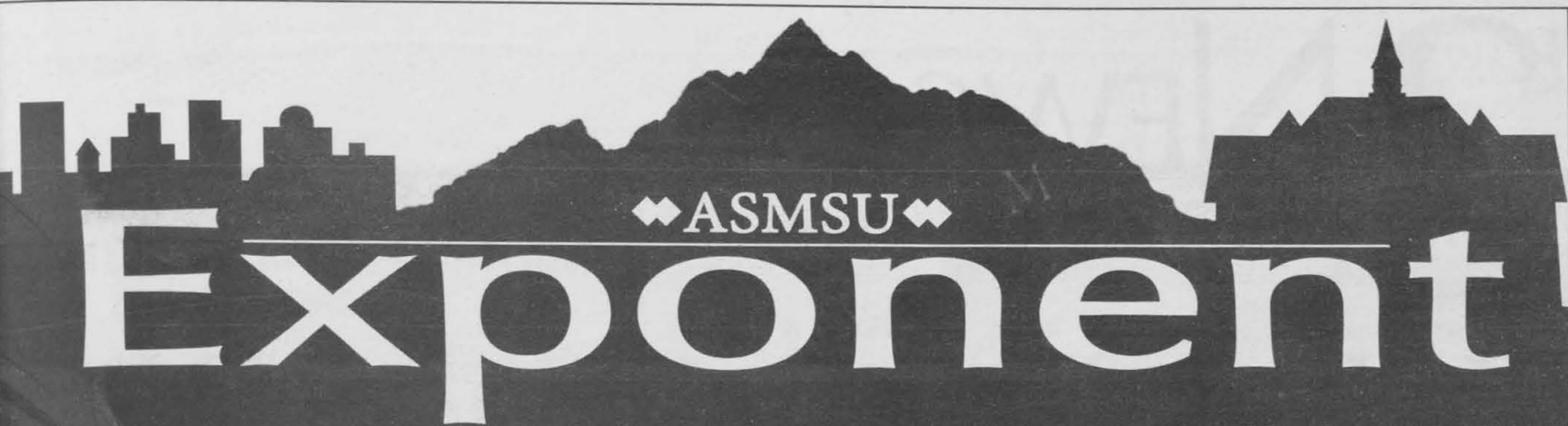




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Exponent

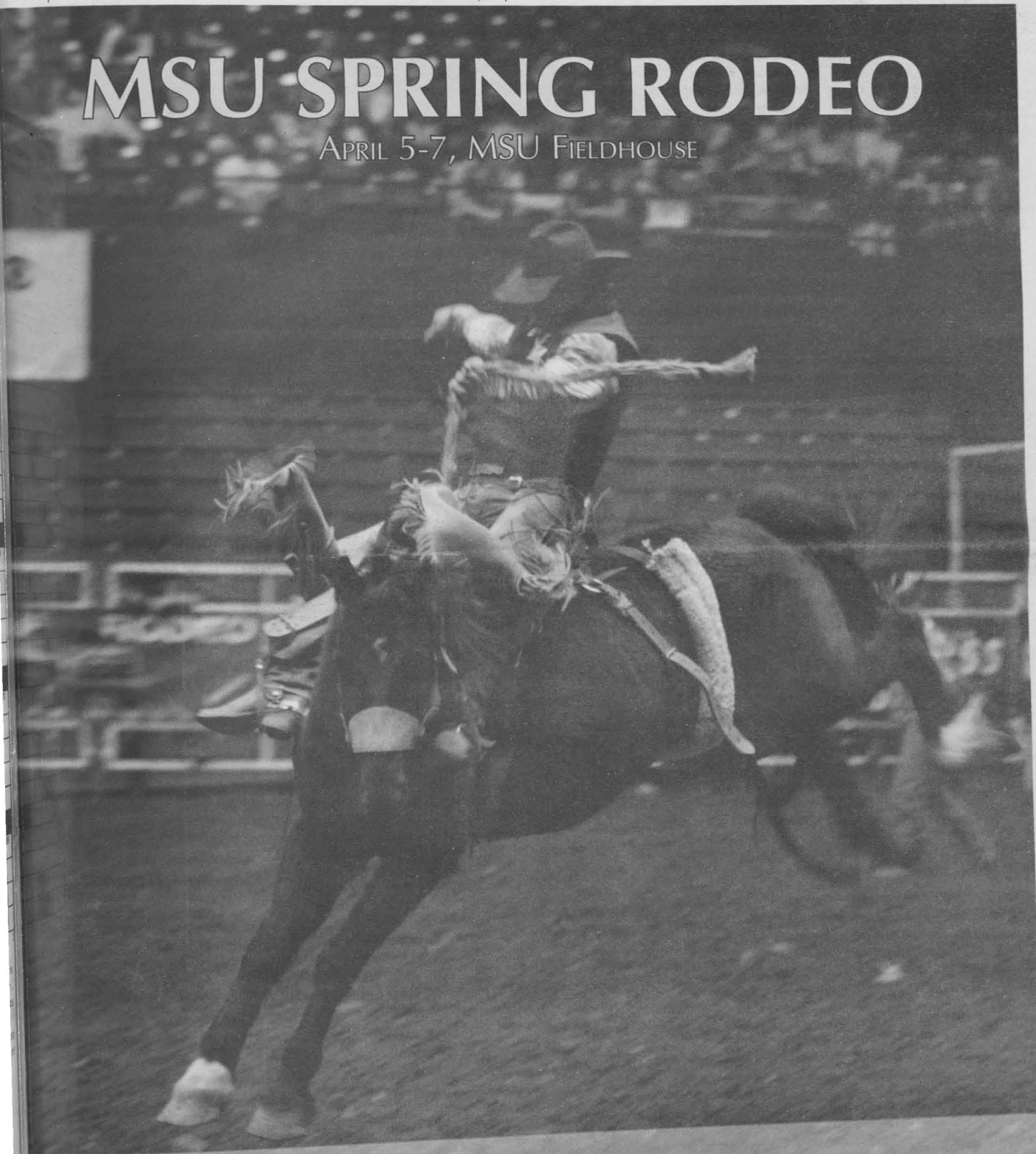
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Thursday, April 5, 2007

Issue 24, Volume 101

MSU SPRING RODEO

APRIL 5-7, MSU FIELDHOUSE



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MSU at Red Bull Snow Warz



NATE BYRNE

EXPONENT WRITER

Last weekend, March 30-31, two teams of skiers and snowboarders from MSU traveled to Washington's Snoqualmie Pass to compete in the Red Bull Snow Warz. Red Bull Snow Warz is a slope-style event, where 28 colleges from across the Northwest competed with the teams from MSU.

One of our teams followed up their first-place finish of last year with a second-place finish this time. Colin Collins, Brandon Grande, Gabe Olsen, Shane Stalins, Kyle Miller, and Vlad Arunbrel made up this team. The other team that participated consisted of Chad Klein, James Binkley, Ryan Krueger, Kevin Sischer, Gabe Kelley, and Freddy Hodges. Only the top three teams were ranked.

"We are all good riders, and we ride together a lot," Grande said of the second-place team. "The slope style was pretty intense this year. Some of the features were up to 70 feet."

He described the event as having a feel-good atmosphere.

"It was fun to hang out with

a bunch of riders from across the nation who like to ride and are good at it," he said.

The idea for Red Bull Snow Warz was originally created by a student Red Bull representative at Western Washington. The competition is scored on both individual and team style.

First, individuals have an hour to get in as many runs as they can. Each rider's best run is scored. Next, the team has a chance to ride the course. The team score is combined with each individual's score to determine the winner.

Red Bull Snow Warz has now become a corporate event and offers teams prizes. First-place winners received an all-expense paid trip to any event they choose. They and the second-place team also received an expense-paid trip to Tahoe to ride in collegiate nationals. The event is not affiliated with or a qualifier for collegiate nationals.

"It's a good event to see kids from different schools and just have some fun," said Bobby Travnsky.

Travnsky was a member of last year's first-place team but could not compete this year due



Colin Collins, in this photo at Snoqualmie Pass, is "jibbing the tollbridge box," in the terms of the sport. He was part of one six-person team (two went) from MSU that competed at the Red Bull Snow Warz last weekend.

to an injury.

"This event is cool, because it is more about the team aspect than the individual," Klein said. "The whole team is dropping at once. When someone is in the air, the next person is taking off."

Though the event is not sponsored by a collegiate organization, teams still go to represent their school.

"Whether it was their riding style or their crazy outfits, everyone did their best to show their Montana flair," Klein said.

Anyone affiliated with a college can put together a team to compete. For more information on this year's Red Bull Snow Warz competition or how to get involved with next year's event, visit Red Bull's website at <http://www.redbullusa.com/>.

President Gamble Speaks of Progress



PATRICK MCCUE

EXPONENT WRITER

There are few universities that can claim a Rhodes Scholar, a professor who digs up dinosaurs, or a motto like "Mountains and Minds" which seems to perfectly capture the atmosphere of the campus, but, as MSU President Geoff Gamble noted, Montana State is not an ordinary university.

Gamble gave his seventh Spring Address in the SUB on Tuesday, April 3. The speech was full of positive information on nearly all fronts.

Gamble noted that the Chemistry Research Building, PE complex, and the Black Box Theater are all on budget and on schedule. The earliest to open will be the Black Box in July, followed by the chemistry building by August, which, according to Gamble, will cause "an explosion of research and creativity" when faculty and students move into it. Gamble also mentioned SUB renovations that will be completed gradually with the final completion set for August 2008.

In addition to the campus's physical landscape, Gamble focused on MSU's human assets. The students, he said, "have a

tremendous commitment to excellence." Gamble noted that the undergraduate research requirement and the Core 2.0 general education requirements make students competitive for national awards because MSU students offer book knowledge as well as first-hand experience. The strength of undergraduate research at MSU "makes a huge difference for the future of not only our institution but for the students," Gamble said.

The possibility of undergraduate research is largely due to the passion and willingness of MSU faculty to be both teachers and educators, he said, even when being is becoming increasingly uncommon in academia. According to Gamble, it is because MSU students are able to work next to some of the best teachers in the nation that they will make significant contributions to the world.

"In fact," Gamble said to the small number of students in the

audience, "you already have."

The subject of MSU faculty required another 'thank you' from Gamble, who admitted that current salaries are not competitive.

"There is real value in students from other states; there is real value in students from other countries; there is real value in students from the different tribes because they teach us as we teach them."

