INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
Moscow's Art Walk begins Friday
Places to go on a tank of gas

New interim chosen
People We Know

by K. Ray Johnson/Argonaut

I haven't had to puke in like 10 years, but as soon as I get my jaw wired shut, I get sick from the anesthesia and WHAMO!

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Classifieds

Wanted: Law Grads to prosecute civil conspiracy case in Pullman.
Washington license required.
(509)332-8237

Laboratory Technician
EcoAnalysts is hiring a full-time Laboratory Technician in our Moscow, ID office. Please go to www.ecoanalysts.com/employment for complete information.

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It's Summer at University of Idaho Campus Recreation

Wellness
Summer Wellness Classes begin May 12th.
Classes open to the community, check schedule at www.uidaho.edu/wellness

Summer BBQ's
Tuesdays June 24 - July 29
Live entertainment, great food and 50 years of tradition. Serving begins 6pm. Menus and order forms are available at the Campus Recreation Office or online.

Campus Recreation Office
Office hours 7:30am - 4:30pm
Phone 208-885-6381
Web site - www.campusrec.uidaho.edu

Outdoor Program & Rental Center
If you don't have it, we do! Open in the summer for all your outdoor equipment needs.

Climbing Wall
Open to youth and community all summer

Adventure Bound Youth Program
Wednesdays June 18-August 13
Climbing, Hiking, Mt. Biking, Canoeing

Thursday Skills Clinics
Sailing, Sea & White Water Kayaking, Fly Casting

Trips
Kayaking, Climbing, Mountain hiking, Backpacking

Notice
Employee Polygraph Protection Act

SP Society of Professional Journalists  cnbam Associated College Press

ACP Pacemaker finalist, 2003-04
SPI Mark of Excellence winner, 2005

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UI STUDENT MEDIA BOARD
The UI Student Media Board meets at 5:30 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month. Time and location will be published in the Argonaut Classified section. Meetings are open to the public. Questions? Call Student Media at 885-7825 or visit the Student Media office on the SUB third floor.

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EcoAnalysts is hiring a full-time Laboratory Technician in our Moscow, ID office. Please go to www.ecoanalysts.com/employment for complete information.

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New interim president chosen for UI

Christina E. Lords
Summer Arg

Dean of College of Natural Resources Steven Daley-Laursen was selected by members of the State Board of Education as the interim president for the University of Idaho Tuesday evening.

Daley-Laursen was one of four candidates the board was considering. He will serve as the interim for an undetermined amount of time until the SBOE chooses a person for the permanent presidential position.

It has not been determined if he will continue with his duties as the dean of CNR while taking on the interim position, he said.

He replaces Tim White, who took on the chancellor position at University of California, Riverside. White, who has been president of the university since 2004, will leave UI June 30.

"I am humbled beyond words and excited beyond expression," Daley-Laursen said.

Meeting with his family to "reorganize their lives" is Daley-Laursen's first important task, he said. He said he it is also important to begin to meet with political leaders, financial contributors to the university, students and administrative staff to discuss a list of 12-14 items on the university's administrative agenda. Some of the agenda's items include the proposal for the extension of the university's law school in Boise, recruitment, advancements in graduate studies and research and athletics.

"A long list of networks need to hear from me," he said. "I have a high priority for these strategic issues."

SBOE President Millford Terrell said the search process for the interim candidate started by members of the board visiting with different departments within the university. The members also spoke with the president's council, the provost's council, the teacher's association, student organizations and the athletic association, he said.

"It appears that students are high on his priority list ... he's a Vandal."

Garrett HOLBROOK
ASUI President

"Steven Daley-Laursen has a strong grasp of both the University of Idaho and the state of Idaho," White said. "(He) will be well-received by the donor and political communities in the state and nationally."

The search committee for the permanent presidential position will be established within the next two days, Terrell said. There is no established time line of when the next president will be chosen.

ASUI President Garrett Holbrook said he was excited to work with a new interim president who seems to care about student needs.

"He is part of the reason why the college (of natural resources) is so attractive to people from other states," Holbrook said. "I think we won on every front with him. It appears that students are high on his priority list ... he's a Vandal. He went fine. He has the perspective of someone who has been here."

Daley-Laursen received his bachelor's degree in conservation and resource development in 1976 from the University of Maryland. He earned a master's degree in forest resources management and his Ph.D. in forest science from UI in 1984. He has been the dean of CNR since August 2002.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Snap up
5 Chess field
10 Surrounded by
14 Latest tad
15 Yardstick
16 Thoroughly cooked
17 Equally divided
18 Perplexed
19 One of a pair
20 Belief
22 London lawyer
24 Semitic fertility goddess
26 Neither's partner
27 Web site
30 Physicist Curie
34 Behave maternally
37 Post-shower
43 Irving
39 Blood classification
40 Scrutinize
42 - Magnon
43 Spillover
46 Symbol of MacDonald's
49 Take care of
50 Rouse to action
52 Receipt
54 By the lowest estimation
58 System of signs?
63 Terra
64 Aga
65 Keep clear of
67 Drop on a cheek
68 Tiny quantity
69 Unexpected boon
70 Before
71 Yuletide Carol
72 Mournful poem
73 Do a tall chord

DOWN
1 Headstone
2 Great reviews
3 Talent broker
4 In position
5 Half a blini
6 Highland dance
7 As well
8 Highland dance

9 Sink fixture
10 Fleet commander
11 Ring around a castle
12 Sondheim's "..." the Woods
13 Bambi and Rudolph
21 Family chart
22 __ as you are
25 Concrete
28 Study by Chopin
29 Switch
31 Rolling in dough
32 Memo phrase
33 Teamwork
34 Stud
35 Reed instrument
36 Flushed
38 Marshal Earp
41 Sar check
44 Everlasting
46 Rails rider
47 Stir up

Sudoku

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.
Art is in the air
Moscow's fifth annual Art Walk begins Friday, one stop includes art from UI professor

Scott Stone
Summer Arg

More than 45 businesses will open their doors this Friday and Saturday to display a variety of local artwork for the fifth annual Moscow Art Walk.

This year’s events will include works from approximately 75 artists as well as live music at five locations, including the headline band from Spokane, Celtic Knots, who will perform in Friendship Square.

