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EXPONENT

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2004

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MSU Students Run for the Money in San Diego

Rock 'n' Roll marathon will benefit cancer research

ANGIE CONNERS
DEB EDITOR

Emily Belk and Erica Dobbs, two Montana State University students, have undertaken an extremely challenging endeavor. As a junior in Elementary Education, and Dobbs, a junior in Technology, are currently in the process of raising \$4,000 each for a marathon in San Diego this summer.

The marathon, however, is not just any marathon. The Rock 'n' Roll marathon through downtown San Diego features over 40 high-energy bands lining the 26.2-mile course. Over 700 participants take part in the marathon each year. Belk and Dobbs are training through a program called Team in Training (TNT),

a subsidiary of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The marathon is a fund-raiser aimed to raise research and treatment for blood related cancers.

The girls began training approximately two weeks ago. They receive a new schedule each day detailing how far they need to run each day. A mentor and a trainer, both who have previously run the marathon, monitor the girls' progress and help keep them

on track. Then, every Saturday, all the TNT members from the area meet with each other to exercise. According to Dobbs, about five locals (including Belk and Dobbs) will participate in the marathon this summer. Dobbs also explained how they are the youngest participants, as the others from Bozeman are over 30.

A sentimental twist to the story, however, is that Belk and Dobbs are participating in the marathon in honor of Maria Flanagan, an MSU catering manager. The girls have known Flanagan for approximately two years. They consider Flanagan not only their boss, but also their friend. Flanagan was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma this summer.

About two weeks ago, the girls told Flanagan they were planning to run the marathon in her honor. Dobbs described Flanagan's reaction as simply "speechless; she had tears in her eyes."

In order to raise the required \$4,000 entry fee, the girls have sent over 200 letters to local businesses. "A lot of businesses have been giving us things and time instead of money," stated Belk. So far, the girls have officially raised



Dobbs, left, and Belk, right, plan to raise \$4,000 each by May 6th in order to compete in a fundraising marathon this summer. They will run the marathon in honor of Maria Flanagan, center, who was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma this summer.

\$20. The total amount must be raised by May 6th, as the race will be held on June 6th.

Not only are the girls asking for donations, but they are also holding a photography contest which they are calling "Frozen Lens" Winter Sports Photography contest. The only guideline for photos entered into the contest is that they must be winter sports or winter scenery related. The minimum donation entry fee is \$15 per picture. The deadline for entries is March 5th.

An anonymous photography professor at MSU has agreed to judge the contest. Prizes will be items donated from businesses. So

far, two lift tickets to Bridger Bowl are confirmed as prizes. Photos can be sent to P.O. Box 5257, Bozeman, MT, 59717, or delivered to a drop-off box in SUB room 236. The official website for the contest is www.frozenlens.com.

Belk explained that it was lucky the girls found out about the program. She received a letter in the mail explaining the program, yet had never signed up to receive any sort of newsletters.

"That's part of the mystery," Belk said, "Somehow they got my name." Dobbs convinced Belk that they should participate in the event.

"It wasn't until later," Belk

said, "that we realized it was something we [could] do in honor of Maria."

The Team in Training program will train the girls to endure the marathon, and also pay for transportation to and lodging in San Diego. A guaranteed 25 percent of raised money will go specifically to Leukemia research.

According to the Rock 'n' Roll marathon home site, since 1998, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Team in Training program has raised \$85.2 million through Elite Racing musical marathon events. The marathon this summer is expected to surpass the \$100 million mark.

"Caffeinated" Provides Students with Humor, Insight

RACHEL HERGETT
EXPONENT WRITER

Almost 200 people attended "Caffeinated" sponsored by The University Christian Fellowship (UCF) Tuesday night in SUB Ballroom A. The event had three main elements, according to the MCs Will Klier, Sponsor, and Adam Ormiston, UCF President. These elements were strong friendship, quality humor, and an inspiring life story.

"Caffeinated" began with introductions and games at each table. Later video clips of "The Top 10 or so things not to do on coffee" were shown. The clips included images of people doing hurdles over office cubicles, smashing laptops (followed by taking one more sip of coffee), and riding a chair propelled into a barrel of oranges.

The next video was a version of UCF Cries, a spin-off of

"MTV's Cries." In the film by Mike Emery, Kory Kindsfather led a tour of the "house of moo." According to Kindsfather the occupants of the house all live together in fellowship. The video was well received by the audience.

Lance Lanning, a former Bobcat football player, provided the "inspiring life story." Lanning, a native of Havre, Montana, currently works with Youth Alive, a non-profit faith based organization. He started out making jokes, telling of how a little girl named Marika had asked him if he was a sumo wrestler. Lanning went on to speak of how unhappy he was in school, until his freshman year of high school when he made the varsity football team as an offensive tackle. The same people who had ridiculed him before now said hello in the halls.

Lanning eventually made the all-state team and began playing

for the Bobcats as a true freshman. After the first couple of weeks, Lanning received a phone call informing him that his grandfather had shot himself. Upon returning to the team, Lanning received another call saying his mother was ill.

After leaving the 'Cats, he tried to get his life back in order by moving to Missoula to play for the Grizzlies. While going to school to meet the eligibility requirements, Lanning became a bartender. In his second semester at the University of Montana, he flunked all of his six classes. With this and over \$5,000 of debt on his shoulders, Lanning returned home to his parents.

"I told them about everything I've ever done, every lie I ever told them," he said. His parents told him that he was their son and that they would always love

SEE CAFFEINE PAGE 3

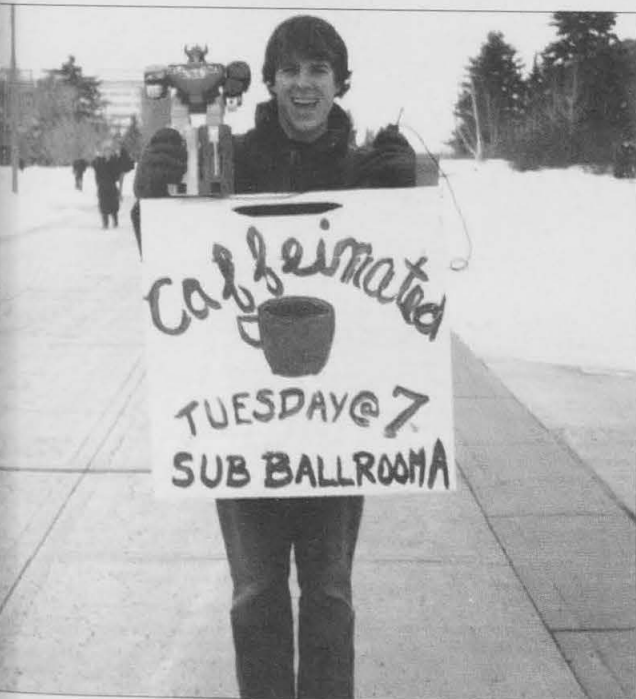


Photo by L.A. Hoffman

Will Klier, MC of "Caffeinated" walked with this sandwich board Monday and Tuesday to promote the event.

Strange but True:

Random Stories from Around the World

Handcuffs Tip Clerk on
Escapee Buying Bolt-Cutters

MAGNOLIA, AK
A.P. NEWS SERVICE

James Cotton looked just like any other Wal-Mart customer buying a bolt cutter at 4:30 in the morning, until the cashier noticed that Cotton was wearing handcuffs.

According to police, the clerk took Cotton's money, gave him the bolt cutter, then called officers. Cotton, of Cooper, Texas, was apprehended minutes later and charged with escaping from Haynesville, La., police.

The Wal-Mart workers said that, after buying the bolt cutter Saturday morning, Cotton went into a bathroom and came out

free of the handcuffs. Magnolia police arrived and spoke with Cotton before he fled into a field behind the store.

Police said they found the sliced handcuffs in Cotton's pocket.

Cotton had initially been arrested by Haynesville police Friday night on charges of battery and possession of a narcotic. Officers there said Cotton kicked out a window while being placed in a police car and later fled when the officer stopped the car.

Cotton was being held Monday in the Columbia County jail.

Police did not know how Cotton traveled from Haynesville to Magnolia, which are about 25 miles apart.

Police Track Burglars ... By Their Tracks


WAEDENSWIL, SWZ
A.P. NEWS SERVICE

Two teenage burglars failed to consider the snow when they went on a crime spree Monday morning. Police arrested the young men by following their tracks.

Zurich cantonal (state) police said they were alerted by a private security company after an alarm went off at a parking lot payment

machine. Officers, who found that the machine had been broken into, followed footprints to a second parking lot, where the machine also had been attacked.

From there police followed the tracks in the snow to a doctor's office which had been broken into. They continued to follow the footprints until they came upon the two men, both 19.

The men were carrying the loot and break-in tools.

Celebrate or Hunt? Crow Population Causes
Dilemma in Small New York Town

WILLIAM KATES
A.P. NEWS SERVICE

A crow hunt scheduled for this weekend is expected to draw a crowd that includes people from as far away as Kentucky and Arizona, said Tom Lennox, one of the organizers. It also has drawn local critics, who say the contest gives the city a black eye.

"We don't like the image it gives our city," said Rita Sarnicola, who heads The Crow Committee, a local group protesting the second annual crow hunt. "It's not hunting. It's killing for killing's sake. And then they throw a party."

Sarnicola said a protest is planned for Sunday, the final day of the contest.

Residents in Auburn, a small city 20 miles west of Syracuse, have spent years grousing about huge numbers of crows roosting all winter long. About 15 years ago, Auburn became home to as many as 50,000 crows each winter, outnumbering the human population of 28,574.

Many residents complain the crows, which flock into the city at dusk after daily feedings

in the country, are noisy nuisances that soil the city with their droppings.

The roost has declined to about 25,000 recently, a decrease experts largely attribute to the effects of West Nile virus, which is fatal to crows. But supporters of the hunt, including Auburn's mayor, say that crows remain a pesky problem.

A crow-hunting contest that was held informally for several years became organized and publicized last year, when nearly 150 hunters bagged 348 birds in a weekend.

"We aren't doing anything that's illegal," said Lennox, whose tavern sponsors the contest.

"They like to portray us as bloodthirsty killers. These are people who go to the grocery store to buy slaughtered cows, pigs, chickens, turkeys," Lennox said, adding that many hunters eat the crows.

"And they're worried about Auburn's image. We have a maximum security prison here that has some of the state's most notorious murderers," Lennox said.

Instead of a hunt, Sarnicola wants the city to put together a crow festival featuring music, entertainment and antiques

while honoring someone who has done "something to crow about." Sarnicola also envisions the crowning of a crow princess.

Crow season runs from Sept. 1 to March 31, but crows can only be hunted Friday through Monday, a legal quirk that dates to the federal 1918 International Migratory Bird Act. Hunting is prohibited within city limits.

Auburn Mayor Timothy Lattimore supports the crow hunt.

"If these were deer, there would be no objections to thinning the herd," Lattimore said. "The population here is overwhelming. It is affecting business downtown and the quality of life here."

Crow Busters, a national crow hunters' organization based in Lutherville, Md., says crows are regarded as highly intelligent creatures with the uncanny ability to detect trouble, a characteristic that hunters say makes them a worthy adversary.

Crow hunting reached its zenith in the 1940s and 1950s. The federal government put a bounty on the birds during World War II, designating them as a public enemy and traitor for robbing the nation's farms of grain, according to the group's Web site.



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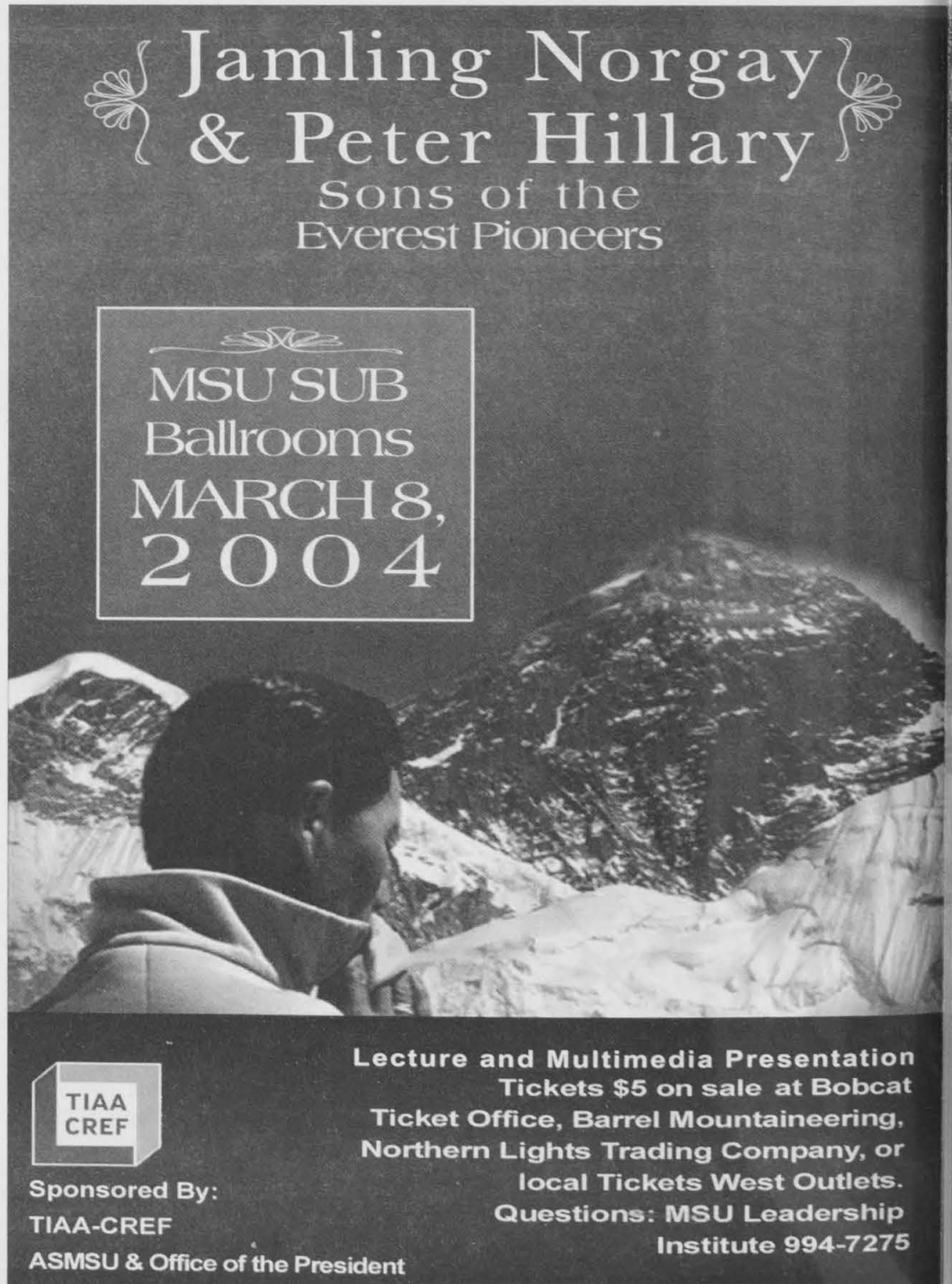
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MSU Student Presents Views on Parking at City Commision Meeting

Plowing techniques on Bozeman streets causes dangerous situations, unacceptable driving conditions

BRENDAY MCNANEY
OPINION WRITER

Parking at Montana State University has been an ongoing problem. When students returned from Christmas break, they may have noticed an addition to the problem: the huge piles of snow that have invaded many parking spots, creating terrible driving and parking conditions in and around campus. One ambitious MSU student decided to voice her opinion on the subject and take it to a City Commission meeting.

On Feb. 9th, shortly after 7 p.m., sophomore Kala French presented a slide show presentation to the City Town Hall members in the Municipal Building at the weekly Bozeman City Commission meeting. French began the presentation by informing the members that she is a native Montanan from Kalispell, and she understands how the weather can effect situations such as parking. French's presentation dealt with "Safety Concerns and Parking," throughout the town of Bozeman, focusing on the streets that MSU students are most familiar with. The slide show contained various pictures of streets

and sidewalks, including 8th Avenue between College Street and Cleveland Street. The pictures showed the ways that the streets had been plowed causing unsafe and hazardous conditions for student drivers and pedestrians. The snow piled in the middle of the streets on the medians have formulated into sizable mounds that melt during the day, creating a sheet of ice on the streets. This style of plowing the streets has created unsafe driving conditions for students and other members of the community, as the piles are sometimes so large that it is hard to see other vehicles in the streets.