- Geoff Gamble
MSU President

teachers' special needs that arise from the university's unique location in the Gallatin Valley. Gamble noted that the three percent pay raise that was passed by the legislature is vastly different for MSU-Bozeman staff than it is for their Havre counterparts, for example.

Another issue the university faces is recruitment and retention of students. Currently, the issue is "not very bright," Gamble said. "We need to redouble efforts in recruitment and retention."

Montana high school graduates are becoming scarce

despite the population growth in the state, because the influx is coming in the form of older residents.

"We need to persuade a greater number of a decreasing population that college is the right decision for them," Gamble said.

More important, however, is retention of students once they arrive on campus.

"There is real value in students from other states; there is real value in students from other countries; there is real value in students from the different tribes, because they teach us as we teach them," Gamble said.

A key to attracting and keeping Montana students, he noted, is the proposed College Affordability Plan that is still alive two-thirds of the way through the current legislative session. The plan would essentially freeze tuition for students with Montana residence for the next two years, thanks to a \$50 million payment to the university's base fund - an unprecedented action, according to Gamble.

The governor's proposed budget also holds good news for MSU. Included is money set aside to renovate Gaines Hall, one of MSU's most-used buildings.

"Many of the rooms were outdated in the fifties, and there is no way to describe it now," said Gamble.

There is also money for a new animal bioscience building and an Ag research facility.

"If it all sticks," Gamble said, "we will have a lot to celebrate right around commencement."

Gamble concluded his address with a litany of achievements ranging from MSU's 47th Goldwater scholarship, graphic design awards, faculty grants and a Rhodes Scholar, to an individual NCAA championship in pole vaulting.

Citing all of MSU's achievements, Gamble announced a new magazine called "Mountains and Minds," which is aimed at telling the "great stories" that come out of MSU. The flagship issue, which contains stories about MSU Engineers providing potable water in Kenya, popular College of Business professors, and extreme skiing alumni, will be sent to alumni, donors, potential donors, and friends of Montana State.

"Remember," Gamble said at the end of his address, "I just scraped a little bit off the top. There is a lot going on here. I am so proud to be part of the leadership of this institution."

What to do for Sexual Assault Awareness Month APRIL

TAYLOR MOORMAN
EXPERT WRITER

Every two and a half minutes someone in America is sexually assaulted. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), and the VOICE Center, in conjunction with Students Against Sexual Assault (SASA), have planned many events to raise awareness of the realities of sexual violence.

As stated on its website, VOICE "is a program of Student Health Service that provides free and confidential support, advocacy, and referral services to survivors of rape, sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking."

According to a recent VOICE survey, 160 MSU students are sexually assaulted each year.

"Many people believe that MSU is absolutely safe, but, statistically, college campuses have a higher rate of sexual assault," said Christian Sarver, director of the VOICE Center.

Sarver believes that SAAM is an opportunity to educate students and the community about sexual assault.

"We have a two-fold goal. We obviously want to raise awareness of this issue. People often feel that if they are not affected then they don't need to be worried, but sexual assault is occurring right here in Bozeman," Sarver explained. "There is also a prevention aspect by getting the information out there and promoting consciousness of this problem."

Laura Barney, president of MSU's Students Against Sexual Assault, adds, "We want students to think about the reality of sexual assault. It can happen to daughters, sisters, people everywhere."

Several activities are planned for the month of April that will highlight the sexual assault problem. There will be a Sack Lunch Seminar at noon on April 3, which will discuss the relationship between sexual assault and alcohol.

From 5 to 7 p.m. on the evening of April 18, an art show

will be exhibited in the Leigh Lounge. The show is titled, "Reclaiming Our Voices," and it features pieces from artists around the country.

"Oftentimes, we only get an hour to talk to classes about the sexual assault issue. By having the art show, we are hoping that people can experience a deeper emotional response," said Sarver.

On April 19, the MSU Voice Center and SASA will encourage students and the community to participate in a nation-wide event, Take Back the Night March and Rally, which is designed to promote knowledge about sexual assault.

"We are hoping that we can get as many people as possible at the march. The goal is to have more people marching for victims than there are victims. Last year, we had about a hundred marchers, and this year we want at least 160," said Barney.

The march will begin at 6 p.m. at the Courthouse and will continue to the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, where Alison Jennings, a former MSU student, will speak about the aftermath of rape and sexual abuse. Following her will be an open floor for individuals to speak about issues concerning sexual assault.

Finally, students will be conducting a silent protest throughout the month of April by wearing "Stop Rape" shirts and handing out information about these issues.

"We have already surpassed 160 shirts sold, and we hope to sell even more," Barney said. "All of these events and SAAM are designed to help individuals realize that they can do something simply by raising their voices against sexual assault."

The VOICE Center has a 24-hour phone line (994-7069) for victims of sexual assault, rape, domestic violence, and stalking. All services are free and confidential. For more information about VOICE Services, or the MSU Sexual Victimization Survey call or stop by their office at 14 Hamilton Hall.

SUB Renovation Schedule of Events

March 19, 2007 to May 2008

South end began

What's Happening

• South addition will be built to house New Student Services. The southwest lounge will be updated and will hold a permanent SRO Espresso Bar.

What's Changing During Construction

- SUB Ballrooms will stay open for events.
- The Streamline bus stop will be rerouted to the Roberts Hall roundabout.
- The Exit Gallery will be relocated to Leigh Lounge.

April 2, 2007 to September 2007

Food Services Renovated

What's Happening

• Avogadro's will be renovated to take up less space: it will be compacted into a sandwich bar, like a Subway or Quizno's, and will no longer have seating space. This will create a hallway behind Leigh Lounge to the new Procrastinator theater.

• University Food Services and the Union Market area will be renovated and updated. Capacity will be increased by 16 percent with new seating arrangements, the kitchen area will be expanded, creating more space for things like Catering, and the serving area will also be expanded.

What's Changing During Construction

- Avogadro's Number is now closed.
- University Food Services closing on Thursday, April 5.
- To make up for lost seating space, tables will be placed in the Leigh Lounge and the lounge section of the Bobcat Court downstairs.
- Bobcat Court will have extended hours throughout construction: M-F 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat. 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Sun. 1 to 9 p.m.
- After April 5, the Bobcat Court will have a baked goods, beverages, and daily specials area brought to students from the University Food Services.
- The three campus dining halls – Miller, Hannon, and Johnstone – will be offering \$5 all-you-can-eat options per meal on the weekdays.

Mid-2007 to September 2008

East of Leigh Lounge began

What's Happening

• SUB Theater will be gutted and construction will begin on the new Procrastinator Theater, which will have tiered seating and look much like a Wallace theater.

• Northeast Lounge construction will begin. It will look much like the Leigh Lounge, and connect that lounge with the new theater.

~ Questions may be directed to Tom Stump of Auxiliary Services ~
~ downstairs from the Miller Dining Hall, 994-2661 ~





Has An Abortion Silenced You?

You are not alone. Many women have been helped.

www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org

G. V. Right To Life
P.O. Box 634, Belgrade, MT



STUDENT ADVOCATES FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION

FINANCIAL TIP OF THE WEEK

OPT-OUT OF PRE-APPROVED CREDIT CARDS!

Do you want to end unwanted credit card offers?
Would you like to receive less junk mail?

Opt-Out is a secure service that will help reduce the amount of credit card offers you receive in the mail and over the phone.

To register with Opt-Out, simply provide your full name, address, phone number, and social security number to a representative at:

1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688)
or visit <https://www.optoutprescreen.com>

For more information, contact SAFE (406) 994-7223, safe@montana.edu, www.safe.montana.edu.

SAFE is funded by a grant from Student Assistance Foundation to the Dept. of Health and Human Development at MSU-Bozeman

MSU Rodeo

The annual MSU Spring Rodeo will begin on Thursday, April 5, at and conclude on Saturday, April 7. Each evening at 7 p.m. will be rodeo events held in the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse. Tickets for each night are as follows: Reserved: \$15 Adult GA: \$12 Student: \$9 For more information or tickets, contact Bobcat Athletics at 994-CATS.

Columbian Mother to Discuss Human Rights

Yaneth Pérez is the president of the Dawn of Women for Arauca Association which advocates for women's rights and social justice. She will give a presentation, "Women Working for Peace in Colombia," on Tuesday, April 10, at 7 p.m. in SUB 276.

Undergraduate Scholars Conference

Undergraduate students across campus disciplines present their research projects in poster sessions and oral sessions at the Undergraduate Scholars Conference in SUB Ballroom A on Tuesday, April 10. Students, faculty, staff, and the public are welcome, and there is no charge to attend presentations. Posters can be viewed from 1 - 5 p.m. Oral presentations will be in SUB 275 & 276 from 1 - 5 p.m. For more information, visit <http://www.montana.edu/usp/pages/conference.html>.

Sack Lunch on Adoption

The Women's Center will present a sack lunch seminar titled "Adoption Birthmothers: Who Are You?" from 12 - 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11, in SUB 106E. Alaina Lammer Knight, an adoption caseworker for the Lutheran Social Services of Montana, will discuss the myths surrounding the images of women who have placed their children with adoptive parents.

ZERT Seminar

On Wednesday, April 11, from 4:10 - 5 p.m. in 108 EPS the Zero Emission Research & Technology Center with Dr. Curt Oldenburg of Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, will present "Near-surface Dispersion of CO2 Seepage from Geological Storage Sites: Process &



William Neff, originally from New York City, is a professor of Directing and Screenwriting at MSU. He has been teaching for 37 years, of which the last 28 have been spent at MSU. He received his Ph.D. in Communications from the University of Denver in 1977. When he is not teaching the students of MSU how to make movie magic, Neff hosts the "Classical Sunday Brunch" radio program on KGLT. Neff follows his personal motto of "keep 'em flickering" with his illuminating answers in this week's "Have You Ever Wondered..."

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERHERO POWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE, AND WHY?

To be able to read the inner thoughts of students and faculty.

IF YOU COULD HAVE LUNCH WITH ANY THREE PEOPLE, LIVING OR DEAD, REAL OR FICTIONAL, WHO WOULD THEY BE, AND WHY?

I'd go for Aristotle and talk about the change in narrative from a beginning, middle, and end to the interactive fiction of starting wherever and ending wherever. Also Elvis the king and have him sing some blues. Finally, Al Hibbler singing "Unchained Melody."

