

the Exponent

Wednesday, July 30, 1986 Volume 77, Number 56 An ASMSU Publication

Parade

The parade will start at 10 a.m. from Buttrey's on Main Street. Entrants should be at Buttrey's at 9 a.m. to stage for the parade. There will be a children's parade that will start at MacDonalds. The entrants for the children's parade should be ready by the time the parade goes by. There will be about 100 entries for this year's parade and prizes will be awarded for the best entries in several areas. If you have not entered and wish to call John Hooton at 587-4862.

A Taste of Bozeman

Tonight will be the third try at this outdoor feast (they're 1 for 2) and if all goes well with the weather they can make it 2 for 3 (that's 666 for all you baseball fans). Five blocks of Main Street downtown will be blocked off and 1/2 mile of tables will be set up for 1500 hungry people to be served by 22 restaurants having meals ranging in price from \$4.25 a plate to \$27.00 a plate starting at 7:00 p.m. ending at about 9:00-9:30 and \$1 per plate will be donated to the Museum of the Rockies new addition. If you would like a number where you can get a reservation for this festive event, don't bother, it's sold out so try again next year.

The Button

According to the Sweet Pea '86 schedule this \$2 button entitles you to participate in all the activities. The button is the primary source of support for the festival and is requested for admission at Lindley Park from August 1st through the 3rd. Who knows this button may some day be a collectors item. Remember this special button will be required for concerts and all other activities at Lindley Park, even to buy something.

Children

Before noon each day there will be several activities. These activities include: a clay table, a woodworking table, wood collages, a make-up table, painting, vegetable printing and puppets. These activities are located south of the arts and crafts area also in Lindley Park. Other children activities that occur in the afternoon are listed in the Sweet Pea Schedule.

Shakespeare

MSU's own Shakespeare in the Parks will be back in town on the 1st (A Midsummer Night's Dream, Lindley Hollow.) If you missed the shows earlier this month be sure to catch the show this time around.

"Sweet-Pea" Shirts

What would a festival be without a T-shirt to remember it by? This year's T-shirts boast the same design that has been used for the past 8 years but different colors. They are available in all sizes for \$6 and you can get them at downtown stores, the Main Mall, University Square, the Baxter Hotel and at Lindley Park as soon as the festivities start. Also, if you were in town for last year's festival and didn't get your T-shirts or if you weren't here and wish to have a 1985 Sweet Pea shirt they will be available for \$3.

Art Show

Cash prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd respectively will be awarded to the winners from almost 100 art pieces that have been entered in this years art show. The art will be juried by Magee Nelson. The winners and the juried work can be seen between 7:30 and 10:00 Thursday night at the Beall Park Art Center. There have also been 15-20 works entered in the Open Art Show, these will also be on display. Wine and punch will be served during the showing.

Many of the things that will be happening to finish up this ninth annual Sweet Pea Festival have not been mentioned here. A few are the concerts, dance activities, the bike race, the 5K and 10K runs, and the flower show. If there were times that you couldn't find anything new to do in Bozeman then that excuse will not work this week. Find your schedule and join in the festivities.

Sweet Pea '86

Bozeman, Montana

July 26 through August 3

Story by Brian Wagner

Fragment of Sweet Pea Poster by Jessie Wilber

Children's Activities- Lindley Park

Saturday, August 2

- Noon Gymnastics with William
- 12:30 pm Puppet Show, Nancy De Wolfe
- 1 pm Dance Workshop, Co-Motion Dance Company
- 2 pm Homemade Jam
- 2:30 pm Storytelling, Marilyn Forte
- 3 pm Puppet Show, Nancy De Wolfe

Sunday, August 3

- Noon Puppet Show, Nancy De Wolfe
- 12:30 pm Gymnastics with William
- 1:30 pm Homemade Jam
- 2:30 pm Puppet Show, Nancy De Wolfe
- 3 pm Ballet Workshop, Louise Ryder

Dance Activities

Saturday, August 2

- 12:30 pm Strong, Stretched and Centered, Diane Benedict, Lindley Hollow
- 1 pm Dance Workshop, Co-Motion Dance Company, Lindley Hollow
- 2 pm Cowboy Jitterbug, Tim Patison, Lindley Hollow
- 6 pm Dance Performance, Co-Motion Dance Company, Seattle, Washington, Modern Dance, Lindley Bowl

Sunday, August 3

- Noon Break Dancing, MSU Dance Company, Lindley Hollow
- 3 pm Caravan of Dreams, Mideastern Dancing, Lindley Hollow

Music

Friday, August 1

- 8 pm Good Ol' Persons, Texas swing/country bluegrass, Lindley Bowl

Saturday, August 2

In the trees of Lindley Park:

