O.J., Waxing, and Republicans stealing the election, all inside!
HEY YOU! YEAH YOU...

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“Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed there are many rewards, if you disgrace yourself you can always write a book.”

-- Ronald Reagan

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Take a trip with us into the wonderful world of waxing. Beware, this article is not for the faint of heart.

ETCETERA 24 CLASSIFIEDS
Stay classy MSU!
Doctors are evaluating investigational, medicated patches to see if they relieve pain when applied directly to the ankle.

Local doctors are currently conducting a clinical research study evaluating the effectiveness of investigational, medicated patches for treating the pain associated with an ankle sprain, when applied directly to the injured ankle.

To be eligible for this study, you must:
- Be 18 years of age or older, AND
- Be experiencing pain from an ankle sprain that occurred within the past 48 hours, AND
- Not have taken any pain medication or used compression to treat your ankle sprain.

Qualified participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and study patches at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel may also be provided.

To learn more about this local study, please contact:
Bozeman Urgent Care Center
406-586-8711

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**Words by**
Amanda Walsh
ASMSU Exponent

**OJ Simpson**

After 13 years, OJ Simpson's luck finally ran out. More than a decade ago, Simpson stunned much of America when he was found innocent after being charged with murder. This trial became known as the Trial of the Century because of the shocking result. Simpson was suspected of stabbing his ex-wife and her friend to death, but was released a free man after the trial. At that time, most of the American public found themselves in disbelief. Some might say that justice was finally served in Las Vegas this past weekend when Simpson found himself in a Las Vegas jail on Saturday. He is now facing the possibility of life in prison after a jury found him guilty of kidnapping and robbery in a dramatic late-night verdict. Simpson and a co-defendant were convicted of robbing a pair of sports memorabilia dealers at a Las Vegas hotel. Apparently, Vegas isn't luck for everyone.

**VP Debate**

The Vice Presidential debate aired on Thursday evening and went on for 90 heated minutes. The showdown between Sarah Palin, the Republican governor of Alaska, and Joe Biden, the Democratic senator from Delaware, drew nearly 70 million U.S. viewers. The large audience far surpassed last week's John McCain-Barack Obama face-off and ranked as the most watched vice presidential debate in history. Palin and Biden drew the biggest audience of any nationally televised political debate in 16 years, going back to a match up between former presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton, and independent Ross Perot.

**MSU Enrollment**

This semester, Montana State University set a new record for enrollment. This fall, MSU is home to 12,369 students, the largest student population the university has ever seen. Campus is even busier these days because of the boost in out-of-state and graduate students. This higher student enrollment will cause the MSU budget to be re-adjusted, providing more revenue to the university. MSU has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on recruiting nationwide and the hard work and money is paying off. In this year alone there was an increase of 241 students. This year also marked a decrease in the drop-out rate through the implementation of freshman advising and seminar programs. The American Indian population is also growing on campus, increasing about 70 students. With all the frequent construction on campus and in town, it is hard to imagine Bozeman will stay small for much longer.
Photography Lecture

The MTA photography option will host a free lecture by New York City photographer Jay Maisel on October 9, at 7 p.m. Thursday, in Cheever Hall, room 215. Jay Maisel, who started his career in 1954, has become synonymous with light, gesture, color, according to event organizers. Images have been used for advertising, editorial and corporate communications worldwide. In 1996, he stopped most commercial jobs in order to concentrate on his personal work. He exhibited widely and his prints are private, corporate and museum collections.

For more information, contact Tina Anderson at 994-6219.

Architectural Tourist

Montana State University School of Architecture will host Barry Newton, who will discuss “The Architectural Tourist” at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 10, in AH Johnson Hall room 339. The lecture will examine the ways in which architects and tourists are not to overcome and ways of being with things that inform and enlarge understanding and capacities for architects.

For more information, contact Shara Matney at 994-2921.

A Toast to Chief Joseph Middle School

This Friday, enjoy a wine and cheese reception, Chatham Raffle drawing, fundraiser and door prizes at the Toast to Chief Joseph Middle School. The event will go from 6-8 p.m. in the Emerson Ballroom, and admission is $10. Adults only please. Help whittle the wish list!

Saturday, October 11

“From Walking the Wards to the YouTube Debates: The Evolution of Campaigning”

David Parker, a Montana State University political science professor, will read from his latest book and speak about the evolution of campaigns at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11, at Bozeman’s Barnes and Noble Bookstore. Parker, the author of “The Power of Money in Congressional Campaigns, 1880-2006,” published recently by the University of Oklahoma Press, will talk about “From Walking the Wards to the YouTube Debates: The Evolution of Campaigning.”

Parker believes that new technologies, such as cell phone texting, e-mailing, blogging and Web pages, have personalized politics. He likens the current presidential campaign techniques to those used in campaigns in the late 19th century.

Tuesday, October 14

“The Endless Knot”

The MSU Leadership Institute will host world-renowned alpinist Conrad Anker and author and artist Jennifer Lowe-Anker, at the Bozeman premiere of his award-winning documentary, “The Endless Knot,” at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 14, in the SUB Ballrooms. The film, by adventure filmmaker Michael Brown who will also attend the event, deals with the Ankers’ story and is a benefit for the Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation. Tickets are $5 for students and $5 for the public. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketswest.com and at local TicketsWest outlets. For more information contact the Leadership Institute at 406-994-7275 or leadershipstaff@montana.edu.
Some of my favorite Kiwi sayings are the short exclamatory adjectives used to express how excited you are about something or to affirm something is cool. Some examples are:

“Mint!"

“Sweet as...” (This is the original phrase, but in local vernacular this model can be applied to nearly any adjective followed by “as.”)

“True” (Confirmation noise. Sometimes accompanied by an acknowledging nod)

“Ah, Reai!” (Discovery exclamation. “True” and “Real” are pretty interchangeable in their two functions. In this case, the intonation carries a slightly higher pitch, subtly suggesting a bit of question-like uncertainty that comes with novel realization.)

“Gutted!” and “Guts!” mean “bumped” and “bummer...”

“Getting on the piss” is to start a night/afternoon/morning, whatever, of drinking. Generally this suggests heavy drinking, but since most of Kiwi drinking culture involves heavy drinking, anyone with drink in hand is generally assumed to be “getting on the piss,” even if this is not the case.

And my new favorite phrase as of last night:

“Spinning a yarn.” To “spin a yarn” is really just to have a conversation.

