

World Week Returns
to Bozeman
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Ouch!
Bobcats fall in final minutes to
Northern Arizona
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He got the funk!
DJ Logic brings alternative
jazz to the Cat's Paw
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ASMSU Friday, February 18, 2000 Issue 40 Volume 94

EXPONENT

MSU laboratories commended for safety



Photo by Daren Nybo

The Bozeman Fire Department Hazardous Materials team responds to a chemical spill Wednesday at Gaines Hall.

Churchill Thomas
Exponent Writer

Students were shown the charred remains of Andrew Livingood's pants during Thursday morning chemistry class. The khaki cargo pants were displayed in an effort by the chemistry department to reinforce the need for caution in MSU's laboratories, after a potentially disastrous chemical spill on Wednesday.

Livingood, a chemical engineering major at MSU, suffered minor burns from sulfuric acid in the incident. The bottom of a bottle containing acid broke as Livingood was pouring and splashed the highly concentrated solution, causing

burns on his left elbow and both legs. He immediately flushed off the acid with water, minimizing further damage, and was sent to the Student Health Service for treatment.

pleased. The student and the teaching assistant kept a cool head," Holmgren commented. "There is always an inclination to panic."

The fire department was

occurrences are rare, and that MSU's laboratories have a satisfactory safety record.

"[MSU's laboratories] have a lot of dangerous materials, but they handle them well," said Shrouger.

Dr. Holmgren agreed, "I've been teaching over 10 years,

"I've been teaching over ten years, and this is the first time I've seen something like this."

—Assistant Professor Dr. Steven Holmgren

"I thought, 'I've got to get to the shower,'" said Livingood.

Assistant professor Dr. Steven Holmgren commended Livingood's response to the spill, as did the Bozeman Fire Department's Hazardous Materials team.

"I'm impressed and

alerted, and a Hazardous Materials Team arrived to ensure proper treatment and cleanup. First checking for "life-safety" situations, the team proceeded to neutralize the acid for safe removal. Jason Shrouger, a member of the response team that arrived, explained that such

and this is the first time I've seen something like this."

Livingood attributed his quick response to the safety sessions taught by lab instructors. Holmgren and Shrouger acknowledged the role that safety training had in

see Safety page 4

MSU officials worry president search is too hasty

Associated Press

Some Montana State University officials are worried that the search for a new president cannot attract the best candidates in the less than five months that has been allotted.

The hired consultant who is spearheading the search, however, says he is optimistic despite obstacles not related to the search.

The search will be tougher because of the low pay and low state support for higher education in Montana, said Allan Ostar of the Academic Search and Consultation Service of Washington, D.C.

University system officials earlier said an expedited search was necessary so MSU will have a replacement for Mike Malone by the start of the legislative session in January 2001. Malone died of a heart attack in December.

Officials have said presidential searches usually take up to a year. The Washington nonprofit group was hired to speed up MSU's search.

Academic Search was hired for \$38,000, about half the cost of commercial "head hunters," to help the 20-member search committee. Interim Provost David Dooley said the search is likely to cost another \$30,000 for such expenses as travel and long-distance phone calls.

see Hasty page 4

Proposal may extend coverage to homosexuals

Bob Anez
Associated Press

HELENA (AP) — Homosexual partners of university system employees would qualify for health care coverage under a proposed change in the system's group insurance policy being considered by Commissioner of Higher Education Dick Crofts.

If Crofts approves the expanded coverage, it would mark the first time a state agency has given any formal recognition to same-sex partnerships.

The proposal, which originated with the University Teachers' Union at the University of Montana, was endorsed by a committee that advises Crofts on benefit issues affecting the 7,200 active and retired university system employees.

The report from the Inter-Unit Benefits Committee said its insurance consultant predicted little financial impact from extending coverage to same-sex partners and dependent children.

However, it added a caution: "If state law permits covering same-sex domestic partners under the university system group insurance plan, the remaining concern of the committee is the possibility of adverse political consequences from the state Legislature."

Crofts said he is aware of the potential political fallout over approving the change.

"I'm in the kind of job where I can't really ever divorce myself from political considerations," he said. "But I want the facts so

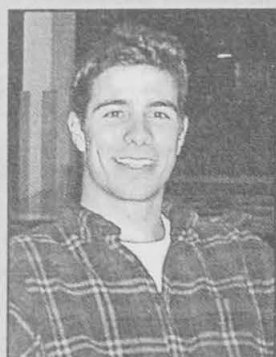
see Coverage page 16

The Exponent

Are you political? Do you like to complain? Do you think you have all the answers?
Then you may be our next Exponent Columnist
Pick up an application in SUB room 305

Q of the U:

Would you support a single-payer nonprofit health care system in the U.S.?



"Yes because when you're sick you could get cured without worrying about expenses."

Jason Nelson
Sophomore
Marketing

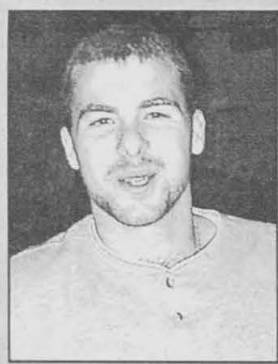
"No, because the people should take responsibility in organizing their own insurance, and if parents can't afford to support their children, then they shouldn't have them."

Scott Anderson
Junior
Civil Engineering



"Yes, because everyone deserves it. If you get seriously injured you're faced with bills and from then on out you have the burden of paying them, although you may not be able to."

Trent Benson
Freshman
General Studies



"Yes, it would enable families without insurance to have access to health insurance they may not be able to afford."

Eliza Blossom
Junior
Nursing



"It could cut both ways. The quality of the care would be compromised and fewer people would want to be doctors because they would have less monetary motivation, but charity hospitals should be a big priority."

Sadie Swenseon
Sophomore
Undecided

Photos by Sol Leonard

Health care answers lie to the north

Nowhere is the marriage between politicians and corporations more apparent than in the debate over national health care.

In America today, there are 43.2 million people who lack basic health insurance, more than 11 million of whom are children.

We have the distinction of being the only country in the industrialized world without a single-payer nonprofit health care system. It is no coincidence that our public health statistics rank us near the bottom among industrialized nations.

Presidential candidates pay lip service to people's concerns, but the truth is their interests are too tied to the interests of HMOs and pharmaceutical companies for meaningful reforms to take place. Among the four leading contenders, there is not one who would get behind a nonprofit national health care system. Even Gore and Bradley, the so-called "liberals," lack the courage to break their ties to the corporations who have brought us the debacle that is our current system.

Bradley's plan calls for a transfer of nearly \$200 billion of tax dollars currently earmarked for Medicaid to private insurers. His method of guaranteeing that all children are insured is to mandate that parents buy private coverage. If only it were that simple.

Similarly, Gore's plan would do nothing to decrease the power of private insurers over health care policy; rather it would continue the tried and failed methods of the Clinton administration.

Single payer nonprofit health care, or socialized medicine, if you like, is the answer. Not only would it save Americans millions every year, but it would guarantee ALL Americans coverage. Best of all, it would make the administrators accountable for their actions. The current system allows administrators to make decisions about your health care with relative impunity, behind closed doors and in complete secrecy. For-profit insurance companies often insist on the cheapest, not the best form of treatment even when physicians argue against it. Even those Americans with health insurance are often left to fend for themselves when the care they need threatens the profit of the insurer.

With a federally managed system, the people in charge of our health could easily be found. Their voting record and other information about the way our health care is managed would be public record, open to examination and criticism. Even the most critical observers of Congress should seek to preserve the remaining democratic elements of our system by placing control of health care issues in the hands of the public through our elected officials. The alternative is to allow corporations to continue their dominance,

sacrificing quality care in order to increase profit. Where corporations answer only to their shareholders, Congress, at least theoretically, answers to the public.

We only need to look north for an example of how much better health care in this country could be. Despite the aggressive PR campaigns waged by corporations in the U.S. against the Canadian-style system, the facts clearly reveal the superiority of their system to ours. According to Physicians for a National Health Program, Canada spends \$1,000 less per capita on health care than the U.S., but delivers more care and greater choice for patients. Canadians receive more hospital days, more doctor visits, more procedures and more bone-marrow transplants than Americans.



Michelle Tokarski
Exponent Managing Editor

Two thirds of Americans would prefer the Canadian system to our own, and 70 percent

Canadians prefer their system to ours. This is not surprising given the facts: On average, 13 percent of private insurance companies' income goes to pay overhead and profit. (That figure is as high as 20 percent in the bigger managed care plans.) Canada, on the other hand, spends less than 1 percent on overhead. Our own federal Medicaid program spends less than 2 percent on administrative costs. The U.S. Congress' General Accounting Office estimates that with savings in overhead and profits garnered in a switch to a single payer system (about \$1 billion annually), we could afford to insure all of the uninsured people who have been abandoned by the current system.

Claims about long waiting lists are, for the most part, unfounded. No one in Canada gets on a waiting list for urgent types of care, though there are waits for some kinds of non-urgent care. It's a small price to pay for complete coverage. And waiting lists are not a foreign concept to Americans either. Chicago's Cook County Hospital has over 10,000 patients on the waiting list for primary health care. Many of these patients will never receive the care they need. Nowhere in Canada would you find a situation like this.