- 1 pm Mark and Kathy Tyres, folk/ballads
- 3 pm Inflight, classical/jazz fusion
- 4 pm Blind Vision, rock 'n roll
- Lindley Bowl:
- 8 pm Airtio and Flora Purim, Latin jazz

Sunday, August 3

In the trees of Lindley Park:

- 1 pm Big Sky Boys, bluegrass
- 2 pm Montana Cello Trio, chamber music
- 4 pm Bridger Woodwind Quintet, classical

Shakespeare in the Park

Friday, August 1

- 6 pm A Midsummer Night's Dream, Lindley Hollow

Sunday, August 3

- 5 pm Volpone (The Fox), Lindley Hollow

Art Shows

- 1-5 pm Wednesday through Sunday, Beall Park Art Center, 409 North Bozeman

The greatest of all

When I was in high school I wasn't much interested in sports. I didn't like football or baseball and played only a marginal game of basketball. What's more, I had none of the dreams of sports greatness like many kids my age: no fantasies about breaking Babe Ruth's homerun record, playing center for the Lakers or throwing touchdown passes with the Cowboys. But I did have one fantasy that I was suddenly reminded of this weekend. In this fantasy I saw myself hurtling down a dangerously steep and curvy mountain road, the wind racing by, sweeping through corners at blinding speeds and pulling steadily ahead of the pack. And then the triumphant ride into the city, arms held high above my head, the roar of the crowd in my ears as they watched the impossible come true.

That's right: my ridiculous fantasy was to be the first American to win the Tour de France. A suitably impossible goal for a tall skinny kid on a 30 pound touring bike that had never seen the other side of the local city speed limit. But it was my dream and it kept me turning away out along the frontage highways when the winds were clawing me back and the hills were just too steep. And it was a dream that I didn't have to share with thousands of other kids out kicking footballs and hitting in homers. I was, for the most part, unique among my peers.

Now an imposter, some other American has achieved my goal—and Mr. Greg Lemond deserves my tremendous admiration. He has accomplished the impossible and he has done it on his own, full well knowing that his greatness would largely go unsung in his own country. Sadly, it seems he was right.

Something about the American culture has kept it from sharing in the tremendous passion that most Europeans have for the sport of bicycle racing. Perhaps it is our belief in the preeminence of the team over the individual that makes football, basketball and baseball our national obsessions, a result of our industrialized society that demands group cooperation. Still, how can we then explain the tremendous popularity of individual sports such as tennis and running and the relative lack of interest in the excitement and speed of bicycle racing?

It's a mystery to me. Americans will stand along side a hot road watching a bunch of slow and sweaty marathon runners plod by; they will thrill to the speed and maneuvering of high-powered automobile racing; they will admire the stamina of well conditioned athletes; but when it comes to the sport that best combines these factors they are lackadaisical.

T. James LeCain Editorial

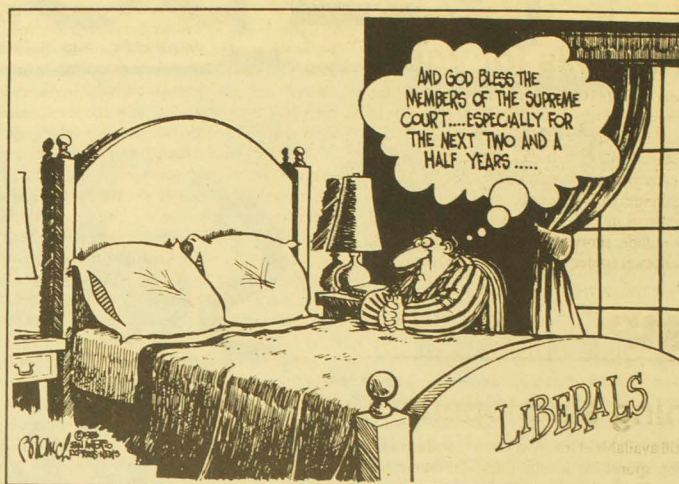
To win the Tour de France Lemond had to ride over 2,500 miles of towering mountain roads and wind swept plains in just 23 days. That's an average of more than 108 miles a day with many legs of the trip far longer than that. How many of our "athletic" baseball stars could ride that far every day for just a week? A handful? Maybe. And even if they could ride that far it would take them all day. Lemond averaged about 23 mph for the trip. Go out and try to keep up with traffic for a few minutes and you'll get a better idea of the magnitude of this feat.