Also in Friendship Square will be live artist demonstrations as well as the Art Walk Chalk Art where everyone in the community will have the opportunity to be an artist.

Art Walk Chalk Art will be held from noon to 4 p.m. on Friday and is open to all ages.

Moscow’s Arts Director, Kathleen Burns, said “exposing people to artists and their work” is the main purpose of the Art Walk.

“Knowing that the Art Walk is done to expose the artists,” Burns said. “It also exposes the general public to the purpose of art and the importance of art.”

Organizers of Art Walk have extended the event hours to end at 10 p.m. and have increased the number of businesses involved from 36 last year to 47 this year.

Burns said they’re expecting approximately 5,000 people to attend.

The annual event plays a vital role in the culture found in Moscow, which prides itself in being the “Heart of the Arts.”

Retaining Moscow’s Heart of the Arts branding is the reason winemaker and proprietor of the Camas Prairie Winery, Stuart Scott, has opened his doors to the Art Walk every year.

“It makes Moscow a better place to live,” Scott said. “If I didn’t do business here, I would attend the Art Walk.”

He believes it’s important for businesses to participate in order to make events like this a success.

“It’s something that if you want it to happen, you need to be involved,” Scott said.

Camas Prairie Winery will be displaying the works of local acrylic artist, David Gressard, who has designed two of the winery’s wine labels and is a nationally-known wildlife artist.

On opening night, the winery will be hosting a reception with the artist for people who would like to view his work and have their questions answered.

“This is a chance to come down and meet the artist, see some of his beautiful work, maybe have him create something special for these folks the same way he’s created something special to me,” Scott said.

“I’m very lucky to have Dave this year.”

As for his business, Scott said the Art Walk is an excellent form of advertisement for all of Moscow’s businesses and will bring new customers inside their stores.

“Anything that brings people downtown is an asset to local retail businesses. It’s exposure; it’s a form of advertising.”

Wells Fargo Bank will have its doors open this year to display the works of David Giese, who is an internationally-recognized artist and a professor of art and design at the University of Idaho.

Giese has been a professor at UI for 30 years, and his work has been displayed at the Ok Harris Gallery of Fine Art in SoHo, New York for 17 years.

Giese said his works are based on a mythical villa in Italy in which he’s been excavating rooms. He is both an artist and a myth-maker in that the villa is completely made up, and the constructs couldn’t actually exist historically.

“It’s taking that idea of an artist as a myth-maker and taking it to the extreme,” Giese said.

“It’s not just making objects that people believe in but making a whole mythology about the objects, too.”

Giese considered himself a collagist and calls his work concrete “flotage” — they are floating collages, and the structures are made of concrete.

Giese got involved in the Art Walk because he thinks it’s an excellent venue for local artists, shows the community the kind of work being done locally and a way of keeping Moscow’s reputation as the “Heart of the Arts.”

“It brings awareness of the quality and diversity of art being produced in the Palouse,” Giese said.
SUB roof undergoes green maintenance

Christina E. Lords
Summer Arg

More than 1,600 square feet of the Student Union Building’s roof is undergoing maintenance — vegetative maintenance.

Mark Miller, assistant director of operations for the Idaho Commons and Student Union, is spearheading the SUB Green Roof Project at the University of Idaho. The sustainability project will replace part of the building’s roof with assorted plants and soil.

The project will help eliminate the “heat island” effect many buildings produce, Miller said.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, heat islands can make temperatures 2 to 10 degrees hotter in cities than nearby rural areas and can impact communities by increasing peak energy demand, heat-related illness and air pollution levels.

“A green roof can diminish that effect,” Miller said. “It makes it easier to cool buildings and keep them cool. It adds insulation in the summer and winter to maintain cooling.”

The roof will act as an insulator, which will also protect the roof’s actual materials from the sun and other weather conditions.

The roof will also become more environmentally sustainable by offering a small habitat for insects and birds, Miller said.

“The hope is that the roof becomes its own growing environment,” he said.

Miller said the project would reduce the amount of water flowing into the university’s sewer system.

The project will be nearly self-sufficient as it will include a storm water run-off mitigation system that will collect and store run-off water. The run-off will have a higher water quality and will be stored in a series of 550-gallon containers to be irrigated back up to the roof to be reused to water the plants, he said.

The water and other aspects of the roof can be used as a research tool, Miller said. Students and faculty from many different departments can monitor and test water quality, rain water, plant varieties and soil.

“Students can observe and professors can grab on to these ideas to teach about them in classes,” Miller said. “As far as changing plants and that type of stuff, we want as much student involvement as possible.

Native plants will be used in the project because they usually don’t survive on green roofs because of the type of mineral-rich soil that must be used, he said. Instead, the project will utilize a variety of non-native sedum plants that are drought-tolerant.

The project will be constructed on top a series of layers of flat materials including a thick, waterproof plastic mat as the base layer that prevents water from leaking down, and a felt layer that is designed to act as a root barrier.

A catwalk will be installed over one section of the plants for public viewing of the green roof project.

“We started working with landscape architecture and architecture students for a sustainable green building design,” Miller said. “These green designs are the future. This project is designed to be a learning and research experience for students, staff, faculty and even the community.”

Miller is interested in expanding the project to other sections of the SUB’s roof and may look to other buildings on the UI campus for green roofs in the future.

Students interested in volunteer opportunities for the SUB Green Roof Project can contact the ASUI Center for Volunteerism and Social Action.

DIARY OF A FANTASY GEEK

Johnny Ballgame’s top five NBA players

Part of being a sports geek revolves around debate. It’s fun arguing with someone about which NBA players are better than the other.

Last week during the Johnny Ballgame Show, the crew and myself were debating our NBA all-time top five. There was some heavy debating going on. It’s a tough call. There are so many legendary NBA players that could arguably make this list. It’s like a Mt. Rushmore of basketball.

Many factors should come into play when making a list this geeky. Players should be measured on career statistics, longevity and championships. It’s tough for me to put anyone on my list to overrule an NBA title. Another key factor to consider would be the player’s iconic status. Did he change the game? Did he make a difference or impact the sport?

Now that you know the criteria, and after much deliberation, here’s my list.