IF YOU COULD BE ANY CHARACTER FROM ANY MOVIE,

BOOK, OR SONG, WHO WOULD YOU BE, AND WHY?

Charlie Chaplin because I have trouble memorizing lines, and he's so funny and sad at the same time.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANY SONG FOR A DAY, WHAT WOULD IT BE, AND WHY?

"On the Sunny Side of the Street" - it was a favorite of mine when I was growing up in New York City.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE LED ZEPPELIN SONG?

"Fill me up with gas until I explode, momma."

IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY DREAM JOB (PRESENT JOB EXCLUDED) FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME, WHAT WOULD IT BE, AND WHY?

A drummer in a country western swing band because I love to swing and play the drums.

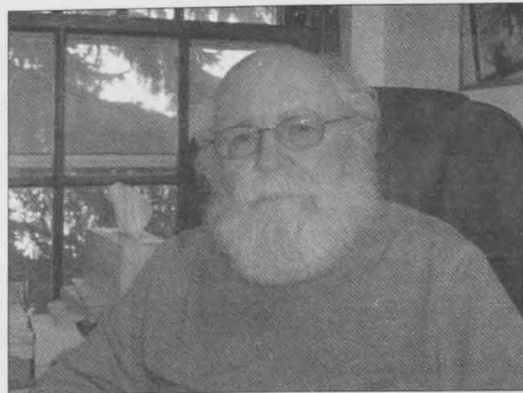
WHO WOULD WIN IN A FIGHT BETWEEN YODA AND SUPERMAN?

Yoda, because he's so smart and tricky.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

A cat.

IF THERE WAS A ZOMBIE ATTACK, AND YOU HAD TO SAVE ONE PERSON OF THE OPPOSITE SEX,

**Featuring: Dr. Neff**

WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY (CONSIDER THAT IT COULD BE THE LAST PERSON YOU ARE ALIVE WITH, SHE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE SOME SKILLS)?

My wife, because I'd be lost without her.

HAVE YOU EVER MET SOMEONE FAMOUS?

The singer Bobby Short was a friend I used to see quite often in New York City.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HOT DOGS?

I love 'em with mustard and sauerkraut.

WHAT WAS THE LAST THING TO MAKE YOU LAUGH?

My dog trying to con me into feeding him two hours earlier.

DO YOU WISH ON SHOOTING STARS?

No, but I'd like to ride one.

IF YOU COULD CREATE AND TEACH ANY CLASS, WHAT WOULD IT BE, AND WHY?

I'd love to teach a course in creativity with plenty of food and drinks and music to get the juices running.

IF YOU COULD BE AN ANIMAL, WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL WOULD YOU BE, AND WHY?

I'd love to be a Dandi Dimont Terrier to see what my dog

MacDuff is going through.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TIME OF YEAR?

Spring. Flowers blooming and grass coming in green.

WHAT IS IN YOUR CD PLAYER RIGHT NOW?

"The Last Waltz" The Band

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE MOVIE?

"Apocalypse Now"

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK?

Right now it's Norman Mailer's "The Executioner's Song."

DO YOU HAVE A DOPPELGÄNGER, AND IF SO, HAVE YOU EVER ENCOUNTERED HIM?

I keep missing it whizzing by me.

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST JOB?

Delivering newspapers.

WHAT IS YOUR BEST HALLOWEEN COSTUME TO DATE?

A pirate, matey.

DARK CHOCOLATE OR MILK CHOCOLATE?

DARK!

WHEN I'M NERVOUS:

I rub my hands together.

I HAVE A HARD TIME UNDERSTANDING:

My dog.

THE WORLD COULD DO WITHOUT:

War.

IF YOU COULD TOUR EUROPE WITH A PROFESSOR FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT, WHO WOULD IT BE, AND WHY?

Paul Monaco, because he knows many languages.

IF YOU COULD LIVE A DAY WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES (THINK GROUNDHOG'S DAY) WHAT WOULD YOU DO, AND WHY?

I'd eat a lot of fried chicken (dark meat), dark chocolate, and watermelon.



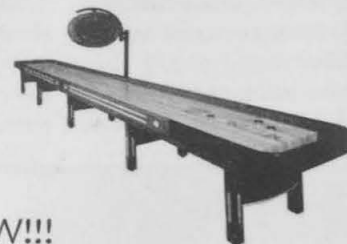
Strand Union Rec Center

Shuffleboard Tournament

Double Elimination—Doubles Bracket

Wednesday April 18th @ 7:00pm

\$10.00 per team***Cash Prizes***Sign-up NOW!!!



GET 15MIN FREE WHEN YOU PLAY ONE FULL HOUR!



Offer not valid with any other specials. Must have coupon to receive discount. Expires: 4/30/07

Refresh your skills for the tourney, or just come in for the **great deal** on a

classic



game!

15%

OFF

Offer not valid with any other specials. Must have coupon to receive discount. Expires: 4/30/07

Join the Team!!!

ASMSU is now hiring committee heads and a office business manager!

If interested in these PAID positions, stop in the ASMSU office at 281 SUB and pick up an application. We also have open senate seats for appointment in the Greek and Family/Grad divisions.

ASMSU Spotlight:

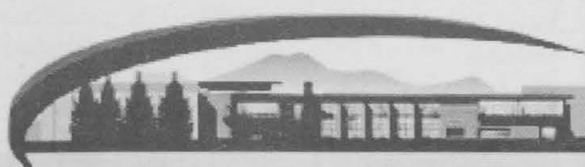
Name: Chelsea McKenna
ASMSU Position: Public Relations Chair
Year in school: Sophomore
Major: Graphic Design
Years involved in ASMSU: This is my first!!



One thing you would like to accomplish while in your position:
 A greater recognition of the activities that ASMSU is involved in, and more of a desire among the students to run for or apply for ASMSU positions!

Favorite quote or philosophy:
 Old enough to know better, but still too young to care.

Activities OUTSIDE of school:
 Alpha Lambda Delta, movies, dancing, and getting around horses whenever possible.



ASMSU Recreational Sports and Fitness

Sport	Registration Dates	Mandatory Meeting	Event Begins
Tennis Doubles	April 2-5	--	April 9
Track Meet	April 11-6	--	April 18

Register at 104 Romney Gym, 8:00 am-5:00 pm, Monday-Friday
 *Requires a \$25.00 Forfeit Fee Upon Registration

Recreational Sports & Fitness Workshops

Blast That Butt: Learn exercises you can do at home.

>Tuesday, April 10 @ 12:10 pm. Meet at Fitness Center Weight Room

Get Toned for Summer: Ladies Weight Room Orientation

>Thursday, April 12 @ 12:10 pm

Meet at Fitness Center Weight Room

Medicine Ball Workshop: Learn about medicine ball exercises that will add variety to your workout to avoid boredom with your regular routine.

>Tuesday, April 17, 5:10-6:00 pm OR

>Thursday, April 19, 5:10-6:00 pm -

Meet at Fitness Center Weight Room

****Sign-up for these workshops in the Recreational Sports & Fitness Office; 104 Romney Gym.**

ATTENTION: Bench Press Contest for GUYS and GALS:

Monday, April 16, - 1:00-3:00 pm OR 4:00-6:00 pm

Join us, for this exciting and competitive event. Rules will be handed out at time of sign-up and posted in Weight Room. For more information, call Eddie at 994-6309.

FREE Fitness Consultations:

Don't wait; get in shape NOW for summer! All Students taking 7 plus credits get THREE FREE Fitness Consultations per semester. You can sign up in 104 Romney Gym or call 994-5000 for an appointment.

OPEN RECREATIONAL BADMINTON

Fridays 6 - 8 pm

Games played in North and South gyms

Recreational Sports & Fitness Advisory Board meets on Wednesday, April 11 @ 5:00 pm in the ASMSU Office located in Strand Union.

Log on to www.montana.edu/getfit for more Recreational Sports & Fitness Information.

Now Showing at
The Procrastinator Theatre
 catch all the action in 125 Linfield Hall
 for more information call
 994-5827



Deja Vu

Thursday April 5 @ 9 pm
 Friday April 6 @ 7 pm



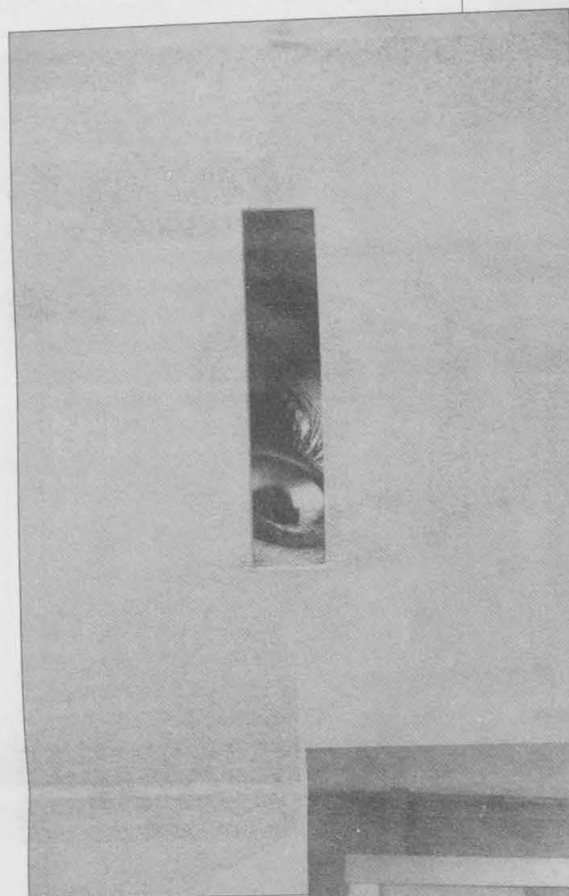
FUR

Thursday April 5 @ 7 pm
 Friday April 6 @ 9:10 pm

6 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

THURSDAY - April, 5 2007
ASMSU Exponent

IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER



"Catharsis #1," by Brittany Nelson.



"Display Mask II," by Rebecca Schaff.

Photos by Rachel Hergett



A viewer takes in one of Michael Peed's paintings at his opening Wednesday night.



RACHEL HERGETT

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

More than just mayhem and madness, the third annual Upheaval showcased the incredible talents of 35 MSU artists working in different media. "Everyone who comes here loves it," organizer Trish Little, from the office of student activities said. "Even if they don't buy anything, they love it."