I guess what all this is leading up to is my complete loss of patience with the people of this country and their stubborn refusal to give a bit of recognition and credit to the finest athletes in the world, even when one of them is finally from their own country. Not that Lemond didn't get some coverage, but for the most part it was sporadic and late in the TV news broadcast or buried on the third page of the sports section in newspapers. Even when the race was covered it was played as a human interest piece rather than a major sporting event of world wide interest. "Oh, an American is winning that little bike race in France? Isn't that nice."

With the exception of tennis, American athletes rarely compete in international professional sporting events. Our "World" Series is hardly that. Do you think anyone in Italy gives a damn who wins the American's "Super" Bowl? And the English are equally unconcerned about the results of the NBA championship. But almost every country in Europe and many from around the world follow the Tour de France and for a countryman to win is a source of tremendous national pride.

And now, after 83 years of the most competitive, grueling and exciting racing in the world, one of our own countrymen has finally triumphed. What does he get? Well, in our own Bozeman Daily Chronicle the story of his victory was placed below stories on a state amateur goal tournament, Martina Navratilova and a city tennis tournament. What's a guy gotta do to get a little recognition here?

But who knows. Maybe Lemond's victory will finally get people interested in the sport of bicycle racing. Maybe there are a few kids out there who will look at Lemond and start wondering if maybe football isn't really kind of a silly game. Maybe they'll decide to try a sport that calls for real athletes, athletes on their own with no one but themselves between winning and losing. Will Greg Lemond be the first in a long line of draftees into America's own Bicycling Hall of Fame?



Demo victory in '88 unsure

After six years of jollity and song, some Republican senators feel their sense of well-being withering at the roots. But the Democratic Party is going through one of those patches during which even silver clouds have lead linings, and so in the November elections the party may suffer a crippling victory.

A Democrat, anticipating 1988, recently said: "If we can't beat George Bush, the Democratic Party should pick another country." Of course, Democrats talked that way about Ronald Reagan in 1979. But that also is how many Democrats feel about the challenge of recapturing control of the Senate this November. Those feelings rest on theories that may, or may not, be sand.

say: "I am unsure which policy choice should be made, so I will concentrate on being sure about the people making the choices."

Hart and Garin also analyze midterm elections with reference to persons who, as heroes or villains, embody issues. In 1974, the heroes were Sen. Sam Ervin and Rep. Peter Rodino; the villains were Nixon and Agnew. In 1978, the hero was Howard Jarvis, the flint who sparked California's Proposition 13 tax revolt. In 1982, James Watt was a symbol of Reaganite excess. Hart and Garin say that in 1986, the hero is Democratic Sen. Bill Bradley, architect of tax

reform that puts special interests in their place, and the villain is Mike Deaver, Republican lobbyist.

William Schneider of the American Enterprise Institute, writing in The New Republic, sees Democratic success for three other reasons. First, presidential elections play to Republican strength, the direction of national policy. Current polls show the public thinks the GOP best equipped to perform that task. Other elections are about benefits and services, the Democrats' perceived strength in our political division of labor.

George Will Columnist

Peter Hart and Geoffrey Garin, both Democrats, have asked "focus groups" of voters to describe a situation in which they would like to be a "fly on the wall" to observe and judge a candidate. Two answers have recurred. The voters would like to observe a private meeting about political strategy, and the candidate at the family dining table. The latter, according to Hart and Garin, in their introduction to "The Democratic Fact Book," supports their theory that today "The messenger is the message." That is, voters are unusually interested in the candidate's character.

Most voters agree about what problems are important—the budget deficit, the Soviet Union—but there is no widespread confidence in particular solutions. Therefore voters

the Exponent

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AID

The Pell tolls for you

After getting a White House agreement not to veto the measure, Congress last week voted to add \$146 million in "supplemental" funds to the Pell Grant Program.

But the Education Dept. thinks the shortfall is still \$224 million, which means some 690,000 students this fall will lose or get reduced Pell Grants.

College lobbyists in D.C. believe the program instead is some \$90 million short of meeting students' needs, meaning much fewer students would need to be cut out of the program.

CAMP

Running slots open

Space is still available at the cross country and distance running camp sponsored by the track department at Montana State University August 10-15.

Two programs will be run concurrently, one for boys and girls ages 12 or older and one for high school coaches, according to camp director Dale Kennedy.

"Coaches can obtain two post graduate credits through MSU for participating in the camp," said the women's track coach at Montana State.

Kennedy was named "Coach of the Year" when his cross country team won the Mountain West Conference championship last year. His camp staff also includes MSU men's coach Rob Stark and a former All-America cross country runner Kirk Keller.

Cost for resident campers is \$175. Commuter campers will pay \$110. The registration deadline has been extended to August 4.

GRASSES

Sell your lawn mowers

Every time a group of visitors would inspect George Evans experimental plots of grass someone would pop up with, "Hey, George, have you got any I won't have to mow?"