The first few times I heard this phrase in use, I assumed it meant strictly to tell a story. In literal English, perhaps that’s the case, but in Kiwi terms “spinning a yarn” is any verbal interaction. To me, the sound of the phrase carries more intimate connotations than a mere conversation, but maybe that’s just because most Kiwis, in comparison to most Americans, don’t feel the need to fill awkward silences with empty words. If a Kiwi is talking to you, you can feel assured that they want that conversation to take place. In that sense, the conversation is more meaningful, since both parties are fully invested.

Here’s why I love this phrase: Last night I was sitting with a friend of a friend... and we were just talking. (“Shooting the shit,” I guess you could say in the U.S.). A ways through the conversation, she remarked how Americans are great because they’ll sit and spin a yarn with you - even if you barely know each other. She believed Americans are friendly and interesting, which so greatly contradicted her initial view about us.

I had heard this before from several Kiwis. They see our television and our movies, our politicians and foreign policy and they have a hard time differentiating between a people and the negative characteristics of a country.

The first time I encountered those negative views, I was really shocked. It hurt. I had always thought of myself as a pretty good person, so it was difficult to confront a view that suggested I wasn’t. I know the U.S. has acquired a poor international reputation, but I didn’t think the stereotypes and generalizations would be so widely accepted in another Western country.

It’s really unfortunate. The states I’ve lived in are amazing places. I would put them up against any place in New Zealand. I had just assumed that Kiwis would know the good things about my country and the people that reside there, but most are ignorant as any American when it comes to knowing about a nation outside your own.

I think “taking the piss out of” the U.S. (there you go, another Kiwi phrase) is simply a popular thing to do that stems from misinformation. It seems almost trendy to bash America, and a social faux pas to support it.

One Kiwi I encountered said sarcastically, “Americans are great...” when I told him where I’m from. Defensively, I wanted to challenge him and ask, “How many Americans have you ever actually met?”

The good thing is that these beliefs seem to be completely disregarded after meeting a few good Americans. I really am proud of where I’m from, so the America-bashing hits me kind of hard. That’s not flying the stars and stripes in the fat American way of “the home of the free.” Rather, it’s a true love of a good place, a notion of freedom which, sadly, has been jeopardized.

I was at an outdoor concert last Sunday, and a woman passed me an Amnesty International pamphlet asking people to protest U.S. torture at Guantanamo Bay. It struck me that a country is a country that tortures?

Some Americans here join in on the “Team America” jokes, and although I’ll criticize many aspects of the U.S. I refuse to make a joke out of a country. I would rather try to promote the good qualities that I believe Americans hold, and talk about all my favorite places in the U.S. Hopefully, my American friends and I can serve as good ambassadors of our home.

Sasha is currently studying abroad in New Zealand. The following article is an excerpt from one of her web posts.
Public education should be defined as in which our public support for a child's education follows that child to the school the parent chooses. The school is charged with the responsibility of educating the child, and must have resources and management authority to deliver on that responsibility. They should also report to the parents and the public on their progress.

McCain feels that the deplorable performance of preparation for our children, particularly in comparison with the rest of the industrialized world, does not allow the luxury of eliminating options from our educational repertoire. John McCain says he will fight for the ability of students to have access to all schools, demonstrate excellence, including homes.

McCain feels that No Child Left Behind focused our attention on the results of how students perform against a common standard. John McCain believes that we can no longer accept low standards for some students and high standards for others. In this age of accountability, we finally see what is happening to students who were previously invisible. While that is progress all its own it compels us to seek and find solutions to the dismal facts before us.

John McCain believes our schools should compete to be the most effective, flexible and student-centered - not safe havens for the uninterested and unaccountable. He believes a school should let them compete for the most effective, character-building teachers, reward them, and reward them.

McCain believes parents should be empowered with school choice to send their children to the school that can best serve them just as many members of Congress do with their own children.

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**OBAMA**

- Obama and Biden claim they will reform No Child Left Behind, which starts by funding the law. Obama and Biden believe teachers should not be forced to spend the academic year preparing students to fill in bubbles on standardized tests. They say they will improve the assessments used to track student progress to measure readiness for college and the workplace and improve student learning in a timely, individualized manner.

- Barack Obama and Joe Biden state that they will provide double funding for the Federal Charter School Program to support the creation of more successful charter schools. An Obama-Biden administration claims it will provide this expanded charter school funding only to states that improve accountability for charter schools, allow for interventions in struggling charter schools and have a clear process for closing down chronically under-performing charter schools.

- Obama and Biden claim they will recruit math and science degree graduates to the teaching profession and will support efforts to help these teachers learn from professionals in the field. They will also work to ensure that all children have access to a strong science curriculum at all grade levels.

- Obama and Biden state that they will provide double funding for the main federal support for after school programs, the 21st Century Learning Centers program, to serve one million more children.

- Obama and Biden say that they will address the dropout crisis by passing legislation to provide funding to school districts to invest in intervention strategies in middle school - strategies such as personal academic plans, teaching teams, parent involvement, mentoring, intensive reading and math instruction, and extended learning time.
DISTRACTIONS

Your Guide to Independent Film

“THE EXILES”

WORDS BY
Laura Vaienti
ASMSU Exponent

Written, Produced and Directed by:
Kent Mackenzie
Released by:
Milestone Films, USA.
72 minutes. Not Rated
With Yvonne Williams, Homer Nish & Tommy Reynolds, Black and White

Be there early on Wednesday Oct. 13. In all probability this event will be attended not only by MSU students but by a big Bozeman crowd, if not clusters of out-of-town indie-film aficionados. Or should I say, a crowd of excellent, subtle, meaningful film aficionados here in Montana may join you.

Here's the “what is it all about” to convince you to go. Chances are, you will meet some of your professors there. But don't let that stop you from attending.

For its beautiful black-and-white aesthetics, docudrama realism and its depressingly, yet fresh portrait of off-reservation Native Americans, “The Exiles” will be an excellent selection for rediscovery and wide re-exhibition.

Other than scenes tantalizingly glimpsed in Thom Andersen's 2003 documentary “Los Angeles Plays Itself,” “The Exiles” was never released beyond the film festival circuit. Part of the problem in 1961 was that filmmaker Kent Mackenzie used a blended technique that was not as fictionalized as the films he admired but felt were still lacking in realism (such as Satyajit Ray's “Aparajito,” François Truffaut's “The 400 Blows,” and doubtless Luis Buñuel's “Los Olvidados.”) Nor was it strictly a documentary as he felt that could perpetuate stereotypes of poverty.

