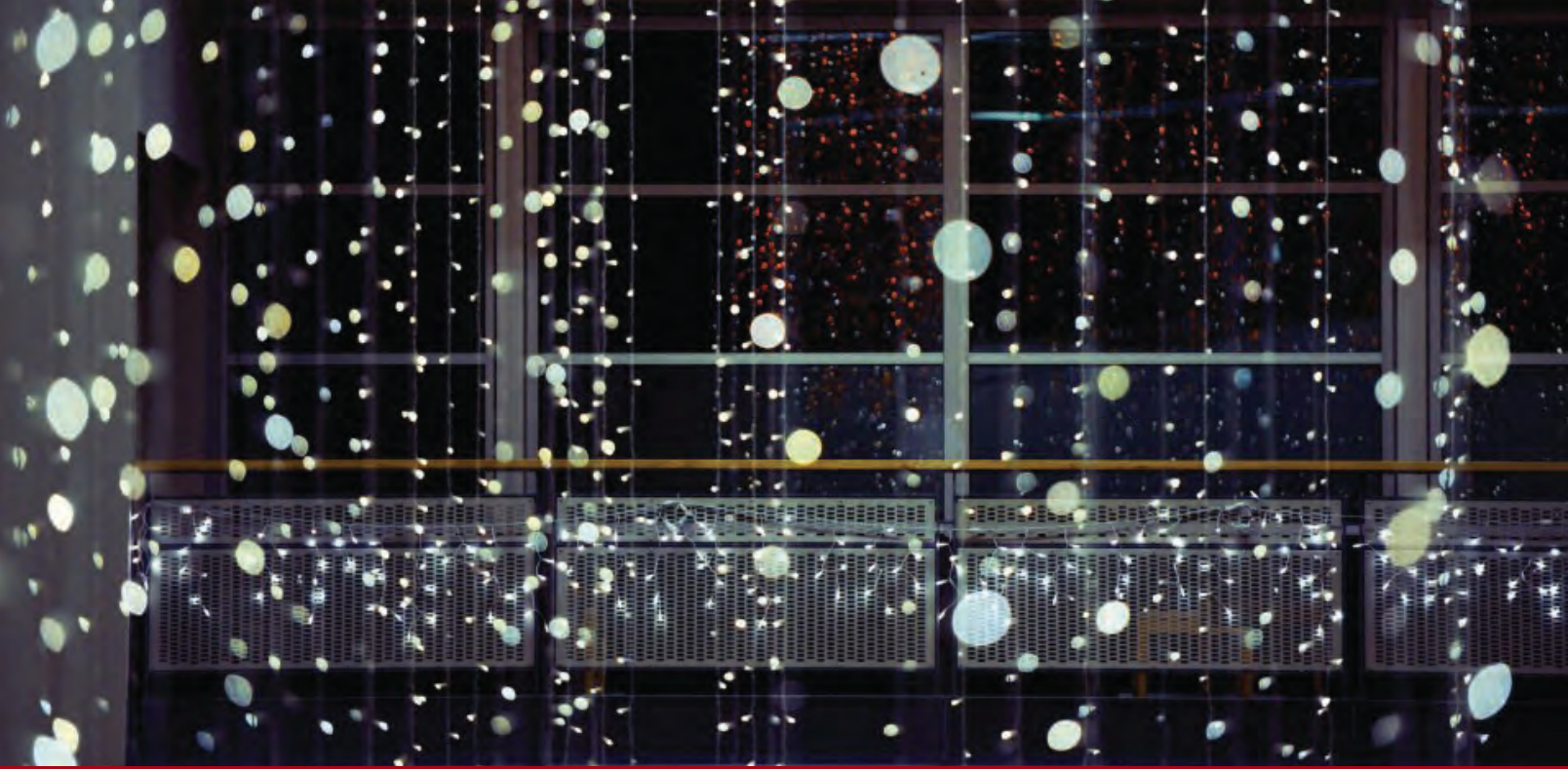
**Julie Hankerson, mother of
chemical engineering**

"It means walking into any store in Boise wearing the black and gold colors of my university."

Anonymous



* Data collected from an internal poll of 55 Vandals.



Photos with Santa

December 12 & 13
10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Idaho Commons Rotunda

**'It's the most
wonderful time
of the year'**

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