They were kidding.

But Evans took the question seriously.

And now he has some grasses that only grow no higher than about five inches in his Montana Agricultural Experiment Station plots at Montana State University.

That's a big change for one Kentucky bluegrass variety from Alaska that previously grew more than a foot tall.

Shortening it began with some techniques which are becoming standard in changing plant chromosomes.

Evans soaked the Alaskan variety's seed for a 12-hour period in diethyl sulfate (DES). DES breaks chromosomes, the carriers of genetic growth information. Sometimes a piece of a chromosome is lost in the process. If the piece that was lost was part of the code telling the plant to grow tall, Evans ended up with a shorter grass plant.

Then he planted the seed of the shortest grass and selected the lowest growing individual plants. The treatment, growing and selection has been underway three years. He has only a very little seed from the shortest growing plants, but hopes to increase the seed over the next few years. Most Kentucky bluegrass can produce viable seed without crossing with itself or another plant.

"That means once you get certain characteristics in the grass, they are very stable from one generation to the next," said Evans.

Evans will continue to watch the plants grow, hoping that the low-growing characteristic does not change as the plants mature. Since the grass so far has been grown with individual plants separated from each other, Evans also needs to grow them in blocks to see if they grow differently in crowded situations.

He also will study the plants to see if other characteristics have changed. In particular, he hopes one of the lines will be drought-tolerant.

Businesses already are interested in the potential of the low growing grass. Who Knows? Maybe someday their advertising jingles will tout no-mow grass.

ATHLETICS

Bye-bye Bobcat booster

Montana State University athletic officials have announced that they have accepted the resignation of Tom Reed as the Executive Director of the MSU-Athletic Scholarship Association, better known as the Bobcat Booster Club.

Reed is leaving MSU after nine months to accept an administrative position at his alma mater, the University of Nevada-Reno.

"Although we are disappointed at the length of Tom's tenure at Montana State University, we are certainly not disappointed at the quality or results of his efforts during his stay," said MSU Men's Athletic Director Doug Fullerton. "He has moved the booster club into a position to have its best year ever and reinforced our decision to employ an executive director."

The totals through the first six months of this year for the Bobcat Booster Club have equalled the final totals in the club's best year ever and reinforced our decision to employ an executive director."

The totals through the first six months of this year for the Bobcat Booster Club have equalled the final totals in the club's best year ever.

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Calendar

Thursday, July 31
Art show at the Beall Park Art Center, 409 N. Bozeman Ave.

Thursday, July 31
Film: *Gone With the Wind* will be shown at 8 p.m. in 339 Johnson Hall. Tickets are \$1 for MSU students and \$2 for non-students.

August 1-2
Sweet Pea Arts and Craft sale at Lindley Park.

Friday, August 1
Shakespeare in the Park presents "A MidSummer Night's Dream" at 6 p.m. in Lindley Park.

Saturday, Aug. 2
Sweet Pea Run, music, parade and dance performance.

White water rafting trip through Yankee Jim Canyon. Deadline

to register is Thurs., July 31. For more info. contact ASMSU Outdoor Recreation. 994-3621.

Farmers' market will be held in the Bogert Park Pavilion.

Sunday, Aug. 3
Shakespeare in the Park presents "Valpone" at 5 p.m. in Lindley Park.

Expanding the Museum

Six million slated for new planetarium and dinosaur

A 6 million dollar expansion to the Museum of the Rockies will begin this coming August. The new addition, which will be three times the size of the existing building, is planned to be completed within two years and the exhibits and equipment installed within three.

The museum has been and promises to continue to be quite an asset to the people of Montana State University and Bozeman, the state of Montana, and the northwestern part of the United States. When in operation the new museum will employ 28 full-time employees, 10 seasonal, 20 students, and 100 volunteers. Its operational budget will amount to 1 million dollars.

The present museum sees about 70,000 people per year. According to Mick Hager, director of the museum, this number will be boosted to 150,000-250,000 people per year. The annual economic benefit for Bozeman alone is estimated to be about 6.6 million. This translates to more tourism for Montana and, in effect, a shot in the arm for Montana's economy.

Once constructed the museum will have the only planetarium from St. Paul to Seattle and from as far south as Salt Lake City of Canada. When installed the new planetarium will utilize the technology that only three others in the world have. This 100 seat planetarium along with public use will be used as a classroom, an auditorium for museum programs, and will be used by schools and clubs.

In addition to the planetarium the museum will be able to show the only major dinosaur exhibit in the region. The exhibit will be one of the world's most impressive exhibits. It features dinosaur eggs, babies, juveniles, and adults from many species. Much of this part of the museum will be based on the work done by Paleontologist, Jack Horner of the Museum of the Rockies staff.