Another problem with this snow piling is that the plows have created an "ice shelf" that takes up part of the street, forcing drivers to drive dangerously close to the cars that are parked on the side of the street, which brings up another hazard. Cars that are parallel parked on the side of streets are forced to park farther away

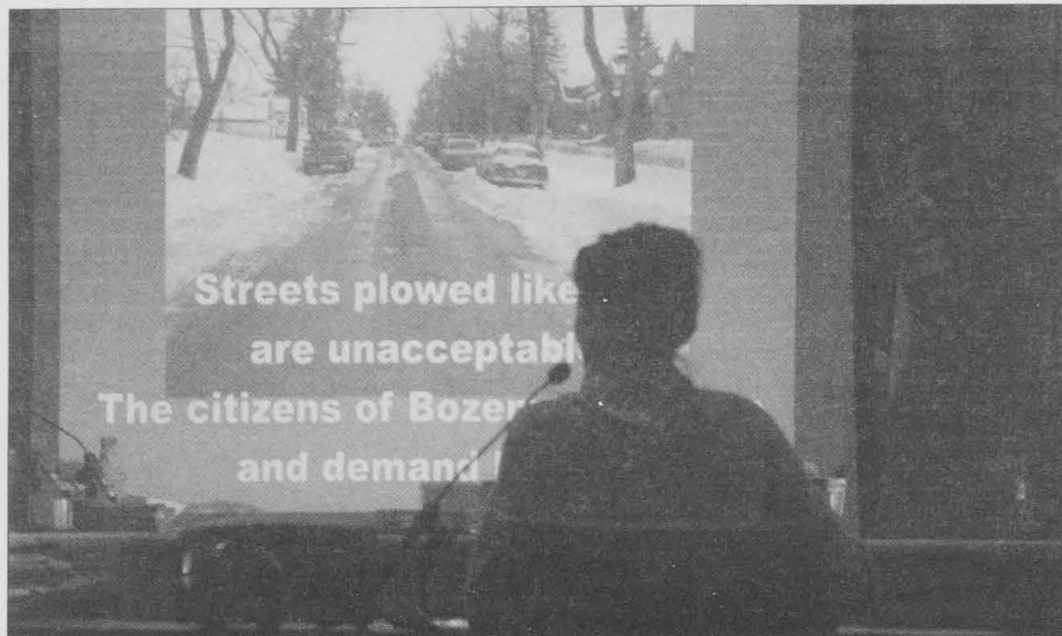


Photo by Caleb Hill

Kala French presented a slide show to the city commissioners Monday night in an effort to improve conditions of Bozeman streets and parking areas.

"The citizens of Bozeman deserve and demand better."

- Kala French
ASMSU Senator

from the curb than they would under normal circumstances as there are snow piles around two feet from the curb that will not allow closer parking. This leaves several cars parked halfway in the street, making it hard for two-way traffic to pass. These kinds of street conditions create chaotic parking and sometimes lead to parking tickets for those

who are simply trying to park their vehicle under the circumstances. Also, pictures of blocked and icy sidewalks were presented in French's slide show, showing that pedestrians as well as drivers face hazardous conditions everyday.

French explained how students often fight for these parking spots that are snow covered and dangerous, which she referred to as "wasted parking that can not be utilized." She suggested that

community involvement in the situation would help. "People would be willing to help," French said, detailing how some people are seen around town with snow plows on the front of their 4x4 vehicles, but are hesitant to put their blades down.

"The citizens of Bozeman deserve and demand better," stated French, coming to the conclusion of her presentation. After the demonstration French was commended on a job well done.

Caffeinated: UCF Hosts Event Tues. Night

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
him. Lanning made light of the moment, saying, "Big guys can really cry."

Lanning then worked on the oil rigs to get himself out of debt. One day he asked himself, "Do I believe in God?" And answered, "Then why do you live your life the way you do." Lanning went on to say, "On Jan. 15, 1999 I gave my life to Jesus."

If Lanning was unhappy with his life before, everything has come full circle. "When I look in the mirror now I see a child of God, completely happy," he said.

He finished with a message for everyone: "I don't care who you are, what you've done, whether you believe in him or not, God loves you."

"Caffeinated" was intended to "promote awareness of the UCF as an organization on campus," said Klier. The UCF began advertising the event on Sunday by building large snowmen around the university. "We thought the snowmen would be a unique advertising tool," Klier said. On Monday, Klier and other members wore sandwich boards and passed out fliers to further

publicize the event.

"As a first event it went pretty well," Oriston said. "There were not quite as many people as we were expecting, but it was a good turnout."

UCF is an organization that stands for "healing, training, and sending," said Haley Barclay. "It enables you to grow in your life, to mature in your spirituality." UCF meets Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in SUB room 276.

The next "Caffeinated" will be held on March 23 in the SOB Barn. Andrew Gromiller, a one man band, is set to perform.

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Chocolate Sweet for the Heart, Research Shows Confection May Lower Blood Pressure, Improve Circulation

Those delicious chocolates that make your Valentine's heart go pitter-patter may also help keep that heart running longer and stronger.

WASHINGTON, D.C.
A.P. NEWS SERVICE

Chocolate, perhaps the world's favorite confection, contains chemicals like those in red wine and green tea that can help improve circulation, cut blood pressure and might produce other health benefits, according to researchers speaking Tuesday at the National Academy of Sciences.

The daylong session focused on the history, cultural impact, medical benefits and just plain good taste of cocoa, the plant that produces the raw material for chocolate.

Indeed, conference-goers got to taste a variety of drinking cocoas including a hot pepper-infused version drunk by ancient Central Americans--bitter stuff --and several sweet modern versions including one enhanced

with the natural beneficial chemicals called flavonoids.

The ancient Aztecs sang "I drink chocolate, it makes me happy, my heart rejoices," Francisco X. Alarcon of the University of California, Davis, told the session in an overview.

Maybe they weren't just speaking metaphorically.

Over the last decade or so researchers have come to see a relationship between consuming more flavonoids and lowering the death rate from heart disease, said Dr. Helmut Sies, chairman of the department of biochemistry at the University of Duesseldorf, Germany.

Dr. Norman K. Hollenberg of Harvard Medical School said he found cocoa was effective in lowering the blood pressure in his study of the isolated Kuna Indians who live on islands off the coast of Panama.

Despite a high salt diet, the Kuna have normal blood pressure, he explained, and they consume large quantities of locally grown cocoa which is high in flavonoids. When Kuna moved to a city and switched to commercial cocoas with fewer of the chemicals their blood pressure tended to rise, he noted.

Normal processing of cocoa reduces the amount of the flavonoids, Hollenberg noted.

Versions are being produced with the chemicals retained and, served at the conference, tasted slightly stronger than normal cocoa but still were enjoyable.

Hollenberg said flavonoids are protective antioxidants, and early research also indicates that cocoa with flavonoids can help increase blood flow in the brain and the extremities, which could prove beneficial to the elderly and diabetics. That research is in its



Photo by Charlie Cap...

Chocolate, a popular Valentine's Day item, contains heart-healthy flavonoids, but experts warn the sweet treat still contains unhealthy fats and sugar.

early stages, he cautioned.

"We're well beyond the beginning of this, but we're nowhere near the end," said Hollenberg.

Potential health benefits from chocolate have also been reported in medical journals, although other scientists also note that chocolate tends to contain fats and sugar.

While presenters extolled the virtues of cocoa, the romance of fast-approaching Valentine's Day also was in mind.

"I hope we will not solve all the mystery; we need a little mystery in life," said Philipp Petithuguenin, head of cocoa research at CIRAD, a French organization specializing in the study of tropical agriculture.

Sponsors of the conference were the University of California, Davis; University of California, Santa Cruz; U.S. Department of Agriculture; National Institute of Health; the Smithsonian Institution; and Mars Inc.

ASMSU President Addresses Proposed Student Union Building Renovation

Dear Fellow Students

Over the next few weeks you will be hearing more and more about the MSU/ASMSU plan for the construction/renovation of the SUB, the H&PE complex improvements, and the construction of the Black Box Theater, which would be attached to the Visual Communications Building (VSB). I will attempt to shed some light on the subject so you as the student body can be an informed voter when this issue comes before this Spring election. This article will focus on the first of the three portions of the project, and subsequent articles will follow to describe each portion as well as the financial concerns. It is important to note that although the project, pending approval, will drastically affect three student facilities on campus, it is considered one single project where a vote either way will provide a final decision for all three portions.

For years students have expressed their concerns over the one building on campus the students truly do own, the Strand Union Building. Some of these problems include overcrowded spaces, in particular the union market, accessibility issues for disabled students, old and inefficient building structures and machinery, circulation issues, and outdated décor and furnishings. In short, since its last partial renovation in the early 1980's and complete renovation in 1965, this building, which is among the more heavily used in the state, is beginning to feel its age of 65 years old. The complaints just listed

above have come from students in recent years, but nothing has been done to rectify the situation. In coordination with members of the MSU administration, professional architects, and your elected ASMSU student government, a solution has been proposed which will help alleviate many problems. It includes, but is not limited to the following: remodel and expand the northeast corner, improve accessibility throughout the building, enlarging the Union Market for more seating, more meeting rooms, a 200 seat Procrastinator Theater, office space for student organizations, an upgrade of the infrastructure for improved comfort and lighting, and of course an overall enhancement of the aesthetics of the building.

Over the next few weeks I will continue writing these articles in order to give the student body information concerning all three projects and information sessions are being set up for any interested students to attend. Please look on the back page of each Exponent for new updates concerning this topic. As always my office door is open to all students. Please feel free to stop by to address any questions or comments concerning this topic or any of the other topics that are concerning the student body.

Scott McCarthy
ASMSU President

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12:00 - 4:00 - 8:00
- * CATCH THAT KID [PG]
12:15 - 2:15 - 4:30 - 7:15 - 9:30
- ① COLD MOUNTAIN [R]
12:20 - 3:45 - 7:05 - 10:10
- ① SOMETHING'S GOTTA GIVE [PG-13]
12:45 - 3:40 - 7:10 - 9:55
- ① THE COOLER [R]
12:10 - 2:30 - 4:50 - 7:45 - 10:05
- ① MASTER AND COMMANDER [PG-13]
12:40 - 3:50 - 7:35 - 10:25
- ① THE LAST SAMURAI [R]
2:10 - 7:25
- * MIRACLE [PG]
12:30 - 1:00 - 3:30 - 4:15 - 7:00
7:30 - 10:00 - 10:30
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12:05 - 5:15 - 10:35

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"ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES"

Many parents risk their children's lives under the guise of personal choice
Why has the media remained silent?
How many more children have to die?

TIM ADAMS
OPINIONS EDITOR

In the fall of 1998, most of America was appalled at the unfolding tragedy before our eyes. In Laramie, Wyoming, a gay college student at the University of Wyoming, was shot to a fence with a pistol, and died for dead. The motives of the perpetrators were apparently gay. This was a media



storm for months, with Hollywood and the rest of the country responding to the tragedy. Almost exactly one year later, in the small town of Rogers, Arkansas, a 13-year-old named Jesse Dirkhising also took his last breath. Dirkhising died during the early morning hours of September 1, after being bound, drugged, and sodomized by two homosexual predators. Jesse Dirkhising was a seventh-grader who had aspirations of being a mechanic. He came from a poor family and worked odd jobs to save money to fix his pick-up truck. He naturally responded at the offer of a 38-year-old family friend named Davis Carpenter who offered to drive him miles every weekend to pick up Jesse, watch him for the week-

end, and pay him \$45 to sweep the Regis hair salon Carpenter owned.

Jesse's parents, Miles and Tina Yates, later testified that they had no problems with their son spending the weekend with Carpenter and his lover, Joshua Brown. Miles Yates reiterated that it didn't bother him to let the two supervise his son, even though they were admitted drug users, "so long as it was not around the family." He even condoned

Jesse using drugs, as long as it was "at home with me or someone you're comfortable with."

Betty Yates, Jesse's grandmother, later recalled her objections to the situation, saying, "You do not put a 13-year-old child in a situation like that. It had been going on for about two months and he had told them he did not want to go back." When pressed why she didn't confront Jesse's father

more fully, she replied, "He's real big on minding your own business. Now I'm sorry I didn't pursue it. We shouldn't have minded our own business that time. It was a horrible death that could have been prevented."

The night of his death, Carpenter gave written instructions to Brown to tie Jesse up with nylon rope, blindfold him with a T-shirt and gag his mouth with a pair of dirty underwear secured by a bandana and duct tape. Brown then anally raped Jesse with his fingers, his penis, a frozen banana, and an enema laced with amitriptyline. Carpenter watched the whole assault, and then left to buy sausage and cucumbers which were later used to sodomize the boy, along with more duct tape and sandwiches.

Leaving Jesse to eat their sandwiches, they returned to find the boy was no longer breathing. Despite CPR, Jesse Dirkhising was pronounced dead that morning at nearby St. Mary's Hospital.

Why is it that most of America can instantly identify

Matthew Shepard, but just as many have never heard of Jesse Dirkhising? Why has Jesse's story been virtually ignored by those in the media?

Two years ago Danielle Van Dam was abducted from her San Diego home, brutally raped and murdered. Her body was dumped miles away by her abductor, David Westerfield. Many critics have asked how her parents could have let something like this happen in their own home.

The truth is Brenda and Damon Van Dam admitted to using drugs the night of the abduction. Brenda and some friends were out at a bar where

they actually saw Westerfield, whom they had known previously through a local network of "swingers." Allegedly, Westerfield even danced with Brenda on the night of her daughter's abduction. Returning home to her husband with her friends,

the parents and friends locked themselves in their basement to do drugs without fear of their children walking in on them.

On television the Van Dams and their spokeswoman have admitted they lied to police about the drug use and that the parents "do not lead a perfect lifestyle," but insisted these actions had nothing to do with the abduction of their daughter.

The word "lifestyle" has become a sort of deflective shield. Under the guise

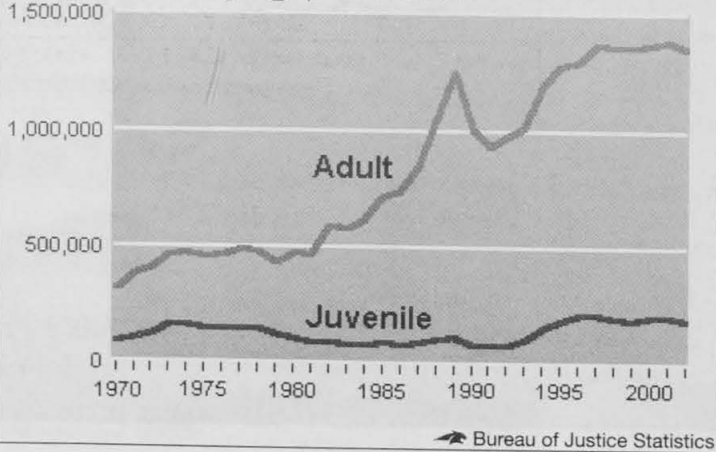
of some privacy rights, we dare not bring up how selfishness or lack of responsibility could be factors in these tragedies.

In the new secular war over personal morality, we are already starting to see the first casualties. As the foot soldiers of the media continue to selectively report the news to fit their own world view, the culture of "Who am I to judge?" hides the true losses. We are losing our children, one by one.

How long before we wake up and see the casualties of a culture where we are scared into being afraid to pass judgment on anything? How many more children will be raped, tortured, killed, and left for dead before we wake up and have the courage to speak out?



Drug arrests by age, 1970-2002



"Can I see your license and registration, ma'am?" World Would be Better if Parents Needed Licenses to have Kids

 LINCOLN ERICKSON
EXPONENT WRITER

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. Recently I was reading the magazine *Scientific American* and I came across an article discussing the dramatic crime drop of the '90s.

Several theories were posited, and one of those theories dealt with the legalization of abortion in the '70s. The theory went that because abortion was legal, far fewer unwanted children were born. Thus, there were fewer people in the '90s that are likely to commit crime, those unwanted children who would not have had the best of upbringings.

This, of course, got me to thinking about children and the idiots who sometimes have them. It seems to me there are two kinds of parents, those who are only marginally bad and those who couldn't parent their way out of a wet paper bag. And on many occasions, those horrible parents have really pissed me off.

Just walk through any Wal-

Mart and you should understand what I mean. With this in mind, the *Scientific American* article got me to thinking. "What if it were required to have a license in order to have a child?"

I think that would do a lot for our society. You could liken it to a driver's license. We don't let those who cannot safely operate a vehicle terrorize our motorways, so why should we let those who cannot parent terrorize our society with their ill-mannered little brats? It seems perfectly logical to me.

Of course there is a lot of potential for abuse in a system like this, so I think some specific criteria would be nice.

First of all, the prospective parent must be able to financially support a child. Let's

face it; raising those ugly little animals is expensive work. I am not saying that you have to shop at Saks Fifth

Avenue, however, you should be able to keep yourself and your baby in relative comfort. I realize that this may stop the entire state of Arkansas from having children, but that is the price you have to pay.

Secondly, the parents should have to pass some kind of standardized parenting test. This doesn't have to be difficult. It could contain yes or no

questions like "Is locking your child in the refrigerator a good way to discipline him/her?" or "Is smoking crack and getting drunk every night good for an unborn child?" These are sim-

ple questions, but you would be amazed at how many people would get them wrong.

The last criterion, and the most controversial, would be a genetic screening. Humans are the only animals that are not subject to natural selection, and that is going to

catch up to us soon. Why not be proactive about it and nip the problem in the bud?

Of course, what I propose may seem a little barbaric, so let me clear some things up. In my mind, the family structure of the parents should not matter.

As long as you can pass the above criteria, it shouldn't matter if you are a single parent, a traditional family unit, or a homosexual couple. I don't want to create a nation of

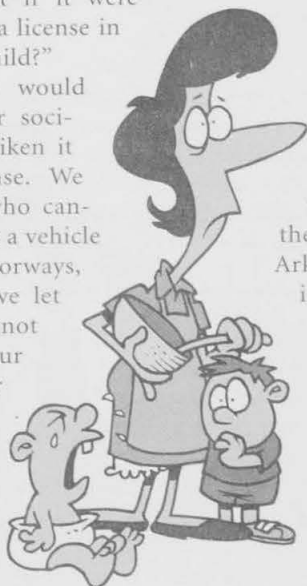
"normal" people. I just think it would be wise to try and cut back on all the ax-murdering psychos out there.