Instead, Mackenzie embarked on a unique collaboration. He befriended Indians from many Southwest tribes—Apache, Chocotaw, Hualapai, Maricopa, Pima, Pueblo, and Mexican-Indian—whom he met at bars in their now-vanished Bunker Hill neighborhood and involved them in the script development process.

From conversations about their lives, he created a loose, Friday-night dusk-to-dawn story of a couple, pregnant Yvonne and pugnacious veteran Homer, and the other Natives, who drink, dance, fight and fight during one restless evening. They then portrayed these characters, based on themselves, with improvised dialogue and voice-over interior monologues. In addition to all the usual problems of independent film making, Mackenzie faced additional challenges in his five-year script-development and shooting schedule, including another pregnancy, one participant hauled off to jail, and two cinematographers drafted.

The film will open with Mackenzie's prologue of Edward Curtis's archival photographs of American Indians. Gliding along the boisterous and boozy barflies, the camera catches a man, not unlike the ex-GI and alcoholic portrayed by Graham Greene in Chris Eyre's “Skins,” still one of the few films about contemporary Natives. The loneliness and yearning of the women is also emphasized, whether waiting by themselves or fending off drunken advances. When the bars close at 2 a.m., the camera continues down the street, watching those who hang around to drink and fight, with the cops ready to charge.

The music coming out of radios and juke boxes, written for the film by Anthony Hilder, exquisitely reflects jazzy and early rock 'n' roll styles of the period.

There is no major drama here—friends stagger home and the city wakes to the dawn of yet another day. The very uneventfulness of “The Exiles” adds to both its authenticity and

Mackenzie only made one other feature, “Saturday Morning” (1971), before he died in 1980.

It's your chance. The film “The Exiles” is presented by the Bozeman Film Festival and will be projected at the Procrastinator Theatre in Bozeman University on Oct. 13. Shows are at 1 and 9 p.m.

For ticket info call the New Procrastinator Theatre.
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The Wender’s Way

AUTUMN AUTEUR

WORDS BY
Michael Matzur
ASMSU Exponent

Located in the deepdark recesses of the Visual Communications Building (11th and Grant), next to Montana's PBS, lurks a theatre with an even deeper and darker secret. That secret is the Wim Wender’s Autumn Auteur Film Series.

Hosted by Professor Simon Dixon, the series showcases the works of director, playwright, author, photographer, and producer Wim Wenders. Wenders - born in Düsseldorf, Germany - has been making international feature films since 1970. A member of the “New German Cinema,” Wenders quickly moved into his first feature, “Summer in the City” (1970). One exemplary instance of his amazing storytelling ability appears in his documentary “Tokyo-Ga” (1985), which is the story of Japanese filmmaker Yasujiro Ozu; furthermore, it is a story about the city of Tokyo as a whole. With over 30 documentaries/fiction films under his belt, you can bet Professor Dixon will be showing only the best and most inquisitive ones.

All are welcome to attend. Every Monday, a new Wenders’ film will be screened in the VCB room 182 at 7 p.m. sharp. Seating is limited to this free event, so it is first come, first served. Previous screenings include “Kings of the Road” (“Im Lauf Der Zeit”, 1976). On Monday, Oct. 13, you can catch “Lightning Over Water” (“Nick’s Film”, 1980.) For further information on coming films, contact Professor Simon Dixon at: sdxon@montana.edu.

WORDS BY
Tai Kersten
ASMSU Exponent

MSU Campus Hosts a New Venue for All Ages

There are a few things a band can do when their audience numbers at two. They can play Parcheesi, hearts, or risk. Charades might be fun or even a game of freeze tag, but the thing a band cannot do for a crowd of so few is play music. Ideally, a bastion for activities and events, the Montana State campus is relatively quiet year around, hosting only a few concerts or events a month. These concerts are often showcases for the students by the music department, and rarely capture the communal feel of a local music scene. Two recently graduated MSU alumni have returned to campus to remedy that.

C.J. Blesssum and Wilson Raska are attempting to resurrect the creative energy they witnessed in Bozeman when they were undergrads and jumpstart MSU’s artistic community.

To accomplish this, the two created the SUB Underground, a weekly concert series featuring a diverse mix of talented, local, obscure, and eclectic groups. For this semester, the concerts will be held next to the Bobcat Grill in the Strand Union Building’s basement, but as the SUB Underground grows, there are plans for other spaces. They also hope to feature the work of MSU’s artists and act as both a gallery and merchandise venue for local work. The shows are open to all ages and admission is free.

“People are sitting around saying that this town sucks,” said Raska, “now there’s no reason to say there’s nothing to do.”

Blesssum and Raska played in the band “This Word is Weapon” for a number of years and have watched the Bozeman scene slowly deteriorate. With the closing of the Armory and the failure of all-ages shows at the Zebra, the places for younger undergrads and music fans alike have dwindled. Blesssum commends that there were hundreds of people the shows before, and now, he lamented that with every underage show he hosted there are fewer and fewer people.

With the help of ASMSU, the MSU Rec Center and the success of last year’s “Battle of the Bands,” the stage has been set for a new upsurge of exposure for talent in Bozeman. On August 29th, the first SUB Underground show debuted a modest crowd. Later shows feature Bozeman’s own hip-hop act, “The Black Mask” and funk group, “Nation Within a Planet.” These bands are not featured on TRL and have nothing more than Myspace page, but they make up for it with raw energy and a furious want to build a musical community here at MSU and in Bozeman. The venue is quaint but the sound and lighting are all work. John Rios who handles the sound for The Filler and various other venues around town.

The theme for this undertaking is expansion. While Blesssum does booking, Raska takes care of promotion. Both talked to the Exponent about the future. Raska said that with the right support from the student community, the SUB Underground could become an institution sanctioned by ASMSU and school, while at the same time reflecting contemporary tastes. The shows are held every Friday, starting at seven, going until nine, so people who enjoy later hours of their Friday nights have plenty of time to do so.

The venue is safe, clean and has various concessions available since the Bobcat Grill and the Rec Center stay open during the shows.

These two have laid it on the line to build a new MSU outlet for the arts. Cared for by students reflecting the taste of students.