Two photographers, Mark Paulson and Camden Hardy had yet to sell their work at the start of the reception Wednesday evening, but were mainly looking to make gallery contacts, one of the perks of having work in the show. "It's always good to get in as many shows as you can," Paulson said.

Upheaval is put together through the efforts of Student Activities, the Upheaval Student Organization, and Art and Exhibits. These groups receive 15 percent of the proceeds to cover operating costs. The rest of the money goes directly to the artists. My 103.5, Architecture Designworks and the Rug Gallery also contributed to the event.

The Student Activities Office designed Upheaval as a replacement for the Yuletide Craft Market, but the vision was to create an exhibition and sale of fine art, rather than crafts. It is meant to help the School of Art to showcase student art to a larger audience. "The school of art does what they can with their resources, but they have some 500 students they have to serve," Little said.



SHAYNA GIBSON

A & E EDITOR

Michael Peed, a professor at MSU for 36 years, is exhibiting work in the Leigh Lounge that he started in November 2005. After traveling and taking part in an artist residency in Spain, Peed found himself with inspiration to open American eyes to the world's pain. His images depict happy couples, oblivious to scenes of horror right outside their windows. This couple is pictured nude and vulnerable, but unaware assuming safety in the comfort of their own homes.

One painting, "Baghdad car bombing," is extremely serene at first glance. A couple shares a book, while outside a man carries a child in his arms. It is only after closer inspection that the viewer realizes that the child's foot is disturbingly severed. It is this reaction that mirrors the stereotypical American reaction to world issues: we know something is wrong but we don't necessarily want to see it.

"We all feel so helpless with what is going on in the world that even thinking about it a little bit starts to help," said Peed.

Shock value is inherent in Peed's work, but he did not expect the nudity of his figures to cause complaints. Notices are now posted around the exhibit warning those passing by to what some consider "offensive content." Not only has Peed struck a political cord with his work, but he has also reignited the debate between artistry and lewd substance.

"I can't think it's very shocking," said Peed. "They're not very graphic - nothing is really going on. It's kind of funny, we have art history classes with pictures of people with their clothes off and that seems to be alright."

expoFILE

What's the difference between art and pornography?



"Porn is a crude display of sexuality and art is an exploration of the human nude."
-Ashley Nettles, Soph.



"Porn makes money faster."
-Abbey Ahlgren, Sr.



"Clothes."
-Karen B. Walsh, Sr.

Photos and Research by Karen Walsh and Cheryl Knoble

in·spired

an extension of...

READ THIS

Montana State University's
Literary and Arts Publication



River

She played in the mud.
Old soul recapturing youth,
Understanding joy.
-Rachel Hergett

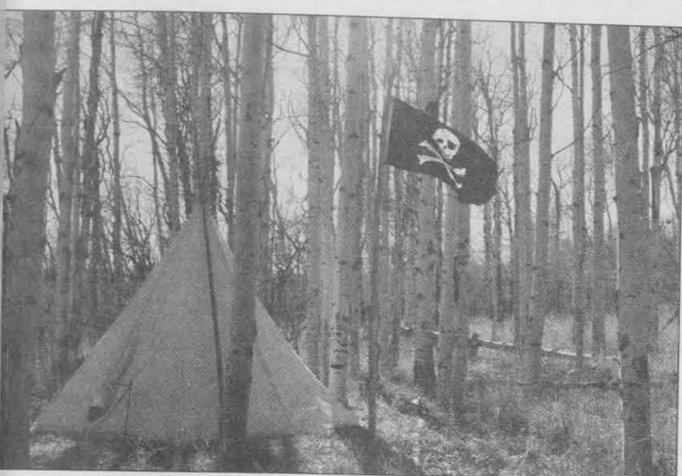


Photo by Zach Youngblood

Sympathy

Don't give me soft words,
I am the hard one.

Special.
Wrapped in my mud-wet
bandages of stalemate lust.

Click.
Click.
Click.
Slaked by the sweat of
heroics.
Long dead heroics.

Wait.
Wait.
Wait.
W(h)e-a-r(e) do I buy some
outerspace suspenders?
My pants keep falling
down.
-SNG

He is in her Dreams

She lives in a world of jade
and golden sun rays,
watching the trees,
knowing that
here she is
safe.

Outside
turmoil, tears.
Not that it's any
concern but someday
she will realize it, that
things like that, things so
destructive and so vicious
can not be held inside forever.
-Scott Obernesser

To Compose

How contrived
To write on cue
To write by deadline
To force words for the sake
of promptness
Yet in the end
Would they come if not
forced?
Would they simply just
appear
Writing is practiced
And practice is forced
And what is often practiced
becomes natural
So coerce your rhymes
Compel them forth
And drive them when they
dither
Remember who is the author
And demand mastery over
your words
-Becky Schaff

Staccato

Leaves painted into cement reds yellows glazed gray by the moon slipping under the soles of our feet the snow falling down to greet two friends we walk hand clutching mittens, mittens clutching hand down the neighborhood if forgotten places so different with the whiteness kissing the surfaces the park is a kingdom in of itself trees bow down with bright crystal cloaks saying hello to those brave enough to venture into the unrecognizable branches lay strewn upon the ground too weary to keep fighting mother nature, having given up, their last breaths of beauty lingering long enough for the pair to embrace them just long enough to be appreciated for one last time.

-Ashley Griffiths

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BBC's "Little Britain" is Largely Entertaining



STEF HANDE

EXPOENENT WRITER

I was introduced to a little gem from England called Little Britain by my friend, Keith. Only a few friends and I have watched it and we find ourselves behaving like and quoting many of the wacky characters from this show; most people have no clue what the hell we're talking about. So, while I was deciding what I wanted to review this week, my Little Britain friends suggested I write about this show.

Think Kids In The Hall multiplied by ten. If you're open minded and have a dirty mind, you will most likely find yourself guffawing at 95% of these sketches. Yes, guffawing. Not just laughing, but guffawing.

The title, a blend of Little England and Great Britain, is written by and stars comedians Matt Lucas and David Williams (who I

have fallen madly in love with this week.) There are three seasons are now available on DVD, and are available to rent. Each season consists of six to eight half-hour episodes, and a special features disc containing hilarious deleted scenes, unaired characters, and interviews.

Had a show such as Little Britain had been created in the U.S., we would most likely view it uncensored on HBO or Showtime, or maybe at two A.M. on Comedy Central. I think part of the appeal of this show is that it is aired on BBC Three in the U.K., uncensored and unabashed on network television.

Each episode is introduced by Tom Baker, better known as 'Dr. Who' from 1974 through 1981. You'll crack up as Baker's proper British accent says some of the most off the wall and random skit introductions, such as "Transvestism in Britain is as popular today as it has



Photo courtesy of bbc.co.uk

always been. I myself am currently wearing a lovely dress that used to belong to my father."

Characters include a Harvey Pinch, a 35 year old man who still suckles on his mother's teat; the flamboyant Daffyd Thomas, "the only gay in the village," (who's skits you're privileged to hearing little old ladies say things like "does this butt plug come with batteries?," "eating minge" and a few other un-printables; Sebastian who has an obsessive crush on the Prime Minister (who is played by Anthony Stewart Head for those Buffy fans out there); and Vicky Pollard, a chubby, slutty teenager who has an attitude with everyone. Also, a Little Britain episode is not complete without naïve and loving Lou, and wheelchair bound Andy, who are both featured on the covers of seasons one and two, and on the back cover of season three.

These are some of the most

popular characters that are featured throughout all three seasons. Each season also includes a barrage of their own characters. In season one, for example, there's Jason and Gary - Jason has a creepy love-obsession with Gary's quite elderly grandmother. (In season two's special feature's disc, there is a scene with Jason and Grandma that will scar you for life. Really.)

Another fun reason to watch Little Britain, is learning British slang and gestures so you can spew them out next time someone ticks you off... there's nothing more satisfying then when that person who got you mad in the first place doesn't know a word you just said to them.

Despite it's many nominations and even more wins, including an Emmy, Little Britain still receives negative criticism. Mostly, the offended claim, the show pokes fun at minorities and poorer citi-

zens, when, in reality, every group of people is made fun of. Like Dave Chappelle or Carlos Mencia Lucas and Williams leave no class of people unturned. Critic Jonathan Hare, a columnist for British news paper, The Independent, once wrote, "[Little Britain's] targets are almost invariably the easiest cheapest groups to mock: the poor, elderly, gay or fat." As a poor college student, I found some of the "poor people" jokes very hilarious. My gay friends love the gay jokes (Matt Lucas himself is openly gay.) Lucas, who is also "the fat one," also makes more fat jokes than anyone else on the show. He states in an interview on one of the special features discs, "Let's face it fat jokes are funny."

So if you are looking for a few hours of offensive, naughty jokes told mostly by men in drag, then Little Britain is what you want. This show receives an A+.

10 Things You Find Yourself Quoting After Watching Little Britain

- 1.) "No, but yeah, but no, yeah..."
- 2.) "Eh-eh-ehhh!"
- 3.) "What a right kerfuffle!"
- 4.) "I'm winking dahling!"
- 5.) "Dust... Anybody?... No? Dust... Anybody?... No? Dust... Anybody?... No?"
- 6.) Anything Tom Baker might say between segments.
- 7.) "Bitty... I want bitty."
- 8.) "Make it quick, I have an enema in an hour."
- 9.) "Computer says no."
- 10.) "I want THAT!"

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THURSDAY - April 5, 2007
ASMSU Exponent

MSU women's tennis in full swing 'Cats host two conference opponents this weekend

KYLE STACK
SPORTS EDITOR

Whenever April rolls around in Bozeman, the Montana State sports world seems to slow down. Basketball and skiing are over, football spring practice is impending, and that leaves time for two of spring's most noteworthy sports: tennis and golf. While the latter sport doesn't enjoy the benefit of playing home matches in Montana, the former does.

After playing on the road for over 2 1/2 months, the MSU women's tennis team will finally begin its home schedule this Friday and Saturday against Northern Arizona, Weber State, and MSU-Billings.

The Bobcats are currently 10-0 overall, but 2-1 in the Big Sky, having defeated Eastern Washington and Northern Colorado in March.

MSU is currently in third place in the Big Sky, behind Sacramento State (whom they beat in February) and NAU.

However, the team is excited to finally play some

matches at home.