"The prospective parent must be able to financially support a child. Let's face it, raising those ugly little animals is expensive work. I realize that this may stop the entire state of Arkansas from having children, but that is the price you have to pay."

Secondly, if you cannot pass your genetic screening but pass the other two criteria, those parents should still be able to adopt. Just because you

are all messed up genetically doesn't make you a bad parent. However, your wayward genes may make life hard. Your child and the society have to bear the burden of medical costs.

So all in all I don't think this is a bad system; a little preventative medicine for our society. So next time you think about spawning a little hellion, think about this article and if you have questions, ask for my advice first.



Bush's Hypocrisy Shines in Proposal for Mars Mission

 RYAN GRUBBS
EXPONENT WRITER

Trekkies, science fiction nerds, and eight-year-olds rejoice; President Bush wants to go back to the Moon and take an initiative towards colonizing Mars. While others may have been impressed by this last minute change to Bush's agenda and character, which may hint at the first diagnosed case of multiple personality disorder in a president, I couldn't help but look perplexed and wonder if maybe Andy Rooney of *Sixty Minutes*

was on to something when he suggested that we should send Bush to Mars.

If you've seen enough science fiction movies, you'll know that one of the standard clichés revolves around the people of Earth colonizing other planets, because Earth has become inhospitable for various reasons. So isn't it ironic that money is being spent on a return trip to the moon and colonizing Mars, when there are more problems here on our planet that are more in need of a serious investment at the

moment? Already people want to forget our current mistakes here on Earth in favor of finding another planet to make a mess of. And what about another mission to the Moon?

Do we really need to spend money to go back to a barren rock we already have samples from so the astronauts can play in the dirt and have slam dunk contests and we can say

to the other nations of the world "look what we can do" again? Does Bush really think that like some ignorant Metallica fan we won't know we've been suckered out of our money, until by some accident, we end up playing one of their newer albums at the same time as one of their older albums and realize we've been listening to the same thing?

In an ode to A Kennedy publicity stunt that lacks practicality, even in a scientific sense, we are being duped into believing that

everything's fine and dandy and that we should adopt Bush as our darling Captain O' Fun. I'm all for publicity stunts to renew a lagging career. Good Charlotte's

"NASA is in need of a boost of funds and interest, and we should eventually look to the stars as a means to the future, but for now there is the economy, the war, the deficit, the threat of terrorism, education, the list goes on..."

anti-suicide video seemed to strike a chord with a key demographic, even if their talent as musicians is questionable. Even the Pope knows how to rejuvenate his image and appeal to core

age groups, as indicated a couple weeks ago, when he invited Polish break dancers to perform for him as he slowly clapped to the rhythm of their boom boxes and then afterwards invited the children of the Vatican to help him release doves from his window; securing his status among the youngins as a hip-hoppin', fun lovin', holy man rather than simply the man in the big house with big hats. But I'm not all for billions of our dollars being wasted on some last ditch effort

to redeem an administration that hopes we will forget its mistakes in managing an entire country.

Who hasn't wondered what would be like to see outer space first-hand and congregate smaller moon resorts with relatives from throughout the galaxy to sing songs, play Pictionary and go rocket canoeing through an asteroid field for the biannual family reunion? O.k., so maybe your dream differs a little from mine, but the point is the dream of colonizing space by first working to build bases on the Moon and Mars may be romantic and of much intrigue, but it is just that at the moment, dreamy and alluring to an easily susceptible population who is looking to get away from the harsh tones of reality. If we really hope someday see this dream come true, this country must first make sure it's still functional and existence when the technology there and the time does come to us to colonize space. Yes, NASA is in need of a boost in funds and interest, and yes, we should eventually look to the stars as a means to the future, but for now there's the economy, the war, the deficit, the threat of terrorism, education, and the list goes on of things that need to be taken care of first before moving on to resurrecting an ailing but invaluable program. It is too easy to look to the future while ignoring the present. This is much we have yet to discover with the space program that will benefit our lives and broaden our knowledge of existence on a life. Right now, however, Bush would be better off bringing his head out of orbit and focusing on the problems at hand, rather than diverting people's attention with visions of sugar plumb galaxies dancing in their heads.

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University's "Five-Year Plan" Raises Some Questions

TYLER CEGLER
OPINION WRITER

Recently the MSU Planning and Budget board submitted a "Five Year Plan" for the future of the university. It is important to have a plan and not just stumble in the dark, randomly making decisions, hoping that the university is itself in the right direction. This, I applaud the university committee. However, it is also important for students to take a look at the proposed plan, so we can understand how it affects the fifth of the plan is going to affect the student body. Before I begin examining the plan, let me say that, in general, I support the five year plan, and all I'm trying to do is to question the methodology of it.

Part "A" of the Student Body plan of the plan says it wants to increase the enrollment of the university to 13,000 students per year. On the surface, this

sounds good to me. There is a two-fold question that needs to be answered, though. First, where are these extra 900 students going to live? One would assume that most of these new students are going to be freshman. Do we have enough rooms in the residence halls? What about residence hall parking? In the halls I've been in, there appear to be few, if any, empty rooms, and certainly not enough "E" parking. The second question is; where are the classrooms for these extra students? I'm sure you've all noticed that even the largest lecture halls are often crammed like a can of sardines, and some upper division classes are impossible to get into unless you are lucky enough to be one of the first people to register.

Parts "B" and "C" of the five year plan hope to increase non-resident students and to increase graduate enrollment, respectively. My only fear is that by attempting to entice out-of-state students, those who are residents will get pushed to the side

and lose opportunities for much needed financial aid.

Part "D" of the five year plan is the section of the plan where I believe there are the most problems. It states that it wants to make the student body "more diverse" and specifically states that the goal is to target Native Americans and increase their enrollment by 50 percent. I am all for diversity, but to target people based on their skin color or ethnic background, that is nothing more or less than racism. Look it up. Dictionary.com states that racism is "prejudice based on race."

A university should be a place of intellectual diversity, and with that will come a natural difference in skin tones. To target an individual

because of the color of their epidermis will only incite anger and resentment. According to the statistical breakdowns done by the Census Bureau and the Registrar's Office, this campus is actually more diverse than the general population of the state of Montana. Let's use this money to increase the level of intellect, not the tint

level of skins, on the campus. Part "E" wants to increase the number of international students, which, of course, will lead to the intellectual diversity that I mentioned earlier. Part "F" states, word for word that, "incoming freshmen will be better prepared than they are today. The number of freshmen with 3.60 and higher high school GPAs will increase by

10 percent from 770 to 850." This is a section that I applaud. The ongoing joke in many Montana high schools is that in order to be accepted to MSU, one only needs a pulse. A high level of academic achievement is needed for any part of the "Five Year Plan" to take hold and become reality. Let's expect that 850 to be only the beginning of this goal.

There are numerous other goals in this plan, and it is imperative that students, staff, faculty, alumni, and community members all read and recognize the impact these goals will have on the university. I urge you to read the plan at www.montana.edu/upba/visioni.html. Then contact the UPBAC committee and let them know what you think of the plan. Like any good document, this needs to be a living document. In order for it to be a living document, comments and opinions are needed from those whom it will affect.

"Even the largest lecture halls are often crammed like a can of sardines, and some upper division classes are impossible to get into unless you are lucky enough to be one of the first people to register."

"Jackson should have just given the big middle finger to all the critics that are talking smack and shown up the Grammys. By not going she is almost admitting she did something wrong."

Controversy over Janet Jackson's Exposure Overblown

TERRYNE DUPUIS
OPINION WRITER

Like millions of other music-loving Americans, I watched the Grammys Sunday night. The evening was filled with some damn fine performances. It seemed as if every name in the music industry

was there, but yet somehow I felt as if something was missing. Ahh, yes it was not something, but rather someone that was missing. Due to Janet Jackson's over-exposure at the infamous super bowl half time fiasco, she was taken off the list of presenters for the awards show.

As I recall, Justin Timberlake was also involved in the breast show at the game, but as I began to watch the awards, I noticed he was sitting front row waiting to perform and eventually accept several awards.

So I find myself confused and left wondering why it was acceptable for Timberlake to be present at the awards, but not Jackson. I don't see what the big deal is with Jackson's boob being exposed.

The only thing that I think was inappropriate about the performance was the fact that Timberlake insinuated grabbing Jackson in the first place.

Everyone's throwing a big fit about Jackson's boob, when really they should be outraged by the act of disrespect by Timberlake. I'm tired of hearing and reading about people who are all offended and outraged by the stunt. They have the option

of eliminating the possibility of being exposed to offensive material. It's called your TV's on/off button.

Time to get off my soapbox and back to the original issue. Jackson should have just given the big middle finger to all the critics that are talking smack and shown up to the Grammys.

By not going she is almost admitting she did something wrong. She should have borrowed the breast-exposing, and apparently socially acceptable, outfit Lil' Kim wore to the awards a couple of years ago, and walk down the red carpet with her head held high.

I got the impression that the majority of Jackson's fellow artists are over this whole situation. During their acceptance speeches, both Christina Aguilera and Justin Timberlake made little jokes about the whole thing. That is how everyone should be reacting.

Jackson has received quite a lot of support from good friend, rapper, and producer Jermaine Dupri. Dupri boycotted the awards show stating, "I didn't want to be a part of something that's not treating people in the right light. I feel like what's going on with Janet is unfair."

Tom O'Neil, author of "The Grammys," said, "When the Grammys are at their hippest and best, they reward artists for daring to be being social rebels. Now it's outrageous for the Grammys to punish Janet Jackson for performing that same role on someone else's stage...This just proves that the Grammys are really still the Grannies."

Hopefully everyone will calm down about Janet Jackson's boob and we can all just move on with our lives. Speaking of lives, people who have their panties all in a twist right now need to shut up and get one of their own.

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Photo by Charlie Capp

Angie Conners practices making some turns in the powder at Big Sky on Sunday. The Resort is open on days a week from 9-4.

Learning to Ski at Big Sky Fun, Unique Valentine's Day

ANGIE CONNERS
EXPONENT WRITER

With Valentine's Day quickly approaching, many people out there are finding it difficult to make last minute reservations and plans for their significant other. This weekend, however, I discovered an exciting activity that does not require reservations and can easily impress any girl. Skiing, learning how to ski, provides couples an excellent opportunity to spend the entire day together, breathe some fresh mountain air, and have tons of fun.

Many people have a hard time believing I had never been skiing before...that is until this past Sunday, Feb 8th. On Sunday, I went skiing for the first time with my boyfriend Curt and photographer Charlie Capp at Big Sky Ski Resort. Charlie also had never been skiing before, and Curt had not skied in the past five years.

I've seen pictures of beautiful Big Sky before, and was very excited to see it up close and personal. Unfortunately, it snowed all day Sunday, so I wasn't able to glimpse the full dominance of Lone Mountain, an 11,166 ft.

peak. The trip, however, wasn't any less valuable without the view.

The drive up to Big Sky from Bozeman is a bit long, but worth every minute. Trying to find the resort for the first time proved to be a bit confusing, as we missed the turn in the Mountain Village and ended up at Moonlight Basin. After we discovered our mistake, however, we backtracked a few miles to the turnoff for Big Sky and made our way to the parking lot.

Parking is a bit difficult to find, as the main lot is rather small and other lots are not marked. However, as I began to get disheartened by the distance from our parking spot to the lodge, I realized a free tram runs from the lots, making it quick and easy to get to the resort.

Once in, we met our host Dax in the Mountain Mall. The Mountain Mall is a quaint little shopping center in which skiers can take a break from the slopes, buy souvenirs from their trip, or just warm up before heading back out. Dax helped us through the rental area, which proved to be very accessible at the base of the

mountain.

We only had to fill out a short form with basic information, and then were furnished with ski boots, followed by skis, and then poles. Everyone in the rental area was extremely friendly and helpful to us newcomers. They patiently answered our questions about the fit of ski boots and length of skis, and made suggestions for which equipment would work best for us.

From the rental area we quickly traversed to the lesson area, where Dax introduced us to Collin Craig. Collin instructed Charlie, Curt, and I for the next two hours on the basics of alpine skiing. Collin is an excellent instructor with seemingly limitless knowledge of skiing. He never hesitated to review a concept one of us was struggling with, and gave us each very individualized attention. All other instructors I observed were also extremely positive, patient and friendly.

Once the three of us graduated from the "bunny hill," we were ready to advance to Explorer, the beginner ski lift. After a couple of minutes on the lift I began to feel

SEE BIG SKY PAGE 11

Backcountry Skiing Offers Fresh Powder



CHRIS CONNELLY
EXPONENT WRITER

There are a number of folks in the Bozeman community that prefer to earn their turns in the backcountry, where quality, not quantity, rules. Often images of deep, untracked snow come to mind, and are generally the draw to skiing or snowboarding out of bounds. Backcountry riding requires more than just the ability and desire to carve virgin bowls--it requires responsibility and experience. This ensures that a trip will make a memorable day, not a nightmare.

Having a good partner or group can make or break a trip. Each group member needs to have his/her own equipment, and know how to use it. Many times, a friend wants to go backcountry skiing, but doesn't have the gear or basic avalanche knowledge. A good question to ask in considering whether to take them or not is "If I am caught in an avalanche, are they going to be able to save me?"

This situation comes up more than one might think. Many students come to MSU and get their first glimpse of backcountry riding and have the desire and skill, but not the responsibility or the experience. The Ridge at Bridger Bowl is place where students get a semi-backcountry experience. An avalanche transceiver, shovel, and a partner are all that is needed to make the 15-45 minute hike to terrain that is avalanche prone, but in a controlled sort of way. Patrollers at Bridger Bowl do an excellent job bombing and making sure that the Ridge is safe to ski.

The presence of a ski patrol and access from within the ski area boundary will let one's guard and avalanche awareness slip. Many people have the right equipment, but only know how to use it enough to hike at Bridger. Then, when they venture up to Saddle Peak, or Ross Peak, or Sacagawea Peak, it seems that only blind luck will keep these riders safe most of the time. A basic avalanche class is invaluable to learning the techniques of backcountry travel. It is the cornerstone of making sound decisions and staying alive while

SEE BACKCOUNTRY PAGE 11

Wild MSU Offers Variety of Outdoor Activities for Students



JONATHAN WILLY
EXPONENT WRITER

Don't know the difference between "bomb-proof" and "beta"? Are you new to the university community and want to explore the surrounding area? Are you a seasoned veteran that wants to meet new partners and maybe share your knowledge? WILD MSU very well may be the organization for you. A student-run organization that celebrates the outdoor pursuits, this vibrant community is growing faster than ever.

WILD is an organization approximately 100 members strong that grows daily. Offering students a chance to explore the outdoors and themselves while developing friendships, WILD offers a little of everything for anyone interested in the outdoors. Activities run the gamut from skiing, rock/ice climbing, and hiking, to just hanging out. Chances are if you have an interest in any outdoor activity someone in the organization shares it. You will find students from all walks of life. All skill levels are represented, from novice to some of the best in Bozeman.

The members of this organization operate as a true community. All of the members are well intending individuals who help each other to experience and enjoy the outdoors in almost any way possible. It is

not uncommon to find members sharing their equipment and knowledge in order to facilitate a positive experience for all involved. Leadership and character development are frequent discussion topics. Workshops focusing on skill development, destination travel, and "soft-skills" like conflict management are held regularly.

This semester, the organization is offering avalanche workshops at Moonlight Basin, backcountry ski trips, climbing trips, and mountain biking, just to name a few. I'm quite sure the already planned activities will be augmented with raucous night hikes, snowshoeing adventures, and who knows what else these guys will think of.

This semester, a new board of directors has been appointed for WILD. New committees are being formed with plenty of room for you and your ideas. If you would like to become involved, a membership in WILD only costs \$20 a year, and gets members great deals on training and trips all over the western U.S., not to mention a great group of people to venture outside with. So, if you're looking for an outstanding group of people with a wide breadth of interests and knowledge to play outside with, come check us out. Simply e-mail us at wildmsu@montana.edu for more information and a list of activities going on this semester.

Upcoming Outdoors Events

- February 20-22 Outdoors Expo--Fieldhouse
- February 21 KMMS Kinetic Challenge--Bridger Bowl
- February 22 King/Queen of the Ridge--Bridger Bowl
- February 27 Radical Reels World Premiere--Willson Auditorium
- February 28 Snowshoe Hike--Gallatin Range, contact ASMSU Outdoor Recreation Center in SOB Barn or at 994-3621
- March 8 Hillary/Norgay Speech--SUB Ballroom

Snow Caves Warm, Safe Alternative for Winter Camping



TRAVIS NAIBERT
EXPONENT WRITER

Camping in the winter doesn't have to be the frigid endeavor that most people imagine. The secret to a warm night in the snowy mountains is a snow cave.

These structures are relatively easy to build and will only take a few hours to construct in the late afternoon. Snow is an amazing insulator--the air temperature in a well-constructed cave usually stays within a few degrees of thirty-two.

The most important thing to think about when planning to camp in a snow cave is time. Construction will take two people 2-3 hours with little prior experience. Plan your hiking time so you can choose a campsite in the early afternoon. This will give you plenty of daylight to build your cave and still have time to cook dinner before it gets dark. Work slowly to avoid heavy sweating. Remember that being dry will keep you warm.