“It’s loud, it’s in your face, it’s fun,” said Blesssum with a look of excitement in his eyes, “Go.”
### THURSDAY

**Dave Walker Band**
- **When:** 10 p.m.
- **Where:** Zebra Lounge Bar

**Salvatore Vasapollo: The Introspective Landscape**
- **When:** 7 p.m.
- **Where:** Museum of the Rockies

**Eric Hollenback**
- **When:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Reynolds Recital Hall, MSU

**MSU Homecoming Pep Rally**
- **When:** 6:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Main Street—From Bozeman Ave. to Rouse Ave., with Rob Ash, team captains and the "Chomp." There will be free hamburgers, sausages and hot chocolate. Do not miss it!

**Kristen Mario and Dave Hannon**
- **When:** 8 p.m.
- **Where:** Leaf & Bean downtown

**MSU Homecoming Parade**
- **When:** 10 a.m.
- **Where:** Downtown Bozeman

**Die Fledermaus**
- **When:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Willson Auditorium

**Adam Thompson**
- **When:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Leaf & Bean downtown

### FRIDAY

**Film: "The Endless Knot"**
- **When:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** MSU SUB Ballroom

**MSU Women Center**
- **When:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** SUB 168, MSU

**Breanna Paletta and Justin Bennett**
- **When:** 7:30 p.m.
- **Where:** Lean and Bean downtown

### SATURDAY

**Film: "The Exiles"**
- **When:** 7 and 9 p.m.
- **Where:** MSU New Procrastinator Theater

**Where:** Zebra Cocktail Lounge Bar

**What:** Presented by Jagermeister the sound is ska/Punk. Founded in 1990 by Chris Poland, the Warsaw Poland Brothers are less a band than an institution. They are committed to the live show and they inspired a generation of ska/Punk musicians, including Slightly Stoopid and Authority Zero. Tix are $8

**Warsaw Poland Brothers**
- **When:** 10 p.m.

**Where:** Zebra Cocktail Lounge Bar

**What:** Presented by Jagermeister the sound is ska/Punk. Founded in 1990 by Chris Poland, the Warsaw Poland Brothers are less a band than an institution. They are committed to the live show and they inspired a generation of ska/Punk musicians, including Slightly Stoopid and Authority Zero. Tix are $8
Think back to when you were in high school, however long ago that may have been. Homecoming Week meant finding a date, a dress or shirt/tie, and decorating for a chaperoned dance.

Here at MSU, it means something different: five days of celebration and traditions. We don’t have the dance, but we have the parade. Royalty is still announced at halftime of the football game, but I guarantee our stadium is bigger and louder. Plus, we have tailgating with the alumni. Add in a few other events and you can have the busiest, most fun Homecoming Week ever.

While you are still on Memory Lane, think back even farther — to Saved By The Bell. Anyone who watched that show on TV can remember one scene that was recurring: A.C. Slater giving the big speech at the Pep Rally before a home game.

Well, guess what? We are bringing that tradition back to the Bobcats! This year Head Coach Rob Ash and his four team captains will be joined by the Spirit Squad and “Champ” the mascot for an event that is sure to kick off the weekend.

The rally will be on Friday night at 6:30 p.m. at the corner of Main St. and Bozeman Ave., between the R-Bar and First Security Bank. A pep rally is an important way for the football team to connect to the fans, gain motivation, and have some fun.

MSU hasn’t had a pep rally in recent history, so make sure to check out the new event and see Head Coach Rob Ash and captains Dane Fletcher, Jim Verlanic, Jeff Hanson, and Bobby Daly for their thoughts heading into the game.

Following the pep rally, Friday night still has a lot to offer in Midnight Mania. Beginning at 8 p.m. at the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, it is packed full of entertainment. For you poker enthusiasts, Midnight Mania offers a Texas Hold ‘em Tournament. Those of you that enjoy athletics and exercise, the Sumo Wrestling, Inflatable Jousting, Climbing Wall, and 4-on-4 Co-ed Volleyball Tournament should keep you busy for a few hours.

Sign-ups for the volleyball tournament are located in SUB Room 281 (ASMSU office), and teams that register by Wednesday will receive free event T-shirts.

Finally anyone looking for a good laugh can try their luck at the Dunk Tank, where you can soak your friends that think you throw like a princess. If you plan on staying for a while, food and drinks are provided, courtesy of ASMSU. For those of you who have never been to this event in the past, it is quite popular. Last year over 3,000 people attended and had a great time. The best part — Midnight Mania is completely free.

Moving on to Saturday morning, the day starts off with the Homecoming Parade at 10 a.m. I strongly recommend getting there a bit earlier than that, though, to find a good spot along the sidewalks of East Main Street. Alumni, student groups, local businesses, and Bobcat athletes will be making their way down the street on floats, judged by the Bozeman Downtown Association.

The parade provides a great chance to mingle with your current Bobcat peers, those who came before you, and loyal fans of our blue and gold. Along the sidewalk will be plenty of places to get a good breakfast, as well as something to drink. If you are looking for a good time on Saturday, this is where it begins.

After the parade, don’t be afraid to hang out downtown for bit longer. Most of the time a group of spectators will stick around to enjoy good conversations and telling stories. Once you are done hanging out with friends and perhaps making some new ones, I encourage you to head to the stadium at this point.

If you have had fun tailgating so far this season, this Saturday...
Senator John McCain - Ready on Day One

A Proven Record of Leadership

- A Maverick when Necessary
- A Consensus Builder
- Against Earmarks
- For Tax cuts
- For A Strong Military and Defense
- For Judges who adhere to the Constitution
Governor Sarah Palin Puts The People First

“It is a great privilege to be John McCain's running mate and to be considered by the American people for the Vice Presidency. This honor is a testament to the reforms and progress we have made together in Alaska. Now is the time to take that spirit of reform to Washington.”

www.johnmccain.com

Re-elect Denny Rehberg
U.S. House of Representatives

★ Denny is a fifth generation Montana rancher.
★ He promoted Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) to be included in the 2008 Farm Bill.
★ As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, he supports development of Montana's vast coal and oil resources in an environmentally sound manner.
★ Sponsored the Small Business Health Fairness Act allowing small businesses to pool their resources together to buy group insurance policies for their employees.