Bill Russell (1956-68, Celtics)

Eleven championships in 13 seasons and a five-time league MVP. Yeah, 11 titles. Russell was the first true superstar of the NBA. He’s the Babe Ruth of basketball and in my opinion, a must on this list. It’s not all about the numbers with Russell because other players during his era scored more points. It’s about being the best player on the most dominating team in league history. Russell was a winner, more so than any other player. He retired at 34, and possibly could have played longer, but he wasn’t the type of player that was going to hang on too long. He was one of the greatest rebounders ever and was the architect of the outlet pass. Russell’s career numbers were 15.1 PPG, 22.5 RPG and 4.3 APG.

Michael Jordan (1984-93, 1995-99, 2001-03 Bulls, Wizards)

Any list without Jordan is ridiculous. The biggest sports icon on planet Earth over the last 25 years is an automatic choice for me. Jordan dominated the game from the guard position in a way we never seen before. He won six championships and five MVP awards. He is without question the greatest player of his era and possibly ever. In 15 seasons, Jordan piled up impressive numbers — 31.1 PPG, 6.2 RPG and 5.4 APG.

His face is the most recognizable in the country, and his overall impact and influence on the sport tops any other. He hasn’t played a game in five years, and his signature shoes are still the top-selling sneaker on the planet.

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (1969-88 Bucks, Lakers)

Kareem was a giant. He had the greatest mixture of athletic skills and fundamentals in hardwood history. He spoke softly and carried a big stick, as Theodore Roosevelt probably would have said. His resume however screams at you — six championships (same as Jordan), six MVP awards (more than Jordan and Russell) and a career average of 24.6 points per game (during 20 NBA seasons). He’s the league’s all-time scorer with 38,387 points. I don’t put him ahead of Russell and Jordan because his overall iconic impact on the sports wasn’t equal. His “sky-hook” was possibly the greatest signature shot of all time. He just never transcended the sport. But when you have more MVP awards than Russell and Jordan, and more points than anybody, the argument definitively presents itself.

Earvin “Magic” Johnson (1979-91, 1995-96 Lakers)

Magic was the league’s biggest superstar during the pre-Jordan era. His leadership and unselfish play-making ability is unmatched by anyone in NBA history. He won five championships during an era filled with superstars and battled Larry Bird during three epic championship series. Winning two. He was just smooth and it was always so obvious to laymen watching the actual game that he was the smartest player on the court. Johnson was the best point guard in NBA history and a three-time league MVP. His career numbers were 19.5 PPG, 7.2 RPG and 11.2 APG.

Larry Bird (1979-92 Celtics)

“Larry Legend” rounds out my top five. Just so you know this decision wasn’t easy. There are many different players I could have put here. I went with Bird because I felt he represented that quintessential all around game and is a true basketball icon. His numbers at the forward position are crazy — 24.3 PPG, 10.0 RBG and 6.3 APG. Bird did it all. He
RUNNING ON EMPTY

Better than a treadmill walk

I have struggled to find stuff to do while living on a tight budget. I am a golfer, but playing even one nine-hole round a week is expensive — as is a bucket of balls three times a week to hit from the driving range. I like to paint pottery, but $16 a mug breaks my piggy bank — coincidently also something I painted myself. I love to shop, but again, not conducive to my new thrifty lifestyle.

I started going to Hastings to sit and read magazines. I like it. It’s quiet and sometimes I can be there for a couple of hours, but I wanted an activity.

I thought the Student Recreation Center would be a great place to spend 30 minutes to an hour a day filling up my time and getting in some much-needed exercise.

But there is only so much hill climbing and foot pedaling I can take in a one-week period.

So I found something new. I was going to get some exercise, find something to do and have fun doing it all at the same time.

I volunteered to walk a dog at the Moscow Humane Society. It was some of the cheapest fun I had ever had.

I walked Ethan, a shepherd mix, who was an amazingly sweet dog. Every now and again on our half-hour walk he would stop and wait for me to catch up and just lean against my legs for a nice scratch on his back and belly. I love when a dog goes a little limp and jelly-legged when he’s getting a good rub.

We walked around some development areas of Moscow, got some good exercise in for the both of us, had a nice conversation — I did most of the talking — and I didn’t have to pick up any poop.

For the last four years I have talked about getting a dog, on average, about four times a week.

It stems from growing up with an animal in my home from birth to age 18. I basically grew up as an only child even though I am the youngest of six kids. Sounds strange right? My mom had me when she was 41, and by then all of my technically half- and step-siblings were finishing up high school and college. I am the youngest by an extreme amount.

While I was growing up my replacement siblings were animals. I would talk to them, dress them up, feed them and treat them like people. They slept in my bed under the covers with me, ate off my plate, watched cartoons and bathed with me.

I know I can’t get one. I can’t afford it. It’s hard to find an apartment. I don’t have a lot of time and I know I want to travel later, which makes having a dog a little inconvenient.

It wouldn’t be so bad if I wanted a Paris Hilton dog that I can put in my purse for a night out on the town, but that’s not me. I want a big dog. I’m talking great dane big.

Walking Ethan gave me my dog fix for the day, but it definitely didn’t help my urge of wanting a dog of my own. I’ll tell you though, that is one establishment I will be returning to. The only thing to make it more fun would be to bring a friend along for the walk.

It felt good to volunteer my time and it made me think outside of a retail store or a restaurant for something to do.

Alexis Roizen
Summer Arg
argonaut@sub.uidaho.edu

Photo illustration by Meagan Robertson/Summer Arg
When I was a child I was always amazed by my father’s old collection of Shrinky Dinks. For those who are unfamiliar with them, Shrinky Dinks were made from large sheets of plastic that would shrink down to a tiny size after they were placed in the oven. You could draw on the plastic, poke a hole in it, and after a brief stint in the oven you had a one-of-a-kind pendant or keychain — your design on a small piece of plastic.

Over the years I discovered that the actual Shrinky Dink plastic was hard to find, but after a little research I found a great substitute — my garbage.

**What you’ll need:**

- A number six plastic container
  - These are the clear plastic containers that you usually get salads or bakery cookies in. Just check the bottom for the little number six to know if you have the right one. You’re not going to use the entire thing, but any flat surface on the container will do.