The light powdery snow that we love to ski on here in Montana doesn't pile up as high as snow does in other areas. This often makes it difficult to find a snow-drift that is deep enough to dig a cave out of. The best alternative is to dig a cave out of a pile of snow you made yourself. Start by find-

ing a flat, open area with a decent amount of snow. Make sure your campsite is not in an avalanche danger zone. Use snowshoes or skis to pack down a circular area with a radius of about ten feet. Mark the center of this circle with a long stick, ski pole, or avalanche probe. This will mark the center of your snow pile, as well as giving you some indication of snow depth.

Pile snow around the stick. The number of people you have in your group will generally govern the size of your pile. Keep in mind that the walls of the cave will need to be at least a 12-18 inches thick and that each person is going to need a little bit of room to move around in the cave. Making the pile too small will make the cave cramped. Making the pile too big will lower the air temperature inside. Larger caves can work, but building two caves might be smarter if your group is larger.

As snow is shoveled onto the pile, designate someone to continuously pack it down with snowshoes or a shovel. Switch off digging so nobody gets tired. The pile is complete when it is wide and long enough for the size of cave you want and more than five feet deep. When the pile is completed it needs to sit for at least an hour to harden. This is the perfect

time for a snack or a quick day hike around the area.

When you return to start digging out the cave, first decide which direction the entrance will face. The best side for the entrance will face away from the wind. Dig down at least a foot outside the cave making an entrance. Dig straight in until you reach the center marker. Then start to dig out in all directions from the center. Pay careful attention to wall thickness as you dig so the cave does not collapse. The cave should be as dome shaped as possible. A shovel is usually the

best tool for digging, but sometimes gloved hands work just as well. Try to keep as dry as possible while digging. Positioning somebody at the entrance to clear snow makes the process go a lot faster.

After the cave is large enough to fit everybody, finish it by smoothing out the ceiling and walls with your hands and digging a shallow trench around the base of the walls to collect drips that run off the ceiling. Dig alcoves for your midnight snack and headlamps.

Poke a number of ventilation holes in the cave with a stick or

ski pole. Leaving the poles in the vents will allow you to remake them easily if it snows overnight. A candle can be used to give your cave a little extra warmth, but it is important to have extra ventilation to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. To keep wind and cold out, block the entrance with pack or snow when you go to bed.

Follow these guidelines and when you wake up in the morning you will be amazed at how much more comfortable it was to spend the night in a cozy cave than your drafty tent.

Skier Built Two Shelters, Probably Survived at least Two Nights



MISSOULA, MT
A.P. NEWS SERVICE

A Canadian man who became lost while skiing near here last week probably survived for at least two nights by building shelters, but he died before rescuers could reach him, an official said Friday.

Searchers recovered the body of 54-year-old Jerry Leon of Thornhill, Ontario on Thursday in a steep drainage outside of the Snowbowl ski area.

Leon's body was discovered in one of two shelters the man had constructed in an effort to protect himself from the elements, said Sgt. Dave Ball with the Missoula County Sheriff's Office.

Ball said it appeared Leon died of exposure.

"It looks like he did everything he could to try to stay alive," Ball said.

Leon bought a lift ticket at the Snowbowl on Jan. 28. No one knew he was missing until officials noticed his car parked in the same spot at the ski area parking lot after several days.

Ball said Leon had never been to Snowbowl previously and may have become lost during a heavy snowstorm on Jan. 28. He ended up in a steep drainage some distance outside the ski area, Ball said.

Leon apparently attempted to hike down the drainage, following a creek, but was hindered by waist-deep snow, Ball said.

"He left his skis. He built a snow cave and we think he spent probably a day or two in the shelter and tried to build a fire," Ball said. "It doesn't appear that he was successful."

About a quarter-mile from that shelter, Leon apparently attempted to build a second shelter in some trees, where his body was found.

Ball said it was not immediately clear how long Leon had been dead, and it was possible he died before anyone even realized he was missing.

Ball said searchers began combing the drainage after two other skiers who had ended up in the same area last Friday reported finding a pair of abandoned skis.

Those skiers were able to hike back to Snowbowl, but were not aware until Tuesday that another skier was missing, Ball said. They called authorities and were able to point searchers to the area, he added.

Leon's death was the third this ski season in Montana. A Bozeman businessman suffocated in deep snow at Bridger Bowl near Bozeman in late December and a snowboarder died Jan. 21 outside the boundaries of Showdown ski area southeast of Great Falls.

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SKY: V-DAY SKIING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

comfortable and enjoy watching other skiers traveling down the slope below. The first run was enjoyable. I used my wedge turning skills to travel down the hill at reasonable speeds.

While I never attempted a jump, I did get the opportunity to ski down some powdered areas along the edge of the trail. I could finally begin to understand why skiers always talk about how great the powder is and why it is so much better. While I only spent a few minutes on it, it felt like I was floating on a thin layer of air.

After our first run down, it was time to grab some lunch and re-energize. We clomped into the café in our heavy boots and grabbed a bite to eat. The food was all tasty and very satisfying, and prices were as I expected for a ski resort/tourist area.

After lunch, we had enough time for one more run down Explorer before heading back home. The final run proved to be the most fun. As I gained confidence in my abilities, I picked up speed as I approached a turn. I panicked and tried to turn too fast, causing myself to fall for the first time. The fall actually cured my fear of falling, as I didn't hurt

myself at all. Luckily, this was the only fall I experienced the entire day.

Eventually we made our way back to the rental area where the process of turning in our equipment was very quick and convenient. The best feeling of all day was when I took off my ski boots and placed my tennis shoes back on my feet. I was instantly able to feel my feet again.

As we drove back to Bozeman, I reflected on the day's experience. I had learned something new, spent time outside, and had a wonderful day with my boyfriend. While skiing may be slightly out of my budget as a

Where to go backcountry skiing: There are several popular places to go backcountry skiing in Gallatin County. Some of the best known are Sacajawea Peak, Ross Peak, Saddle Peak, all in Bridger Canyon, and Mt. Blackmoor in Hyalite Canyon. Consult the Forest Service for further information at

frequent activity, it is definitely a unique opportunity to spend some quality time with someone close. Many couples fall into the same routine day after day. Valentine's Day provides the opportunity to get out of that routine and try something new. So to all of you romantics out there trying to make last minute V-Day plans, impress your significant other and take him/her skiing.

BACKCOUNTRY SKIING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

riding. An avalanche safety course will include route finding, snow pack analysis, hazard evaluation, and rescue techniques. Recently, a basic and an advanced avalanche safety course were offered by ASMSU. These courses help establish responsible travel habits and decision making in the backcountry. Experience, however, can only be gained in the field. Go outside, dig snow pits, practice finding transceivers, listen to what the local avalanche center has to say, and go ride.

When out in the field, you need to have all of the right gear. My weapon of choice is a pair of powder skis. Snowboards are also a worthy choice. A good pack is a transparent piece of gear—it should not be noticed. A bad pack will definitely hold up the party by being a nuisance on the way up and on the way down.

The next essentials are a shovel, probe, and avalanche beacon. The shovel and probe are worth more to your buddies than they are to you. They will be grateful you have the gear when they are buried in a slide. Shovels not only dig your unlucky friends out of avalanches, but also are used to dig snow pits and the occasional kicker. Probes are used to pinpoint a victim after a transceiver search has been performed. The avalanche transceiver is probably one of the most important items to have. When you are buried in a slide, your partners can find you by following the signal your beacon emits. It needs to be worn at all times on a trip. This means put it on at the car, and take it off at the car. No exceptions.

These backcountry essentials are effective when used properly, but only protect you against the greatest danger of the backcountry, avalanches, when used properly. Possessing this gear does not make a slope safer to ski, and one will hopefully not make a decision to ski an unsafe slope just because they have avalanche gear. An experienced skier once said, "If I am not willing to ski a slope without my gear, I don't ski it." A full evaluation of conditions needs to be made before making those perfect powder turns, and conditions will vary every time you are out.

Backcountry riding is a great pleasure, and few people go as often as they wish. Even when the snow is not great, and the conditions are not perfect, skinning to the top of a mountain on a sunny afternoon is worthy experience, even if you don't get to ski down. But who would do that? Hope to see you all on the slopes— but only after I have gotten the freshies.

Join the MSU Bookstore Board of Directors

Election Dates: April 6, 7, and 8 2004

Last day to apply: Wednesday, February 25 at 5:00 p.m.

WHAT POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

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MSU BOOKSTORE

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Alternatives for Him

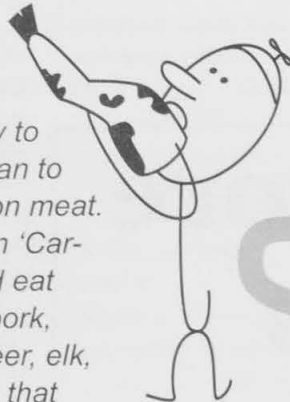
1 Play Cards

Spend the evening playing cards with the boys. You can complain about women, eat junk food, take each others money and continue down the path of bachelorhood.



2 Eat Meat

What better way to celebrate VD than to gorge yourself on meat. Create your own 'Carnivore Club' and eat so much beef, pork, chicken, fish, deer, elk, llama, and duck that you get blood lust.



3 Watch Porn

Every mans favorite pastime is studying porn. It may be a good idea to study the art of sex so that if you do someday find a date (VDay or not), you will perform like a pro.



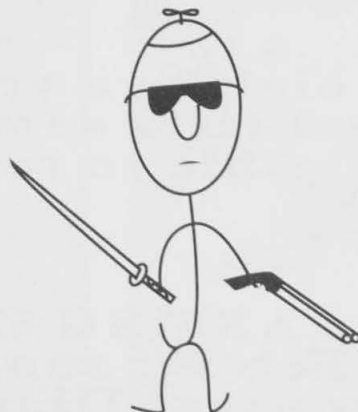
4 Drink Profusely

Think your life may suck because you don't have a date for VD? If you're 21, spend the evening drinking your sorrows away and dreaming of a life that less resembles hell.



Top 20 Guys Romantic Movies (AKA: Cool Movies with a love story) By Curt Widhalm and Chris Connelly

- 1.) High Fidelity
- 2.) Desperado
- 3.) Top Gun
- 4.) Road Trip
- 5.) There's Something about Mary
- 6.) Batman Returns
- 7.) Mask of Zorro
- 8.) Big Daddy



5 Watch 'Man-flicks'

Movies are the original way to live someone elses life vicariously (before 'The Sims') If you feel that your life sucks, rent a movie and pretend to be someone else.

How to avoid the Saying M

Rory Barton
Resident Male Cynic



Conquest of the heart

Many would have you believe that the way to a man's heart is through provocative lacy under-things. I have heard in my travels that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. To be blunt many have told me that the path best followed is through his pants.

With the last I do not disagree. However, the path to my heart is through the wallet in the back pocket of my pants.

All too much emphasis has been placed on material wealth. Believe it or not, there are ways in which one may enjoy another's company that don't involve many or any funds. With the pending holiday, I proffer these suggestions.

1.) Insist that your significant other not spend any money on VD (Valentine's Day, he should probably spend some money on the other VD). First, if he is not creative enough to fabricate a way to show his affections without a fancy dinner, you're missing out on the single guys (myself included) who can. Also, insisting on flashing the bling makes you look like a money-grubber, and no one wants that.

2.) Cuddly Teddy Bears are not the answer. Although you may think that the fuzzy-wuzzy bear with the box of chocolate strapped to his chest like an incendiary device celebrates your undying passion for a person, that person may not think so. If you know your amorous quarry, he might actually be more the Edward Scissorhands type. Also some people have been attacked by bears and have repressed memories about the incident they would rather not bring up. Did he cry when the Chicago Bears were not invited to the playoffs? Stay away from bears.

3.) Pending dental procedures do not say, "I love you." Showering a loved-one with candy is not necessarily a good idea. On one hand you mean, "You're sweet like candy" and on the other it says, "Enjoy getting that root canal because these candy hearts will eat through your enamel like a philosophy major reads through Kant's theories of ethics—both can be quite painful."

4.) Walking is good for the heart. One of the most romantic things to do is totally free. Take a walk with your intended. Well wait. I once walked with a girl, granted it was through the streets of Paris, hand in hand, up and down the Eiffel Tower, in and out of the Louvre. She came home with me as mine. Now she goes to the U of M. Hold off on the walking, it only leads to heartache.

5.) Watch cartoons at home. This is all the more romantic when you're stuck in your parents' basement, mooching off their cable. Treat these encounters as stolen moments. Isn't there something exciting about getting caught? Ok so maybe "embarrassing" is more the word when dad comes downstairs to get another case of Hamm's to find you getting your Porky Pig on.

These steps may save the cynic you yet. If you do spend the week-end alone in your parents' basement, don't fret. I've found many a companion at my local retail outlet. Jack Daniels and Sam Adams have always been there, and best of all they're non-judgmental.

The most useful thing to think about is that Romeo and Juliet died tragically in a tomb of their own making. That can't possibly be more depressing than being alone on Valentine's Day. Can it? Right?

Next week: How to clean up the pieces of your shattered life after an explosive VD break-up—what your mother won't tell you.

- 9.) Mallrats
- 10.) Billy Madison
- 11.) Spiderman
- 12.) American Pie
- 13.) Dumb and Dumber
- 14.) Return of the Jedi
- 15.) Austin Powers
- 16.) Old School
- 17.) Bonnie and Clyde
- 18.) Ocean's Eleven
- 19.) Bull Durham
- 20.) The Whole Nine Yards

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of Saint Valentine to VD

Alternatives for Her

Erin Lynch
Resident Female Cynic

Singles Awareness Day

Singles Awareness Day, that's what we should rename Valentine's Day. I know you're probably thinking, "Yeah, like I've never heard that before from a bitter single girl." But just to clarify not all the single

kids are feeling glum because there is a day dedicated to those who enjoy the benefits of coupledness.

This day is all about perspective, for those with a positive outlook on their voluntary or unintentional singlehood this holiday is actually celebrating those of us who are secure enough to show our faces on this day of meaningless chocolate kisses and mass last minute flower orders from procrastinating boyfriends.

Another complaint I have with the current celebratory situation of this day is the implied meaning of the day in contemporary terms. In all actuality it doesn't make sense that there is ONE day dedicated to showing that special someone, or the one who really provides you with sex education, why shouldn't we show those we care about that we really do care everyday?

This overly commercialized holiday also seems to detract from other significant events in the month of February. Days such as President's Day and the entire month devoted to Black History. Why

does Valentine's Day always seem to be at the forefront of February plans when there are other days that have the power to promote the quest for historical knowledge and inspire the spirit of education?

Well, come to find out there is an educational and historical background to Valentine's Day, one we hear little about. After doing much research I was able to come up with the following historical origin from 5th Century, Rome:

"Mid February was traditionally the time of the Lupercian festival, an ode to the God of fertility and a celebration of sensual pleasure, a time to meet and court a prospective mate. In AD 496, Pope Gelasius outlawed the pagan festival. But he was clever to replace it with a similar celebration, although one deemed morally suitable. He needed a 'lovers' saint to replace the pagan deity Lupercus.

The martyred Bishop Valentine was chosen as the patron saint of the new festival. Saint Valentine had been beheaded for helping young lovers marry against the wishes of the mad emperor Claudius. Before execution, Valentine himself had fallen in love with his jailer's daughter. He signed his final note to her, 'From Your Valentine', a phrase that has lasted through the centuries.

Pope Gelasius didn't get everything he wanted. The pagan festival died out, it is true, but he had further hoped people would emulate the lives of saints. Instead they latched onto the more romantic aspect of Saint Valentine's religious life. While not immediately as popular as the more passionate pagan festival, eventually the concept of celebrating true love became known as Valentine's Day," www.lincoln.k12.or.us/newporths/calendar/February/valentines.html

So, this is to you girls who place way too much emphasis on Valentine's Day, don't be shocked if your boy doesn't seem to give as much thought about Valentine's Day as much as you do...he may just be afraid of ending up like Valentine.

Top 20 Girl Movies By Kerby Salois

- 1.) Two can play at that game
- 2.) Dirty Dancing
- 3.) Pretty Woman
- 4.) Grease
- 5.) A Walk to remember
- 6.) How to lose a guy in 10 days
- 7.) Ghost
- 8.) Moulin Rouge
- 9.) Shakespeare in Love

Meet Prince Charming

In the movies, the Pretty Woman gets swept off her feet by the night in shining armor. If this doesn't happen in real life, live vicariously.

'Play' with Barbies

Remember those unrealistic plastic dolls from when you were ten? In conjunction with your Kama Sutra, use the dolls to 'play house' in the more mature sense of the word.

Fall in Love Chemically

Chocolate contains chemicals that make the brain feel the same feelings as if it was in love. Indulge in a whole box of chocolate delicacies and experience what your not-so-single roommate is currently feeling on her date out.

Read a Romantic Novel

PORN FOR YOUR MIND!

Use your head to make believe that you are Elisa, the Swiss milkmaid that the handsome Handel has fallen deeply in love with. Fantasies are healthy!

Drink Profusely

If you're 21, spend the evening drinking your sorrows away and dreaming of that boy at the bar that hasn't called you for two weeks. Don't lose hope. There is still a chance!