Still there are those who look favorably at our system or think that we can work out the kinks by turning over more control to private insurers. Fueled by misinformation and by an irrational obsession with free market capitalism, they desperately cling to the notion that HMOs are the answer.

But if HMOs are the answer, the question must be how to make rich insurers richer and poor people more desperate. It is time for our leaders to end corporate domination over health care policy and go to work for the people who provide their salaries (and, incidentally, their health insurance.)



ASMSU Exponent

Student recalls life of a friend
cut short by an eating disorder

to the Editor:

Michelle Diane Pederson died on January 2000 of anorexia. She was a good friend of mine. Following is a letter that I wrote two years ago, and for whatever reason, never sent.

Dear Michelle,

Long time since you've heard from me. If you can't remember who I am I was your roommate our first semester at college. I remember, it was back when you thought you had your little problem (an eating disorder she had been battling for many years) under control. It appears now that you didn't. I had talk with a good friend of ours and it turns out you are in the hospital, again. When is this going to stop?

I've been doing a lot of thinking since yesterday and I came to the conclusion that it's time to tell you a few things. Some of it might make you mad, but it is pretty apparent that you want nothing to do with me anyhow and have to get this off my chest before you proceed in killing yourself.

When we decided to be roommates I was so happy. I knew we would have a great time, and become great friends. I knew about your eating disorder before we went to school and I thought that if I spent all my extra time with you I could help you. This didn't happen.

There were so many times when I wished you would have flushed your laxatives down the toilet while you were at class or called your parents when you weren't eating, but I didn't want to make you upset with me. So I never said anything and you became sicker and sicker.

This next part I am not very proud of, but you left your journal open on my bed one day and I read part of it. I had seen drawings in it before and was simply looking for more of your cute little pictures. Instead, I found that you had a plan to get yourself home and away from school by becoming too sick to stay.

I don't know if you ever knew any of this, or maybe it was a cry for help. At first I thought you wanted to leave because you didn't like being my roommate. Finally I realized it had nothing to do with me. You are sick and you need more help that I could ever give, however, I will always be here for you if you need a shoulder to lean on.

This letter may sound very harsh. When put in the position of seeing someone you care about, killing themselves very slowly and painfully it is hard to not be cruel. It has been two years on Valentine's Day since this was written. Michelle's death has been the hardest thing I have ever had to deal with. Not a day goes by that I don't think of her and wonder what would have happened if I had spoken up. Unfortunately, I think the results would have been the same. Anorexia and bulimia are devastating diseases and people are kidding themselves if they say "They're different, this thing won't kill me."

I have decided I can't be mad anymore. Michelle didn't do this to hurt anyone, least of all her family and close friends. It wasn't really a shock when I got the call that Michelle had died, unfortunately it was inevitable. When someone asked me what my wish for the new millennium was I said nothing, my only hope is that someone will learn something from Michelle's situation and never have to be one of the grieving friends or family members of a victim of an eating disorder. My only other piece of advice is that if you ever feel like someone is having a problem with food, please try and help. At least talk to someone, anyone, about it. Even if it doesn't help the person involved it will help you feel less helpless when something like death does happen.

Sara Irvin
Senior
Graphic Design

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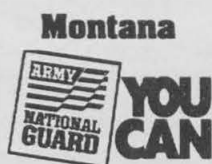


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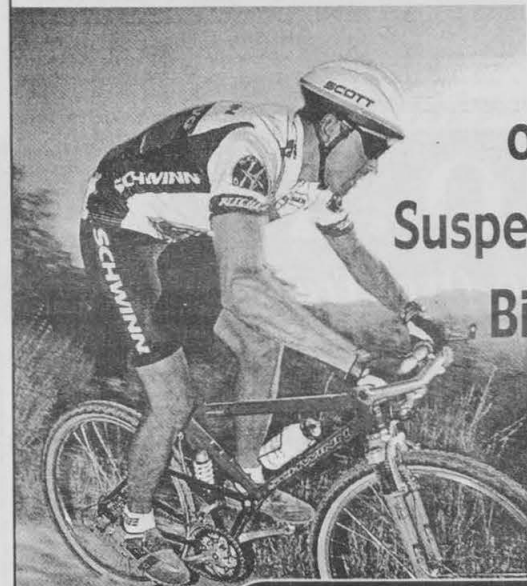
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Hasty: Regents urged to take more time for search

continued from page 1

Dooley also cited the money problems, but said it is uncertain what sort of applicant pool can be assembled in such a short time. He said another obstacle is the president's additional responsibilities of overseeing campuses in Billings, Havre and Great Falls.

"It was not our feeling that it was a wise timeline," Dooley told a meeting of the Strategic Budget and Planning Committee.

Dooley also said Interim President Terry Roark has agreed to stay until the summer of 2001.

MSU's four vice

presidents strongly urged the regents to take more time and hire someone by the summer of 2001, Dooley said.

On the other hand, Ostar said, good candidates drop out if searches drag on too long.

Public interviews on campus with three to five finalists can't take place until

the third week of June, after most students and many professor have left for the summer. However, Ostar said, community members, classified employees, alumni and many professors will still be around.

Ostar said Malone's \$127,000 salary is low by

national standards. He recently finished a presidential search for Youngstown State University in Ohio where the salary is \$200,000.

He said he'll tell prospective candidates the Montana regents are studying raising the president's pay.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 18

Apply now for two \$1,000 American Association of University Women (AAUW) scholarships. Eligible women who will be enrolled as a full-time junior or seniors for next academic year and must have a 3.4 GPA or better. Applicants must be a graduate of a Gallatin County high school or a legal resident of the county for two years. Applications are available at SUB 135 or 5 Hamilton Hall. Deadline is March 3, 2000.

The Bozeman Business and Professional Women's Organization is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a full or part-time MSU student. Applicants must be a junior or above, resident of Montana for 1 year, have a 2.5 GPA or above and demonstrate a need for financial aid. Applications are available at the financial aid office or the MSU Women's Center. Deadline is March 20, 2000. Call 522-5515.

The Mortar Board is now accepting applications

for new members. Applications are at Ask-Us. Deadline is Feb. 18 at 5 p.m.

Planning to spend Spring Break in Mexico or Central America? Attend a half-hour presentation at Student Health Service. Learn about medication recommendations, get immunized against Hepatitis A and gather tips about travel south of the border that will make your trip safe, healthy and fun. An information session is scheduled for Feb. 25 at 9 a.m. Both meetings will take place at the Student Health Service.

Feb. 19

The International Street Food Bazaar will take place from 4 to 7 p.m. in the SUB. The bazaar allows guests to enjoy international entertainment and sample authentic cuisine from more than 20 different countries in a market-like atmosphere. Tickets are \$2 for the general public and \$1 for students with ID. Food prices range from 50 cents to \$3.

The Blotter: A look at campus news

MONTEREY PARK, Calif.—Police believe a dispute over belongings may have contributed to the death of a college student, who was found in the trunk of his burning car last month.

Police questioned Helen Mo, 20, a management major at Rio Hondo College, in connection with the death of Yichen Eric Liu, 22. Liu's charred remains were found Jan. 24 in the trunk of his gray Honda Accord, which had been doused with gasoline and set on fire. Liu, a native of Taiwan, had been in the U.S. two years studying business at Rio Hondo.

OXFORD, Miss.—University of Mississippi officials are investigating what is believed to be a hate crime.

Karl Nichols, a residence hall director on campus, reported that someone threw a chunk of asphalt through the window of a recreation room in the hall. Attached to the asphalt was a handwritten note stating, "You're gonna get it, you godforsaken nigger lover."

"I just didn't expect it here," Nichols told the Daily Mississippian.

The Feb. 7 incident is the latest in a string of racist outbreaks at the school. On Feb. 1, racial slurs were found on the bathroom walls of Nichol's residence hall and before that, a Black History Month display had been ripped down and replaced by a computer-generated graphic of a monkey eating an apple, racial slurs and a Confederate flag.

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Columbus police are investigating whether the shooting death of a Ohio State University student, whose body was found in the basement of an off-campus apartment, was either a murder or suicide.

Authorities aren't sure why Charles W. Ballard, 22, an engineering major, was found Feb. 9 in the dark basement with partially burned papers and a chair next to his body. Ballard was shot at least once, according to reports, but it wasn't revealed where on his body and if a gun was found at the scene.

"This is the strangest case I've seen," Columbus homicide detective Dana Farbacher said. Results from an autopsy were unavailable as of Feb. 15. Ballard was a native of Shaker Heights, Ohio and was a student at OSU since 1995.

MACOMB, Ill.—A pizza delivery worker serving students at Western Illinois University has perhaps learned not to leave his car unlocked and running.

According to police reports, two intoxicated WIU students were walking home from a local bar early Feb. 13 when they spotted an unoccupied 1995 Dodge parked outside a pizzeria. Police said employees ran outside and chased the car as it was driven toward a residence hall. Two men hopped out of the car, and employees managed to catch one, while the other ran toward campus.