- Permanent markers
  - Sharpies work best and they come in more colors than the rainbow

- Sissors
  - Or any other sharp cutting blade

- An oven
  - For achieving maximum shrinkage

- A baking sheet
  - Or any other oven-safe tray

- Oven mitts
  - To prevent some serious burns, of course

**Step 1:**

Cut a large flat part of the number six plastic container out. This will typically be the top or the bottom of the package — the part that isn’t curved or designed. This will be your canvas of sorts. Make sure to cut the plastic carefully, as it is thin and can tear easily. You’ll want a fairly large piece because your design will shrink to a considerably smaller size. It’s always better to have excess plastic than to run out of space.

**Step 2 & 3:**

Find the image you want to draw or trace onto the plastic. If you want to draw something that you didn’t create, tracing is easy since you’re marking up a clear sheet of plastic. Remember that your design will shrink, so make sure it’s large enough that after the shrinking process is completed. You’ll be pleased.

Add some color. If you’re opting for a simple design made up of a black outline you can skip this step. If not, color away. You’re never too old to color.

**Step 4:**

Cut out around your design. You can either cut right on the edge or leave a clear border, whichever works best for your design. Once the plastic has shrunk, it will have become thicker, so cutting it then won’t be an option. Also, if you’re planning on poking a hole to turn your design into a pendant or keychain, now is the time to do it. Just remember to make sure that the hole is large enough, because it will shrink as well.

**Step 5:**

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Once the oven is hot and ready, put the design on a tray and place it in the oven for one or two minutes, making sure to watch the plastic during that time. This process is really quick and during that time the plastic will appear to curl and bubble up, but once it is finished shrinking it will begin to flatten out. Once your design appears to be flat, pull it out — wearing the oven mitts of course. If it’s not completely flat quickly and carefully, squish it with a plate or a spatula.

**Step 6:**

Let it cool. This step will be over in a flash, but it’s still safe to let it cool before you accidentally burn yourself. Once it’s cooled you will have a nice little plastic charm, or whatever you plan to use your plastic design for. It will be significantly smaller and thicker and definitely awesome.

The options for this project are endless. Beside the fact that you can draw whatever you want on the plastic, you can also make it into whatever you want as well. You can make magnets, necklaces, or even hang them from your rearview mirror in your car. It’s just one more way to be creative and have some fun, not to mention turn trash into a little personal treasure.

Photo illustrations by Meagan Robertson/Summer Arg
Explore the Palouse’s natural wonder

Holly Bowen
Summer Arg

Warmer weather and fewer entertainment options in the city will inevitably lead Muscovites to look elsewhere for recreation.

Located within miles of the University of Idaho’s Student Union Building and accessible on less than a tank of gas are several outdoor recreation areas providing opportunities for hiking, swimming, camping or a scenic drive.

Gather your friends, a picnic lunch and reliable transportation and explore what the Palouse has to offer outside campus or your bedroom. Before you go, visit The Argonaut online at www.uiargonaut.com for links to interactive maps of all these locations.

UI Arboretums
0 miles from the SUB

A green, outdoor experience is available without leaving campus. The Charles Houston Shattuck Memorial Arboretum is a 14-acre mature tree grove north of the president’s residence and UI water tower. A creation of Charles Houston Shattuck in 1910, the grove was initially called “Arboretum Hill” but was named after Shattuck two years after his death in 1933. Adjacent is an amphitheater and tennis courts. Across the street and next to the golf course is the 63-acre UI Arboretum and Botanical Garden, which has water features and divides a myriad of flora into geographical sections: Asian, European, Eastern and Western North American.

Idler’s Rest
7 miles from the SUB

About seven miles from Moscow lies a cedar grove spared by the logging of the early 1900s. Take Mountain View Road (on the east side of Moscow) north until the road comes to a T — take the right path to enter Idler’s Rest Road, which passes a small parking area to the left of the road just before it hits a dead end. After parking, choose one of three short trails to explore. One follows Paradise Creek through the towering cedars, one enters a grassland and the last one is a steep climb uphill. Watch out for the burned, abandoned cabin in the nearby woods and enter at your own risk.

Phillips Farm County Park
7 miles from the SUB

Virgil Phillips, a Moscow native born in 1912, gave his land to the city in 1972 “for the benefit and use of the children of Moscow for recreation purposes.” Today the park is managed by Latah County, and it is comprised of 160 acres of dirt trails, fields, wetlands and ponds. In the orchard near the parking area, you can find three different types of apples on one tree. The park is utilized by students and biologists studying local species of amphibians, birds and other wildlife which frequent the area. Open to the public from 7 a.m. to sunset, the park is also home to some great climbing trees. Take U.S. Highway 95 north from Moscow and turn left as indicated by signs advertising the park. Drive down the hill to the parking and picnic area below.

Moscow Mountain
12 miles from the SUB

Also filled with giant cedar trees, Moscow Mountain lies north of the city and east of Idler’s Rest. The mountain, nearly 5,000 feet tall, is scattered with trails popular with hikers, runners, climbers and mountain bikers. Many trails are on private property but are open for public use. Getting there is easy: Take Mountain View Road north until right on Moscow Mountain Road. The road winds through the hills for a while before entering the forest.

Spring Valley Reservoir
18 miles from the SUB

About 18 miles east of Moscow and three miles northeast of Troy is Spring Valley Reservoir, 99 acres popular with swimmers, campers, picnickers and especially anglers. Stocked with trout and bass, this body of water is so small that only boats with electric motors are allowed. Farther down the highway near Bovill is Moose Creek Reservoir, which spans 50 acres and is similar to Spring Valley in terms of features and regulations. After taking State Highway 8 past Troy, take a left turn on Spring Valley Road and stay left at the forks to reach the reservoir. To get to Moose Creek Reservoir, continue east on State Highway 8. Just before Bovill, take a left on Moose Creek Road and follow it to the reservoir.

Rose Creek Nature Preserve
20 miles from the SUB

The trail through this wetland is narrow, lined by bushes and overhanging tree branches and littered with damp, decomposing vegetation. It’s the closest you’ll get to being in a rainforest while living on the Palouse. Birds and bugs chirp and buzz, and the forest smells distinctly green. Both live snails and their shells are scattered across certain stretches. Eventually the trail reaches Rose Creek and continues on the other side. Last week, however, the bridge to cross over had been destroyed. Jump or wade across the creek at your own risk, and watch out for the little man-made waterfall on the right.