- 10.) Titanic
- 11.) Legally Blonde 1 & 2
- 12.) Cruel Intentions
- 13.) America's Sweethearts
- 14.) Miss Congeniality
- 15.) American Wedding
- 16.) She's All That
- 17.) Just Married
- 18.) 10 things I hate about you
- 19.) Crazy Beautiful
- 20.) Save the Last Dance

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Montana State Basketball

Bobcats lose close game to EWU

 MICHAEL HICKS
EXPONENT WRITER

The Eastern Washington Eagles swooped into Worthington Arena last Thursday night, bringing with them a six-game win streak and sole possession of first place in the Big Sky Conference.

EWU owned the first half. The Eagles jumped out to an 11-0 lead in the first six minutes of the contest. The Bobcats were unable to execute on the offensive end, producing uncharacteristic turnovers. The troubles continued down on the defensive end, where the 'Cats were unable to successfully employ their particular brand of trapping defense and double teams in the post.

Jason Erickson's three-point shot at the 13:30 mark gave the 'Cats their first points of the contest. Three point bombs from Erickson would be a reoccurring theme in the first half, as the senior standout nailed five from long range. Unfortunately for MSU, Erickson was the only player able to get anything going



Photo by Kyle Capp

Nick Dissly looks for an open teammate during last weekend's home game against Portland State. The Bobcats are into the second half of Big Sky Conference play. The Bobcats were unable to defeat Washington State on Friday evening, but were able to defeat Portland State the following night.

in the first half.

MSU head coach Mick Durham commented on Erickson's stellar performance in the first twenty minutes: "If we don't have Erickson, the game is over by halftime."

While Erickson found the hot hand from outside, EWU continued to score from every spot on the floor. The Eagles were able to push the ball inside for some easy buckets. Freshman forward

Matt Nelson would chip in for 12 points in the first half.

Going into the break, EWU led MSU 36-23. The first half stats magnified the rebounding difficulties for MSU with the Eagles out rebounding the 'Cats 20-9.

"Physically they just kicked our tails in the first half. We had some disappointing performances," Coach Durham said.

Eastern Washington head coach Ray Giacoletti discussed

the possible troubles that arise when taking a sizeable lead into halftime.

"As a coach you try to keep the guys focused and hungry. We didn't have that look or edge at halftime that I felt we needed," said Giacoletti who would prove to be a modern day Nostradamus.

The defensive prowess that MSU has exhibited throughout the season finally appeared. Josh

Barsh and Calvin Ento stepped to force EWU turnovers. Though the 'Cats trailed by as much as 15 points in the second half, seemingly implausible happenings and MSU took the lead for the first time in the game with 18 to play. A back-and-forth contest ensued from that point on, with each team fighting every point.

The 'Cats led by two with less than a minute to play when EWU forward Marc Axton pulled up and drained a three on the break. The 3,427 in attendance became silent as EWU regained the lead for good.

Down the stretch, Erickson would hoist up two three-point attempts that seemed destined to drop, but instead bounced back out and sealed the fate of the Bobcats. The missed shot coupled with MSU's inability to rebound when it mattered most allowed EWU to squeak out a victory.

"That was a heck of a second half. The first 20 minutes were frustrating. We didn't have faith," said Durham. "We gave ourselves a chance, and I'm proud of saying that. We seem to be the close ones."

Erickson finished the game with 27 points, while no other Bobcats finished in double figures. "I'm going to do what I need to win. This thing (basketball) means the world to me. I have confidence in my teammates," said Erickson.

Lady Bobcats unable to hold off Eastern Washington



Photo by Charlie Capp

Sheila Hutchison holds off a defender during a previous home game. The Lady Bobcats were unable to defeat Eastern Washington this weekend, but held off Portland State. The 'Cats will be at home this weekend hosting Idaho State and Weber State.

 MICHAEL JURENKA
EXPONENT WRITER

Montana State Women's Basketball won their first Big Sky Conference game on the road this season. The 'Cats have struggled shooting on the road, but this last weekend that streak was broken.

First, the Bobcats (2-5, 10-10) headed to Cheney, Washington to face the Eastern Washington Eagles (4-3, 11-9). Eastern Washington possesses the third most potent offense and knocks down the most three-pointers in the conference. The 'Cats had their work cut out for them.

Eastern Washington took the early lead, but the Bobcats would tie the game at 7-7 on a fast break layup by Jana Smith. Smith would again tie the game at 17-17 on another fast-break layup with 9:55 to play in the first quarter.

MSU then went on a 5-0 run to lead by five on a jumper by Sheila Hutchison. Eastern Washington fought back to tie the game at 22-22 on the final freethrow of a three shot foul.

The 'Cats built their lead back to six points on a jumper by Belinda Stubbs. Eastern Washington fought back and headed into the locker room at

halftime leading by two points at 34-32.

Sheila Hutchison came out of the locker room ready to play in the second half and knocked down a jumper to tie the game for the sixth time. MSU would build their lead to five on a three-pointer by Alyssa Nelson. Eastern fought back to tie the game at 42-42 with 14:30 left in the game on the front end of a two shot foul.

The Eagles built their lead to 3 points before the 'Cats would tie it up at 45-45 on a freethrow by Jana Smith. Eastern Washington and the 'Cats battled back and forth until Eastern finally got hot and built the largest lead of the night at ten with 1:09 left in the game. MSU would end up losing with a final score of 80-75.

"Finally we were able to score on the road, and Jana Smith led the team the whole game," said third year head coach Robin Potera Haskins. "It was really nice to see our kids get their confidence back and start knocking

down some shots. 75 points on the road is usually good enough for the win, but we are proud of our kid's performance."

Jana Smith led MSU in points with a career high 26 points and eight rebounds.

"It was really nice to see our kids get their confidence back and start knocking down some shots 75 points on the road is usually good enough for the win."

**- Robin Potera-Haskins
Head Basketball Coach**

Belinda Stubbs, a native Australian, would also have a career high with 13 points. Also finishing in double figures was Sheila Hutchison with 10 points and three steals. Alyssa Nelson led the team in assists with 11 and also scored nine points.

Eastern Washington finished with three players in double figures. Julie Page led the team with 23 points and 10 rebounds. She recorded her first double-double game of the season. Kathryn Nygaard also recorded her first double-double game finishing with 17 points and 13 rebounds. Ashley Jamison also scored 10 points for the Eagles.

MSU would then travel down the road to Portland State University to face the Vikings on Saturday night.

Bobcats bounce back against PSU Vikings

MICHAEL HICKS

SENIOR WRITER

Portland State Vikings came to town Saturday night, bringing with them a young but experienced team. MSU entered the contest in the midst of a three-game losing streak and the threat of falling two games behind in conference play.

'Cats started off quickly with the opening tip. MSU was able to build an 11-6 lead early in the contest. Even more promising was that MSU found contributions from several players on the court, not relying solely upon the play of Jason Erickson.

When the tables turned, PSU worked the ball down low for layups, while MSU struggled to get an open shot. Before any time ran out, the 'Cats were trailing by 10 points with six minutes to go in the half. PSU forward Jason Boxley dominated the first half, as MSU was unable to control the game inside, resorting to a "sea-box" type defense that allowed Boxley to go eight for 10 on the charity stripe.

When asked about the play of Boxley, MSU head coach Mick Brown said, "He's improved a lot in the last two years. I am not looking forward to facing him

next year."

What's cooler than being cool? The 'Cats' shooting in the first half, as the team went seven of 29 for a 24 percent field goal percentage. On the other side, the Vikings shot 53 percent from the field. The 'Cats trailed by seven heading into the break.

MSU came out in the second half with guns blazing. Frank Brown made the first basket of the half for the 'Cats, and then it was time for the Jason Erickson show to commence. Over the span of the next four minutes, Erickson would score 12 straight points for the 'Cats, providing the team with a one point lead. Though known for his three-point daggers, Erickson was able to find shots from every spot on the floor.

"I wanted to be aggressive," Erickson said. "I wanted to be a little creative. I do not have very many ups and downs during the game. I play at a consistent level, so it's easy to slide into that zone. I try to keep my play at that high level."

Frank Brown commented on his backcourt teammate's play: "It's fun to watch. I'm glad that I'm not on the other team."

Many on the MSU team were probably thinking the same thing about Brown after the game. The

sophomore guard bounced back from the EWU game with a great performance that was characterized by passion, intensity, and aggressiveness. Brown's stellar defense and clutch freethrow shooting down the stretch keyed the MSU win.

MSU came away with a 64-56 victory, improving their conference record to 4-5 and earning a much-needed win before hitting the road for three straight road games. "I know what's coming up. I feel great for our guys tonight. They're excited too," Coach Durham said.

"We had to get this. We came into this game like it was our last game," Brown said.

Erickson finished the night with a team high 21 points, followed by Brown with 14. Seamus Boxley led the Vikings with 22 points and nine rebounds. MSU's pressing defense was evident in the 22 turnovers committed by the Vikings, made even more noticeable when compared to the paltry three assists that the Vikings finished with.

MSU hits the road for the next two weeks, with games against Idaho State and Weber State this coming weekend, followed by another tilt with the Grizzlies next weekend in Missoula.

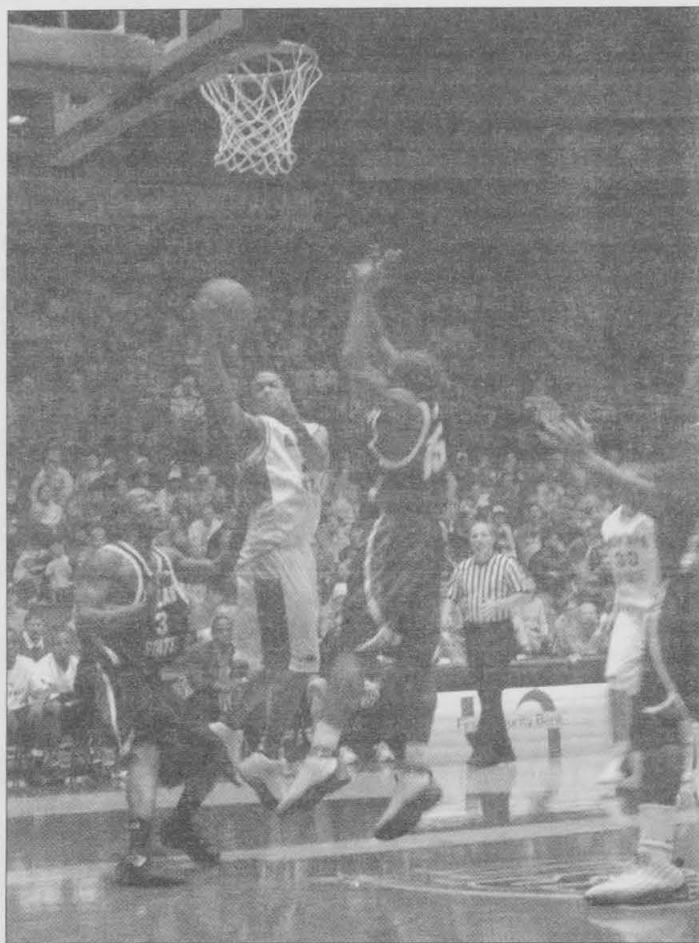


Photo by Kyle Capp

Josh Barsh rebounds a ball during last weekend's game against Portland State. The Bobcats defeated Portland State after trailing behind by eleven points during the last minutes of play in the second half. The Bobcats will be on the road this weekend.

Ready Bobcats pick up a conference win on the road

MICHAEL JURENKA

SENIOR WRITER

The Portland State Vikings and the Montana State women's basketball team on Saturday for the 'Cats' second

Big Sky Conference game of the weekend. Portland State has been struggling and is currently ranked in last place in the Big Sky Conference.

Strong shooting contributed to the 'Cats' 81-75 win at

Portland State. MSU shot 56 percent (27-48) from the floor and an impressive 78 percent (7-9) from behind the three-point arc. The Bobcats also shot 83 percent (20-24) from the charity stripe.

"It's always great to get a win on the road. This sets us up for an excellent second round in conference play," said head coach Robin Potera-Haskins.

The 'Cats made a change in the regular starting lineup. They decided to award Alyssa Nelson for her excellent showing at Eastern Washington. It paid off when Alyssa knocked down a huge three-pointer at the start of the game to get MSU started.

MSU tied the game at 5-5 when Katie Burrows made the second freethrow on a two shot foul by Tiffanie Ward of the Vikings. Portland State then went on a 17-7 run to extend their lead to 10 with 10:33 left in the first half. MSU finished the first half on a 10-4 run to head to the locker room only down by two points.

Kati Burrows led Montana State in the first half with 14 points and eight rebounds. Sheila Hutchison poured in another six points. Sheila had a sore neck and couldn't turn her head. Montana State had to make defensive adjustments to accommodate her injury.

"Kati Burrows had a great game for us on Saturday," said Potera-Haskins. "Portland State couldn't stop her."

In the second half, the 'Cats took control of the game on a jumper by Kati Burrows with 11:57 left in the game.

The 'Cats never looked back and never gave up the lead. Montana State went on a 8-2 run to extend their lead to seven on another jumper by Burrows. The 'Cats finished beating Portland State 81-75.

Kati Burrows, a Bozeman native, recorded a career high 35 points in the game. She also pulled down 10 rebounds for her fifth double-double of the season. Jana Smith also scored in double digits with 22

points. Jana averaged 24 points last weekend and was named Montana State Player of the Week. Jana was also nominated for Big Sky Conference Player of the Week. Sheila Hutchison, with her sore neck, tallied nine points and seven rebounds.

Four players for Portland State finished in double digits in the loss. Heather Arns finished with 23 points. Her teammate Sarah Hedgepath knocked in another 19 points. Tiffanie Ward and Heidi Stuart also finished with 13 points a piece respectively.

Montana State is looking to continue their winning streak as they are hosting Idaho State and Weber State this weekend in Worthington Arena. The 'Cats are playing Idaho State on Thursday and Weber State on Saturday. Both games are in the Brick Breiden Fieldhouse and tipoff is at 7:05 p.m. Come out and support your MSU Women's Basketball Team.

"It's always great to get a win on the road. This sets up for an excellent second round of conference play."

- Robin Potera-Haskins
Head Basketball Coach

Win a \$300 Gift Certificate to the MSU Bookstore!

One advertisement in each week's Exponent will have this needle graphic [] hidden in it. Write down the name of the advertiser for the corresponding paper and turn in along with a receipt from one of the advertisers listed by May 3rd at 5:00 p.m. in an envelope marked "Needle in the Ads." All entries are to be submitted to the Exponent Office, 305 SUB. Drawing will be held May 5th from all eligible entries.

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MSU Women's Golf Team springs into action



MICHAEL HICKS
EXPONENT WRITER

Though it is the middle of winter and snow blankets the landscape, MSU's women's golf team is already preparing for the upcoming spring season. The Lady 'Cats have been tuning up their swings in preparation for the upcoming months.

Golf coach Brittany Basye is looking forward to the spring season with a squad that she expects big things from.

"This is probably the strongest team since I have been a coach here at MSU," she said.

While the weather prevents the team from hitting the links outdoors, the squad finds time to improve their game at an indoor facility.

"We're working on our putting. Our average last fall was 33.5 putts. I want that number to be down to 30," said Basye.

While putting is one component of the squad's practices, the team's main focus is practicing in preparation for tournament play.

"My goal is for the team to practice as they play," Basye said. "That means that they need to practice the pre-shot routine on every shot. It is a tendency at times in practice to just go, go, and go with every shot. I want the girls to treat every shot

as they would a shot in a tournament. By thinking through the shots, they will be more prepared for real competitions."

"The main thing is quality over quantity. I would rather get a small number of quality shots than a large quantity of typical practice shots."

- Brittany Basye
Head Golf Coach

"The main thing is quality over quantity. I would rather get a small number of quality shots in than a large quantity of typical practice shots."

It is one thing to practice and work on the physical elements of the game, but it is another to master the other facets that result in success. Coach Basye could not say enough about the desire and drive of the girls on the team.

"They go that extra mile," said Basye. "They want to improve and know how to get better. That's what it's all about really."

As for team unity, Basye said, "I don't see anything that this team lacks. There's a lot of competition between the girls. They want to make each other better. They challenge each other in a positive way. The camaraderie is awesome on this team. The girls are all good friends, and they are like a family that will fight for each other."

The squad is led by senior Tiffani Spring, who averaged a 76.3 in the fall, the lowest score for an individual since Basye has become a coach at MSU. Kristina Kurcinka averaged a 79.4 in the fall as well. "We had two golfers under 80, that's pretty awesome," said Basye. "Of

course our goal is to get everyone under 80."

The rest of the squad includes Kylie Anderson, Theresa DeWalt, Erica Leslie, Amanda Nielson, and Kylee Seefreid. The team takes four players to each tournament, with the four lowest scores counting toward the overall team score.

For the team to compete, Basye said, "We need our scores to be down to the 310 to 300 range. We were at 320 last semester. If we can make our practices count and get three of our golfers to finish under 80, then I believe the 310 to 300 range is well within reach."

The team's first tournament will be March 5-6 at Rio Verde, AZ. The team will compete in four tournaments before heading to Goodyear, AZ, in April for the Big Sky Championships.

Fencing Club holds Intra-Collegiate Tournament



RANDI HIRSCH
EXPONENT WRITER

Watching a fencing match is like watching a cat stalking a mouse. Both crouch, with every muscle incredibly tense, then creep up a couple of steps, crouch again, and finally pounce.

On February 7th, MSU's fencing club held an intra-collegiate, all-day Tournament of the Pierced Heart. The MSU students competed against each other for points that would increase their national ranking.