Rehberg for Congress
Box 1597
Helena 59624
(406) 252-1776
dennyrehberg.com
Je no exception. In fact you probably have an even bet-
e. Again, feel free to mingle fellow Bobcat faithful as I
raise the common goal is to
brate. Prepare yourself for
game by talking some foot-
capturing the good times
your camera, and laughing
your cheeks hurt.
ince you've spent your morn-
joying the festivities, the
vent arrives: the football
This weekend our
ors face Weber
(4-2
, 2-0
Big
Sky), a team not to
nderestimated after a state-
win over that "team from up
. That's right 'Cat fans, the
ts from Utah put the hated
to shame this past weekend
hat said, our team is ready for
tle. With this being a Big Sky
rence game, our boys will
remely focused on winning
the goal of a 2008 conference
ctoring into the matchup.
oning off a win over Idaho
, 23-21, to open the confer-
schedule, the Bobcats (3-2
all, 1-0
Big Sky) are on the
t track to reaching that goal.
t the MSU football team is 2-0
me this year and has played
games in front of sold-out
ds. Be sure to find your way
the stadium before kickoff
ake that place as loud as
able!
thing that the Homecom-
ing football game uniquely offers
is the halftime royalty crowning.
This year there are four nomi-
nations for king, and four nomi-
nations for queen: Eric Fischer
Timi Lapham, Ashley Lalum
Mark Eggensperger, Ashlee
Robeson and Colt Gill and Steven
ese four couples are all
representing different student
groups across campus. Voting
will open on Tuesday at 8 a.m. and
won't close until Wednesday at 8
p.m. and will be available online
or at different voting stations that
will be set up around campus.
The winners will be announced
at halftime and crowned, so I ask
that you remain in the stadium
for halftime this weekend and
support these students.
When the game ends and
you start to make your plans for
the rest of Saturday night, I ask
you one favor: be safe, be smart.
Homecoming week is a great time
for celebration, and I assume
that most of you have your party
plans in mind already. But don't
let fun times end badly; when the
end of the night rolls around make
sure you have a safe way home.
Remember that Bozeman does
run an excellent public transpor-
tation system that will give you
a free ride, or find a friend that
hasn't been drinking, I really hope
everyone has an excellent, mem-
orable homecoming week. GO
CATS!
I can't decide if I like the University of Southern California's football team. My idealistic side tells me to nearly always dislike the powerhouse for the sheer fact that I love seeing the powerhouse get beat, but, man, what a team.

After seeing their sub-par performance at Oregon State and a 7-0 score in the beginning of last week's match against the University of Oregon Ducks, I almost wondered if the Trojan dynasty had fallen. Almost. They came back to win the game 44-10 in true Trojans fashion. Freak upsets aside, their program looks as powerful as ever.

What constitutes such an incredible program? In my opinion, two words: Pete Carroll. Carroll is the fantastic eighth-year Trojan head coach. He was first an NFL coach, leading both the Patriots and the Jets during his pro stint. He is 76-14 his seven seasons at USC, giving him an astounding 84.4 percent record.

Carroll has also produced three Heisman Trophy winners in four years and reached 50 career wins faster than any other Trojan coach. He and his team broke both the school and national record with 11 wins each season for the past six seasons.

But enough about his past. What are he and the Trojans going to do this year? The level of play the Trojans showed as they steamrolled the Ducks Saturday was probably much more indicative of what this year will look like than previous games.

With performances like Saturday, the Trojans are back in the race for the national title.
BOBCAT PREVIEW

by Erica Killham

Here's what's in store for Bobcat athletics this week:

GOLF

The Women's Golf team had a strong showing at the Heather Farr/ CU Invite on Sep. 29, with Kelly Gillum finishing the best for the Bobcats. This weekend they will head to the Bronco Fall Invite.

FOOTBALL

The Bobcats started conference play off right with a 33-21 win over the Idaho State Bengals in Pocatello this past weekend. Next weekend they are back at Bobcat Stadium for their homecoming matchup against Weber State. The Weber State Wildcats look strong this year, so it should be an awesome game. Kickoff is at 1:35 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

The 'Cats marched up against the Montana Grizzlies for the first time this season last weekend, and came up short with a tough 0-3 loss. They are hoping to avenge their streak in Sacramento this Friday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.

THINKING ABOUT GETTING AN ABORTION BUT DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHERE TO BEGIN?

- Zoe Pregnancy Care Center

1. Am I really pregnant? 23% of pregnancies will naturally end for various reasons but you could still have a positive pregnancy test. The best confirmation of pregnancy is through an ultrasound exam. Zoe can provide you with confidential ultrasound exams.

2. Is it important to know if I have an STD before I get an abortion? Yes. 80% of people with a Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) don't know they have one. Having an STD when you get an abortion can cause serious problems for you, including developing Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID). Zoe can provide you with confidential STD education.

3. What do I need to know about abortion procedures? Your mind is probably racing with questions: Is there more than one kind of abortion? Will it hurt? How much will it cost? Are there any risks or side effects? Zoe can provide you with confidential answers to these and many other questions.

4. Is there someone I can talk with in person to help me sort through my options and feelings? Having a knowledgeable and understanding person to talk with is important. Zoe can provide you with confidential client advocates trained to help you with the medical and personal issues. We are available for you 24 hours a day on our hotline: 406-579-4727.

1216 West Lincoln, #3
Bozeman, MT 59715
Office: 406.512.0428
24 Hour Hot Line: 406.579.4727
Center: 406.586.9444

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- On line appointments

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"our prices won't burn you!"

Introductory special -- 10 sessions/$21 plus a gift!

586-8534
1200 East Main
Griz Stuff Bobcats Again in Volleyball

Words by
Matt McCleod
ASMSU Exponent

The Montana State volleyball team's struggles continued Friday night as they fell in straight sets to rival University of Montana at Dahlberg Arena in Missoula. The 26-24, 25-17, 25-21 loss drops the Bobcats to 3-11 overall and leaves the team at the bottom of Big Sky.

For first-year coach Sara Schaub, stumbling to 0-5 in conference play is a tough pill to swallow. Doing it at the hands of the Grizzlies doesn’t make it any easier.

"Any time you lose a rivalry game it's tough," Schaub said. "Any loss is a loss, but a win here would have been great."

The Bobcats roared out of the gates in the first set, out-hitting the Griz .360 to .212. Sophomore Jodeen Rademacher unfurled back-to-back kills to push the set to 24-24, before Kaytlin Van Burger's serving error gave Montana a set point. Grizzly standout Jaimie Thibeault whistled an emphatic kill past a pair of Bobcat blockers to close out the first game.

After battling back only to come up short in the opening set, the wheels came off for the 'Cats in the second, as they hit a paltry .065.

Thibeault led the Grizzlies with four blocks, including a key stuff of Montana State's Nicole Grypiuk to close the second set. Amy Robens led Montana with eight kills and Brittny Brown notched 15 digs as Jerry Wagner's team improved to 3-2 in conference play and 7-8 overall. The win moves Montana into a tie with Eastern Washington for third in the league.