"Our team is playing really well right now," junior Remy Clark said. "We have recently had a few good wins over some conference teams which has been great. We had a lot of tough matches at the beginning of the season, which have really prepared us to come in strong and compete for our upcoming conference matches."

The NAU match will be especially important since the Lumberjacks are one rung higher than the 'Cats on the Big Sky ladder.

"NAU is a very good team and we will need to bring our best game to the match on Friday," said MSU head coach Denise Albrecht. "The doubles point will be a key point in the match. Everyone on the team is going to have to have a great day on Friday."

The women played great tennis last weekend as they swept two Colorado opponents.

The first win was against the newest Big Sky team, Northern Colorado. MSU defeated UNC 4-



Photo courtesy of msubobcats.com

Nuria Hernandez, the No. 2 single on the Montana State women's tennis team, will help lead the Bobcats this weekend as they host Northern Arizona, Weber State, and MSU-Billings this Friday and Saturday.

3, although UNC captured three of the top four singles wins. No. 3 junior Katy Proietti won her singles match, 6-4, 6-3.

However, MSU swept the three doubles matches.

The Bobcats easily swept Colorado Christian, 7-0, to give themselves excellent momentum heading into this weekend.

MSU won all six singles

matches at 6-0, 6-0, a fairly rare feat in competitive tennis.

The 'Cats swept the first two doubles matches at 8-0 before winning the third doubles match at 8-1.

MSU plays NAU in the MSU tennis center at 2 p.m.

On Saturday, the pull a doubleheader at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., versus Weber and Billings.

MSU football is back!

KYLE STACK
SPORTS EDITOR

"We'll have to wait a little longer for Spring Practice to begin. According to www.msubobcats.com, Mike Kramer said the team will 'evaluate the situation each day.' Where are those degree spring days?

It is funny how worked up we get during Spring Practice. There is such a sense of optimism that any player on the depth chart looks to have a 'letter' written all over him.

I realize the interest in playing football here is actually minuscule compared to other sports, especially the Deep South, but the interest in it still intrigues me.

Don't people realize there is a reason few people pay attention to Spring Training or NFL training camp statistics?

What we see from a player in April does not mean we will see that same player in September. There is too much time between the spring and fall to accurately gauge the impact of any particular player.

The pessimist in me doesn't understand how fans can get so worked up over a team five months away from its first game.

The sports fan in me understands that spring ball is simply a way for fans to bridge the gap until the regular season begins.

I suppose that for the next few weeks, I will let the sports fan come out.



Photo by Kyle Stack

Only Bozeman could get a little of this San Diego weather, the MSU football team could start Spring Practice as planned.

Kids are staying in school

KYLE STACK
SPORTS EDITOR

Kevin Durant is reportedly thinking of staying in college. So is Greg Oden. Jo Noah, Al Horford, and Corey Brewer did stay in college and they were rewarded with another National Championship. Arron Afflalo came back for a championship, came up short, and is now weighing the advantage of coming back for his senior year.

It wasn't long ago that college basketball players were leaving college as soon as possible to cash in on NBA millions. Sure, there had always been exceptions - Grant Hill, Tim Duncan, Emeka Okafor, but the trend in the 2000s was clearly going towards star players spending one or two years in college, or not going at all.

The NBA's decision to impose a restriction on when players can enter the draft (they have to be one year removed from high school graduation), forced even the best high school players in the nation to attend college. Part of the idea was that once a player attended college, he might like it enough to stay another year, and perhaps another year after that.

That is not the main reason for the new trend of college players going back to school. The foreign influence is the

real reason college players are staying in school. NBA teams' infatuations with the sound fundamentals, great shooting, and team-first focus of international players has sparked an unprecedented turn in the NBA Draft.

Over the last three drafts, an average of six foreign players, out of 30 selections, have been chosen in the first round. An average of 10 foreign players have been chosen in the second round. What this means to college players is that they are no longer sure-fire picks in the draft.

Productive four-year college players like Dee Brown and Hassan Adams were left to the bottom half of last year's second round. Instead, teams salivated at the potential of no-names like Kosta Perovic and Lior Eliyahu.

This new drafting strategy doesn't affect the star players so much as it does the workman-like guys. Brown is a player who would have gone in the last third of the first round in the late-90s. There are many more players like him who need an extra year or two to build draft stock.

Since the foreign influence is here to stay, we will continue to see more mid-level players become stars in college.

In fact, the influence overseas has become so great, maybe even Durant will return for another chance to drop 30 per game and win a title.



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Mar. 30-31
MSU 12 West. Wash. 11
MSU 11 Montana 10



SCHEDULE

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Apr. 5-7
Brick Breeden Fieldhouse
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Track and Field

Apr. 5
Weber St. Invite
Ogden, Utah

Men's Tennis

Apr. 6
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Apr. 7
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Women's Tennis

Apr. 6
vs. *No. Arizona 2 p.m.
Apr. 7
vs. *Weber St. 10 a.m.
Apr. 7
vs. MSU-Billings 2 p.m.

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The Masters – Is it the best of the four majors or not?

No, there isn't a best

Yes, its history separates it from the rest



Photo illustration by Kevin Ludwig



EXONENT WRITER

KIM KRIEGER



golf season.

To others, it is the start of one of the four most important events in golf. Many people think that The Masters is the Super Bowl of the golf world; however that might be giving the tournament more credit than it deserves.

Sure, everyone wants to be the Masters champion. And many people would say that because it is the first major tournament of the season, it is the most important. It is the toughest tournament to get into since players can only be invited or given an exemption.

But everyone also wants to be called the U.S. Open, British Open, and PGA champion. Golf is unlike any other sport, in that there are four weeks to mark on the calendar every year. The four major championships are hailed as the "most important" tournaments in the sport, so singling out just one tournament would defeat the purpose of all four as a whole. That what makes the sport unique.

For Americans, the U.S. Open might be more of a prestigious tournament to win because every golfer in the world, with a two or less

handicap, can attempt to qualify. That being said, the U.S. Open is also played on arguably the hardest course each tour season in the U.S. (the tourney is rotated to a different course each season).

Speaking of the British Open, what tournament would be better to win than the place where golf started? Getting a win at the infamous St. Andrews is a feat that every serious golfer, young and old, wants. And, like the U.S. Open, the British Open is comprised of the best golfers in the world. Conquering the famous weather elements that the British air brings is an opportunity to show a different aspect of players' games. Winning the British Open is a challenge to which no other major can compare.

The PGA Championship is the actual association's tournament to host. Winning this tournament catapults the champion to the top of Professional Golfers Association list, and being dubbed the best in the association is quite a feat.

Every major can stand alone as an important tournament, and that is part of the fun of watching the game. The Masters is ONE of the greatest weekends in golf, but not THE greatest, as there are four.

Take it all in fans, for unlike basketball and football, we get to enjoy more than one championship event throughout the year.



SCOTT OBERNESSER

EXONENT WRITER



the clubs keep getting better, and the drives keep getting longer.

Since 1934, one thing has always remained constant: The Masters has been the most memorable, enjoyable, historical, and meaningful tournament in golf. This weekend marks the 71st annual Masters Tournament, held at Augusta National in Augusta, Ga.

The Masters marks the unofficial beginning of the golf season and draws the largest concentration of high profile players. The purse, \$5.5 million, is easily one of the biggest in golf. Still, money and players are not the main determining factors in assessing a tournament's greatness.

The Masters is the greatest tournament in golf because it means the most to the players and has the most historical and meaningful contribution to the game.

Augusta National, the country club and golf course is possibly more famous than the tournament itself. In 1933, Bobby Jones and Alister Mackenzie opened the private course and, in 1934, commenced with the first Augusta National Invitation, a name which would

Golf is a terribly fickle game. Weather, players, and terrain change constantly, the purse keeps getting bigger,

vision and designed by Mackenzie.

Augusta is often called "Jones' masterpiece," his greatest contribution to the game. Players want to win this tournament, not only to show their allegiance to the game of golf and be referred to as a champion of its greatest tournament, but also to pay respect to Jones.

Jones' highest finish in the tournament was only 13th, though. Horton Smith won the first tournament in 1934. In the following years, golf's greatest players, such as Ben Hogan, Sam Snead, and Gary Player, would become winners. Arnold Palmer won the tournament four times.

Tiger Woods, at age 21, became the youngest winner in 1997, winning by a record 12 strokes, and has won three times since. Jack Nicklaus established his dominance at Augusta by winning a total of six times, the most of any golfer, including his memorable

win in 1986 as a 46-year-old.

The tournament has some of the greatest moments ever, like Greg Norman's historical loss, specifically his loss in 1993 where he went into the final round up six strokes and ended up losing to Nick Faldo by five strokes. Tiger Wood's famous chip at the par-three 16 for birdie and the

The Masters is the greatest tournament in golf because it means the most to the players and has the most historical and meaningful contribution to the game.

a major. The traditions unmatched.

Every golfer knows of the Green Jacket, the coat awarded to every winner as both a symbol of their victory and an honor membership to the club.

Amen Corner, holes 11, 12, and 13, are arguably the most famous holes in golf and were dubbed Amen Corner after Arnold Palmer masterfully navigated them for his first Masters Victory.

Don't be fooled: The Masters is the best golf tournament in the world. Other majors have history and other tournaments offer unique entertainment but no other tournament compares with the tournament at Augusta. When the Masters is televised this weekend, remember: This is golf at its greatest.

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Random and quick sports thoughts...While making my comeback from America's Finest City

SPORTS EDITOR

KYLE STACK



Quote of the week: (An anonymous member of the Marketing Club summing up the club's trip to San Diego) – "Whatever stays in San Diego, happens..."

The Marketing Club trip had some terrific sports-related moments, like looking down across the street into Petco Park from the rooftop of the Altitude, which sits atop the downtown Marriott. It was pretty much the coolest view I've ever seen of a ballpark...

We did have business meetings on the trip, including stops at Taylor Made's headquarters and the San Diego Chargers' practice facility. The Chargers' facility left a lot to be desired. I was expecting their locker room to be a huge, modern room with leather chairs and 40-inch flat-screen HDTV's everywhere. Instead, there were three plush leather chairs surrounded by a no-frills locker room. It's not that no-frills is bad; I was just expecting more from a NFL locker room.

Each locker had a standard wooden stool and there was a 30-inch flatscreen TV in the middle of the room, with a 15-inch box TV's scattered throughout the lockers. I feel like I should know these things...

I am happy to report that Lawrence Merriman's locker was sterile – from what I could tell...