Police identified the man employees held as Gregory J. Johnson, 21. Johnson is charged with driving while under the influence, auto theft and tampering. Police said they found Johnson's cohort, Jonathan J. Benecke, 22, in Benecke's dorm room. They charged Benecke with auto theft and tampering.

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Safety:

Quick response prevents injury

continued from page 1

minimizing damage, and the need for further caution in the lab.

"We need to take every precaution," Holmgren stressed. "Accidents can and will happen; students must always be aware of themselves and their neighbors at all times."

Livingood described the burns as minor, explaining that the pants took most of the damage. He said that the experience wasn't particularly scary, just "a rush."

Livingood said he donated the pants to the chemistry department for future lectures on safety.

Got a hot news tip?
Email the Exponent or Call us
at 994-2551

The Dirty Dozen and Galactic culture the Cat's Paw



DelHomme
Exponent Writer

Wednesday night, the Cat's Paw featured the legendary sounds of the Dirty Dozen Brass Band along with the incredibly funky sounds of Galactic.

Though Galactic had played in Bozeman during the summer, the truly New Orleans' sound of the Dirty Dozen was obviously something most people in Bozeman aren't used to. The Dirty Dozen, comprised of trombone, tuba, organ, trumpet, baritone and tenor sax, and drums, caused folks to stand dumbfounded while they watched these weird brass things produce a sound like any other band that has played at the Cat's Paw. It was as though people didn't know what to do because they didn't see a guitar on stage. The crowd was still filtering in as the Dirty Dozen were really getting it on.

The Dirty Dozen, having been together for 25 years, is no stranger to the road or to the world of jazz.

"These guys are our heroes," said Galactic's

saxophonist, Ben Ellman. "They don't open for anybody. If anything, it's their dinner party, we were just happy to be invited. Hell, we even do some Dirty Dozen covers."

The Dirty Dozen disregarded the crowd's lame enthusiasm and played an awesome version of "Caravan," during which Dirty Dozen's Richard Knox really let loose on his B-3 organ.

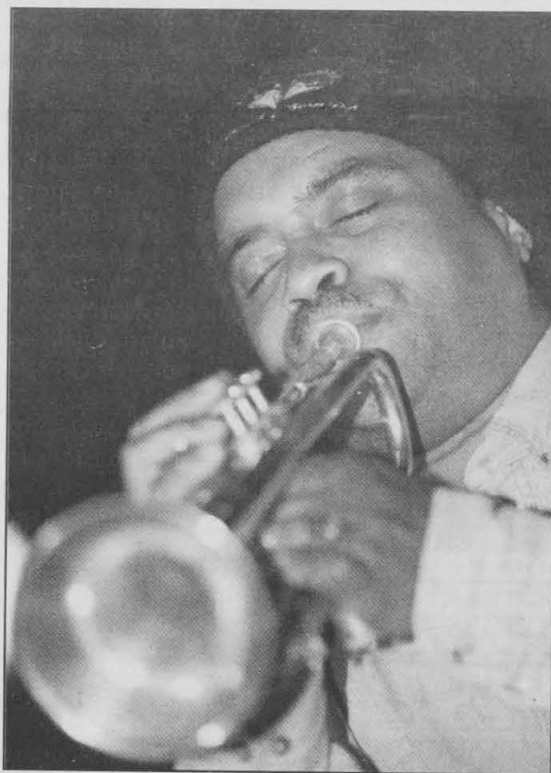
Wrapping up their short set, Dirty Dozen trombonist, ET, declared he had to, "Give respect, where respect is due." With that, they tried to inject a little adrenaline into the crowd by playing some Funky Meters.

As the crowd was gathering liquid encouragement, the members of Galactic and the Dirty Dozen milled about the "interesting" confines of the Cat's Paw.

"We don't usually get to play places like this," said Ellman. "I mean, it's a bar, a stage, and a casino. It has a cool intimacy. I love this place."

After a bit of a break, Galactic seemed to wake up everyone while they proceeded to warm up. Soon, Ellman was on sax and the crowd was on the floor.

see Galactic page 10



Photos by Sol
Leonard

Galactic
(above) and the
Dirty Dozen
Brass Band
played to a full
crowd
Wednesday
night at the
Cat's Paw. The
event was
sponsored by
Vootie
Productions

Robert Walter's 20th Congress promotes Health and Fitness

Adrian Flores
Exponent Writer

Robert Walter is not a politician. He is a musician. And his band, Robert Walter's 20th Congress, released its Health and Fitness album in December 1998.

That's all fine and dandy, but who is this Robert Walter character? For those of you who know The Grey Boy Allstars, the name is all too familiar. For those of you who don't, here is your chance to learn something that could very well change your life. Robert Walter is a 28 year-old jazz funk

pianist and composer from San Diego, Calif. He attended the School of Creative and Performing Arts in San Diego, studying classical harmony and piano. His musical interests range from rock to jazz to funk. He has a vast pool of musical knowledge that is inspired, in part, by the legendary Charles Mingus as well as many others.

As a member of The Grey Boy Allstars, he has toured throughout the United States and Europe performing with a variety of jazz legends. After five years together, Grey Boy members decided to pursue what they called "sidecar projects".

see Congress page 10



**MUSIC
REVIEW**

Dream your dreams and follow through

Denice Woller
Exponent Writer

"RU-dy... RU-dy... RU-dy" were the chants from the crowd as Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger took the stage Wednesday night in the SUB Ballrooms — explaining to a crowd of almost 800 how to say "Yes I can."

Sponsored by the MSU Leadership Institute and numerous other MSU departments, Rudy's talk was part of the third annual "Create Your Own Path" inspirational series.

"Sometimes a winner is a dreamer who just won't quit," Ruettiger began. He should know. After all, if you have seen his movie "Rudy," you know he isn't a quitter. Achieving his dream to become a Notre Dame football player wasn't an easy one. Even though people told him his whole life that he never could, he stuck to it and eventually got his 28 seconds of fame.

"Attitude is the key to everyone's success," he said noting the importance of gain-

see Dreams page 6

Life's a Beach and then you go home

Katie Parsons
Exponent Writer

"The Beach" arrived in theatres last week, much to the excitement of legions of Leo fans.

Based on an Alex Garland novel, the enticing and exotic film appears to be a wild mix of all the greatest theatrical elements, with the most popular actor in the world as leading man. All this should lead to a great movie, but because key elements are missing in the film, it is instead disappointment.

Richard (Leonardo DiCaprio) is just an average American guy who is given a map to paradise just after his arrival in Bangkok. The giver is a troubled Scotsman named Daffy who commits suicide in his hotel room shortly after handing over the map to Richard.

Richard is overwhelmed with curiosity to find this perfect place and invites the two strangers next door, Etienne (Guillaume Canet) and Françoise (Virginie Ledoyen) to share in his quest. What they find on this hidden island is a secret community governed by a woman named Sal (Tilda Swinton). The three are welcomed into the peaceful, secluded society but wind up carrying a load too big to handle.

Director Danny Boyle, producer Andrew Macdonald and screenwriter John Hodge are known for their previous work on "Shallow Grave," "Trainspotting," and "A Life Less Ordinary." Ewan McGregor, star of those three films, is notably absent in "The Beach." His replacement, the "luscious" Leonardo DiCaprio, provides an acceptable alternative. Leo's return to the big screen has been widely anticipated, which pushed the film's expectations to an even higher level.

The first half of "The Beach" is a visual masterpiece, with more eye candy than could possibly be imagined. It's difficult to give credit to anyone for the beauty of the film, because so much of the aesthetics are the pure, natural sights of exotic Thailand. Intertwined with the adventuresome plot is a bit of romance with poetic dialog, a welcome and fitting addition.

The second half of the film is nearly incoherent. Richard's descent into madness is well represented at times, but quickly turns to confusion and bafflement. This is particularly unfortunate, considering the film seems to be striving for a strange and disturbing impression, something akin to "Lord of the Flies." Sadly, it falls terribly short of its goal. "The Beach" is simply not disturbing enough to even make a dent.

Most disappointing of all is the tragically underwritten role of each and every character in the film. Each one is transparent—we are given no real information on their background or their personality. It's not that the cast is an untalented crew by any means; they seem to be an above average group of actors who just happened to be dealt an unsatisfactory hand.

So in conclusion, it's beautiful at first, but falls into an unpleasant downward spiral. The film as a whole is painfully jumbled and the moments of pure genius are not enough to make up for its shortcomings.

Dreams: Rudy teaches MSU to never give up hope

ing the honor and respect of others to help you get farther. If he had not earned the respect of his teammates and classmates he never would have gotten to play in that historic Notre Dame game. "If you do what is right

you have to do the work because the people who lead are the ones that say "I can do it," he said, "Sometimes you have to be a pest." After all, "you are worth it," Ruettiger stressed.

"Sometimes a winner is a dreamer who just won't quit."