Rademacher anchored the Bobcats with eight kills, eight digs and three aces.

The UM ticket office offered $1 tickets and handed out white t-shirts to fans as what the athletic department advertised as an effort to "white-out the Cats." Thibeault said playing in front of a crowd more than 1,300 helped energize a team already motivated by the rivalry.

"We were so pumped about playing in front of these fans," Thibeault said. "Plus winning against the Bobcats means just that much more."

The defeat extends the Bobcats'conference losing streak to seven games.

Wagner said, despite Montana State's record, he expected a challenge.

"We absolutely expected a tough game," Wagner said. "I told the team before the match we'd have to be focused and consistent to take this thing."

Wagner spent six seasons at MSU as an assistant and associate coach. The win bumps his record to 5-0 against former team.

The Bobcats started the season winning three of their first seven games and going 1-27 in 2007 under Miya Malaut. They've since dropped eight in a row in seven straight sets. Despite the two-game losing streak, Schaub said her team has continued to improve.

"We're doing a lot of good things," Schaub said. "We're just not doing as well as those things as much as we need to still yet."

Montana dominated throughout, finishing the night with a .205 hitting percentage to Montana State's .106, topping the Bobcats in kills, digs, assists, and blocks.

The Cats finish a four-game swing at Sacramento State on Saturday.
Gear Guide:

YOU DON’T NEED ANY OF THIS STUFF

Words by
Niel Cassidy
USU Exponent

What I have compiled here are a few products that can enhance your life to a level beyond imagination. These are innovations that are groundbreaking in their respective fields. These items will either change the way things are made in the future or be a bad investment in the top shelf of your closet. The only way to find out is to buy them and decide for yourself, though you definitely should not.

All of the new gear developments have three things in common: They are used in an outdoors setting; they are in this article, and you don’t need any of them to get by in life.

The first morsel of newness comes from a Swedish firm fascinated with the direction of extreme sports athletes. The company, named POC, uses a scientific approach with a keen eye for design in developing helmets and goggles for athletes that ski, snowboard and ride mountain bikes.

POC has the best intentions, to develop helmets that are as safe as they can possibly be, reducing deaths and causing fewer injuries than other rudimentary helmets.

They also make very original goggles in a modern look, which provide a field of vision due to a huge spherical lens. They have a vibration to alert the user to an incoming call. These gloves could save you from dropping your cell phone off the lift into last night’s fresh snow.

Known as the Odin PCM Shell, the fabric can change its state of matter from liquid to solid according to the temperature extremes. When the temperature begins to rise, the jacket begins to store this heat so that when it becomes cold again, the previously stored heat is released as warmth. The fabrics technology is based on a type of paraffin foam developed originally for NASA.

The jacket comes in only one color, black, and seems like a synthetic hide, almost rubbery, like a flat bike tube. Helly Hansen also offers the jacket in a down-filled version. Being developed for NASA makes it seem better suited on the Moon, not Moonlight Basin. Retailing for $550 in very limited quantities, this jacket is not for the faint of heart.

The last discovery is the farthest from necessity, the absolute last thing you need to buy for this upcoming season, or ever. That being said, this product has the appeal of a James Bond gadget. Even though you hate it the most, you want it just as much. It is simple and functional, yet the cold Montana winters barely justify the existence of the most technologically advanced winter gloves on the planet.

Made by Swany, the G.Cell winter gloves use the latest Bluetooth technology to turn your glove into a cellular phone. Linking with most phones, the user can simply talk to their hand and answer or end calls by tapping a soft fabric button. A vibrating wristband alerts the user to an incoming call. These gloves will literally come in handy when you need to call friends and brag about how deep the snow is. Forget about enduring the cold and never take your hands out of your gloves again. Be prepared to part with about $500 for the luxury to do so.

COURTESY OF CAMPIST.COM
Get Outside:

WORDS BY
Dillon Maslach
ASMSU Exponent

One of the most exhilarating mountain sports Montana has to offer is whitewater rafting. After the massive annual snowmelt we receive every spring, the surrounding rivers rage for months.

This past summer marked an unbelievable season on the rivers of Montana, with record high water levels and clear blue skies. The most memorable thing about rafting is the rush of adrenaline that fills your body before rolling around over wave trains.

Rafting is a challenging sport consisting of an inflatable boat and a group of thrill-seekers. A plethora of paddles, helmets, and life jackets are also important.

There are many different sizes of rafts, holding anywhere from two to twelve people. Depending on the height of the water and difficulty of the river, different boats have different traits to offer the riders.

The most common types of rafts used today are standard rafts with self-bailing floors and also cataracts. Rafts are usually made of strong urethane plastic and can typically hold loads of gear and people. Cataracts are two separate, curved hulls made of urethane, connected together by a metal frame.

Cataracts are great for running all classes of white-water and typically hold one rider with some room for gear. The difference between the two is the smaller less buoyant cataracts handle a lot better in tough spots, whereas conventional rafts can be significantly more buoyant and prevent water from coming aboard.

Many things come into consideration while riding rivers. Safety is the most important thing to consider before heading out to the water. River guides will tell you that being able to read water patterns is the most important aspect of running rivers. Dangers are also imposed by the environment, including fallen trees or branches known as strainers.

Large rocks can produce dangerous undertow and pools, dams that are created by trees or rocks and waterfalls can prove disastrous. Even in situations when it is deemed “safe” by a guide or party of people, deaths and injuries can still occur.

An important thing to keep in mind is that water currents are a lot more powerful then they may seem and can sweep swimmers in any direction, at any given time.

Sections of rivers are categorized into different classes of difficulty. The classes range from I to VI-plus, VI-plus being the most difficult. Any section from III to VI-plus should only be run with an experienced guide who knows what to expect from the river.

If you are new to the sport of rafting, you may be inclined to take a trip with a professional company before tackling large whitewater. If you feel ready to raft or you have guided before, the easiest way to rent rafting gear is through the ASMSU Outdoor Recreation Center or SOB Barn. They offer seminars and information sessions on many outdoor sports. You can visit them at www.montana.edu/outdoorrecreation or give them a call at 994-3621.

The Gallatin is a great river for all classes of rafting. The lower Gallatin takes rafters through three large sections of rapids called the Screaming Left, House Rock and the Mad Mile.