Taylor Made was just crazy. There were two huge buildings on the site with the driving range and a club-fitting center across the street. Did you know that Taylor Made assembles up to 30,000 clubs per day in its factory? Yeah, neither did I...

The best story from Taylor Made was of John Daly. He sits in his bus in the parking lot behind the two main buildings for six weeks every winter to practice at the facility. Daly was testing a new ball one day at the driving range when he hit the ball so far it carried through the range and hit a moving truck on a 45 mph road that runs behind the range. The ball carried 340 yards...

I was more bummed out over the UCLA loss than going from the beach to the snow in the day, so I didn't watch the Florida-Ohio State title game. Besides, I have a rule that I will watch only one Florida-Ohio State championship game per year...

The Raiders would be C-R-A-Z-Y to draft Calvin Johnson with the first overall pick in the draft later this month. Of course, according to Tanner G's philosophy on his favorite NFL team, the Raiders are crazy enough to make the choice that makes the least sense. Even if Johnson turns out to be the stud everyone thinks he will be, who is going to throw the ball to him? Randy Moss and Jerry Porter can be very productive receivers if the Raiders acquire a competent passing back. Que JaMarcus or Brady...

I am officially a fan of bocce ball...

I only saw Petco Park from a rooftop across the street, but it looks like one of the Top Ten ball-

parks in Major League Baseball, up there with Wrigley, Fenway, Dodger Stadium, and the ballparks in Baltimore, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and Seattle...

It's easy to bet that Tiger will win The Masters. My darkhorse is Charles Howell III. He grew up in Augusta, Ga. and he has made it known that his life-long dream was to win The Masters. And he has three Top Two and two other Top Ten finishes in seven events this season. Watch out for him...

Could the NBA be more irrelevant right now? The season really needs to be shortened by at least ten games...

Is there some player who is close to breaking a home run record? I haven't noticed...

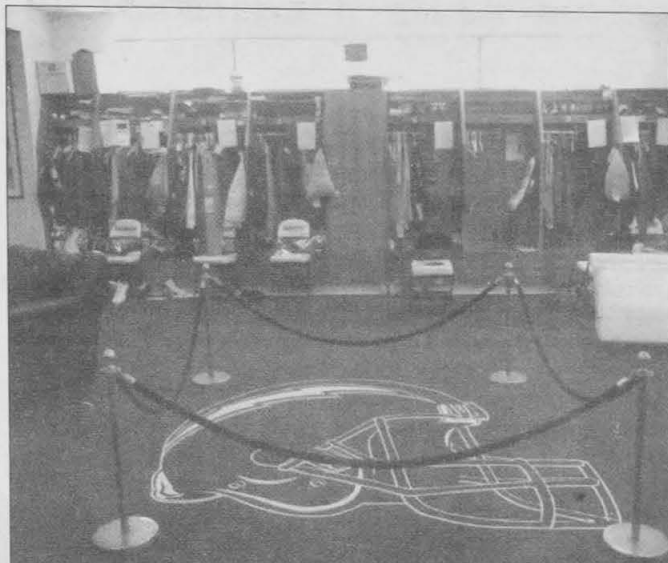
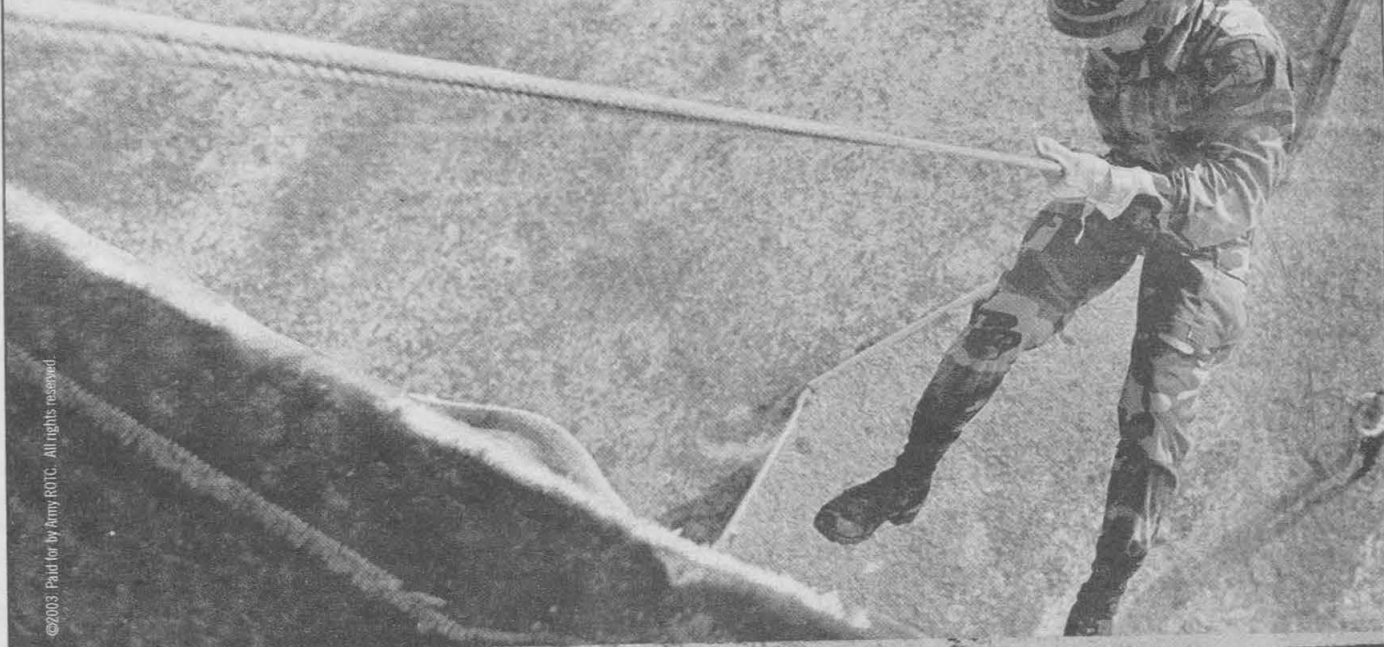


Photo by Kyle Stack

The Chargers locker room was not as extravagant as I had expected, but I found the nightclub rope to be a nice way of preventing people from walking on the Chargers' logo – NOT!

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Numbers of War



JUSTIN VAUGHN
EXPONENT WRITER

Thirty-two hundred dead American soldiers in four years of an expensive war. That was, of course, the message we all saw from the Bobcats 4 Progress demonstration a few weeks ago. My distaste for text message grammar notwithstanding, I thought it was a good example of the way a peaceful demonstration should be. It got people thinking, left the door open for good discussion, and was respectful to everyone. I also commend those who reorganized the flags that Friday in a similarly courteous display.

That said, I would like to try and put into perspective the cited statistics. Thirty-two hundred is a lot of people. It is over a quarter of the student population of MSU. But in the perspective of a war, it is a very small number indeed. In the single year of America's involvement in World War I we lost 116,708 troops. In our four years fighting in World War II, 407,300. Three years in Korea resulted in 36,516 American deaths. In ten years in Vietnam: 58,209. Thus, deaths per year were, respectively, 116,708, 101,825, 12,172, and 5,821. So when you just look at numbers, this war's 800 per year is quite astounding. We can even go back to the Battle of Gettysburg, the bloodiest battle in American history, where over 3,100 Union and 4,700 Confederate troops died over the course of three days. In terms of warfighting, we have progressed a long way.

I know in quoting mere numbers I am objectifying the unfortunate deaths of some of this country's finest men and women, but I still feel it is an important thing to consider. Each one of those orange flags can also represent over 113 deaths in WWII. And that is only American casualties. The Soviet Union lost more people than the rest of the Allies combined. One flag equals the death of 2972 Soviet military members in that war.

Naturally, this discussion leads us to the civilian deaths as well. The Bobcats 4 Progress tell us that over 600,000 Iraqis have lost their lives in the past four years. The exact num-

ber will never be known even though numerous studies have been undertaken to date. The results range from 59,000 to 655,000. That's a wide range, and chances are, the truth lies somewhere in between. The Iraq Body Count Project quoted the lowest number (59,720 as of March 25 2007) and admits the total is likely underestimated because many civilian deaths go unreported to the media. Iraq's Health Minister gave a 100,000 to 150,000 estimate in November 2006 based on numbers reported in hospitals and morgues. The Lancet reported the highest figure (655,000) based on surveys and various sampling methods. The Lancet number is much higher than other estimates, and thus is quite disputed. Again, to compare this to previous wars, an estimated 10 million civilians died in World War I and 41.5 million in World War II worldwide (Wikipedia has a good breakdown by country, so I won't go into further detail). I was unable to find any Korean War estimate other than over 1 million. In Vietnam, the estimate ranges from 900,000 to 4 million. So the Iraqi civilian toll is still likely to be less than any of these wars.

Now the kicker: I hate to disappoint all the Bush haters out there, but the vast majority of those Iraqi civilian deaths were not perpetrated by the U.S. Most violent deaths occur in insurgent attacks. Suicide bombs and other improvised

explosive devices regularly target civilians. One aspect of the Middle Eastern culture that we in the States do not have a good understanding of is the conflict between Sunni and Shia Muslims. Large tribes from each sect hate each other as much as they hate the U.S. They find it just as acceptable to kill civilians of the other sect as they do foreign combatants.

The United States, on the other hand, follows the rules of war outlined in the Geneva Conventions and the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC). These say that unarmed civilians are considered non-combatants and cannot be intentionally harmed. Collateral damage does happen, but firing intentionally on an unarmed civilian constitutes a war crime (and punishments are harsher under U.S. military law than civilian law). Believe it or not, the military does enforce these rules within its ranks. It is not the Vietnam-era military anymore. By and large, military commanders hold themselves and their people to a higher standard than the civilian community. Remember, too, that our military wishes to present a positive image both here and abroad. That means following the rules and acting honorably. Commanders set rules of engagement that are often stricter than LOAC and are none

to fond of being disobeyed. Our technology has also had a big part in attempting to preserve lives. Bombs dropped from airplanes used to be one of the most in-

curate weapons on earth. Now we tend to use precision-guided low-yield weapons to destroy targets, not only the target, but limit collateral damage as much as possible.

This is leaps and bounds better than the technology used even as recently as the 1991 Gulf War. This does not entirely eliminate civilian casualties, but remember that we are talking about war.