The museum will also have archeology exhibits based on research done by Montana State University and Archeologists, Les Davis and

Tom Roll. Along with the archeology exhibits there will be several art galleries added and an actual homestead will be constructed along with other outdoor historical exhibits.

The new "Grand Hall" will make it possible for the museum to host many traveling exhibits that otherwise pass up Montana and the entire Northern Rocky region. When the "Grand Hall" isn't exhibiting a traveling show it will be utilized for other programs and meetings. Along with this the new building, will house a 200 seat auditorium, a 50 seat classroom, and several conference rooms.

The usefulness of having a modern museum such as this one is far-reaching. The research that goes into many exhibits ends up being material that is ultimately used by the school systems in Montana and possibly some day in many schools

around the country. A research can have an impact done by Paleontologists have become known

The new Museum of 6 million dollars an university that just lost budget. The unique though is that all of comes from private donations, foundations, and corporations.

At times we may prosper while one struggles this may have been because who at the ground breaking said, "human beings from a painter, have felt the impact of the things by which the

Television's roving newsmen Charles Kuralt (left) was on the road again, this time to Bozeman to participate in the ground breaking ceremony for the new addition to the Museum of the Rockies. Kuralt was joined by museum director Michael Aager and Museum Board Chairman Bea Taylor in digging the first shovel full.

Story by Brian Wagner



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Exhibit

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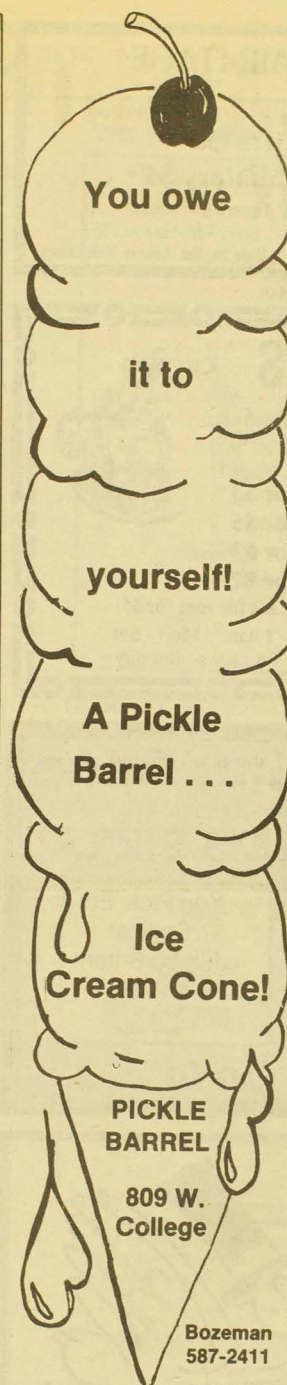
y one institution ll, one reason for y Charles Kuralt remony last week st primitive cave make a record of ed."



▲ Supporters of the Museum of the Rockies gather by the current building to watch the ground breaking ceremonies.



photos courtesy of the Museum of the Rockies



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In Review

Gone With the Winddirected by Victor Fleming
with Clark Gable, Vivien Leigh, Leslie
Howard, Olivia de Havilland

The on screen death of Melanie Wilkes has evoked more tears than even E.T.'s untimely demise. And Rhett Butler and Scarlett O'Hara have entertained more audiences than Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia and Hans Solo ever imagined.

Gone With the Wind has been called the greatest film of all time. Adjusting for inflation, it has made over \$400 million dollars—more than any of the recent blockbusters including *E.T.* and *Star Wars*. Add to this the video sales and rentals made since the movie was released on video, the movie's success on television and the continuous popularity of the book behind the movie, and you have the major film of the twentieth century.

Gone With the Wind remains popular in an era of computers and movies more dependent on action than characters because it is so good.

Despite the 47 years that have passed since the movie came out, it remains one of the best adaptations of a book into a movie to date.

Scarlett O'Hara played by Vivien Leigh has not faded since the movie first hit the big screen in 1939. She is still selfish, strong, willful, optimistic—the ultimate heroine.

Clark Gable's Rhett Butler is equally intriguing. Gable, who at first had to be coaxed into playing Butler, is a perfect rogue.

The scenes with Scarlett and Rhett were considered quite racy during the 1930's. In one of them Gable picks Leigh up in his arms and carries her up the long staircase and into the bedroom. In another, probably the movie's most famous scene, Rhett tells Scarlett he frankly doesn't "give a damn" what she does.

These hints at sex and uses of mild profanity serve to make the movie both more romantic and more real. That balance between romanticism and reality, the performances by Leigh, Gable and Leslie Howard and Olivia de Havilland as Ashley and Melanie Wilkes, and the successful depiction of the deterioration and rebuilding of a society gained this film 10 academy awards. It is much more than a romance which happens to take place during and after the Civil War.