As a true gentleman's game, a fencing match begins with saluting and ends with a handshake. Tournaments have three different categories based on the weapon used: foil, epee, and saber.

In a foil match, a fencer scores points by a stab on the jacket specially designed to electronically register the hit. An epee match is similar, except hitting any part of the body receives a score. Unlike a foil or epee,

with a saber one can strike with the full side of the front of the blade and top one-third of the back side, so the matches have more slashing than stabbing.

The matches consist of quick footwork, sliding and stamping, with a little clinking between the swords before a lunge or parry and riposte that leads to a point.

"Quickness, a really good sense of timing, and the ability to screw with other people's timing [are qualities that make a good fencer]," explained Will Merryman, who has been fencing for over three years. "It's like chess, it's not a physical game, it's a mental game." Coach Brian Segal added, "The most common thing said about fencing is that it is physical chess," Segal is MSU's fencing club's Maestro, a term used for the leaders in fencing clubs.

Competitors fence on a

two -by-fourteen meter area called a piste. This is one of the most obvious differences between fencing and the pirate or knight-inspired sword matches so popular in movies. The complex set of rules for foil and saber matches allow a fencer to receive a point even if they were not the first to hit.

Fencers are put into pools, or groups, and compete within their pools for rankings, which are used for the direct elimination round. Pool matches run either three minutes or five points, whichever comes first. Original duels were fought to first blood, not usually death, and modern fencing scoring reflects this. In matches, each solid jab or slash receives a point.

Three layers of protective gear are worn, including one layer that protects from sharp, broken swords. The complete fencing outfit has been described as a portable sauna, but even with these layers, bruises and welts are still common. With the white outfits, silver jackets, and black face mask that completely obscure the face, fencers look more than a little intimidating, especially with a weapon in their hand.

"With over a hundred people

picking up a sword a week, I'd say it's pretty big," said Ryan Winterhalter, who has been fencing seriously for a year.

He said he enjoys fencing, because swords are awesome, the thrill of the competition, and knowing I could kill anyone out on the street with a sharp sword. "With movies like Kill Bill and The Princess Bride, fencing has a romantic, exciting aspect that is drawing students to the fencing classes at MSU.

During a match, the fencers are incredibly focused completely in the zone.

"Nothing, that's the great thing about it. After I'm done fencing, I could be thinking

about the test I have, I could be thinking about saving the whales, I could be thinking

"With over hundred people picking up a sword a week, I'd say it's a pretty big thing."

- Ryan Winterhalter
Fencing Club Member

about how much I hate George Bush, but I'm not," said Winterhalter.

The winners of the Open Foil class were

Mike "Thin Man" Holland with first place, Glen "The Machine" Sorensen with second place, and Karen Borrensens at third.

In the Open Epee class, it was Glen Sorensen with first,

Aaron Franzmann with second and D'innia Jarvis with third. Borrensens is MSU's highest ranked fencer, with an A ranking. Holland has earned a C rating and Sorensen an E or D rating. Fencers ranked E through A, with A ranked fencers competing in the national and international tournaments.

Fencing club is Monday and Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. in the SOB. Brian Segal stressed that any student is welcome, although beginning fencers are encouraged to join the beginning fencing class offered at Montana State.

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MSU's big secret: Men's Downhill Ski Team

JOHNATHAN WILLY
SENIOR WRITER

19 years old, Chris is a typical freshman in ways. Chris is a business from Steamboat Springs, this is where Chris was raised to skiing at age 10. His love of the sport has many ways shaped his life. Chris races for the MSU Downhill Team. This is important inasmuch this is the first year MSU has fielded a Downhill Team in 17 years. Chris and his teammates

are united in their passion for the sport. As a fledgling team, they are holding their own. Hindered by the late snowfall and relatively non-existent funding, the team remains undaunted. Practicing daily for three hours or more on weekdays and more on weekends. The boys can also be found at football games selling hats to help pay for their team

expenses.

The love of competitive skiing draws these athletes here. Most don't receive scholarships. They pay tuition just like the rest of us. They juggle their course loads, training, and race schedules. They don't complain much. They train and work daily as a testament to their dedication to the sport. They are ski racers in a ski

Both our Men's and Women's ski teams are groups of dedicated athletes. Often times they don't garner the recognition of the other sports.

town and hardly anyone seems to even know they are here.

In a town like Bozeman, one where ski racers would be celebrities. However, this is not the case. Community support for the team has been scant. Some community businesses have been helping the team through donations. For this, the boys are eternally grateful. However, they would appreciate support from the student body as well.

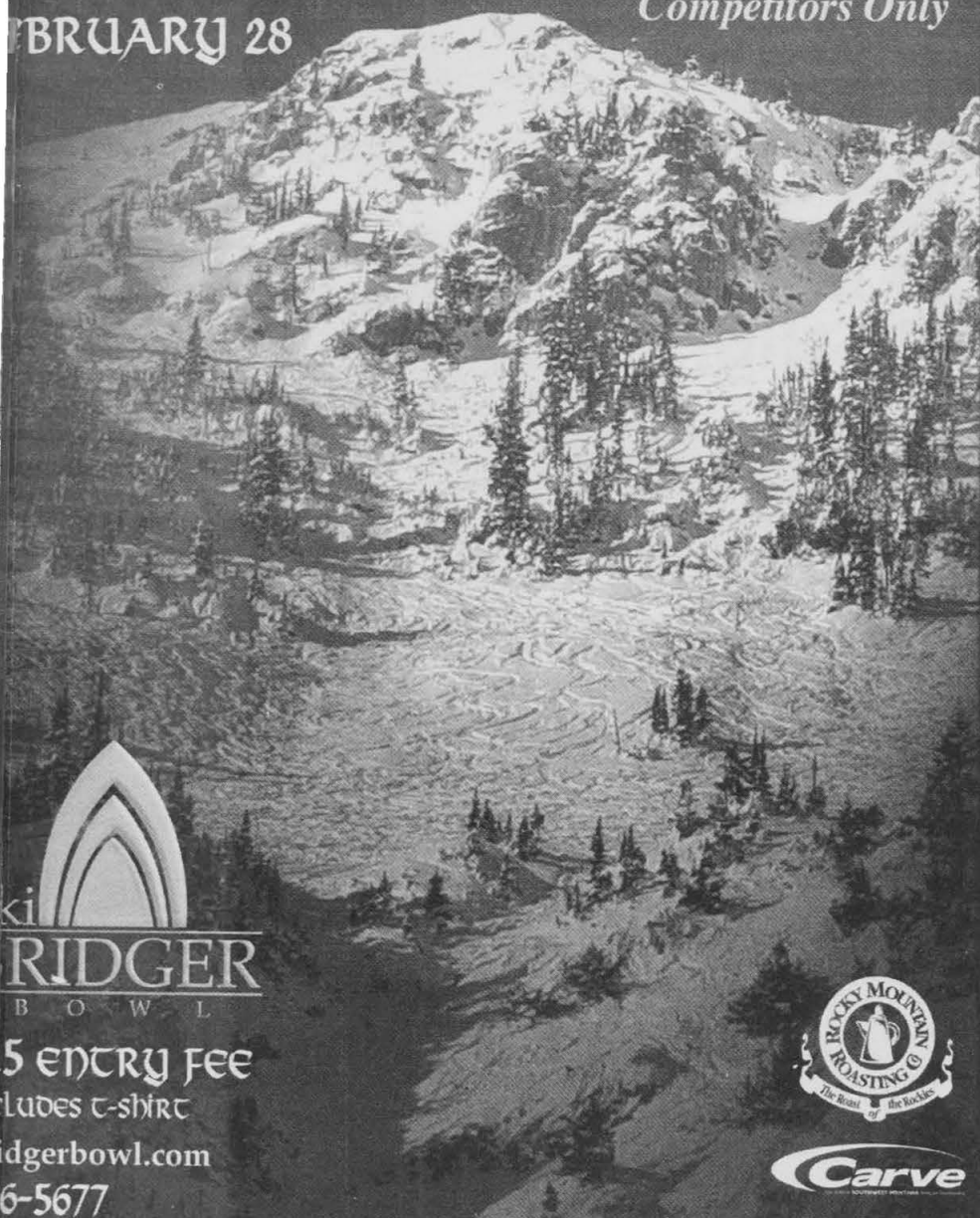
Chris asks that you realize that ski racing is a highly competitive sport. Our team is making a stand in a sport dominated by older more experienced racers recruited from Europe. This all-American team represents the future of competitive skiing

here in Bozeman.

This year's team is the foundation for great things. Local skiers like freshman phenom Tyler Smedsrud, will have the opportunity to represent their university and their country in front of a home crowd. This team is attempting to put Bozeman back on the map of competitive skiing. Both our Men's and Women's ski teams are groups of dedicated athletes. Often times they don't garner the recognition of the other sports. So when you see one of them, acknowledge their efforts in your own way. Please support the Men's and Women's teams, buy a hat, and help them "ski their wax off."

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COMMUNITY RACE SERIES

Clarett decision causes unneeded commotion

KENNY VOLK
EXPONENT WRITER

After the stirring events of Super Bowl XXXVIII, the NFL (and this time, not because of Janet Jackson) has managed to dominate headlines even in its off-season.

Last week, a federal judge ruled in favor of Maurice Clarett, allowing high school football players and college underclassmen to make the jump to the NFL like their counterparts in the NBA.

Clarett, a sophomore running back at Ohio State, sued the league last year, challenging its rule that a player must be three years removed from high school graduation to enter the draft.

While there seems to be little debate over the legitimacy to Clarett's lawsuit, (U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin said the legal issues weigh so heavily in Clarett's favor that a trial isn't even necessary) doomsayers have already predicted a watered-down NFL, a depleted collegiate game, and hard times for players foolish enough to come out too early.

Certainly, all these claims apply directly to basketball, but the physical differences in football are far more visible than on the hardwood. Dr. James D. Cash is the founding president of the Orthopedic Hospital of Oklahoma and has been the team physician for the Jenks High Trojans, who have won seven 6A state championships in the last nine seasons and sent as many as six players a year to Division I schools with full-ride scholarships.

"I see kids who leave high school as good players and they're 6-foot-3, 230 pounds," Cash said, "and four years later they are 6-3,

270 pounds of solid muscle and their necks are an inch or two thicker. It would make me nervous if my son were getting hit by a 270-pound lineman who runs a 4.6 40. Basketball is a contact sport. Football is a collision sport."

True enough, not many 18 or 19-year-olds would be able to match brawn with the likes of NFL big dogs Warren Sapp or Ray Lewis.

That's why, in the end, free-market principles will weed out those unfit for the pro game. Players good enough to make the big payday will

be drafted, and those who aren't ready won't. In a bottom-line business like the NFL, GM's don't have the liberty to draft untested products like Darko Milicic. And with a new reign of parity consuming the league like never before, teams need rookie players that can step in and make immediate contributions.

Still, there are younger athletes good enough to make the leap, players like Clarett (who ESPN NFL Draft guru Mel Kiper, Jr. projects as a second round pick) and Pittsburgh sophomore wideout Larry Fitzgerald, who most insiders think will be drafted second overall behind Ole Miss quarterback Eli Manning.

However, Kiper, considers Clarett and Fitzgerald anomalies, and doesn't envision the floodgates opening up for a wave of high-schoolers and freshmen and sophomores in college. "The NFL won't create a large exodus of players. Of course, there will be players like Larry Fitzgerald who are ready for the NFL. But don't expect it to happen often, because players like Fitzgerald and Randy Moss are rare, and even the best college prospects don't always pan out as pros," Kiper said.

"The NFL won't create a large exodus of players. Of course, there will be players like Larry Fitzgerald who are ready for the NFL."

- Mel Kiper Jr.
ESPN NFL Draft Guru

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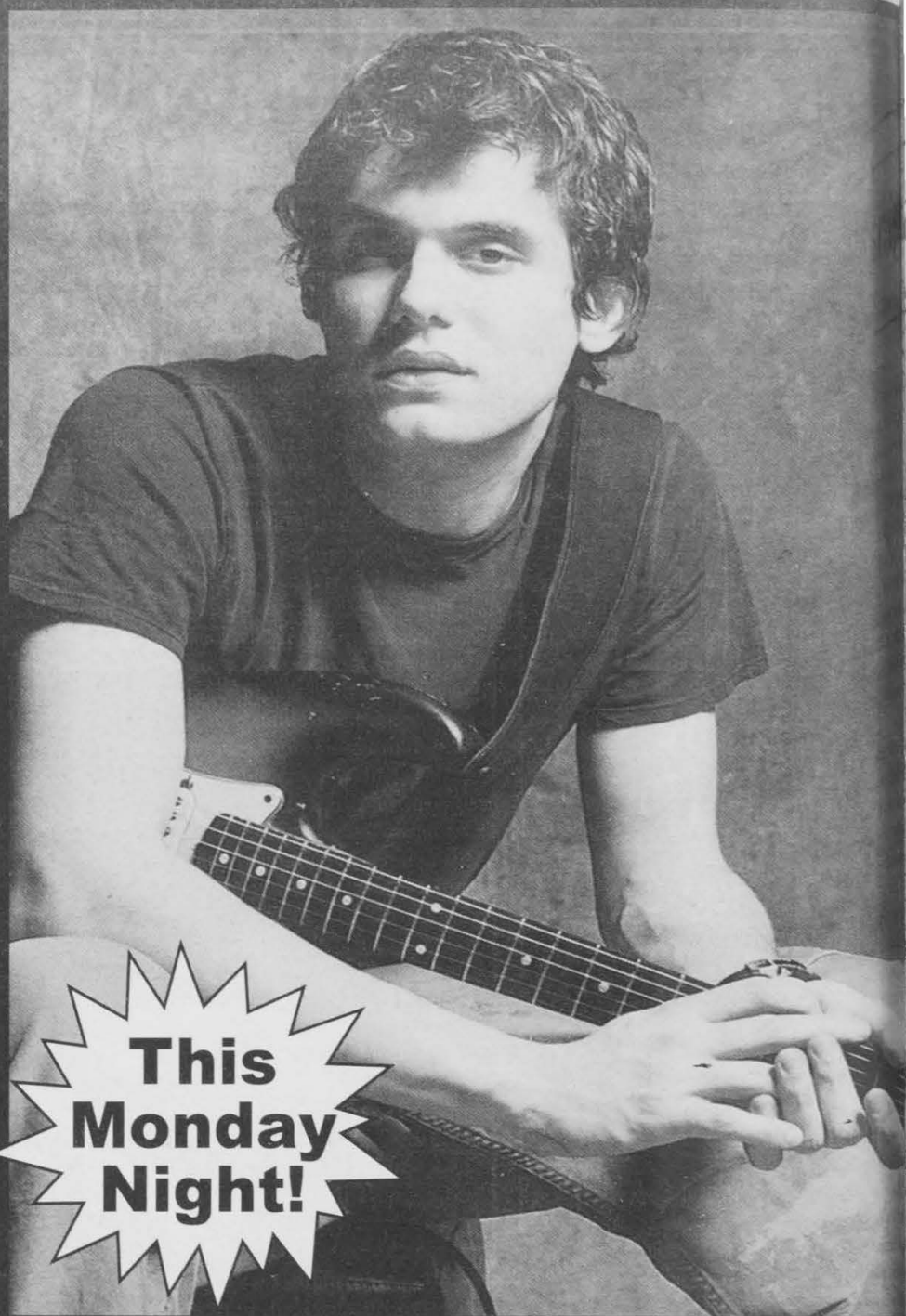
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2004

Vagina Monologues; what it's about

RANDI HIRSCH

IENT WRITER
ne ordinary, everyday
are really completely enig-
Vaginas are one of these
vaginas are like that.

Valentine's weekend,
y the 14th and Sunday
n, the MSU VOICE Center,
s Against Sexual Assault,
ne Office for Student
es are bringing The Vagina
logues to SUB Ballroom A
towards dispensing some
mystery associated with

Essler, the author of the
logues, interviewed a wide
of women worldwide.
spoke about experiences
g from annual check-ups
ating their first periods.
ewrote monologues based
stories these women told;
mes, a monologue is based
experiences of one woman,
ometimes Essler combined
experiences of several

focuses on women
have been victimized.
enance is a better way to
nicate, rather than just
g them information. It's
to entertain and inform,"
ied Stephanie Guilbert.
rt and Hannah Terry are
cting this year's third
roduction of The Vagina
ologues.

the Monologues are brought
each year to raise money
U's VOICE Center. Essler

signed over the use of her play to
the V-Day association, which is a
global movement and organized
response to violence against
girls and women. The VOICE
Center is a crisis center at MSU
for victims of sexual assault,
domestic violence, and stalk-
ing. The money raised from the
performance is used to support
much of what's needed to run
the VOICE Center, including
buying the necessary papers for
volunteers.

"In the past couple of years,
it has been really, really excit-
ing for people. Both men and
women leave feeling very empow-
ered," said Guilbert. The Vagina
Monologues has been incredibly
popular, with over a thousand
people attending each year.

"It is about breaking down
the stereotypes that surround
vaginas. People automati-
cally think 'sex', but there's so
much more involved," stressed
Terry. "It's not a male-bashing
performance, but men think it
is some crazy feminist thing."
For those guys who say they
can never understand women,
these Monologues could be
their best class on the subject.
Even if a guy thinks he knows
how to handle the opposite
sex, the performance could still
be a learning experience. The
Vagina Monologues are NOT
about male-bashing by a group
of femi-Nazis.