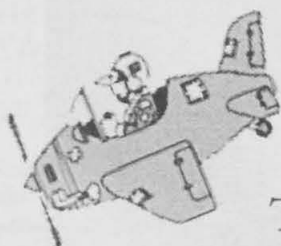
—Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger

people will make sure you get there. The power of your dreams influence other people," he said.

The theme of his entire speech was to live in the moment, visualize it, and follow these steps: persevere, plan it, do it, accept rejection, challenge, change, have an "I Can" attitude, be tenacious and achieve victory! If you want something go and get it -

presidents in fifth grade to having dinner in the White House with the current president, Rudy has come a long way. Strength and determination have gotten him to this point in his life and that is the thought he wanted the audience to leave with - if you don't give up on your dreams, and set realistic goals to achieve along the way, you can accomplish anything.

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Bozeman, Montana

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Bozeman's Own Celtic Band...

Blackthorn



Celebrating their 2nd Anniversary this March, Blackthorn began as a group of friends getting together to play for fun. However, as member Hobart Collins added, "Things just got out of Hand!"

The concert will feature instrumentals from Ireland, Scotland and French Canada. The Songs are ballads, humorous ditties and sea chanteys from through out the British Isles.

SUB Ballroom A

7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 24

Tickets: Adult - \$2.00

Kids 12 & Under - Free

ASMSU Presidential Campaigns Begin Wednesday February 24

Applications due by March 3

Candidates must meet with ASMSU elections chair or President before campaigning!

Glacier National Park

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A. Sharing a trail with a mountain goat as you hike through snow capped glacier peaks? B. Commuting in bumper to bumper traffic

A. Meeting your new best friend under the "Big Sky" of Montana B. Spending the summer with the same old crowd

A. Watching millions of stars & the northern lights on a cool, clear August night? B. Spending hot & humid summer nights next to an air conditioner

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TIGGER MOVIE
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:00, 3:00, 5:00;
 WEEKDAY MAT 5:00; NIGHTLY 7:00 - **G**

THE GREEN MILE
 NIGHTLY 8:30 - **R**

HANGING UP
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:15, 4:15; WEEKDAY MAT 4:15
 NIGHTLY 7:15, 9:45 - **PG-13**

THE HURRICANE
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:15, 4:15; WEEKDAY MAT 4:15
 NIGHTLY 7:00, 10:00 - **R**

WHOLE NINE YARDS
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:10, 4:10; **STEREO**
 WEEKDAY MAT 4:10; NIGHTLY 7:10, 9:30 - **R**

BICENTENNIAL MAN
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:00, 4:00; **STEREO**
 WEEKDAY MAT 4:00; NIGHTLY 7:00, - **PG**

GIRL INTERRUPTED
 NIGHTLY 9:50 - **R** **STEREO**

THE BOILER ROOM
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:10, 4:10; **STEREO**
 WEEKDAY MAT 4:10; NIGHTLY 7:10, 9:45 - **R**

SCREAM 3
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:30, 4:30; WEEKDAY MAT 4:30
 NIGHTLY 7:20, 10:00 - **R** **STEREO**

SNOW DAY
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:20, 4:20; WEEKDAY MAT 4:20;
 NIGHTLY 7:20, 9:30 - **PG** **STEREO**

Ellen Theatre
 Bozeman's Showplace
 17 W. Main • 586-6044

THE BEACH
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:15, 4:15;
 NIGHTLY 7:15, 9:40 - **R**

Rialto Theatre
 10 W. Main • 587-7495

PITCH BLACK
 SAT-SUN MAT 1:00, 4:00;
 NIGHTLY 7:00, 9:20 - **R**

BFF PRESENTS:
LAST NIGHT
 MON-THURS NIGHT ONLY 7:00

WORLD WEEK E



Schedule

Saturday

Inter

"Living with Py

Jack Fisher

"Internation

SU

Wednesday

Vicky Y

"Bozeman

SU

Brian Close and

"Turkey:

Emerson C

(a)

Thursday

Yvonne Rudman

"THE

Cele

Friday

Lena Conlan

"Sea K

SU

Todd Green

SU

All events are free except musical performance

Children under 12 are admitted free. Ticket

TURNS TO MSU

f Events

Feb. 19

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Feb. 22

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American Red Cross
d Tragedies"
Weaver Room
(sted)

Feb. 24

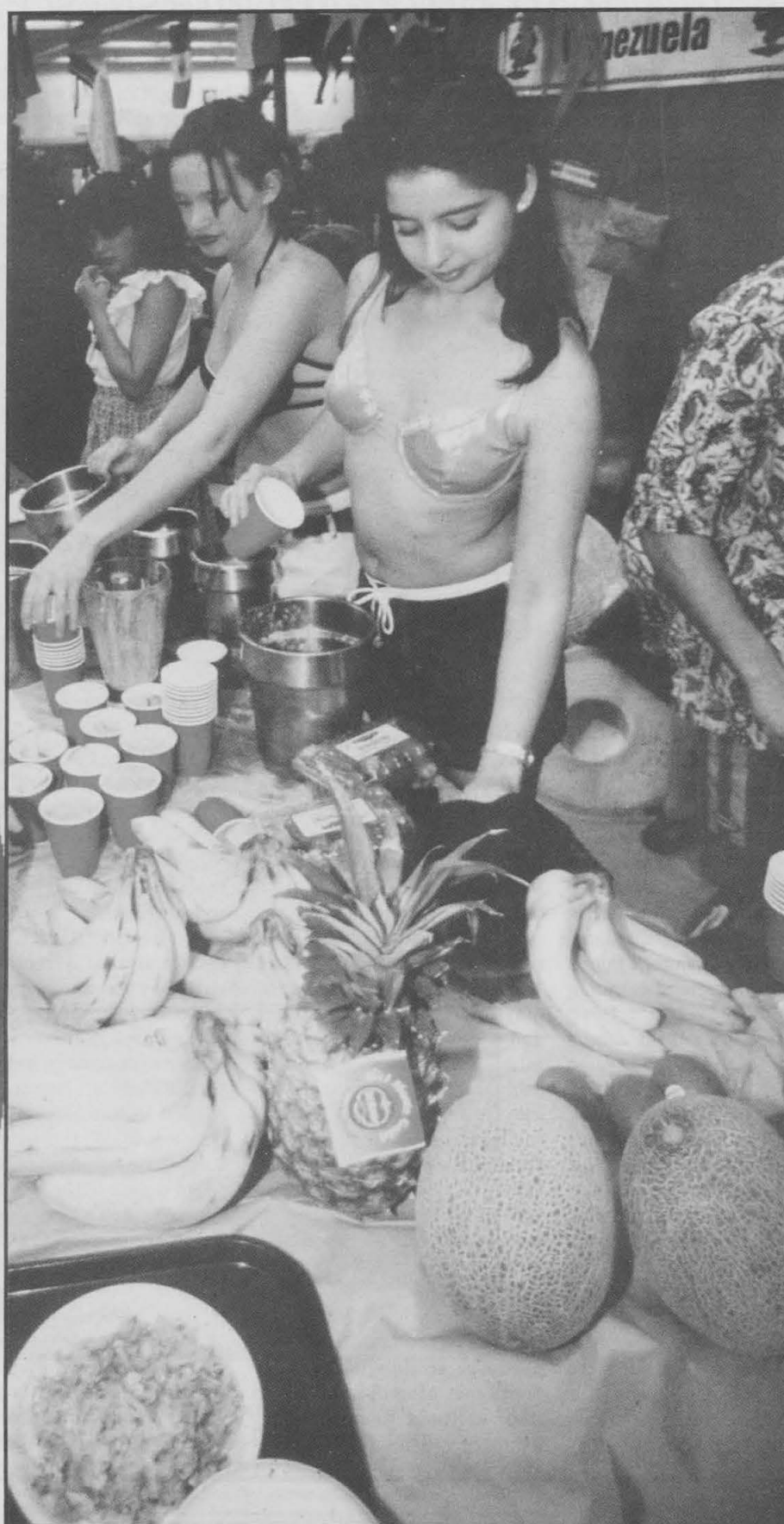
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\$2 for adults and \$1 for students with valid IDs.
door. Call 994-4031 for more information.



Galactic: Bands add a little Mardi Gras flavor to Bozeman music scene

continued from page 5

At the beginning of Galactic's set, someone in the true spirit of New Orleans tried to bring a little Mardi Gras flavor into the Cat's Paw. Beads, moon pies, and doubloons seemed to come out of nowhere and, for a split second, I thought I was in downtown New Orleans. But seeing how this is not New Orleans, the bouncers, Larry, Darryl, and Darryl, took it upon themselves to put an end to something that they didn't quite understand.

Once "the boys" returned to their respective perches, Jeff Raines, guitarist for Galactic, threw out some nice sounds on slide guitar. And after a while, the entire Galactic squadron was on stage, dishing out some nasty funk.

To add to the chaos of the evening, some folks were discovered having counterfeit tickets to the show. Vootie, the promoters who bring this music to Bozeman, are making it clear that anyone caught try-

ing to get in with a counterfeit ticket will be prosecuted. Since nobody really likes to go to jail, Vootie is recommending that folks buy tickets at the usual outlets - CD Warehouse, Cactus, etc. Don't buy tickets on campus or in the parking lots.