Frankly, my dear, it's a film worth seeing and reseeing and seeing again—a classic which will never grow old and by which all other movies can measure their success.

Gone With the Wind will be shown on July 31 in 339 Johnson Hall at 8 p.m. Admission is \$1.00 for students and \$2.00 for non-students.

—Melissa Korber

**The Unacceptable Face of Freedom
Test Dept.**

Another record for the squeamish to avoid. Test Dept. use synthesizers as sledgehammers rather than paint brushes. This is a very political record, leaning far to the left. Don't call them Communists though, Marxism is their bag.

Preview

Meat Puppets

What goes on? How is it that, all of a sudden, decent bands want to play in Bozeman? With O Positive and the Young Fresh Fellows last Quarter and Popdefects last month it's been a veritable bonanza. I've got no complaints (well one, but I didn't mention them). And if current rumours mutate into facts, it could get even better!

And now it's the turn of Arizona's very own Meat Puppets. Don't be put off by the name, this ain't no thrash band. They play intelligent, articulate songs with the odd amusing cover version, as evidenced by 'Good Golly Miss Molly' off their recent ep 'Out My Way.' They

The eight tracks on here can be neatly divided in half. Four fast tracks, great slabs of dense sound punctuated with manic, metallic percussion and strangled trumpets. Four more subdued tracks, brooding synthesizer punctuated with more clanks and hisses.

The first two tracks are very pointed lyrically. The first, 'Fuckhead', concerns the use of internal and external force by Britain and the U.S., from whence comes the title of the album. The second, '51st State of America', concerns the way the British cynically view Britain; a view compounded by Reagan charging round the planet like a bull in a china shop, backed by his cohort, Thatcher the Hun. These two tracks, with 'Fist' and 'The Crusher', comprise the fast, percussive part of the record.

Of the 'quieter' tracks, 'Comrade Enver Hoxha' and 'Corridor of Cells', have recordings of Eastern Bloc radio and other vocals backed by synthesizers and various splinter sounds. 'Statement' is exactly that. A statement of police brutality during the prolonged miners' strike in Britain.

The only track left unmentioned is 'Victory', a collage of military commands in various languages, military music and snatches of interviews. A rather harrowing commentary on war in general. Far more effective than beating you over the head with words in the same vein.

A record I really like on several levels, not least the cover which is one of the most interesting I possess. Has to be seen to be believed.

**Evol
Sonic Youth**

When you first hear this it just sounds like a prolonged jam session by your favorite 'garage bands'. Longer acquaintance makes you realize that it is far more structured than that.

Although thrown in with the New York noise purveyors, they are not so easily categorized. Most of the songs are fairly slow and measured. No great musical virtuosity in evidence. The sound is never boring, generally being quite intriguing. They don't use synthesizers but do things to guitars that would make your average heavy metal guitar hero wince.

Lyrically the album is as strange as it is musically. Read them and wonder. Love songs? Paranoia? Psychopaths? Car wrecks? Don't ask me. One song has three separate titles; 'Expressway To Yr. Skull' on the label, 'The Crucifixion of Sean Penn' on the lyric sheet and 'Madonna, Sean and Me' on the sleeve. Make of that what you will.

Some of the songs appear to start halfway through, the last song never ends. It gets more puzzling the more you listen.

The most accessible track is the new single 'Starpower'. Really a fine song. I assume it's a love song. My favorite is 'In The Kingdom #19'. About a car wreck where the instruments are used to add atmosphere to the lyrics, which are more of a monologue than anything else. It isn't that cut and dried though.

A rather unusual record that raises more questions with each listening. I really like it but once I find the answers...

record a heady mix of country, punk, blues with their own spicy topping for SST, probably the most important label in the country at the moment.

They will be appearing at the Baxter Ballroom next Tuesday, August 5th. It's \$4.00 at the door, which opens at 8 p.m. Music should start around 9 p.m. with Bozeman's fave rave, Steel Pole Bathub. (The acoustic corpse of Nate 9000, so I am led to believe. Your guess is as good as mine.)