The Monologues could be
shocking to conservative audi-



Photo by Charlie Capp

Sallie Sills rehearses her role in this year's production of the "Vagina Monologues." The show can be seen this weekend in SUB A.

ence members; in fact, some
of the first lines of the night
are, "I'll bet you're all worried."
The Monologues identify this
uneasiness and ignorance about
women's bodies. Many mono-
logues are really, really funny,
but other emotions are either
connected to or underlying the
actresses' words. Regardless
of the words being said, there
is always something else being
communicated.

The actresses' perfor-
mances are incredibly genu-
ine; perhaps it is because they
are telling the stories of real
women. Not all stories were
written to be funny, but all
have a strong message.

Show times for The Vagina
Monologues are Saturday at 8
p.m. and Sunday at 5 p.m. in
SUB Ballroom A. Tickets cost
\$5 with a OneCard and \$10
for the public at the door.

unny stuff at the Baxter on Wednesdays

RANDI HIRSCH

IENT WRITER

all complaining that there
thing to do during the
Every Wednesday at 8
quality comedians from
d the nation are brought
entertain people at the
Comedy Club above
bin Lounge. On Feb. 4,
dians Bobby Shropshire
Douglas Howington took
age.

ith the majority of the
directed towards a col-
ge crowd, the shows
definitely receive 'R'
s. Still, all the jokes were
al, and everyone always
to have a good time.
nationally recognized
ainers who are brought
ozeman have proven
s; both Shropshire and
gton are experienced,
sional comedians.

owington, a comedian
Los Angeles, began the
at the Baxter Comedy
Also an actor who has
ed on the popular sit-
Scrubs and The Tracey
n Show, Howington has a

Master's Degree in Theatre Arts.
Perhaps this is one of the reasons
he could transform his person-
ality on stage; from Michael
Jackson impressions to Randy
Travis, Howington kept the
audience entertained. Although
Howington was a hit, a Bozeman
crowd has probably never been
referred to as "dawg" before.

Howington had fresh, inter-
esting material, including his igno-
rance about
American's
obsession with
the Ice Capades:
"Have you ever
stopped to
think that some
things should
just not be on
ice? Flintstones
should not be
on ice." He then
gave the audi-
ence images of what the Cosby
Show, Good Times, and Sanford
and Sons would be like if done by
the Ice Capades.

Howington also explained
why it was wrong to judge
an entire ethnic group by the
actions of a few.

"If stereotypes were right,

I would be terrified stand-
ing up here in front of you,"
he said, "Jeffrey Dahmer ate
people. I'd rather be robbed
than eaten."

The headlining entertainer,
Bobby Shropshire, kept the
audience laughing with jokes
based mainly from her own
experiences: "I had to emcee
a male strip show. This is the
type of job you have to take to

pay tuition.
Stay in school
so you can be
an engineer
and work at a
supermarket."

"I'm 200
pounds; I
know why.
You want me
to go run-
ning- break
into my house

with a gun; I ain't gonna move
for no reason. My hair's gray,
I've got goofy teeth, I'm fat...
I've turned into the guy I was
afraid I'd end up with."

Most of Shropshire's mate-
rial was very original and
unusual when compared to
the mainstream entertainers.

She has a reputation of
being able to adapt her act
to whatever type of crowd
she is in front of and her
work reflects the unnoticed
humor in everyday life.
Although she has no formal
education in entertaining
(she refers to herself as an
uneducated SOB taught at
the College of the Streets),
her natural talent has earned
her a place at the Comedy
Store and the Friars' Club.

"The audiences have
been great; the people are
so warm. This is my second
home," said Howington,
who is originally from
Brooklyn. "Entertaining
is more for the love than
the money." He said that
he would still do stand-up
comedy even without get-
ting paid for the show.

Both comedians said they
loved Montana, although
neither seemed to be fans of
the cold weather. Shropshire
explained one of the particu-
larities found up north: how
it is strange "[to be] looking
at regular cars with plugs
sticking out."

Service Learning Seminar: What is it?



ERIN LYNCH

FEATURES EDITOR

Service Learning-what
is it and what is its purpose?
This question, along with
many more, was answered on
Tuesday, Feb. 10, in the SUB,
at the Third Annual Service
Learning Seminar.

"To spread awareness of
Service Learning and create
networking opportunities [for
faculty and community non-
profits]. This is a great venue
for faculty to make partnership
contacts," said seminar coordi-
nator Autumn dela Houssaye,
who was also able to provide
a comprehensive explanation
of Service Learning and its
objectives.

"[Service Learning can be]
used at a teaching or learn-
ing tool where students apply
academic skills to address
genuine community needs. It is
normally done in a classroom
setting facilitated by a faculty
members, and has been effec-
tive, because it allows students
to get out of the classroom
and work on 'real' projects to
address community needs,"
said dela Houssaye.

Speakers at the Seminar
included MSU faculty member
Marvin Lansverk, from the
English Dept., and Dr. William
McGregor from Montana Tech.

Lansverk, who is the first
recipient of the President's
Award for Excellence in Service
Learning, spoke about his
use of Service Learning in his
classes. This included a brain-
storming session, the history
and pedagogy behind Service
Learning, and a defense of the
academics.

McGregor had the seminar
participants break into groups
to have smaller group discus-
sions on the barriers faced
by non-profits, professors
and even students in favor of
implementing service learning.

The objectives set for
this year's Service Learning
Seminar were all met due to
the great speakers, knowledge
shared and partnerships made.

To learn more about ser-
vice learning contact VISTA
Autumn dela Houssaye at
the Office for Community
Involvement at 994-6902.



"A Hollywood bad boy trying to find virtue"

A. FINGARSON
EXPONENT WRITER

Small-town, USA, home to a girl with big-city boy crush, is what *Win a Date with Tad Hamilton* is all about. This small-town girl, Kate Bosworth, lives in this tiny town in West Virginia, and works at the local grocery store. Being from the south, I love the Piggly Wiggly grocery store chain. Rosalie, Bosworth's character, worked diligently at this supermarket with her closest friends, Kat and Pete.

Rosalie and her good gal-pal, Kat, are obsessed, as many teenage girls are, with the recent heartthrob in the film industry. For them, he is Tad Hamilton. He is a Colin Ferrell look-alike and a bad boy in dire need of a new, clean image. That is when his agents, including Jack from *Will & Grace*, decide to have a "charity date." Rosalie enters the contest, and to no avail—wins!

In the meantime, her boss and close friend, Pete, wants to profess his undying love for Rosalie. He is discouraged when she flies to L.A. for her dreamy date. Her eyes are filled with rainbows and

sunshine, as my roomie and fellow film critic would say. She is absolutely star-struck with Tad, while he is more concerned with taking the southern beauty home with him. Not for this small-town girl; she has her head on her shoulders. She thanks him for the wonderful date and returns to her quaint town.

But the day that Pete is trying to finally work the nerve up to tell Rosalie of his admiration, in walks Tad into Piggly Wiggly. From then on, the battle for the girl's attention begins.

Tad is nothing to write home about. He might seem dreamy, but it is only skin deep. Pete, on the other hand, is the true knight in shining armor for Rosalie. He is genuine, funny, driven, and real. Throughout the whole movie and Rosalie's life, Pete is right in front of her nose, but she is too oblivious to notice—too many rainbows and sunshine clouding her vision to see Pete's admiration.

I was rooting for Pete since the first frame in the movie. It made me wonder how many times we, as women, get sidetracked for the wrong man,

when the right one was right in front of our face the whole time. This poor guy has to see his true love fall for this Hollywood bum. Pete said it best: "A Hollywood bad boy trying to find virtue." Tad claimed he was following a gut feeling. Pete realizes that sometimes being the good guy isn't good enough.

The bartender at their local watering hole gives Pete a crash course in love (literally): "If it is love, it takes two months to get over. If it is good love, two years to get over. And if it is a great love, it changes your life." She then adds, "And if you feel it and don't do everything in your will about it, you are slapping life in the face."

Does Rosalie realize how fabulous Pete is before joining Tad in Cali? All I will spill is that she gets a little lecture

from bartender: "When a man's great love is rejected, something inside of him dies—unless you get to him before he

closes the book on you."

Win a Date with Tad Hamilton is a cute romantic comedy that questions if being the good guy is really so good and worth it after all.

"Tad is nothing to write home about. He might seem dreamy, but he is only skin deep."

— Ashley Fingarson
Movie Reviewer

ANDY ROWSE
EXPONENT WRITER

According to Webster's dictionary, a chick-flick is defined as a film made to attract a large audience of women... and their unsuspecting significant others. Then why does it seem that these so-called "chick-flicks" hold more messages directed at men? In last week's new release, "*Win a Date with Tad Hamilton*," hidden in the traditional love and loss and plastic romance was a message directed at me... a male.

This film is like most other chick-flicks I've come across in my years. In this variation Topher Grace, known from his role as Eric in "*That 70's Show*," plays Pete; a super market manager from *Frasier's* Bottom, West Virginia. Pete is deeply and completely in love with his longtime friend and employee Rosalie, played by Kate Bosworth. Of course Rosalie has no clue that Pete has feelings for her.

Enter Tad Hamilton, played by Josh Duhamel, as a Hollywood hunk looking to improve his bad boy image by doing a charity date with a young, wholesome country girl. Now where in the world will he find one of those? (Definitely not with my roommate Ashley.) How about in *Frasier's* Bottom, West Virginia? Rosaline wins the date and is flown to Hollywood, where she spends a romantic evening with Tad Hamilton. As often happens when men spend

time with women that are irresistible, Tad sees something really special in Rosaline, and feels that she can help put his runaway life back on track.

Rosalie returns to West Virginia to the Piggly Wiggly Super Market and Pete, leaving Tad Hamilton and Hollywood behind like a dream. Pete now has his chance to proclaim his love and ask Rosalie to move to Richmond with him while he goes to graduate school. Once again, enter Tad Hamilton. The movie continues and ends exactly as expected.

Now back to my question: Why do most of the chick-flicks I've recently seen hold more messages for men than women? This movie is about a boy who falls in

"great love" with a girl. Love can end immediately, "good love" will leave a person hung up for a year or two, but "great love" is the kind of love that changes someone forever. When you are in great love you must take a chance or you will always be asking, "what if?" Sometimes this doesn't work out, but you aren't left wondering.

Is this theme a message for men, or is it a dream scenario for women? Do women day-dream that their best friend will out of nowhere confess

their undying love and they will live happily ever after, or is the movie just telling all the "nice guys" around the world to grow some balls and go for it?

My favorite part of the movie is seeing Pete get up the guts to finally confess his love to Rosalie. It was kind of melodramatic, but even men can appreciate a little melodrama.

I also enjoyed that Tad Hamilton was not a complete asshole. He was actually a really nice guy and Rosalie probably had a good chance of being happy with him, but great love won out.

My least favorite part was the bookend scenes of the movie. You see the film you immediately know what it means, and you don't, you

"Love can end immediately, 'good love' will leave a person hung up for a year or two, but 'great love' is the kind of love that changes someone forever."

— Andy Rowse
Movie Reviewer

can save yourself from barfing at their corniness.

This film is just like every other chick-flick, but it kept me slightly entertained. If you're out with your girlfriends and in the mood for some cheesy romance with a few laughs, or last week you let your boyfriend choose "*Paycheck*," and he's letting you choose this week then "*Win a Date with Tad Hamilton*" may be the movie for you. But as a male, I wouldn't be caught dead going to this movie alone.

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Diversity Awareness Office
Student Union Meetings
In the SUB
Room 274 at 5:30 pm
Thursday February 19

Kaplan MCAT Prep On-Campus
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HOROSCOPES FOR THIS WEEK

is in the air. old habits and ons to be swept and you'll be sed how fast new exciting situations materialize. es are that you've trying to work ings alone, stop et feedback from TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) You may have the opportunity to invest in a creative enterprise with unexpected money coming from a family member who is looking out for your best interests. If a relationship is starting to feel a little stagnant, try to find ways to increase vitality, or get out.	There is someone close to you in desperate need of financial help. Look around you closely, this individual may not be obvious. Feelings of passion will follow you during the week. Direct this fiery energy in a positive way. It is a good time to express yourself romantically. GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) It's time to take a lead from an ambitious acquaintance, and take your shot at fame and fortune. Your love life may be a bit rocky this week, so try to accentuate the positive. It's time to sew up any loose ends, leaving no stone unturned as you finish up.	Try to maintain your sunny spirit in the face of seemingly depressing circumstances. Do what you can and try to stop worrying. You can do much to change the situations you find yourself in. Do your best to act fairly, for money matters are coming to a head. CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Changes do not come easy, but those that may occur in your personal life will probably be more accepted than most. Quiet time with family will give you the opportunity to catch up with others' lives. When you put your mind to it, you can accomplish just what you want.	An existing relationship will flourish if you trust the other person completely. There is a real possibility for a new and intense love. Your spark of enthusiasm brings out the best in those around you. This opportunity could pave the way to more responsibility. LEO (July 24 - August 23) You seem to have a choice of paths to take. Make sure that you are not achieving success at the cost of others. Such ambition will no doubt reap rewards you may not wish for. It feels as if you are running around in circles; everything does not have to be done by the book.	You are doing well in your career choice, but know you could be doing better if given the chance. That opportunity for advancement is right around the corner. Be sure you can make good on your promises. There is an introspective friend who needs your emotional support this week. VIRGO (August 24 - Sept. 23) If you are getting too attached, you are only setting yourself up for disappointment. Live in the here and now, tomorrow will take care of itself. Much of what you have been striving for is within your grasp, but you may have to count on others to help you reach that goal.
ail seems to be where this week. remember that a deal of criticism can delivered effectively a smile. It will make sense to keep people ur side if you can el your rage in a direct way. Joy could as habit forming as nism is. SCORPIO (October 24 - Nov. 22)	SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)	CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)	AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)	PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20)

THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are wearing your feelings on your sleeve, and it's time you realize that you may not be as tough as you think. Withdraw emotionally may help you figure out just where you are and where you belong. Romantic endeavors may prove more trouble than they are worth right now.

JOHN MAYER gets into some HEAVIER THINGS

PRESS RELEASE
AL TO THE EXPONENT. ven John Mayer emerged the underground in 2001 his debut album, Room uares, he was a little- 22-year-old with an ic guitar and boundless. His ascent was rapid, d by nonstop touring ensive word of mouth, reached critical mass just o and the video channels iscovering the young art- o years later, Room for s, is now triple-platinum bum remains in the Top ter more than 80 consecu-

tive weeks on the *Billboard* Top 200 chart), spawning three hit singles, one of which, "Your Body Is a Wonderland," earned him a Grammy earlier this year for best pop vocal performance. Mayer's much-anticipated *Aware/Columbia* follow-up album, which bears the intriguing title *Heavier Things*, demonstrates how far this single-minded artist has come at this still-early stage of his career. "In some ways," Mayer says, "the stakes get higher when you make a second major-label record and everyone's looking. And in some ways absolutely

nothing is different, because your voice still sounds the same, and your hands still feel the same on the guitar. You just write your songs. You're just a guy with a guitar putting in a Thai food order at 9 p.m." The 25-year-old Mayer possesses a remarkable clear-headedness—fittingly, the new album opens with a song titled "Clarity"—and the rarefied level of consciousness that distinguishes this artist's songs has as much to do with their impact as his gift for melody, elevated musicianship or disarming personality. All of these elements, by the way, are present in spades on *Heavier Things*. The album was produced and mixed by Jack Joseph Puig, whose credits include Sheryl Crow, No Doubt, the Black Crowes, Hole and smart-pop progenitors Jellyfish. "Jack understood what I wanted to do next," Mayer says of his decision to work with Puig. "We had met by way of friendship, not connections. I don't like pulling connections in; I'd much rather make friends. He understands the romance of making records. Jack and I pushed each other to the limits of our knowledge, and that's why the record is as fresh as it is. There are raw decisions made outside of the comfort zone of past achievement." *Heavier Things* was tracked in New York, Mayer's present

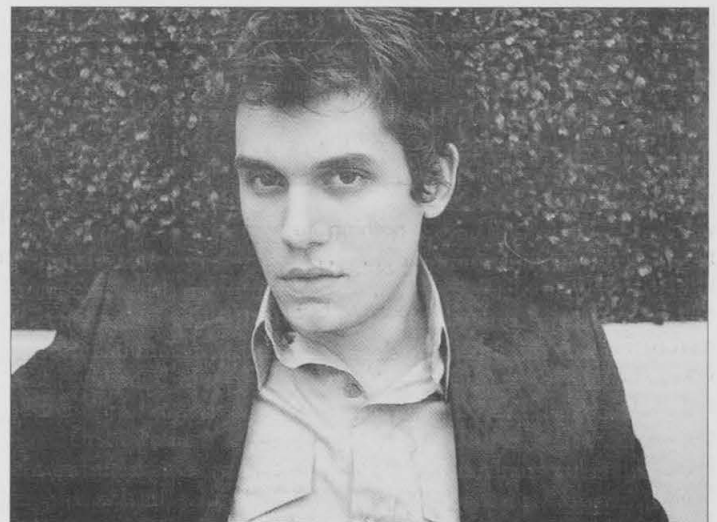


Photo courtesy of BRAVO Entertainment

John Mayer will appear in concert in Bozeman on Monday, Feb. 16 in the Brickbreeden Field House.

home, and completed at Puig's longtime L.A. headquarters, Ocean Way. In addition to the lead single, the propulsive, hook-packed rocker "Bigger Than My Body," the album contains several songs Mayer has been performing live on his 2003 summer tour of amphitheaters and arenas, and they've become immediate crowd favorites. These include the poignant "Daughters," the smoldering, blues-based "Come Back to Bed," the evocative "Wheel" and "Something's Missing," which climaxes with a timely and ingenious things-to-do-today inventory.