In a sense, Wednesday night at the Cat's Paw had some traditional aspects of New Orleans and Mardi Gras: great music, disorderly conduct and, of course, drunk people.

Congress: New album provides alternative to mainstream jazz

continued from page 5

Well, the "sidecar" has taken main stage for Walter. He first released a solo album called Spirit of '70, with Miles Davis sideman, saxophonist Gary Bartz, in which Walter was likened to Medeski, Martin & Wood's John Medeski with his use of the organ, electric piano and clarinet. But Walter's talent and desire to stretch his music far exceed any preconceptions that these associations might create.

Robert Walter is a force of his own. "My tastes have always been a little more dissonant and experimental than a lot of the other guys. In the Allstars, the only thing we had in common musically was classic late '60's boogaloo and jazz-funk. We were religious in trying to imitate that music. I just wanted to breakout," Walter said.

With his new band Robert Walter's 20th Congress, he seems to have done just that. Surrounding himself with

Cochemea Gastelum on alto sax and flute, David Carano on bass and George Sluppick on drums, Walter's music was described in the Colorado Daily as "a clean, tight, tough-as-nails serving of funk-based jazz," and this is only the beginning.

Robert Walter is taking the right approach to his music. "New players tend to make you play harder and think harder, and that's what you need as a musician to keep going," he said. His sentiments are much like those of Charles Mingus, the legendary bass player who constantly sought to channel rather than play music. Mingus was so obsessed with creating his own music that he called it Mingus music, feeling that jazz had become too rigid.

Walter is looking to do the same. "The problem I have with hardcore jazzbos is that they seem sort of cookie-cutter in their attitude towards other forms of music and composi-

tion. I like to play around with ideas, and get into improvisation and all that, but it's got to be something that makes people move. And that's really where jazz started out. People forgot that." Mingus might say that sounds familiar.

The 20th Congress recently signed a record deal with Bay Area acid-jazz label Fog City, home of New Orleans based Galactic. The album will consist of half studio tracks and half live tracks recorded in San Francisco's Elbow Room. Walter prefers the live shows because "that's when it gets to that other level that you can't really predict. You get free from all chord progressions, or even from time. Sometimes you're trying to muscle your way through the center of the music because you're feeling aggressive or pissed and that's just as valid. You try to capture what you're feeling right then."

Unzipping the weekend

This is Craig Clark Unzipping your Weekend for February 17 - 23

Filling Station

Friday- The Clintons

Saturday- Textbook Blues Band

Haufbrau

Friday- Wayne Stevens

Saturday- Chris Donahue

Sunday and Monday- open mic

Tuesday through Thursday- Tex Tucker

Cats Paw

Saturday- Pool Tournament

Leaf & Bean

Friday- Chad Diehl

Saturday- Jeff Arntsen

Chico Hotsprings

Friday and Saturday- Blue Jack

Baxter Lobby

Sunday- Celtic Jam Session

Monday- Bluegrass Jam Session

Boodles

Thursday through Saturday- hear live jazz

Vargos Bookstore

Wednesday- Jazz improv workshop at 7:30 p.m.

Zebra Above

Saturday- 4 degrees, Disdain, Requiem

Zebra Cocktail Lounge

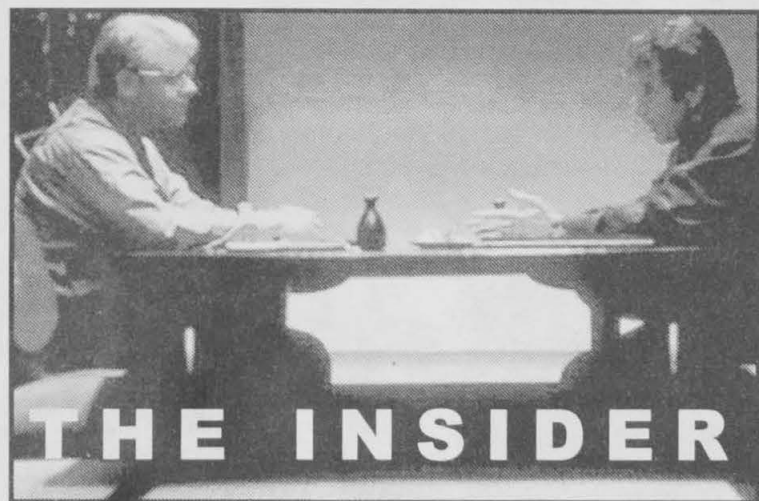
Friday- Perpetual Niche

Saturday- Valkyries Rugby Party

Tuesday- Rising Lion

Wednesday- DJ Malachai

FEBRUARY 18TH-20TH



FRI: 9:30PM

SAT: 7 & 12:15PM

SUN: 9:30PM



FRI: 7PM & 12:15AM

SAT: 9:45PM

SUN: 7PM

Procrastinate Theatre
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\$2 students
\$3 nonstudents
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Jacks steal win from MSU

Questionable call stings
Cats in final minutes

Scott Barbur
Exponent Sports Writer

The clouds are getting darker over the Bobcats' postseason hopes.

The Montana State men's basketball team (12-13/4-8) dropped their fourth straight game last night with a 76-74 loss to Northern Arizona (13-9/7-4) at home. The loss put the Bobcats a game out of sixth place in the Big Sky, where only the top six teams make the conference tournament.

Northern Arizona, on the other hand, improved their winning streak to seven and moved into third place in the conference behind Eastern Washington and Montana.

"I thought we played good basketball tonight. I question that call at the end. It's unfortunate at that point in the game..."

—MSU head coach
Mick Durham

For the fourth time in as many games the Bobcats gave the game away in the second half. The Bobcats had control with less than eight minutes remaining when they went up 65-57 after sophomore forward Aaron Rich hit two free throws.

But the Lumberjacks went on a 13-0 run over the next four minutes to capture the lead at 70-65. The Bobcats pulled within 72-71 with 27 seconds remaining but an intentional foul called on senior guard Jeff Riggs on the next play proved to be the difference.

Northern Arizona guard Cory Schwab hit two free throws and, because of the

see Steal page 13

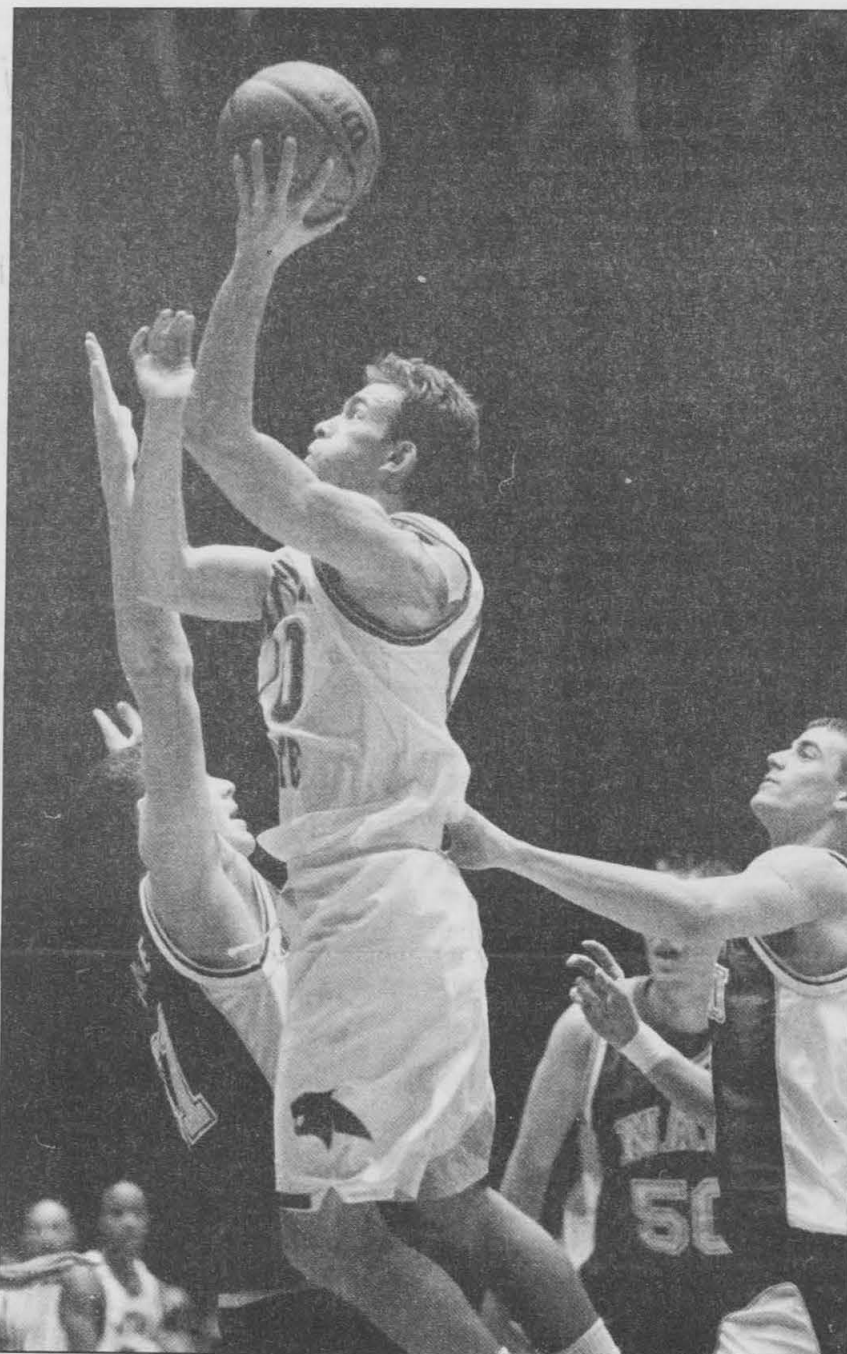


Photo by Jay Thane

Montana State's Jeff Riggs goes up strong over Northern Arizona's Ryan McDade in last night's game, while Lumberjack Dan McClintock and an unidentified teammate look on. Riggs was whistled for an intentional foul with 27 seconds remaining. The following free throws put the game away for NAU.