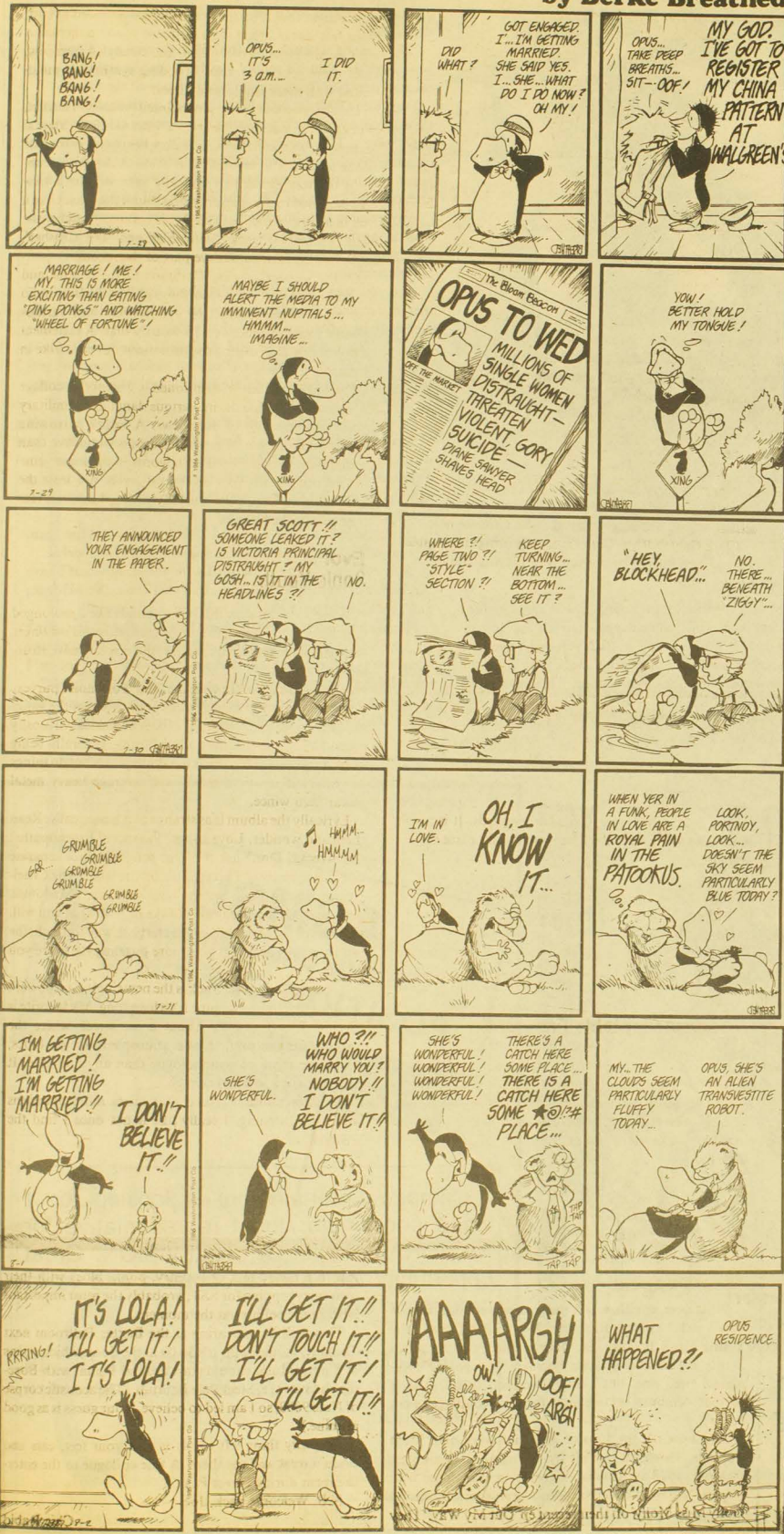
The only thing left to say is give your feet, ears and brain a treat and see them. A fine epilogue to the entertainment during Sweet Pea.

N.B. Welcome back, Joe.

—Chic Rabid

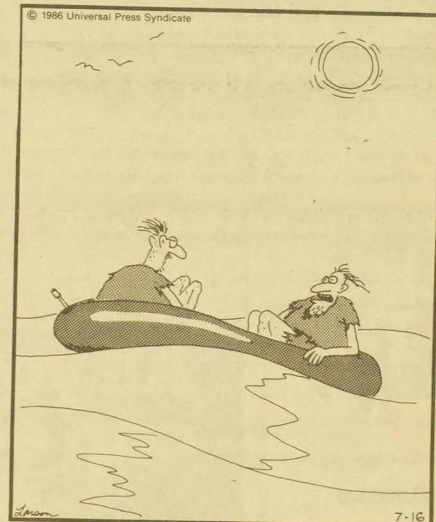
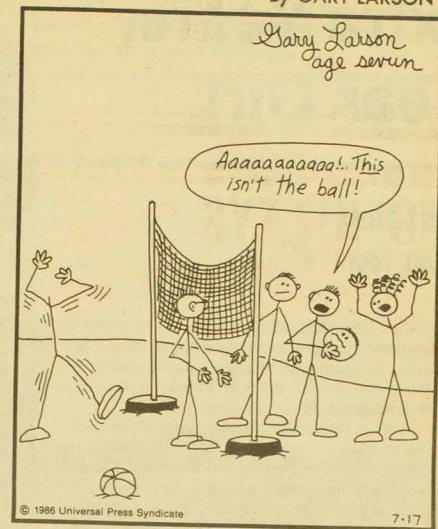
BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed



THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



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PERSONALS

... Until Friday!