From Pullman, take Grand/State Highway 27 north until you reach Pullman-Albion Road. Turn left and continue until you reach Banner Road. Make a right turn and drive for a little more than three and a half miles. Turn left at Palouse-Albion Road and continue until you come to a pair of roads on the right: Shawnee and Collins. Make the initial right turn and take the left at the Y to stay on Shawnee. On the right will be a gravel drive with newspaper boxes. Park on Shawnee and walk a little way down the drive until you reach the trailhead on the left.

McCroskey State Park
27 miles from the SUB

Dedicated to the memory of pioneer women, McCroskey State Park is 5,300 acres of forested ridgeline. From Moscow, drive north on U.S. Highway 95 until reaching Sky Line Drive. Turn left, and follow Sky Line as it weaves through the park and provides access to 32 miles of trails. The gravel road ends near the town of Farmington, Wash., but by no means do you have to follow the entire road to get the McCroskey experience. Within the park are other roads, primitive camping sites, informative signs and picnic areas.

Stephens Butte National Park
41 miles from the SUB

From Pullman, continue on State Highway 270 toward Colfax until it merges with U.S. Highway 195. Continue north on 195 through Colfax — follow the signs to Spokane — until reaching the Old State Highway to the right. Turn and continue as the Old State Highway splits into a Y. Take the right fork to enter Humble Road, and continue until reaching Steptoe Butte Road on the left. Turn and on the left you will see Steptoe Butte State Park — keep going straight, and the road will wind up like a spiral to the top of the butte. Park and enjoy the unobstructed view of the Palouse from 3,612 feet up.
I'm sitting in a room on the edge of the middle of nowhere. I have a good Internet connection no cable. This isn't a problem except that today's Sprint Cup race from Long Pond, Pa., is on TNT instead of FOX. TNT gets this one of the next five races.

I'm in Nevada, but I have a Utah country radio station dialed up on the Net and the Motor Racing Network broadcast up and running. This will work. The radio broadcasters always seem more excited than the TV guys anyway—even Darrell Waltrip. The pre-race show is still on. So for now, a little about Pocono Raceway. It's a 2.5-mile triangle, making it one of the most unique tracks on the circuit. So much for that "just driving in circles" myth, eh? The track is almost flat, with corners banked at 14, 8 and 6 degrees. Turns two is known as "the tunnel turn" due to a tunnel that runs beneath the track into the infield. The surface is slightly different than rest of race track and has always messed with drivers. It has been resurfaced for this race and should make a difference.

Casey Kahne is on the pole and points leader Kyle Busch is starting dead last thanks to wreaking during the practice sessions. Kahne was the only driver to top 170 mph in qualifying and owns the track qualifying record at 172.533 mph. Busch won the Best Buy 400 at Dover on June 1 for his fourth Sprint Cup win of the season. He's 142 points ahead of Jeff Burton in second place and 271 ahead of third place Dale Earnhardt Jr. Jeff Gordon won this race in 2007 but hasn't won yet in 2008.

Lap one: Kahne's lead didn't last for a single lap. Jimmie Johnson blasted by him to take the first five bonus points for leading a lap. Lap nine: Johnson continues to lead as the radio goes into a commercial break. I hate commercials during the race. Racing isn't like other sports. There are no timeouts unless you count red flags for rain or extensive track clean up after a wreck.

You don't get to save your timeouts for the last two minutes to slow down the game. Slow down is the opposite of what NASCAR is about.

Lap 17: Kahne takes the lead from Johnson after a long battle. All around the country, soccer mom are cheering.

Lap 26: Scott Riggs and Martin Truex Jr. are the first in the pits under the green flag just before a debris caution. Riggs is one of those drivers who could be great, but he keeps getting screwed over and put in substandard cars. He's driving a Haas-CNC Chevy now after getting booted from his "five-little-Everhams." Dodge in favor of Patrick Carpentier.

Just another American job lost to a foreigner.

Lap 35: Kahne takes the lead. Five cars fight for Earnhardt's fourth spot. I smell a wreck about to happen.

My can of Amp Energy drink just ran out. Now would be a good time for a caution so I can hit the fridge.

Lap 59: Be careful what you wish for. Kurt Busch spins and catches a foot of air at turn one. Somehow he managed to land safely on all four tires. My phone should ring any second now.

Every time Kurt Busch does something like that my dad calls me. Busch's Dodge was running 12th. I'm off to the fridge as the leaders come into the pits again.

Lap 48: Johnson only took two tires and a splash of gas and came out in second behind Truex Jr. I'm out of Amp, so it's back to Sierra Mist for me. There's a roast in the slow cooker that won't be ready until this race is over. Should be good.

Lap 47: Kyle Busch and Jamie McMurray get together and both end up with damage. That's what happens when you run in the back of the pack. Kyle hasn't been back there enough this season. He's taking his M&M's Toyota into the garage.

Sometimes you have all the luck and sometimes you have none. This is Kyle's week to have zero luck.

The maximum points a single driver can gain on another is 185.

In other words, if Busch finishes 43rd and Jeff Burton wins the race and leads the most laps, Burton would be 45 points ahead of Busch.

Lap 52: Kurt Busch is back on the track after his spin.

Lap 57: Denny Hamlin, who swept the two Pocono races in 2006, is in the top five.

Carpentier and Sam Hornish Jr. cause the fourth caution of the race while running 29th and 30th. Both of these guys came over from open wheel racing where Carpentier was an also-ran and Hornish was a champion.

It's great that these guys want to prove themselves in other types of cars and against different competition. Hornish might actually get it, if he can get away from Penske and Dodge. Carpentier, however, needs to go back to Canada.

This is a good time to look at the drivers of the ESPN Stockcar Challenge fantasy team. Or maybe not.

My team is Earnhardt Jr., Clint Bowyer, Truex Jr., David Ragan and Hornish Jr. That's how it works out for me. I often end up with the race winner and the dead last car. There's plenty of race left for the second and third better.