It is recommended for experienced rafters, only, and offers rafters classes III-VI depending on water levels. There are many different put-ins where rafters can begin their trips on the Gallatin River and is best to go with someone experienced.

The Madison River can provide fun for both experienced rafters as well as beginner rafters who just want to experience floating on a river. The upper Madison put-in is near Ennis Lake under the Madison Dam.

This wild section of the Madison is called Bear Trap Canyon and can get up to class V during high water season. The largest rapid, called Kitchen Sink, is pretty intense with large drops, huge rocks and rugged holes to get stuck in.

As for the more relaxed parts of the Madison, the river comes out of Bear Trap Canyon and flattens out, offering rafters no more than the occasional rock or wave. This lower section of the Madison is good for getting the hang of handling a raft, but is mostly only good for getting tipsy on a tube with friends.

The Yellowstone is the longest undammed river in the lower 48 states. There are many different put-ins and sections to rent on the Yellowstone.

The most well known section of great white water is called Yankee Jim Canyon with difficult class III-V obstacles. The put-in for Yankee Jim is just U.S. 89, five miles north from Corb Springs.

The closest access to the Yellowstone for us here in Bozeman is at Carter Bridge, in Livingston. The lower section of the Yellowstone, from Carter’s Bridge down to Big Timber, provide a steady moving water with very few obstacles, which is good for a beginner or someone who has little knowledge of how rivers run. These lower parts are mostly class I-II and are better recognized by people as some of the best fishing in the area.

There are many rivers in and around Gallatin County, as well as to the north near Flathead Lake. When spring rolls around next year I encourage everyone to get out and try white-water rafting. In my opinion, there is no other outdoor sport that offers more thrills, spills and remote Montana scenery than river running.

It will open your mind and allow you to bond with friends along the way. Rafting has changed my opinion of an amazing state and the environment is surrounded by here in Montana ways. Always remember safety first on the river and to have a good time. So get out there and give it a try. I guarantee that you won’t be blown away.
Not a Democracy, for a Republic

BY Howard SU Exponent

Democracies are beautiful things. Everyone votes on every issue directly. Everyone speaks with the same impact, absolutely the same power, and can’t be overshadowed by anyone else. Rights are flawlessly distributed, you have no one but yourself to blame if you cannot convince people of your views. It’s unfortunate that we live in a democracy.

Republics are nice things. Everyone elected for their representatives, and their representatives speak for them on the floor of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Things are a little more complicated. The representatives and senators have a lot more of a job in things. They are a little more important in the political sense than you as a representative of a republic. Republicans are as good as democracies, but understand that Republicans are as good as democracies.

Democrats hard to manage in a country of 305 million people. They’re to manage a country of this size, but a republic’s functions are well. It’s frustrating that they don’t live in a bicameral.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the recent fiscal bailout votes. By some estimates, 90 percent of calls to congressmen are opposed, and enough opposing emails flood in to crash the congressional email servers, you can be fairly confident that the bill carries little support.

In short, if voting for a bill will doom you to a loss in the next election, you probably shouldn’t vote for it.

There are certain exceptions, however. Representatives are expected to know the constitution and the laws, and not violate them. For instance, if a congressman’s district suggests they take money from the country specifically for their district, then you cannot reasonably expect a congressman to be party to a theft. Too often they are.

This country is swiftly moving away from a republic and towards an oligarchy, a system in which a small group of people control a larger group. I elected a man who would be a mouthpiece for my views in the United States House of Representatives, not a man who I hoped had views similar to mine and would suitably express them in the Soviet Politburo.

I have a brain. I don’t need someone doing what is best for me. I do what is best for me. I don’t trust anyone else’s brain, I trust mine.

Never, ever admit that another person knows what is best for you. You know what’s best for you, you are the person who should dictate how your representative votes. Not his conscience, not his wallet, not his friends or what he thinks is the best for the country.

Your conscience, your wallet, and your brain are infinitely better at deciding what is good for you than anyone else.
VOICE Center

Needs Volunteers
to answer crisis lines and
provide community education on sexual assault and relationship violence.

Volunteer opportunities for men and women.

Questions: 994-7069
24-hour line
e-mail: voice@montana.edu
New Location: SUB 370

Attention Ladies,
Save the Men!

WORD BY
Trudi Mingus
ASMSU Exponent

At a certain point in life, girls come to realize something very important about who we truly are as American women. We are not princesses, and more importantly, our prince does not exist according to fairy tales. We adapt well; in fact, every day we break straight through that glorious glass ceiling and strive to meet higher heights in the business and intellectual realms, competing with the top men in each field.

Through the years, women have done truly amazing things. As an American woman myself, I am terminally independent. After all, I represent generations of hard work at the rights attained in honor of feminism. Somewhere between gaining self-evident rights and today, radical feminism has become a resounding annoyance. It started as a whisper, and has grown into a shouted “goodbye” to a delicate and loving beauty that we, as women, should rightfully claim as ours.

We have shoved our own unique nature out of the door and like Amazon women, we have gutted the male spirit of its natural strength and trained men to act as we act, subdued and just exactly how we want them.

We fawn over romantic movies and devour how amazing our Hollywood counterparts are, jealous and almost seething that reality is not nearly as kind. Not only would we like a man to be sensitive and sweep us off our feet, we would also like to make sure that if we don’t want to, we shouldn’t have to make a decision again unless it is something we wanted to decide...

If you don’t catch my drift, the point is that men, just like women, are people. If we continue to pretend that we special order men and tame them in being the beast-like-wild-mountain-men that they are, our society will evolve into being men and women to women people who look like men, but aren’t.

Men and women are not equal. It is a statement to make, I know. Take a second, however, to reflect. Whether we are speaking anatomically or emotionally, we simply are not designed the same. A woman is exclusively designed without knowing she is doing it, adding beauty to the world. A man also has an indispensable role in life to be a protector, or symbol of strength.

The picture of men in our society is essentially one of the bigoted, chauvinist jerk who will only give you the day if you sleep with him and has low self-esteem. That is where we have changed every man we know, from fathers and brothers into best friends, into pigs.

We should be ashamed of the way we have treated men and re-learn how to allow them to be who they are, instead of caging them up and forcing them to accommodate us.
republicans Seek to Disenfranchise Voters

Last week the Montana Republican Party challenged the eligibility of 6,000 voter registrations for the upcoming Senate election. This cynical act is a testament to the attitude that has guided political parties for years. Montana Republicans believe it is easier to fight for power, rather than fighting for every offering new ideas or solutions to problems; they are attempting to disenfranchise 6,000 voices.