All good things must come to an end

Ian Costello
Exponent Sports Editor

Struggling down the stretch to find a place in the Big Sky Conference tournament probably wasn't the way these two planned on ending their career at Montana State. But, just the same, the time has come to say goodbye.

Both Jeff Riggs and Rufus Nicholson transferred to the Montana State basketball program for their final two years of college eligibility after starting their post high school basketball at different schools.

Right out of high school in Klamath Falls, Ore., Jeff Riggs went to Oregon State University to play college basketball. After spending two years coming off the bench and defending Pac Ten greats like Stanford's Aurther Lee, Riggs transferred out of Oregon and into Bozeman to finish his college career.

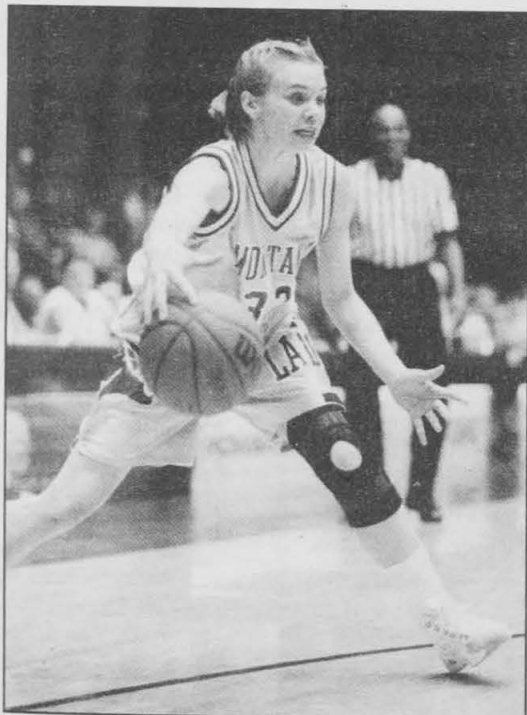
Rufus Nicholson came to Montana State after taking the Junior College route, spending his freshman and sophomore years at that level.

Both took different paths to get here, and with Riggs starting at the point guard position and Nicholson coming off the bench to spell the Bobcat big men, both play very different positions on the floor, but tonight, when the Bobcats take on Cal State Northridge, both will be playing in their final home game at Montana State.

It is customary for players who are preparing to play in the final home game of their careers to play the specialty of the game down and focus on things like "teams goals" and "making the



Bobcats fall to Northern Arizona



Ian Costello
Exponent Sports Editor

However small it was, the bubble containing the Montana State women's basketball team's hopes of playing in the Big Sky Tournament popped last night.

A career-high 22 points from Bobcat junior Serena Merrill was not enough to overcome the big inside attack of the Northern Arizona Lumberjacks, as they punished the 'Cats in the second half to come away with a 73-56 win.

Montana State led the game by two points at four different times in the first half and only trailed the homestanding 'Jacks by four at half time. But a 15-2 run by

Northern Arizona to start the second half quickly put the game out of reach.

"All we can control is how hard we play," MSU Interim Head Coach Frank McCarthy said. "I thought we played as hard as we could, we just got beat inside."

After seeing Montana State hang tough in the first half, the Lumberjacks attacked the weak inside of the Bobcat and put three players in double figures en route to the 16-point win.

"They got that big run to start the second (half) and we never could get the momentum back," McCarthy said.

Montana State, which falls to 2-10 in Big Sky play with the

see Bobcats page 13

see View page 12

Skiers off to Western Regionals

Special to the Exponent

The Montana State University women's ski teams are at the NCAA Western Regional, beginning today in Jackson Hole, Wyo. Alpine events will be held at the Snow King Resort, while the nordic races are slated for Trail Creek Ranch in Wilson. The regional meet will serve as the last qualifier before the NCAA Championships to be held in Park City, Utah, the second weekend of March.

"We'll be going all out this weekend," MSU head coach Dan Brelsford said. "We're looking to qualify a couple more athletes for the Championships, and they will need top ten finishes this weekend. We will hold nothing back and I'm going to tell them to go fast and be aggressive."

Competing in the Western Regional will be all eight teams from the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Ski Association, which includes: Montana State, Alaska-Anchorage, Colorado, the University of Denver, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Western State College. The women's giant slalom race on Friday will begin at 10 a.m., while the nordic five-kilometer event is slated for 11 a.m. On Saturday, both

the slalom and the 15-kilometer classic races begin at 1 p.m.

MSU's freshman duo of Nadja Hartmann from Ebnat-Kappel, Switzerland and Kirsten Ellena of Frisco Calif., look to have already qualified for the NCAA's, but they will need good finishes this weekend to solidify their positions. Sophomore Suzan Dole from Meeker Colo., is on the bubble for an NCAA berth and will need a top 10 finish this weekend.

"We'll be going all out this weekend, we're looking to qualify a couple more athletes for the Championships, and they will need top 10 finishes this weekend. We will hold nothing back and I'm going to tell them to go fast and be aggressive."

—MSU head coach Dan Brelsford

"Suzan is more than capable of a top 10 finish," Brelsford said. "She needs to go out and get on top early. She'll need to be very focused and will need a top 10 finish this weekend."

For the first time since the MSU ski program was resurrected in 1994, the Bobcats are on the cusp of qualifying their first nordic individual. Freshman Charis Gullickson of Anchorage, Alaska, will need a top 10 finish and place higher than specific competitors she has faced this season already.

"Charis needs to have a good weekend," Brelsford said. "She has all the motivation and drive that you could ask for, I just hope it all comes together this weekend."

The NCAA Western Regional is being hosted by Alaska-Anchorage.

View:

Make an effort to witness Riggs and Nicholson for one last time

continued from page 11

conference tournament" — leaving no room to get sentimental.

Maybe players like to play things like this down, but for the fans, a Senior Night game is a chance to show the players how much they have meant to the program and the town.

Senior nights have always been full of pomp and circumstance, bringing the players and their parents out to center court before the game starts to honor them in front of the entire crowd all the way through to coaches pulling them off the floor at time when they can receive the full attention and applause from the crowd.

This senior night, with only two Bobcat seniors, will be a little smaller and shorter than in years past. But the feeling and the appreciation will be the same.

Without traveling far tonight will be the last time most of the Bobcat fans in Bozeman will see Riggs and Nicholson in action. And on their last night, they deserve much appreciation and many thanks.

Whatever happens in the off season, the Montana State basketball team will be missing something when they take the floor next season.

Gone will be the energized, high-speed game of Jeff Riggs, who made up for his heart, effort and determination whatever he lacked in size and skill. Gone will be Rufus Nicholson, battling away on the inside on defense while hitting long-range jumpers from the outside to a chorus of "Rooooo" from the crowd.

Yes, this may seem a little sappy and over sentimental, but watching these two and what they brought to Bobcat basketball has been fun over the last two years. And they will most certainly be missed.

So take the time tonight to say thank you to Jeff Riggs and Rufus Nicholson, although the time in Bozeman has been quite short. The memories they have left behind as Bobcats will last forever.

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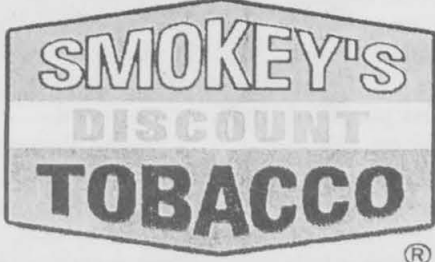


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Bridger Bowl hosts Shred O' Fest

Bryan Duszynski
Exponent Writer

The tenth annual Bridger Bowl Shred O' Fest snowboard contest series went off without a hitch last weekend with two major events: boardercross and Slopestyle.