Or worse.

Lap 68: Carpenter and Hornish get together again, bringing out the fifth caution.

Rubbin' is racin' and if they raced like that in open wheel, somebody would be hurt. We like our fights in NASCAR, but it's usually cooler when it's between drivers with an actual chance to win a race. If Carpenter and Hornish get into a fight, nobody will care except ESPN's Web Gems.

There was a brief rain shower during the caution. It bailed out.

Lap 71: Well, crap. NASCAR is waving the red flag to dry the track. Guess that means it's time for a bathroom break.

One important rule about red flags: No work can be done on the cars. No new tires, no gas, no pulling the fenders out to prevent tire rub.

This is bad news for Kyle Busch. He's been in the garage with the pit crew, working hard to get their car back on the track. Garage or not, all work has to stop under the red flag.

Lap 80: I'm still waiting for that call from my dad. Kyle Busch is still in the garage.

Lap 108: Halftime. The thing I love most about listening to a race on the radio versus watching it on TV, is that the radio guys do their best to cover the whole field, not just the leaders.

Lap 105: Michael Waltrip spins his Napa Toyota and brings out another caution. Stewart barely made it off of pit lane before the caution.

Earnhardt Jr. takes two tires and comes out first. Pardon me while I cheer.

YEE-HAW.

Sadler pitted just before the yellow flag and resumes the lead. Earnhardt Jr.'s fast stop put him in sixth position.

Lap 109: Stewart takes the lead from Sadler, getting himself—and my fantasy team—the five bonus points for leading a lap.

If the race ended now, I'd have a 537 score. That's better than I've done in the past two races, but if I don't start stringing together a few 600s, I'm going to fall behind faster than Bowyer did after wrecking.

Lap 113: Bowyer, Kyle Busch and Montoya have officially been listed "out of the race." The good news is that Bowyer won't finish dead last.

Lap 122: Dario Franchitti—a former open wheel driver—hit the wall, David Gilliland and Jason Leffler. This is Franchitti's first race back after an ankle injury at Talladega back in April. Stewart had pulled out to a two-second lead over Greg Biffle before this caution. Johnson stayed out to regain the lead. Gordon will restart right behind him.

Lap 123: Kyle Busch and Montoya are coming back out on the track. So much for "officially out" announcements. Earnhardt Jr.'s crew wasn't fast enough, meaning he'll come out 29th.

Lap 130: Franchitti gets punted from behind by Hornish. I'm telling you, these open wheel rockies are a hazard. At least they are hitting each other and staying out of the way of the leaders. The two involved cars are in the garage.

Franchitti is being interviewed. He said "huh," which is a borderline penalty word.

Lap 143: Kahne is pulling away. When this is over, I'm taking a nap—roast beef is on.

Speaking of food, my dad finally called to let me know he will be eating catfish and hush puppies today.

Lap 157: Carl Edwards takes the top stop after Biffle pits. He takes his five bonus points, then makes his stop, A A Abdinger has ran his Red Bull Toyota in the top 10 most of the race. With 43 laps

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PLAYERS

from page 5

scared, distributed, rebounded and played great defense. Also, he did all of this without being an amazing athlete. He never ran the fastest or jumped the highest, but he always found a way to beat you. He was a genius on the court and won three MVP awards in consecutive seasons along with three championships. He went head-to-head with Magic during the greatest era of NBA basketball, the 1980s. I feel weird leaving him off my list.

So there you have it. My all time top five. I really crunched the numbers, and I found any other deserving players. Here’s who just missed the cut: Wilt Chamberlain, Shaquille O’Neal, Tim Duncan and Charles O’Rosterston.

One more thing, in a few years Kobe Bryant and LeBron James may force another debate, too.

Listen to The Johnny Ballgame Show on 93.3 FM or www.fox1.org Thursday from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and Sunday from 3-5:30 p.m.
Questions for an eight-armed band

Marcus Kellis
Summer ARG

The Octopus Project is a mostly-instrumental, four-person electropop/rock group out of Austin, Texas. Last year they traveled more than 30,000 miles in support of their latest album, "Hello, Avalanche." The band is Toto Miranda, Yvonne Lambert, Ryan Figg and Josh Lambert, with everyone on at least guitar and keyboard, with some bandmates filling in on drums, theremin, bass and assorted other sounds when called for. "Hello, Avalanche" is their third full-length album, but they’ve also collaborated with Pennsylvanian psychedelic rockers Black Moth Super Rainbow and remixed Black Lipstick.

MK: How did the band form, and what’s the musical background of the members? When did the trio become a quartet?

OP: The three of us (Toto, Yvonne and Josh) had been in different bands together for a while, and in 1998, decided to try to form our own band. We’d all grown up playing whatever instruments we could find, but none of us had any formal training.

The core band — specifically the writing/recording part — has mostly been just the three of us, but we’ve had someone in the fourth seat to round things out since we’ve been playing shows. Ryan is the newest addition, and we couldn’t be happier.

MK: Many reviews of the album, when describing the band’s sound, reach to video games, electronics, emotions and sometimes resort to a simple listing of instruments. I feel a little like a wine critic when trying to describe your music, though some bands that I might reach to for comparison are Cornelius, Stereolab and Yo La Tengo. Are there any particular musical influences or aesthetics you could name?

OP: I think we like to go for the kitchen sink approach and just try to use everything we can get our hands on. It’s really more about conveying a feeling rather than forcing ourselves into a corner and saying, ‘Well, we’re a rock band, so we can only use guitar, bass and drums.’ The band started (and will always be) as an open-ended thing where anything goes. If someone thinks playing a kazoo through a megaphone would sound awesome, then we try it.

Really, our main aesthetic is that there are no rules. We want every song and every record to sound different from the last, so we’re continually finding new sounds and new ways of doing things. Artistically, we’re influenced from all over the place. Someone might really like the way the strings sound on a Bollywood song, so we try to make our guitar sound like that on the next song we do. Or, we might become totally obsessed with the drums on a Mr. Oizo record and try to come up with something that makes us feel the same way. Books and art weigh in pretty heavily as well. Maybe reading a book gives you a certain feeling, so you make up a song conveying that emotion. Anything can be an influence.