Montana is not the only place where Republicans are obstructing what ought to be a fair election. In Michigan, Republicans are cross-referencing the addresses of registered voters with the addresses of home foreclosures from predominately African-American neighborhoods.

The Minnesota Republican Party is attempting to prevent same-day registration and voting, a system widely considered to improve voter turnout. In Wisconsin, Republicans are suing the names of a quarter million voters, again only from demographics which tend to vote Democratic. Students attending Virginia Tech were falsely told by the Republican-controlled elections board last month that registering at their college address would jeopardize their financial aid.

The Republican Party does know how to win elections. They do not do it by turning out large numbers of Americans from diverse, middle-class backgrounds (the Democrats' approach). When narrow segments of the population turn out more heavily than others, Republicans do well (conservative Christians for George Bush).

"Swift-boat" type attacks are regrettable given the shallowness of today's media. Divisive issues like abortion or gay marriage, which have little effect on daily life, are nevertheless exploited to incite passion and gain votes. Ultimately, this strategy is guided by an uninspired cynicism which appeals to anger, fear and frustration, but an optimistic generation of 18-29 year-old voters has rejected this philosophy. In 2000 Al Gore received 48 percent, (vs. 46 percent for Bush) of the youth vote. In 2004 John Kerry expanded this to 54 percent. In 2006 Democrats won a majority in Congress only because 60 percent of 18-29 year olds, (who voted) voted for them.

Since late September, with the exception of a single television ad, the entirety of John McCain's advertising has been devoted to attacks against Sen. Barack Obama. By no means do Republicans have a monopoly on negative campaigning, but this year especially they have given themselves no other course to take. On every major issue, John McCain's positions are identical to the unpopular and failed policies of the Bush administration.

The elephantine mendacity of John McCain's campaign is far too much even by Karl Rove's standards; "McCain has gone beyond the limits of decency - he has crossed the line," the architect himself lamented on Fox News. Ditto for the attacks on Brian Schweitzer here in Montana.

The same cynical strategy is at work when the largest and most well-funded organization of Washington, D.C., lobbyists in America, the NRA, tells us that if we re-elect the Democrats who lowered our tuition (a little, anyway), expanded our hunting and fishing access and got health insurance for children, we will lose our guns. We know better.

In a small state during a close election, 12,000 MSU students is a lot of votes. It is unacceptable that anyone would try to disenfranchise 6,000 citizens, but in reality nearly all disenfranchisement will be self-imposed.

But it is also a testimony to the greatness of our nation that it is within our reach to overpower the arrogance of a few out-of-touch elites simply by voting. So let's piss off the Republicans and vote.
Sudoku

DIRECTIONS: FILL IN THE GRID SO THAT EVERY ROW, COLUMN, AND 3X3 BLOCK CONTAINS THE DIGITS 1 THROUGH 9.

SEE SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK’S PAPER!

Last week’s solution:

Hey cool cats! Be the first to return this correctly completed Sudoku to the Exponent Office and WIN TWO FREE MOVIE TICKETS to Hollywood theaters!

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Sudoku

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Sudoku

Hey cool cats! Be the first to return this correctly completed Sudoku to the Exponent Office and WIN TWO FREE MOVIE TICKETS to Hollywood theaters!

I’ve always been a trim and shave sort of girl. Not that I didn’t find the idea of waxing intriguing and downright sexy: I just couldn’t bring myself to ask a stranger to pour molten hot wax on me and then rip each hair follicle out by its roots. The idea of paying $75 for excruciating pain wasn’t my idea of a good financial investment.

But a few months ago, curiosity and disregard for my budget led me to schedule an appointment. The weeks preceding the event were filled with relentless teasing from my partner, commentary on social expectations of women’s “hairstyles” and reminders of how badly it was going to hurt.

While I laughed and joined in on the self-deprecation, I kept finding myself wondering what the hell I had gotten myself into.

Finally, the day was upon me and... I rescheduled my appointment. I never said I wasn’t a coward. When it comes to a stranger fondling my intimates while ripping parts of my body off with hot wax, I most definitely am. But, in my defense, I did reschedule it.

A few more days passed; the teasing continued and, yet again, the big day was upon me. While the possibility of flight continued to gnaw at the back of my mind, pride won out. I knew I’d never live it down if I didn’t actually go through with it.

I scheduled a ride to ensure I was in fact go and, as I was dropped off, asked, “You do realize that’s really going to hurt, right?” Grumbling, I made my way into the building.

While nervously waiting for the stranger, my heart buzzed as my partner reminded me of all the gory details of the torture ahead, thoroughly joying the ride. I silently cursed him and reminded myself that in future I needed to think about my hair to myself.

There is something very humbling about being asked to get on your knees and bow, bare ass in the air, while your partner just “finishes” you up around back.

Well, it’s going to swallow heartbreak, I’m sure.

I’ve always been a trim and shave sort of girl. Not that I didn’t find the idea of waxing intriguing and downright sexy: I just couldn’t bring myself to ask a stranger to pour molten hot wax on me and then rip each hair follicle out by its roots. The idea of paying $75 for excruciating pain wasn’t my idea of a good financial investment.

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While nervously waiting for the stranger, my heart buzzed as my partner reminded me of all the gory details of the torture ahead, thoroughly joying the ride. I silently cursed him and reminded myself that in future I needed to think about my hair to myself.

There is something very humbling about being asked to get on your knees and bow, bare ass in the air, while your partner just “finishes” you up around back.

Well, it’s going to swallow heartbreak, I’m sure.

I’ve always been a trim and shave sort of girl. Not that I didn’t find the idea of waxing intriguing and downright sexy: I just couldn’t bring myself to ask a stranger to pour molten hot wax on me and then rip each hair follicle out by its roots. The idea of paying $75 for excruciating pain wasn’t my idea of a good financial investment.

But a few months ago, curiosity and disregard for my budget led me to schedule an appointment. The weeks preceding the event were filled with relentless teasing from my partner, commentary on social expectations of women’s “hairstyles” and reminders of how badly it was going to hurt.

While I laughed and joined in on the self-deprecation, I kept finding myself wondering what the hell I had gotten myself into.

Finally, the day was upon me and... I rescheduled my appointment. I never said I wasn’t a coward. When it comes to a stranger fondling my intimates while ripping parts of my body off with hot wax, I most definitely am. But, in my defense, I did reschedule it.

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