The boardercross event took place on Saturday with riders careening down the groomed face of Bobcat in four man heats. A boardercross is similar in nature to its namesake, motocross, in that the riders are challenged by large banked turns, rollers and jumps. The racers take to the course donning helmets to protect their gray matter in the event that they take a fall and have to contend with the other competitors running into them from behind. In boardercross, anything goes and if you can judge your competition out of the way with a straight arm or well-placed elbow, the prize is yours.

The event tends to weed out riders who are not versatile enough to withstand such rough treatment while maintaining their balance on the board and dealing with course obstacles.

The action was breathtaking on Saturday with a course designed by Jesse Woodson of the Bridger Bowl Events Staff. The Course was designed to separate riders into their ability levels

with the top portion consisting of two large banked turns and a double set of rollers designed to allow only the most confident through without a fall or other mishap. The course finished up with a large set of rollers which riders could either launch over completely or flounder through at their own peril.

The top three men and women in the open division received cash prizes of up to \$200, and riders in the general division received valuable prizes from a local snowboard shop, World Boards.

The slopestyle competition on Sunday consisted of three jumps spread out on the face of Bobcat, with riders in each division allowed two runs through the course, and judges choosing the best of the two. The slopestyle also went well, with no major injuries and riders only complaining minimally about the design of the jumps.

The first half of the competition was hampered by intense, blizzard-like conditions, resulting in low visibility for both riders and judges. Eventually the snow let up and the remaining half of the competition was cool and clear, with a little extra cushion for the landings left by the passing storm.

Afterwards, riders took to the trees, enjoying the fresh powder and awaiting the awards ceremony to be held in the base lodge later in the day.

Steal: McClintock leads NAU past 'Cats

continued from page 11

intentional foul, the Lumberjacks got the ball back. The Bobcats were forced to foul forward Billy Hix, who hit both free throws to put the Lumberjacks up 76-71. Riggs hit a three-pointer in the final seconds but it was not enough.

"I thought we played good basketball tonight, although the last eight minutes were very disappointing," said Montana State head coach Mick Durham, "I question that call [on Riggs]...at the end. He was going for the ball. It's unfortunate at that point in the game, but we can't blame the loss on that."

The Bobcats, who were undersized at almost every position, especially had trouble with center Dan McClintock. The seven-foot senior scored 27 points and hauled in 14 rebounds.

The big men for the Bobcats also had success. Junior center John Lazosky led the 'Cats with 18 points, while forwards Rich and Rufus Nicholson scored 17 and 12 respectively.

The Bobcats play their final home game of the season tonight against Cal State-Northridge. It will be the final home game ever for seniors Riggs and Nicholson.

Gridders add another signal caller

Special to the Exponent

KCAL 9 News-LA Times Team last fall.

David Aupiu, a high school quarterback standout from Torrance, Calif., has signed a national letter-of-intent to join the Montana State football program next fall, Bobcat Head Coach Mike Kramer has announced.

Aupiu, the son of former BYU and Los Angeles Rams linebacker David Aupiu, Sr., was the MVP of the Ocean League and his team's MVP last fall. He was All-CIF Division 10, and was a Powerbar All-Star. He was the Torrance Cable Athlete of the Year, played for the 2000 Samoan International All-Star Team in the South Bay Lions All-star Game, and was named to the All-

"David is a brilliant young quarterback who has great range and mobility," Kramer said. "He played in a very complicated high school passing game, and showed ability both as a pocket passer and as a playmaker. His bloodlines indicate that he's destined for greatness."

At 6-2, 180 lbs, Aupiu passed for 2,102 yards as a senior at Torrance South last fall. He also ran for 672 yards on 109 attempts, throwing for 32 touchdowns and rushing for nine more. A four-year basketball letterman, Aupiu was inducted into his school's basketball hall of fame after his junior season. Aupiu's father led the BYU Cougars in tackles as a senior in 1983.

Deal to throw at Fieldhouse Saturday

Exponent Staff

Olympic Silver Medallist Bruce Deal, a former Bobcat from America, will be competing in Bozeman at 11:30 a.m. Saturday as his final tune-up for U.S. National Championships on March 4 in Santa.

Deal, the premiere American weight and hammer thrower, will be chasing history next month in Atlanta. The Casper, Wyo., native has the chance to become the winningest track athlete in history with another championship, which would be his 13th. He has also won seven U.S. Outdoor

Championships, is the current world record holder in the weight throw and won a hammer-throw silver medal at the 1996 Olympics.

Deal will be competing in the weight throw at Saturday's Montana State-Utah-Montana dual meet. The weight throw will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the remainder of the meet will follow.

Bobcats: Montana State's bubble bursts

continued from page 11

was led by Merrill's 22 points and also got production from junior Amy Meckling who finished the game with 15 points.

After trailing by only four at the break, the shooting that has haunted Montana State for most of the season reared its ugly head again as the Cats shot a dismal 29.6 percent from the floor the game, including a 3-19 performance from the point range.

Merrill's 22 points eclipsed her own career high set just eight days ago against Cal State Sacramento.

"I'm proud of Serena, whatever happens she plays hard," McCarthy said. "I was very pleased with her effort."

Montana State travels to Cal State Northridge to take on the Matadors Saturday night.

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MSU vs Cal State Northridge

Friday, February 18th

8:30 PM

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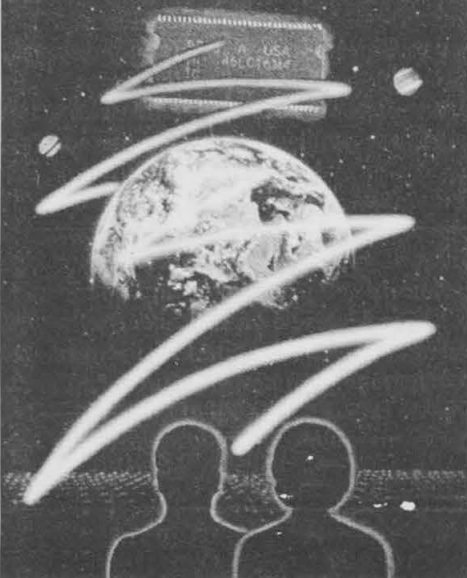
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Student organizations earn \$1,000-\$2,000 with the easy campusfundraiser.com three hour fundraising event.
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The EXPONENT is currently accepting applications for an Opinion Columnist. To apply please call 994-2224 or stop by SUB 305

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drinking alcohol can cause people to take risks they wouldn't usually take. When these risks involve sex, it can result in an STD or unintended pregnancy. Concerned? Call Bidger Clinic- 587-0681

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TI-92 Calculator

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586-6344

wannyuh@hotmail.com

LOST ITEMS

Small gold hoop earring lost between Hannon and Reid on Tuesday, February 15. Please call 994-2279 if found.

PERSONALS

PERSONAL ADS
ARE FREE!

Classified Ad Rates

Local:

One Insertion: .35/wor
Two+ Issues: .30/wor

Student:

One Insertion: .30/wor
Two+ Issues: .25/wor

National:

One Insertion: .40/wor
Two+ Issues: .35/wor

PRESIDENTIAL PALS

C	A	P	E	T	O	F	U	S	A	C	K
O	R	A	L	H	A	V	E	N	T	I	M
W	I	L	L	I	A	M	A	N	D	B	U
S	A	M	D	U	E	L	E	L	D	E	R
A	L	T	S	B	R	A	S				
B	O	B	B	I	E	A	R	A	B	S	P
A	P	R	O	N	S	C	A	R	G	O	A
G	E	O	R	G	E	A	N	D	M	I	L
G	R	O	T	P	I	E	S	M	A	I	N
Y	A	M	M	I	L	D	L	A	D	D	E
L	O	S	S	P	I	G	S				
A	B	D	U	C	T	A	L	O	E	F	A
F	R	A	N	K	L	I	N	A	N	D	F
R	A	N	G	E	D	I	T	S	E	D	A
O	N	E	S	S	A	L	E	D	E	N	S

Answers from Friday, February 15, 2000

**Liquidation Auction authorized by the
U.S. Bankruptcy Court
Virtual Computer Technologies**
Thursday, February 24, 6:00PM
Gallatin County Fairgrounds #2
Bozeman, Montana

Computers, printers, monitors, office furniture,
hardware, software, copiers, network system
and much, much more. Viewing and registration
starts at 4:00PM Terms: Cash or check
Vellinga Auction Company-Bozeman
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Breaks Away
Spring Break 2000

lots still available
Gila National Forest, NM
Construct trails on the Continental Divide.