MK: Notoriously, Austin has one of the best music scenes in the nation. How does that help the band in a way that living in, say, El Paso might not?

OP: Austin is an amazing town. I feel lucky to live here. Everyone here is so incredibly supportive of the music scene that it makes being a band really easy. You can go out any night of the week and see some great local or touring band, and there will always be a decent crowd. I think folks here are excited about music and are always wanting to check out something new, so they go out a lot.

MK: I wonder if you could just talk a little bit about your huge tour last year and upcoming plans for 2008.

OP: Our fall ’07 tour was the longest we’ve been on by a wide margin. We’d already made plans for a six-week tour of our own when we got the opportunity to do the Stereo Total and Aesop Rock stints, so it all added up to three months on the road with four days at home in the middle. It was exhausting, of course, but totally amazing. Each leg of the tour brought out completely different audiences and gave us the chance to play for a huge variety of people in a huge variety of places. We met a ton of awesome people at the shows and got to travel with tremendous bands (that) we’re honored to be friends with. It was stupendous. We’re pleased to announce that we’ll be playing both the Lollapalooza and Austin City Limits festivals this year, too.

MK: On your merchandise page, beyond the usual CDs and shirts, you offer LPs, artwork, wallets, etc. What are your thoughts on the business now, where CD sales are declining, where getting to a major label isn’t necessarily a goal, with MySpace being a chief outlet for connecting with fans and promoting the band?

OP: I think we approach the band as kind of an open-ended art project that happens to be in rock-band form ... the structure of writing songs, playing shows and making records really affords us the opportunity to pursue a lot of ideas in music, art, design, performance or whatever else we happen to take an interest in. It’s a happy coincidence that we’re doing something like this now at a time when the music business is totally reforming in a way that seems to make diversification a better way to approach a “career” than laying all your bets on selling a million records. The Internet, of course, seems to be the major reason behind the music biz changing this way, and it’s certainly a huge factor in helping us achieve some kind of success as an independent operation. It enables anybody who’s interested to instantly get into almost anything we’re doing, and I’m very grateful that there are interested folks out there.

MK: The track “Queen” is your first track featuring vocals performing words. Whose vocals are those? What led to the decision to be instrumental in the first place, and how did you happen to record a song with words?

OP: “Queen” has Josh, Yvonne and I all singing on it. It was around for a long time as an instrumental, but didn’t ever feel quite finished. Vocals turned out to be the missing element ... even though they didn’t change the song much melodically, it really brought the tune to life. Sometimes we’ll get to that point on a song, where it just needs something, and “Queen” was the first time that vocals seemed to be the answer. We never made a conscious decision when we started to be instrumental, it just never really came up. Since then we’ve recorded two new tunes with singing, so it’s starting to feel like a more accessible element for us to use in songwriting, but we’re not at all giving up on instrumental music. Many wordless jams to come.

MK: The songs on your last album, “Hello, Avalanche” average a little shorter than those on your previous albums, “One Hundred Thousand Million” and “Identification Parade.” Simultaneously, the songs seem to be getting a little more accessible, or less experimental. Has this been a deliberate evolution? How did the creation of the latest album differ from your collaboration with Black Moth Super Rainbow and the two albums before it?

OP: We haven’t been pursuing any sort of deliberate evolution with the band, but I do think we’ve gotten better at making the music sound the way we want it to, although “the way we want it to sound” changes all the time. I can see what you’re saying about each record sounding more focused, and I agree with that, but we’re not moving toward any ultimate goal. I’d like to think we’re pursuing weird and accessible sounds with equal interest, so hopefully we’ll have some super-catchy tunes and some total brain-searing noise both coming up soon.

As far as our working methods, they’ve stayed more or less the same although circumstances change a lot from album to album. We mostly write independently. Either one person will write a whole song, or someone will write a part, and we’ll pass it back and forth for additions and changes, but we usually do all of this separately at home before we get together and learn to play a song. Working with Black Moth was pretty much the same, just trading ideas over the Internet until we decided each track was done.

MK: What is on the iPods of the Octopus Project? What does the band listen to on the road?

OP: A lot of solo tap dance recordings. After the 14th hour between Fargo and Seattle, you really start to understand what it’s all about.

Listen to KUOI, the University of Idaho’s student-operated college radio station, at 89.3 FM or online at www.kuoi.org.
Festival Watch 2008

Marcus Kelis
Summer Arg

Summer is the time for people to head outdoors to listen to music. The following is a rundown of some of the upcoming music festivals around the nation.

Pitchfork Music Festival
Union Park, Chicago, July 18-20
www.pitchforkmusicfestival.com
Bands to see: Animal Collective, No Age, The Ruby Suns, Dinosaur Jr., The Apples in Stereo, HEALTH
Pitchfork Media, noted pretentious — but frequently right — critics of under-the-radar music, curate this bonanza. No Age and HEALTH are both from the current noise-rock capital of the world, downtown Los Angeles grassroots venue The Smell. From New Zealand, The Ruby Suns create breathtaking miniature masterpieces.

What The Heck Fest #7
Anacortes, Wash., July 18-20
www.whattheheckfest.com
Bands to see: Mount Eerie, Photosynthesis, Calvin Johnson, Mirah & Spectrotone International
Though not officially a K Records showcase, there’s quite a bit of overlap: Mount Eerie is fronted by Phil Elverum of the Microphones, and D+’s Mirah and of course Calvin Johnson have all released on the label. The small port city, an hour and a half north of Seattle, is essentially enveloped by the home-grown festival, which also features a rummage sale, movies and meals.

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Capital Hill Block Party
South Capitol Hill, Seattle, July 25-26
www.thestranger.com/blockparty
Bands to see: DeVotchKa, Jay Reatard, Throw Me the Statue
Seattle’s most happening neighborhood will host some of the same bands at Pitchfork, but cheaper — including Les Savy Fav, Vampire Weekend and Fleet Foxes. Hometown heroes include indie rockers Throw Me the Statue and the funky Yeleya Yeleya, who appeared in Moscow in October 2006. Bands appear across four stages in the neighborhood.