News update: Private citizens have been flooding the switchboards with calls about the escaped milk crate convicts. Information has yet to turn up any successful leads. Darigold has made public its attempt to install a new security system designed by a former CIA agent. It has been speculated that suspects are now headed for Meadowgold. Company officials there have been notified of a possible burglary attempt within the next few days. Citizens are asked, for their own safety, to remain clear of the area since suspects are still thought to be heavily armed.

Here's Your Extra Years, Dear Girl

a short story
by Ruth Vogt

Grandma, I don't get it. Why do you go to school? Don't you know everything? Huh?" my eight year old grandson asked this Easter when we dug around my rose bushes. It was getting towards noon. In Venice, Florida that means you put your tools away and get out of the sun.

"I'll tell you what, Stevie. Grandma will bring the sandwiches she made for us when I prepared your folks' picnic basket this morning and we'll sit under the umbrella on the patio. How about that?" I hoped I'd be able to answer his question correctly.

Because of his sun burn he couldn't go to the beach with the rest of the Wisconsin gang who had driven straight through so they might not miss a moment of our warm weather.

We worked our way through a plate of his favorites. He tried to catch a few salamanders that scurried around our feet. "About that question you asked Grandma—why I don't know everything at my age. Stevie, dear, you think that anyone who has white hair and is as old as your grandma, knows so much, don't you?"

He looked up at me and he nodded his head. I covered his hand with mine. I told him I wanted him to listen carefully. That I wanted him to remember this always—what I was going to tell him.

I explained clearly as I could why I trek up to Montana State University's campus to examine that and the town and anything else that might fall my way.



Ruth Vogt

"People are living so much longer now, Stevie. Years ago, they retired, had a few years which some happy chap labeled 'golden' and then they died. It was as simple as that, you understand?" I paused. We watched a blue jay push other birds away from the feeder. Seeds flew in all directions. We laughed. "He's greedy isn't he, Grandma?" and I agreed.

I told him how come I picked Montana State to go to Summer School the three times I was able to. "Your Aunt Martha was

getting her Masters in Engineering there. She thought your grandma would love the mountains, the town, the people and she saw no reason why I shouldn't enjoy campus life like I did a half a century ago in Kalamazoo. She was determined I wouldn't lean towards a rocking chair or a shawl around my shoulders," I explained.

"Do you dig it, huh? Is it fun? How do you get along?" he wondered. He said his school was hard, but he didn't mind it because they had recess and he made friends all the time.

I told him about my bike. How that was my transportation the three months I left my little Chevet in the garage at home. "And I don't have a T.V. Stevie. I don't miss it a minute. I have my campus, my library, tree-lined streets that take me to town whenever I wish to pump away on the eight blocks—all down hill, understand!" I stopped. The blue jay was still eating.

Any sensible grandma knows perfectly well you can't describe what living on this earth for over seventy years means—not to an eight year old who thinks his parents are "old, old" already. And his teachers, too.

And you aren't going to tell him about how the mind works, that it demands stimulation. Far beyond merely thinking up places to go, where to eat, or what good movie is on T.V. that evening. You stumble a bit and you explain the brain is like a muscle, sort of. "When you practice your baseball, your arm gets stronger. Right?" I asked him. He again agreed with my thinking. He followed it.

"Well, your Grandma thinks that way about her mind. It's got to be used. Every single day. And I don't mean just pulling her weeds or planting more bushes which you know I love to do. That's why, Stevie, I find my summer months hanging around a campus as exciting as a trip around the world. It's all there. Waiting for me. Understand?"

He wondered what I'd do if I couldn't bike. "What then, Grandma?" I took his hand again. I squeezed it. I shuddered.

"Stevie. Stevie! We never look that far ahead. Never. If I have this coming summer, as I plan to, that's all I ask. We old folks don't look ahead too much. It's not wise. Understand?"

He said he thought he did. "I know I do, Grandma. Hey, didn't we have a nice lunch all by ourselves? I don't mind I had to stay home with you because I was peeling. I liked our talk. Honest. I think I'll dig for worms now. We're going fishing tomorrow."

What a wonderful grandson I had I said to the birds in the feeder. They believed me. But they went right on eating.

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