Mayer's longtime bass player Dvid LaBruyere appears on all tracks apart from the virtually

solo acoustic "Daughters," while keyboardist Jamie Muhoberac plays on eight. Guest musicians include legendary jazz trumpeter Roy Hargrove, drummers Matt Chamberlain, Steve Jordan and ?uestlove from The Roots, percussionist Lenny Castro and horn player Jerry Hay. Also present are guitarist Michael Chaves and drummer J.J. Johnson from Mayer's touring band.

"I came off the road after two years of straight touring and knew exactly what kind of record I wanted to make—it wasn't an accident," Mayer says of the process that led to the creation of *Heavier Things*. "I wanted to write songs this time that always felt good under my hands, no matter what. The only real criterion for the record was, 'Is it fun to play? Is it physically fun to feel the vibration of the strings or the feel of my throat when I'm singing it?' If an idea didn't meet that criterion, it got dumped."

"This record is as different from the last one as I am from the last time I made a record," he adds. "What that amount is, I don't know, and I'm really interested to find out."



SUMMER III FOR JUNIOR NURSING STUDENTS



We invite you to explore the Summer III Student Nursing Experience with Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. This program is for junior year students of a four-year baccalaureate nursing program. Summer III begins in early June and lasts for 10 weeks. Summer III is a paid, supervised nursing program exposing the student to a broad range of direct and indirect patient care settings on inpatient and surgical units.

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Rochester, MN 55905
ph 800-562-7984
e-mail summer3@mayo.edu

Application Deadline: January 15, 2004

www.mayoclinic.org/summer3-rst

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Must have computer skills and phone experience is preferred. Knowledge of campus is a plus.

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Planning on winning the Pulitzer Prize but don't know where to begin? Come work for us and you could be on your way. For more information give us a call at 994-Expo. Apply quickly positions are limited.

Announcements

Summer Team Leaders

UM-Western is hiring four-five team leaders for the 2004 Math/Science Upward Bound summer residency program, a college prep program for high schoolers. Team leaders must live in the residence hall June 8-July 25 and have responsibility for evening, weekend, and some daytime activities. College junior or above and prior experience working with teenagers preferred. Must possess valid drivers license. See www.umwestern.edu/msuub or call (406) 683-7327 for a complete job description. \$2,150 minimum lump sum plus room and board. Review of applications will begin Feb. 2004. UM Western is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from qualified women, minorities, vietnam era veterans and persons with disabilities. Position eligible for veterans preference in accordance with State Law. Finalists for this position will be subject to a criminal background investigation. The position announcement can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please visit our website listed above.

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Announcements

Italy Plus

Come re-live the experience of a semester in Italy with MSU School of Architecture exhibit of student sketches and photographs will be held in Cheever lower gallery.

February 23-March 7

• (406) 994-4590 Business Manager Marlena Gasper • (406) 994-2611 Ads Sales Manager Curt Widhalm • (406) 994-2432 Classified Sales Manager Brenda Truman • (406) 994-2253 FAX

The First Person to correctly complete this week's crossword puzzle, trivia, and bring it to the ASMSU office, SUB room 281 will receive one FREE small pizza with two toppings. Courtesy of Cosmic Pizza! Sorry we have done this for a while, our trivia master has been on vacation.



Trivia:

What are the aliens names on "the Simpsons"?
Who was the first person inducted into the baseball hall of fame?
What is the major product of the Donald Duck Co.?

TODAY'S SUNDAY PUZZLE

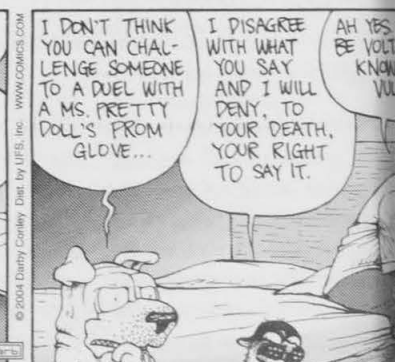
ACROSS

1 Cherry or lime
6 Emulated a crow
11 Capsize
16 Cry of dismay
21 Passageway
22 1836 battle site
23 Film
24 Microscopic animal
25 Leads
26 Southwestern tree
27 Yaks
28 Factions
29 Always, to Tennyson
30 Plains dwelling
32 Bitter
34 Gets equal billing
36 Spelling error
38 Grammy winner - Ronstadt
40 Spikes the punch
42 Buildings and land
43 Bridge sections
45 Medieval battle play
47 Motor oil amount
49 Profession
52 Mushroom-to-be
53 Close relative
54 Distant or vocation lead-in
58 Off the mark
59 Smell bad
60 Went out
62 German connector
63 Mongoose prey
64 Docks
65 Office staffer
66 Flavoring in pastis
68 Tint
69 Quirk
71 Waterfall or rapids
72 Fireplaces
73 French pronoun
75 Ship's position
76 Melon throwaways
77 Carnegie Hall gala
78 Unqualified

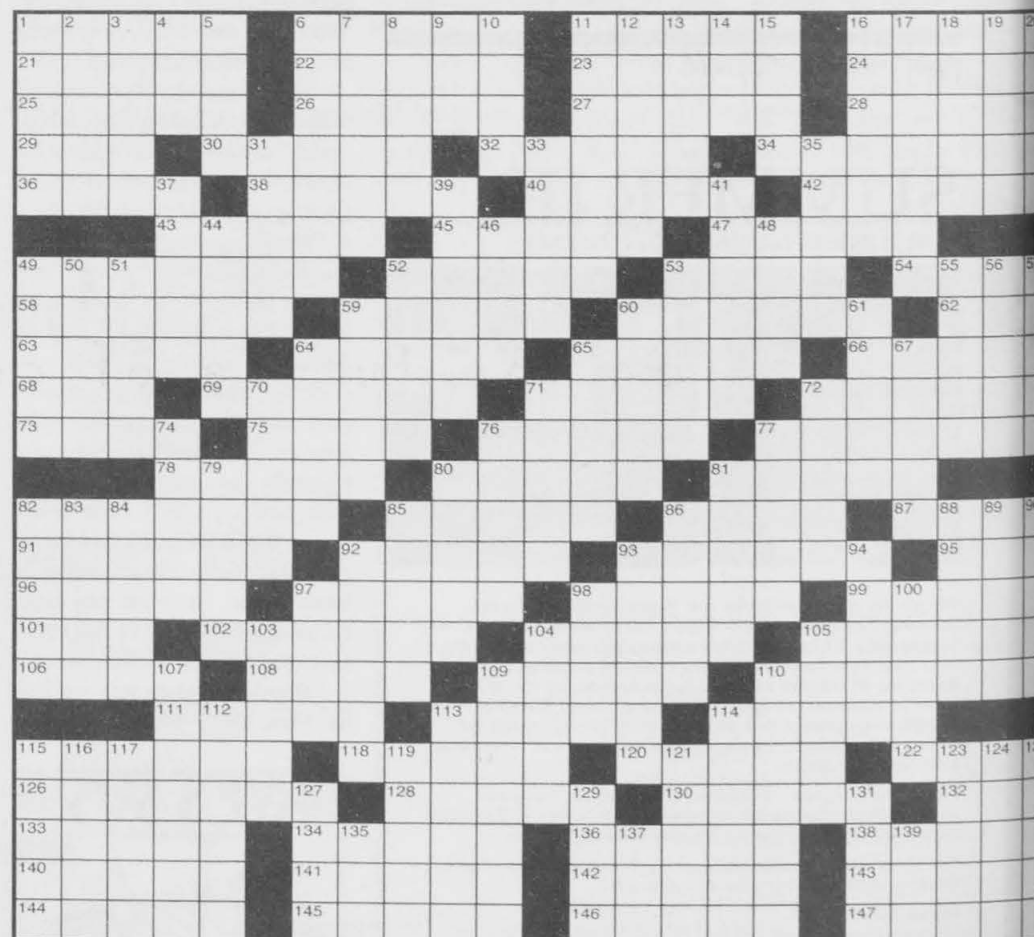
DOWN

1 Aspect
2 NBA coach Pat -
3 Commandeer
4 Percent ending
5 Try out
6 Outdoing
7 Sci-fi thriller
8 Ebbbed
9 Comic - Philips
10 Senora
11 Pique
12 Law enforcers
13 Steer clear of
14 Pen tip
15 Progeny: abbr.
16 Nobelist - Ararat
17 Do like
18 Organ feature
19 Thumb-turner
20 Roger -
21 Pert
31 Large antelope
33 Store worker
35 Make a speech
37 Noted Canadian physician
39 Hope
41 Peer hard
44 Rice dish
46 Solar wind components
48 Golden Rule word
49 Hiding place
50 Run - of
51 Malicious gossip
52 Walked softly
53 Skating jumps
55 Rather
56 Al of Indy fame
57 I.e. words
59 Not pickled
60 Chopin opus
61 Fixes a sock
64 Signpost data
65 - Fe, N.M.
67 Tortilla snack
70 Joyce Carol -

71 Alaskan city
72 Natural ladle
74 Pianist - Blake
76 River transport
77 Lairds' households
79 Inclines
80 Raccoon faces
81 Shaggy animals
82 Lure
83 Love, in France
84 Congo language
85 Sorts
86 Harvest
88 Hangar occupant
89 President after Harrison
90 Parakeet treats
92 Crude
93 U and I
94 Made an oath
97 Empty
98 Consistency
100 Asian capital
103 Surrenders
104 Grassy areas
105 Desk accessories
107 Well-known
109 Many pets
110 Strongest-tasting
112 Turns inside out
113 Leatherneck
114 Beauty parlor item
115 Took a nap
116 Quartet member
117 Math term
119 Camel stop
121 Tarzan's transport
123 "Bones" on "Star Trek"
124 Stage
125 Became a father
127 Cough syrup meas.
129 This, to Isabella
130 Horse's ankle
135 Gil's address
137 Streetwise
139 H. Rider Haggard novel



LEGAL ASTOR BABAR ABASH
IRANI SHORE AROMA RODEO
VISIT PUGET AROMA RODEO
ECUMENICAL PLAUSIBILITY
NAPA IRKS GRASS EVILS
AXES PLUS EATEN
SLOSHED COUNTERACT GIGS
WASTED MELEE CORNEA MAC
AXIOM FADES SHALE LLAMA
MEEK NOMAD GOODS BULGED
IRREGULAR CURES MEMBERS
ILLS CHITS JUAN
AMIABLY URALS PATRIARCH
DENNIS SNORE POMES CARA
ORGAN HOHUM BAKED DUKES
RIO GAELIC URGES CUTEST
ETTA PROPHESED HONESTY
SLABS NUBS AIDE
PIKER PADRE GENE RUST
PEDANTICALLY WORDSWORTH
SPEND GOUGE EERIE EUBIE
SPACE OLLAS SAGER STARR
TYLER ROSES PRESS TENSE



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ASMSU

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You Have What It Takes?

Are you interested in being the next ASMSU President? Grab a friend and join the race. Applications are available in the ASMSU office, room 281 of the SUB. Deadline for applications is February 25th by 5 PM. If you are President and VP are not in your cup of tea, join the Senate and represent your district. There are 3 on campus, 1 greek, 4 off campus, 2 at large and 1 family graduate housing seat available. Applications are available in the ASMSU office, room 281 in the SUB. Applications for Senate are also due February 25th at 5 PM in the ASMSU office.

Tickets on Sale NOW!!!

Tickets on sale today for "Sons of the Everest Pioneers". Peter Hillary and Jamling Norgay are presenting a lecture and multimedia presentation in the MSU SUB Ballrooms. The show will be March 8th at 7:30 PM. Tickets are now available for \$5 at Bobcat Ticket Office, Barrel Mountaineering, Northern Lights Trading Company, and all local Ticket West Outlets.

Time to Shape UP!

	Registration Dates	Mandatory Meeting	Event Begins
Aerobics	Jan 2- May 1	--	Jan 14
Swim Meet	Feb 11-13	--	Feb 18
Co-ed Volleyball	Feb 13-18	Feb 20	Feb 23
Indoor Soccer	Feb 13-18	Feb 20	Feb 23

Intramural fitness consultants available...are you bored with your current workout? We can help. Call one of our Fitness Consultants to design a personal fitness program for you. Call today 994-6309 for an appointment. This is a complimentary service to MSU students with 7 or more credits and Faculty/Staff with gym passes. (Special needs will be accommodated.)

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Visit Intramurals and Recreation's web-page. Log on to www.montana.edu/gym for building hours, climbing wall hours, aerobic schedules and class descriptions, Intramural Activity Schedules, gym membership information, etc.

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Saturday...9 PM

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A. FINGARSON

EXPONENT WRITER

If you have already taken or are scheduled for an economics class at MSU, it is possible that your professor is affiliated with the Property and Environment Research Center (PERC) in Bozeman.

This nonprofit research organization applies property rights and market principles to solve environmental problems. PERC is not only an institution with a unique approach to preserving environmental quality, but it is also a resource for students to utilize for educational opportunities or career advancements. Each year, PERC offers an "intense but fun" summer seminar to undergraduates and also graduate fellowships.

PERC was founded by three professors at MSU in 1980: Terry Anderson, John Baden, and Richard Stroup. PERC got its start in a tiny office in Linfield Hall and moved off campus as the organization grew. Currently, PERC has expanded to a building on Analysis Drive just off of 19th and College Street.

To truly understand PERC's stance on environmental issues and policies, one should read *Free Market Environmentalism*, co-authored by Anderson and Donald Leal. This is the first book defining PERC's atypical approach to solving natural resource problems. Unlike most

environmental institutes, PERC values the voluntary effort in private markets and is skeptical of the role of government solutions. PERC also emphasizes that environmental quality comes thorough accountable owners, and recognizes problems that occur when ownership of natural resources is unclear.

There is a strong tie between PERC and the economics department at MSU. Richard Stroup is currently the head of the economics department at MSU, and he is also a senior associate at PERC. Terry Anderson, a retired MSU economics professor, is now the executive director at PERC. Holly Fretwell, an adjunct professor in economics, researches public land issues at PERC. Nick Parker, also a member of the PERC staff, received his Master's in Economics at MSU.

To gain a hands-on introduction to PERC's unique free market approach one might consider attending the Free Market Environmentalism summer seminar. This is a seminar for undergraduates interested in learning about and applying free market environmentalism principles. Applicants range from 50-100, but only 25 are selected to attend the seminar. PERC offers a full scholarship to the attendants to cover food, lodging, and the cost of the seminar. Travel expenses up to

\$300 may also be covered. The participants are required to read *Free Market Environmentalism* before attending to provide a basic understanding of the seminar's focus.

The summer seminar on free market environmentalism, directed by P.J. Hill, began 14 years ago, and extends for six days in the month of June. Students from universities around the nation travel to Montana to attend and live in housing provided at MSU.

After arriving and attending a welcome barbeque, the participants are divided into teams and are given environmental topics to solve. Topics from past seminars include logging, water disputes, and managing national parks. A final presentation is given on the last day of the seminar. Amidst the learning, the students are given a day off to explore and see Montana.

"Most of the participants have not been to Montana and wish to experience its beauty. Most travel to the park on that day," says Colleen Lane, PERC's seminar coordinator.

A senior associate from PERC act as an advisor to each team, helping them figure out the solutions to their given environmental problem. The senior associate becomes a mentor to the students and also sits on a panel on the last day of the seminar to answer any additional questions.

The seminar introduces new ways to think about environmental issues. One student evaluated the course by saying, "PERC's Free Market Environmentalism seminar was incredibly informative and thought provoking."

Another student introduced to PERC's free market and property rights approach at the seminar said, "In a world of pervasive regulatory structures regarding the environment, it is refreshing to know that PERC sees a different way the free market and is actively cultivating the new solution with the hope that it will take hold and change the world for the better."

The students are not the only ones putting a great deal of time and energy into the seminar, the PERC staff is just as involved.

"Terry and P.J. enjoy it just as much as the students," says Lane.

If you enjoyed a summer seminar at PERC and wish to pursue further research at PERC, graduate fellowships are also available. Law students and graduate students interested in issues regarding the environment and natural resources are encouraged to apply. The duration of the fellowship is three months in Bozeman, and a \$1300 stipend is provided.

Since the program began in 1991, approximately one hundred graduate students have participated in PERC's graduate fellow-

ships, states the organization's 2003 brochure.

The requirement of the fellowship is that the participant must complete a research paper, thesis, or dissertation involving natural resources and the environment. PERC associates oversee the student's work. A student who is responsible for the best paper annually will receive a \$250 honorarium. Fellows are required to discuss their findings in three seminars.

PERC's educational opportunities enable both undergraduates and graduate students to explore and to further understand the world of free market environmentalism. Students who have attended the summer seminar or graduate fellowships have continued on to graduate school, positions at other "think tanks," and opportunities at PERC.

A senior associate you may meet in class, at the seminar, or work under for your graduate fellowship may act as a mentor to guide you to the correct career path. My mentors are Professor Stroup and Jane Shaw, and they have helped me in every way, furthering my career in journalism.

To obtain information about the programs offered at PERC, visit www.perc.org or call 406-587-9591.

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