Austin City Limits Music Festival
Zilker Park, Austin, Texas, Sept. 26-28
www.aclfestival.com
Bands to see: David Byrne, Gnarls Barkley, Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings, CSS, Hot Chip, The Raconteurs
Austin’s “other” main musical event is a sprawling, huge, unbearably hot, expensive, wonderful extravaganza. More than 130 bands from many different genres appear on eight stages including folk, rap, dance, electronic, rock and country. Be prepared for a lot of walking in the humid Austin heat.

Newport Folk Festival
International Tennis Hall of Fame and Fort Adams State Park, Newport, R.I., Aug. 1-3
Bands to see: Cat Power, She & Him, Calexico, The Felice Brothers
Newport is where Bob Dylan went electric. They’ve eased up a bit since then. Avoid terrible headliner Jimmy Buffett (folk? what?), but the adorable songbird combination of M. Ward and Zooey Deschanel performing under the name

Athens Popfest
Athens, Ga., Aug. 12-16
www.myspace.com/athenspopfest
Bands to see: Roky Erickson & The Explosives, The Music Tapes, Circulatory System, We Versus the Shark
The college town of Athens, Ga., hosts this indie pop rendezvous. Many of the headlining bands emerged from Athens’s Elephant 6 Collective — the movement that spawned Neutral Milk Hotel, the Olivia Tremor Control and the Apples in Stereo. The Music Tapes and Circulatory System share some members with those bands, and headliner Roky Erickson, from Austin, was a member of influential 1960s psychedelic rockers The 13th Floor Elevators.
SUMMERTIME BLUES

Bad weather, tiny spaces, lousy break

My room is 80 percent boxes. My living room is 30 percent boxes, basement 100 percent and carport 95 percent. Fifty-seven percent of the inhabitants of my home are of feline descent.

If you thought an empty, boring Moscow summer was bad, you obviously haven’t spent a few months in my neck of the woods.

The boxes littering my home are not patiently waiting to be unpacked. There is absolutely no room to put the belongings busting out of their open tops. There is also nowhere to hide said boxes.

I became depressed at the mere thought of moving home six months before I moved out of my apartment — halfway through my lease. I didn’t want to own up to my mistake of leaving the bedroom I shared with my twin sister at our mother’s house a gutted mess. Could I have driven the whopping mile to my mom’s and tidied up my room over the course of a year? Yes. Did I? Of course not. That would have been too easy.

Now I am living with the consequences. We left random items strewn throughout the room, avoiding tossing or donating old junk. During the time we spent away, our mother would clear out parts of the house and stack blankets, boxes and other unwanted in our room. Therefore, I consider the three of us to be equally at fault.

When my sister and I moved out, we opted to leave our childish bedroom furniture at home and buy new furniture for our apartment. We had to frantically give away a couch, a chair, bookshelves and desks, among other special items. We have random pieces of furniture sitting in parts of the house where they do not belong. Apparently, having a dresser in the kitchen is in this season. The mattress on the front porch is yours if you haul it.

During my marvelous year of freedom, my tolerance for pet dander was completely lost, and I now have horrific cat allergies. I am allergic to two-thirds of my householdmates even though my family has had at least two cats at a time since I was born. This must be a sign — I require independence.

In days such as these, the gloomiest I’ve had thus far in life, Coeur d’Alene’s horrid weather only makes bad moods worse. Muddy human feet and mudder kitty paws make for a real mess. It’s been raining for days, and it will rain for many more before the temperature actually rises, above 70 degrees. I wouldn’t mind spending some time at the beach in an effort to get out of the house, but the extreme flooding around Lake Coeur d’Alene has literally erased the sand from existence and replaced it with brown, sloppy sludge.

For the very first time, I cannot wait for classes to start. The next chapter in my life started, “All Quiet on the Moscow Front,” will bring new experiences that will possibly make me miss my shoe box-sized, antique of a home.

Until then, I will sit quietly, a cat upon each shoulder, watching a child playing Wii two feet from my face, another person on the computer two inches from me and the constant clanking of dishes in the kitchen sink.

RACE

from page 9

to go, Dave Blaney leads a lap.

Lap 167: Biffle speeds down pit road and is penalized. Bye bye. Biff. Kahne is back in front but won’t make it on the fuel he has.

Lap 174: This is how my day has gone. Stewart came in for his last stop and has too fast on pit road. Say goodbye to your top 10 finish. Smoke.

Lap 175: Edwards takes the lead.

Lap 177: All that pit strategy may have gone out the window. Kyle Busch spun with 23 to go. I admire him and his crew for getting word car back out on the track, but he just screwed everybody else up. Matt Kenseth — who I had on my team last week — led but piloted and probably won’t finish in the top 10.

Which is just fine with me. Kenseth is a robot and one of the most boring drivers in the sport. The 2003 champion has been on the bottom end of Koush Fenway Racing ever since they promoted his long-time crew chief Robbie Reiser to a team manager position.

Lap 180: Vickers and Earnhardt Jr. are the top two, with Kahne right behind them. Guess what? I had Vickers on my team for much of the season. Feel free to call me a moron.

Lap 183: Kahne passed Earnhardt Jr. but hasn’t gotten away from him. Vickers slipped and his lead is shrinking.

Lap 185: Kahne has all the momentum on his side. He’s retaken the lead and is rocketing away from the pack. Vickers has second with Hamlin behind him. I can hear the soccer moms squealing again. Fifteen laps to go.

Lap 192: Kahne is solid gone. The hot battle is for second between Vickers and Hamlin. Earnhardt Jr. will get another top five as Jeff Burton. We’ll see how the points shake out.

As for my fantasy team, I’ll be lucky to score more than 400.

Lap 198: Earnhardt Jr. and Burton fight for the fourth spot. At this point, no one will catch Kahne. Given that Earnhardt Jr. and Burton are the two drivers right behind points leaders Kyle Busch, the difference in points of one position could be very important.

Lap 20: Kahne, Vickers, Hamlin, Earnhardt Jr. and Burton are the top five in the Pocono 500. Unofficially, Kyle Busch keeps the lead despite finishing 43rd, 21 points ahead of Burton and 145 ahead of Earnhardt Jr. Race winner Kahne jumps three spots to ninth.

As for my fantasy team, I scored a 391. Not so good. I’ll get them next week at Michigan. Time for a nap.