The last thing I will address here is my take on everybody's favorite topic: should we even be there? I have heard a great many valid and compelling arguments for the invasion as well as against it. However, the simple unavoidable fact is that we are there now. You can yell at the president all you want, but it won't turn back the clock. So since that is the case, we need to finish it and do it right. 3,200 of our service members have died. Only history will judge whether the actions made a difference in the world. We can worry about the textbooks later. Right now our focus should be on writing the best history that we can.

You can yell at the president all you want, but it won't turn back the clock.

	WWI	WWII	KOREA	VIETNAM	IRAQ
Approx. Total Time of War (Years)	1	4	3	10	4
Total U.S. Deaths	116,708	407,300	36,516	58,209	3,241
Total U.S. Deaths per Year	116,708	101,825	12,172	5,821	810
Total Civilian Deaths (approx)	10,000,000	41,500,000	>1,000,000	900,000 - 4,000,000	59,000 - 655,000
Civilian Deaths Per Year (approx)	10,000,000	10,375,000	>333,333	90,000 - 400,000	14,750 - 163,750

Clinton or Obama:

A Wise Choice for the Democratic Party?

 MATTHEW MCLEOD
EXPONENT WRITER

If you've been following the early build-up to the 2008 Democratic presidential primaries, you've no doubt heard pundit prognostications that the race will shape up to be a showdown between Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Barack Obama of Illinois. If experts are correct — as early polls indicate could be the case — 2008 will mark the first time that either a woman or a minority candidate will carry a major party nomination. Without question, the implications of such a landmark event are bound to represent a fundamental step in the evolution of the American psyche, to mention a profound testament to the progressive nature of true democracy. From its outset, the American political system set out to enfranchise its citizens, and the process of empowering American citizens has taken hundreds of years, and unfortunately may never be complete. If today all Americans are fully allowed to vote, the United States to date has never had a serious minority or female presidential candidate (or Vice presidential candidate for that matter.) I personally feel that if either Clinton or Obama should emerge as the Democratic nominee, it would not only further the interests of the Women's Black caucuses, but it would make a very positive statement about the progression of American democracy. That said, I have serious doubts about whether such an event would

be a beneficial one for the Democratic Party. Is it realistic to imagine that either a woman or a black man could win the national majority vote?

I think the question is particularly appropriate in the case of Obama. The 45-year-old senator is sharp, affable and firmly committed to religious values, yet it seems highly unlikely that an African-American, no matter how gifted or seemingly popular, would carry a substantial southern vote. A more apt question might be whether or not Obama could carry even a single southern

state. Unfortunately, I honestly believe the answer is no. Talking to a pair of transplanted southern students (one from Alabama, the other from South Carolina) it soon becomes obvious that in their opinions such an event is inconceivable. Remarks the student from Alabama: "I have nothing against black people, but I'm not going to vote for one. Even if I did, there's no way it would matter because nobody else would." The student from South Carolina is only slightly more optimistic. "Would I vote for a black candidate? If I thought he was the best candidate, of course I would. But you've got to understand the mentality of the South. There's still a lot of

hatred on both sides. I don't see a black candidate winning in the South anytime soon."

The only good news facing the Democrats if indeed they do nominate either Obama or Clinton is that, as of late, while the Southern states have been solidly red, the 2000 election was a virtual tie and the 2004 election was relatively close. Yet George W. Bush did eventually

prevail in both elections. In 2000, Al Gore — a white candidate hailing from a prominent political Tennessee family — failed to win the majority of Southern voters against Bush. While

Southern states do carry substantial numbers of black voters and the possibility of electing the first black president would likely induce a massive turnout among black voters, it is a virtual certainty that Obama would fail to win a substantial number of Southern states. I also have a strong suspicion that a sense of inherent racism exists in major portions of America's white population — especially among older generations. And it is not just the South that carries a legacy of racial hatred and violence. The Klu Klux Klan operated throughout the Midwest until the 1960s, and white supremacist groups such as Peoria, Illinois' Creativity Movement still oper-

ate throughout the region.

The cultural stigmas associated with minorities, and blacks specifically, are still prevalent among white voters throughout the country. Case in point: In 1964 President Johnson recognized that racial biases existed to such an extent in the United States that it put blacks and other minorities at significant economic disadvantages, and accordingly he implemented affirmative action into his Civil Rights Act of the same year. To this day, affirmative action exists in the American workplace and university system and shows no signs of going away. Another telling sign that discrimination still lingers is the aforementioned fact that since the first presidential election in 1789, no minority has ever carried a major party nomination. While the percentage of minority Americans has increased annually, according to the 2000 census, whites still make up over 77 percentage of the population, while African-Americans constitute less than 13 percentage of the national population. This means that a huge percentage of white Americans have to be persuaded to break with over 220 years of political tradition.

The question for Democratic voters then becomes whether or not it is prudent to endorse either Clinton or Obama. In our state, the primaries are a relative non-issue, as the Montana is slated to hold, along with North Dakota, the last presi-

dential primary on June 3, 2008 — nearly five months after the Iowa caucus. By the time the Montana primaries roll around, the nomination should be all but decided. Yet the vote may hold more relevance for out-of-state students and those of us who hope to have left the state by that time. For my money, Obama looks to be the best candidate for the job. The son of a Kenyan goat herder, Obama worked his way to prominence; his rise is the true story of an American dream fulfilled. His campaign shows signs of being a surprisingly positive one, and the senator has been candid in admitting his past mistakes — a rare quality among modern politicians. Despite his relative lack of political experience, I think he would bring a wealth of intelligence, toughness, honesty and morality to the Oval Office. As a voter, it is each individual's choice to weigh the responsibility of voting for the candidate that one believes will do the best job versus the possibility of throwing one's vote away. In this case, I am of the opinion that if you think Obama is the best Democratic candidate, you should vote for him accordingly, whether he has a legitimate chance of winning or not. In doing so, you not only refuse to bow to America's tradition of political disenfranchisement, but you also make it that much easier for a minority candidate (if you vote for Obama) or a female candidate (if you vote for Clinton) to win the presidency in the future.

As a voter, it is each individual's choice to weigh the responsibility of voting for the candidate that one believes will do the best job.

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Letters to the Editor

A Few Questions to Prime the Discussion

The Bobcats 4 Progress claim to desire a "discussion" on the war issue. With their display of flags on campus (am I the only one that noticed the peaceniks are putting up Red flags?), the "war" issue is right in the middle of everything, figuratively and literally. I think that honest discussions are the best, so let's prime the pump with a few questions, just so we know where everyone stands.

Many of the signs on campus referring to the war in Iraq posed the question, "Why?" Would you agree that now that we are in the war, the better question is "How?" That is, how do we finish this war and implement a lasting, just peace? Another relevant question is "What?", as in "What will happen if we leave Iraq too soon?" Would you admit that it is possible that if we leave Iraq too early, Iraq could become another failed state in the mold of Somalia or Afghanistan, a breeding ground for future attacks on us or our allies?

One sign on campus quotes Thomas Jefferson, saying "Dissent is the highest form of patriotism." Do you support the actions of "peace" protestors who burned an American Soldier in effigy and defecated on an American flag (Rudeness mars peace message, The Portland Tribune, March 23 2007)? Do you think this is a patriotic (or even appropriate) manner of expression? If not, are

you willing to publicly condemn these people and their actions? Still on the topic of patriotism, former members of the North Vietnamese Army have written that the "peace" protests of the late 60s and early 70s encouraged their leaders to fight on in the face of battlefield losses. Do you think it is possible that your actions are inciting our enemies? If so, do you feel that this is consistent with the "devoted love, support, and defense of one's country (italics added)" that the Random House Unabridged Dictionary uses to define "patriotism"?

The sign pictured on the front page of the *Exponent* says, "The troops chose war." Are you willing to correct the gross ignorance of people on your side by educating them as to the command structure of the U.S. Military? The U.S. Military is commanded by a Republican National Command Authority and funded by a Democratic Congress. Are you willing to place any "blame" for the war at the feet of these civilians and not at the feet of U.S. servicemen who are following orders?

In an honest discussion, very few would claim to have all the answers. Answers to these questions would be a good place to start.

Joe George
Bozeman, MT
Economics

Needed: Explanations for U.S. Involvement in the Middle East that Does Not Involve Oil

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to Andrew Mazzella's letter in the March 29 edition of the *Exponent*. I, too, was sickened to see all of those orange flags on campus, although I think for a different reason than Mr. Mazzella: Whether you believe that the war in Iraq was a necessary, logical and prudent choice or an ill-conceived fantasy, one fact remains – for each of those little orange flags, America is minus one citizen, killed in Iraq. And, if our leaders had not sent those citizens into Iraq, nearly all of them would still be alive today. While I agree that it is nearly impossible for anyone to call themselves "unbiased," and that Bobcats 4 Progress likely carry biases of their own, the part I found most interesting about Andrew's letter was that it managed to pretty well sum up our national dialogue when it comes to war.

Since the Vietnam era (and probably before that), our discussion regarding war always seems to get stunted by a failure to make an important distinction – that being against a war and being against the warrior who fights it are two different things. It is completely possible for someone to respect the duties of our soldiers, to honor their sac-

rifices, and to mourn for those families who have lost sons and daughters in the conflict, while still believing that the leadership that sent our service men and women into war were wrong to do so.

At the risk of down-playing the seriousness of the situation, shift gears for a moment, and think in terms of a football team. Sometimes we like the head coach, sometimes we don't. Sometimes we think he's coming up with fantastic plays, and sometimes we think he should quit and let someone else coach. But we can still root for the home team, the players on the field who wear our colors. And we can still stand up at the end of the game, play the school song and acknowledge that our guys did their best. Why is this so hard to do in the case of our soldiers? International politics are far too complex to distill down into a "with us or against us" condition. Consider the possibility that sometimes, we can be with our troops, and against their commanders.

Mr. Mazzella is also correct in observing that the efforts of those who serve honorably are not mistakes, nor are they insignificant. Our people there have no doubt done some things that have made a positive difference in the lives of Iraqi citizens, and they have surely

performed many acts of bravery and heroic sacrifice. We can and absolutely should respect that, now and when they return home. We owe them no less. But we can, and absolutely should also question the reasons why they were sent there, and if we believe those reasons to be mistakes or illegitimate, we should say so. To speak out when we believe our leaders are acting in a way that is harmful to our nation is very patriotic, it is not "un-American." If we choose our words carefully, we can do so without disrespecting the troops with the boots on the ground. Let the stickers say, support our troops.