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See for abused and abandoned animals at the
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Crossword 101

"PhunWith Phonics"

By Ed Canty

ACROSS

- 1 Gephardt & Foley
- 5 Indiana player
- 10 Humane soc.
- 14 Back talk?
- 15 Concur
- 16 Gator kin
- 17 Emerald Isle
- 18 Insuphicient?
- 20 Sable
- 21 Paper quantity
- 22 Ivory sources
- 23 San Antonio team
- 25 Circus applauder
- 27 Double quartet
- 29 Gall
- 33 French city
- 34 Knob locales
- 35 Some ins. groups
- 36 Rip
- 37 A glimpse of a star
- 38 Devastate
- 39 Possessed
- 40 Worries
- 41 Kitchen tool
- 42 Horizons
- 44 Irk
- 45 Teen follower
- 46 Buddy Holly's Sue
- 48 Ghana's capital
- 51 Smooth the road
- 52 Wager
- 55 Phictitious story?
- 58 Precedes down and out
- 59 Mr. Hemingway
- 60 Assistant
- 61 Oklahoma city
- 62 Not quite a canter
- 63 Like Junior's room
- 64 Driving needs

DOWN

- 1 Coral
- 2 Beige
- 3 Presidential wiphe?
- 4 Word in business name
- 5 Student's assignment

- 6 Turkish leaders
- 7 Study for the final
- 8 Moray, for one
- 9 Grandma, for one
- 10 "Peanuts" author
- 11 The Big League
- 12 Irish county
- 13 Play parts
- 19 RBI's & ERA's
- 21 Slumps
- 24 Stare
- 25 Smithy's concerns
- 26 Dol. competitor
- 27 Solemn promises
- 28 Haunted house sound
- 29 Arrives
- 30 Laphing spot?
- 31 Spanish friend
- 32 Pooh's goal
- 34 Gauntlet thrower
- 37 Word with sugar or candy
- 38 Told

- 40 New father's giveaway
- 41 Road
- 43 Lasso
- 46 in comparison
- 47 Each
- 48 Scheduled mtg.
- 49 Scorch
- 50 Mafia boss
- 51 Mats
- 53 Buffalo's lake
- 54 Koppel and Danson
- 56 Thanksgiving staple
- 57 Ascot
- 58 Damp

Quotable Quote

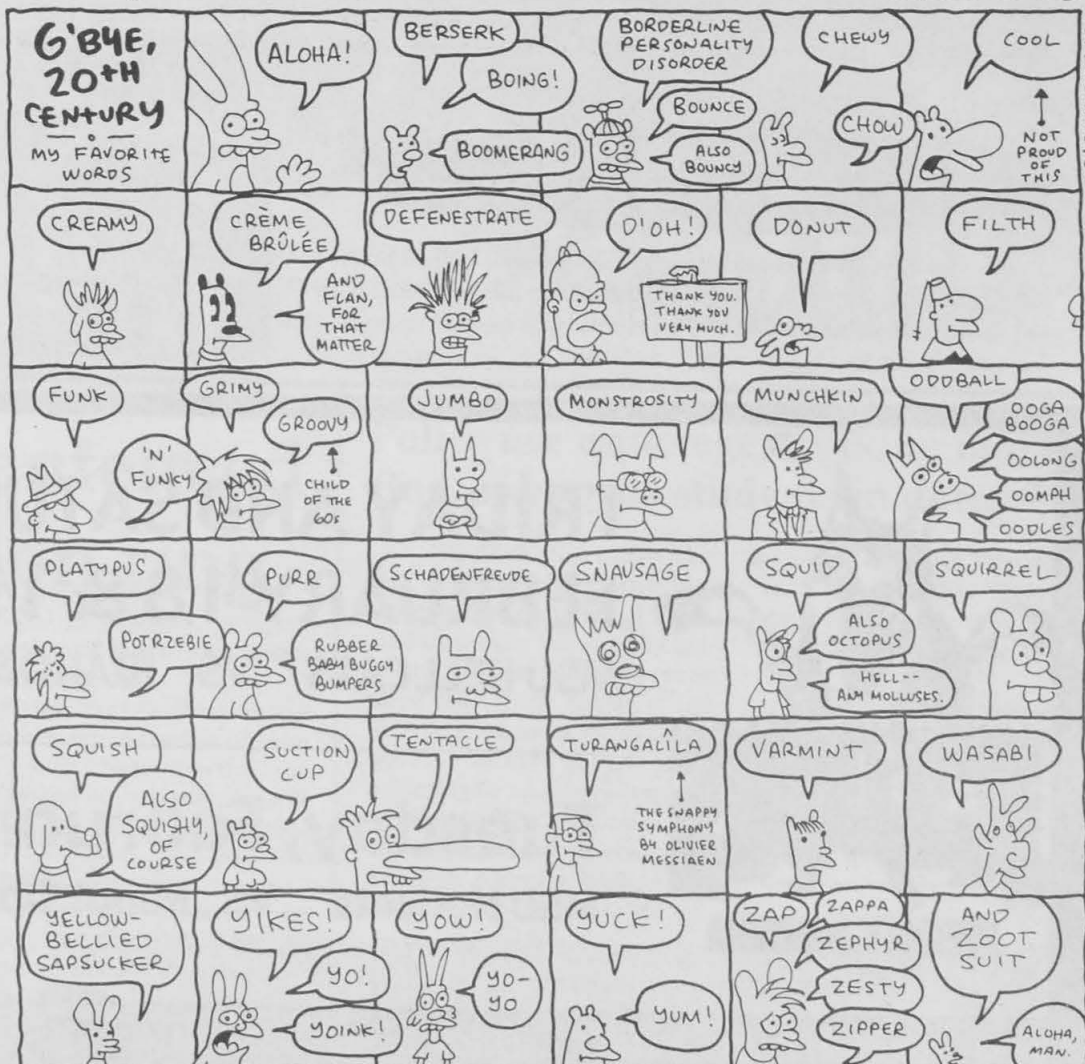
"Brevity is the best
recommendation in
speech whether in a
senator or an orator."

... Cicero

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**LIFE IN
HELL**

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GROENING



Coverage: New policy would provide equal insurance right

continued from page 15

that it's not just driven by politics."

Glen Leavitt, benefits director for the university system, said Tuesday that higher education officials will take heat no matter what happens to the proposal. "If we don't do it, we will get pounded from one quarter," he said. "If we do it, we'll get pounded by the other side."

Leavitt said the consultant's forecast of financial impact is based on experiences in other states

where health insurance has been expanded in this way. The change is expected to increase the number covered by less than 1 percent, because many partners already have insurance through their own job or homosexual couples may be reluctant to openly declare the nature of their relationship to qualify, he said.

While some may assume AIDS cases would drive up the cost of the proposal, Leavitt said that potential is offset by the fact that claims for pregnancies are

very rare.

Sen. Ric Holden, R-Glendive, said extending coverage would violate Montana's 3-year-old ban on same-sex marriages.

"If this was adopted by Crofts, that would be in direct violation of the 1997 Legislature's stated public policy for Montana," he said. "That means

"If we don't do it, we will get pounded from one quarter. If we do it, we'll get pounded by the other side."

—Glen Leavitt, benefits director for the Montana University System

we do not recognize homosexual marriages in Montana."

Expanding coverage for homosexual partners "would be elevating that form of lifestyle to what we commonly consider legal marriages in Montana," Holden said.

An insurance agent, Holden also questioned how the proposal could not increase the cost of the group health insurance plan.

"You cannot increase your coverage and your dependents for free," he said. "Somebody's

got to pick up that cost. They don't automatically get free coverage."

Joyce Brown, head of the Employee Benefits Bureau in the state Department of Administration, said a decision by the university system to extend coverage to homosexual partners could put pressure on the rest of state government to follow suit. But she doubts the policy will spread to the program that covers 14,000 active and retired state employees.

Karl Olson, executive director for the gay and lesbian advocacy group called PRIDE, applauded the proposed policy as one that gives homosexual families the same rights as those afforded other families.

Crofts said he has asked LeRoy Schramm, chief attorney for the university system, to study legal issues related to the change to determine if it would conflict with the constitution or laws. He said he wants to make sure restrictions in the proposal do not



Photo by Jay T

Currently, same-sex partners of MSU employees must provide their own insurance to use facilities such as Swingle Health Service.

illegally discriminate against same-sex couples.

The plan would include strict requirements for same-sex couples to document the permanence of their relationships in order to qualify for the benefit. "There has to be some signs that there really is a relationship of some significance," Crofts said.

An eligibility form, based on one used by the University of Minnesota, requires partners to

declare they are "engaged in a long-term committed relationship and intend to remain together indefinitely" and "jointly responsible to each other for the necessities of life."

They must be prepared to prove that claim through items as a joint mortgage, bank account, loans, credit cards, property ownership. They must agree to notify the university system benefits office within 30 days after the partnership ends.

Multi-Instrumentalist

Todd Green

Featured Artist at MSU's 19th Annual International Festival will demonstrate his diversity on a multitude of string, flute, percussion and original one-of-a-kind hybrid instruments. Using digital sampling, Todd overdubs his many instruments to create a one-man-orchestra.

Don't miss Todd's unique blend of music and his fascinating explanations of the music and the instruments used to create the music.

Tickets are \$2.00 each or \$1.00 with Valid Student ID

Call 994-6462 for More Info

Check out Todd's Home Page
www.toddgreen.com

7:00 p.m. Friday, February 25
SUB 275/276



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Wednesday

February 24

Applications due by March 3

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BOZEMAN
Candidates must meet with ASMSU elections chair or President before campaigning!



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Tuesday, February 22

MSU Hellcats VS. Minot State 7:30 pm



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