Finally, I have one request of Mr. Mazzella, not for the purpose of simply being contrary or antagonistic, but out of genuine interest. I would like to hear some explanations for U.S. involvement in the Middle East that do not involve oil. If you have such alternatives to oil, I invite you to submit another letter. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and speaking your mind.

Michael Holland
Bozeman, MT
Biology, '95

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CLASSIFIED 15

THURSDAY - April 5, 2007
ASMSU Exponent

HELP WANTED

Do you want to be one of the best cats on campus? Here's your chance!! Applications for VOCATS are available at AskUs in the Office of Admissions in Hamilton Hall. Due by 5:00 PM on April 13.

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Hired: Student Administrative Assistant during daytime hours (8am-5pm). Must have computer skills and phone experience is preferred. Knowledge of campus is a plus. Wage: Starts at \$7.00/hr, with wage increases each semester; must be able to work 10-15 hrs/week with flexible around other schedules. Please call Ext. 1010 to speak with Chris; if on campus, call 994-1010.

Bridger Creek Golf Course seeking pro shop staff for 2007 golf season. Applicants must be friendly, able to multi task, detailed oriented and able to work weekends. Golf privileges included. Pick up application at pro shop. 2710 McIlhattan Rd.

WHITE WATER RAFTING GUIDES WANTED; Position(s) available with Wind River Canyon Whitewater, Thermopolis Wyoming. Job duties include: Professional guiding of commercial rafting trips in class 3+ whitewater; preparing/cooking lunch on river trips; managing equipment, assisting with transportation, and other assigned duties. Pay DOE. Some training required for new employees. Call WRCW at (307) 864-9343 or e-mail trips@wyoming.com for details or to apply.

Graphic Designer Needed KMG International, Inc. Local, FT/PT, Packaging design, logo design, material design. Must be proficient in Photoshop, InDesign, Quark, Illustrator. Printing production background a plus. Start March 19th. Competitive salary and benefits package. Ideal candidate will be a graduate with

a 4 year degree or senior level student in the graphic design program. To apply fax resume to 406-585-0429. 93 Rowland Road, Bozeman, MT 59718. 406-585-8085. www.kmgintl.com

PT weekend computer work at races. Do you enjoy the excitement of sporting events? Are you quick thinking, hard working, good with people, detail-oriented, computer savvy, and a problem solver? Perfect Timing needs data entry, timing, and managerial help from April through August at running races throughout Montana. No racing

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GENERAL

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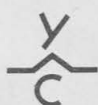
Vacation condo for rent in Bozeman, 2149 Durston. Two queen bedrooms, 2 full baths, completely furnished including all kitchen necessities. Sleeps 4. Washer/dryer. No smoking. No pets. \$125/night. 3 night minimum. \$800/week. \$2800/month. Available beginning March 3, 2007. Call Merry @ 406.581.7871.

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16 FINALE

THURSDAY - April 5, 2007
ASMSU Exponent

Lady Persephone's Weekly Tarot Reading

Aries (March 21 - April 19): Justice, 7 of Cups (inversed), The Moon. Wishing for justice is different than getting it. Someone has put you down in front of others. Don't walk away with your head down. Instead, keep your head up and put that person in their place.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20): The World, 8 of Wands, 10 of Cups (inversed). When an unusual request comes to you, quick thinking will be required. Don't dilly-dally on your decision, but don't act instantaneously, either. Phone a friend for advice if you need it.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21): Ace of Coins, 9 of Cups (inversed), The Empress. A close friend is overworking his/herself - not just physically, but mentally. Whether they ask you for it or not, they need your help to find a moment of relaxation in their life.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22): Page of Wands, 3 of Swords (inversed), 2 of Wands (inversed). Leave your creativity on call this week. Things will be hectic and chaotic, and the power of your creative instincts will be needed to resolve several upcoming situations.

Leo (July 23 - August 22): 4 of Cups, 5 of Wands, King of Wands (all inversed). Self-absorption will lead to your friends becoming hassled by you. Granted, we all need time to ourselves, but if that occasion hurts the needs of others close to you, it may be time to find a different "self-time."

Virgo (August 23 - September 22): Temperance (inversed), Ace of Swords, 5 of Coins. No one has a perfect winning streak. This week you will have to chalk one up in the loss column. Don't be a sore loser; keep your head up and make your loss a win.

Libra (September 23 - October 22): High Priestess, The Devil, Knight of Coins. Someone is trying to take advantage of you, resulting in a not-so-friendly betrayal. They believe you are going to sit back and take it. Surprise them and take back what's yours.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21): 9 of Wands, 10 of Wands, The Star (all inversed). Someone you know likes you as more than a friend. They have an unusual method of trying to let you know, which may make it difficult to determine what they are hoping to tell you. Keep your mind open and encourage them to find their nerve.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21): 4 of Swords (inversed), King of Coins, King of Cups (inversed). You can have a quiet reserve when things become upsetting. That will come in useful for you this week. People in high places will be looking for composure under pressure, and they will notice you.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19): 5 of Swords, Knight of Cups, The Magician. Rejection, unfortunately, is a part of life, and romantic rejection can hurt more than any other kind. Look to friends for solace; but also remember that advice is easier given than taken. When your emotions come together, try to follow their counsel.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18): Hanged Man (inversed), 5 of Cups, Knight of Swords. We all have those days when we feel like we're "outside" our group or place. Those are the times when people in our group have a chance to look up and admire our originality.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20): 6 of Wands, 4 of Wands (inversed), 2 of Cups. Long-awaited good news will give your ego a much-needed boost this week. It will be a cause for celebration and allowing yourself to enjoy your victory.

LATE NIGHT
CONVERSATIONS
WITH LEE
HALL



Dear MSU,

Hello, I'm retired meteorologist and creationism proponent Michael Oard. On April 22nd I would personally like to invite you to a dogmatic, unscientific lecture at MSU on evolution and why I don't like it. I realize that MSU is a secular, research-driven state university, but that won't keep me from trying to inject my personal religious agenda into the free-thinking student population. It'll be fun. I'll get up in front of everyone there and talk about my hobby of debunking evolutionary sciences using simple logic and, of course, the Bible. Don't let it fool you that I am a "retired meteorologist" and use that title to fraudulently call my own biased and weakly-backed "evidence" scientific. All those generations of real researchers have got it wrong! All that 'scientific evidence'? A divine trick! In just one presentation (no questions afterward, please) I will pull the entire field of "geological evolution" to bits!

Site of the week: <http://www.talkreason.org>

Aka

Edited by Linda and Charles Pres

ACROSS

- 1 Gloomy atmosphere
- 5 School subj.
- 9 Ralph Lauren brand
- 14 Young men
- 18 Gram or graph lead-in
- 19 Relates
- 20 Thesaurus name
- 21 Part of the secret
- 22 Mike
- 26 Sound of mind
- 27 St. Francis' place
- 28 News pics
- 29 Shabbier
- 31 Ruffled one's feathers
- 33 Skirt features
- 36 Designed on leather
- 37 One of Chekhov's three sisters
- 40 Many times, to Thoreau
- 41 East of the Urals
- 42 Landon
- 43 Bud
- 47 H. in Hellas
- 49 Brilliance
- 53 Stately tree
- 54 One ___ kind
- 55 Orgs. of learning
- 57 Mold over again
- 59 African capital
- 61 Basks
- 63 Not ___! no problem
- 65 Quite a number
- 66 Most yielding
- 68 Mark
- 70 Ribbed fabric
- 71 Tab grabber
- 74 Med. test
- 75 Hank
- 79 Hamilton's bills, informally
- 83 Bath powder
- 84 They loved Lucy
- 85 And others, briefly
- 87 Start for "Twenty Questions"
- 89 Ties up
- 91 Plow pioneer
- 93 Mauna ___
- 95 "Unforgettable" Cole
- 96 "... evil ..."
- 97 Foot part
- 99 Ray
- 102 Southeast Asian area, to GIs
- 104 Colorless
- 106 LAX info
- 107 Carbonated concoction
- 108 Kind of planning
- 111 Ruhr region city
- 113 Wynonna's mom
- 115 Double-cross

DOWN

- 1 Tower town
- 2 Commotions
- 3 Romanian coins
- 4 Farrell's "Studs"
- 5 Get along
- 6 Country est. in 1948
- 7 From ___ finish
- 8 ___ avail; ineffectually
- 9 Precarious situation
- 10 Recently stolen
- 11 Actor's rep.
- 12 Equal
- 13 Layers
- 14 Bill
- 15 "For want of ___"
- 16 Recipient
- 17 Bergen sidekick
- 23 Mil. award
- 24 Aves.
- 25 Grinders
- 30 Enameled metalwares
- 32 Musical keys
- 34 ___ knot: marries
- 35 Got off one's feet
- 37 ___ and terminer
- 38 Falana and Montez
- 39 Creole dish
- 44 Obtained
- 45 Gain the day
- 46 Naval off.
- 48 A Guthrie
- 50 ___ Land aka Los Angeles

- 51 Like peas in ___: alike
- 52 Place for a bérét
- 56 Diplomacy
- 58 DeGeneres' show
- 60 Chad
- 62 Belli, Bailey, etc.
- 64 Main artery
- 67 Lyric poem
- 68 ___ Salvador
- 69 Friendly
- 72 Stock manipulators
- 73 Gaelic
- 75 Jeanne et Thérèse, for short
- 76 Hollywood Citizen?
- 77 Model Macpherson
- 78 Song or slug ending
- 80 Rock temple village of west India
- 81 Drumming Starr
- 82 Leslie, of "60 Minutes"
- 85 Prior, in poetry
- 86 Afternoon affair?
- 88 ___ boy!
- 90 Raccoon relative
- 92 The Dodgers' former field
- 94 "... a nest ___ in her ..."
- 98 Special poem
- 100 Egress for Ed Norton
- 101 Winter hazard
- 103 Club participant
- 105 Lend a hand
- 108 Allen or Frome
- 109 1984 Kentucky Derby winner
- 110 Body
- 112 Slangy negative
- 114 Fellow from Fifi
- 116 Gardner of mys
- 118 Range or reach
- 120 To ___; all
- 121 Org. formed in 1949
- 122 Fresh
- 125 Hosp. hookups
- 126 Casual shirt
- 127 Jurisprudence

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