

THE ASMSU

Summer 2009 • Vol. 104, Issue 01

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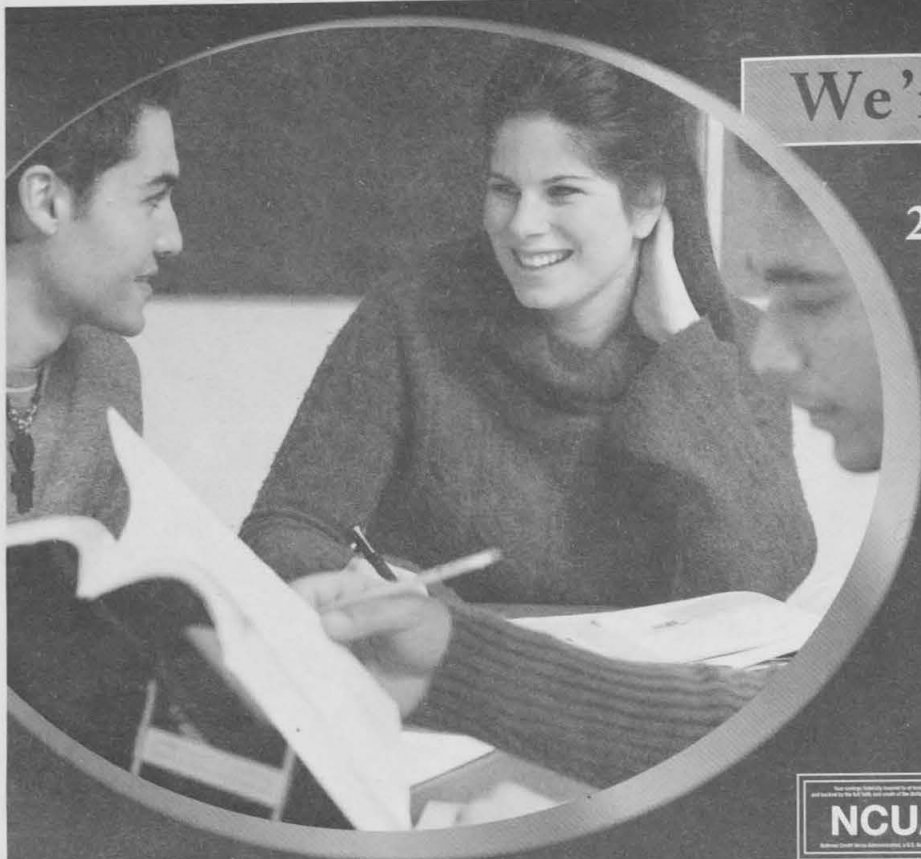
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**BEST OF
BOZEMAN**

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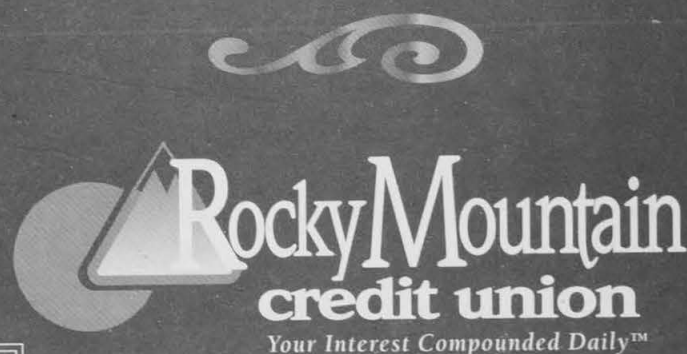
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THE ASMSU exponent

Summer 2009 • Vol. 104, Issue 01

"Time is a great teacher, but unfortunately it kills all its pupils..."

-- Louis Hector Berlioz

NEWS 5 IS STUDY ABROAD FOR YOU?

Did you know that MSU offers study abroad programs in over 235 locations in more than 50 countries? Didn't think so. BRANDON FRENCH tells you everything you need to know about the Office of International Programs. Oh, the places you'll go!

6 PROJECT IRIS GARDEN

Are you getting tired of all of the construction going on around campus? Well guess what... there is more to come. The good news is Project Iris Garden is a student-run movement. The bad news is, well, more construction. Sorry.

DISTRACTIONS 7 BUSY IN BOZEMAN

BEN MILLER, being the super cool guy that he is, has gathered some information on all the events that are unique to the Bozeman area. And you thought there was no upside to taking summer classes, again.

8 PRAISE TO SUMMER READING

BEN MILLER is back, encouraging you to read all of those half-finished books you started so long ago. Yes, the Goosebumps covers are just as sweet as you remember them.

EXPO SPOTLIGHT 10 THE BEST OF BOZEMAN

The Exponent staff has compiled a list of coffee houses, restaurants, stores, clubs and bars for your viewing pleasure. We even included a map of Bozeman so that you can find all of the places we are talking about. Just make sure to take the paper with you so that you can find your way back home.

REC[REACTION] 13 2009 BOBCAT FOOTBALL PREVIEW

With the new academic year comes the new football season, and this one is looking great for the 'Cats. KYLE REYNOLDS shares his thoughts on the 2009 football season.

GET FIT IN BOZEMAN

As many of you already know, Montana is a state defined by its fluctuating weather. Sun today, snow tomorrow... you see what I am getting at. Lucky for you, ERICA KILLHAM knows all of the gyms and fitness centers around Bozeman, even the ones you haven't heard of. We know, she is amazing!

14 GET OUTDOORS - OUTSIDE OF BOZEMAN

We know the hammock in your backyard is a fantastic place to enjoy the summer weather, but there really is more to Montana than Kagi. Listen to DANIEL CASSIDY and go enjoy all that Montana has to offer.

STATIC 18 HOW TO ENJOY SUMMER

NATHAN CARROLL gives some guidance on proper summer activities. Adhere or pay the price. The price: foot-borne disease. Confused? Read on.

EXPO RANTS

You know what really grinds our gears. You don't now, but you will after you read this.

ABOUT THE artist

Kevin Lande

Kevin Lande has been doing photography for several years with a particular interest in landscapes and surrealism. He graduated from MSU in the Spring with degrees in philosophy and political science and is currently enrolled as a graduate student in philosophy at Brandeis University. His photos can be seen at flickr.com/da-sein. He also blogs at philosophyphengang.blogspot.com and concocts philosophy t-shirts at heidegear.com.



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boilerplate

The ASMSU Exponent prints approximately 5,000 copies every Thursday and is free of charge at nearly 65 locations, limited one per reader. Additional copies of the current issue of **The ASMSU Exponent** may be purchased for \$1.00, payable in advance.

EDITORIAL DEADLINE:
Monday at five p.m. prior to publication date.

SALES DEADLINE:
Friday at five p.m. prior to publication date. Deadline may shift at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.

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Introduced in 1895, **The ASMSU Exponent** is the oldest college newspaper in the state of Montana. Originally introduced as "a way to increase college spirit at Montana State...exponentially."

The 2009-2010 academic year marks **The Exponent's** 114th year of publication.

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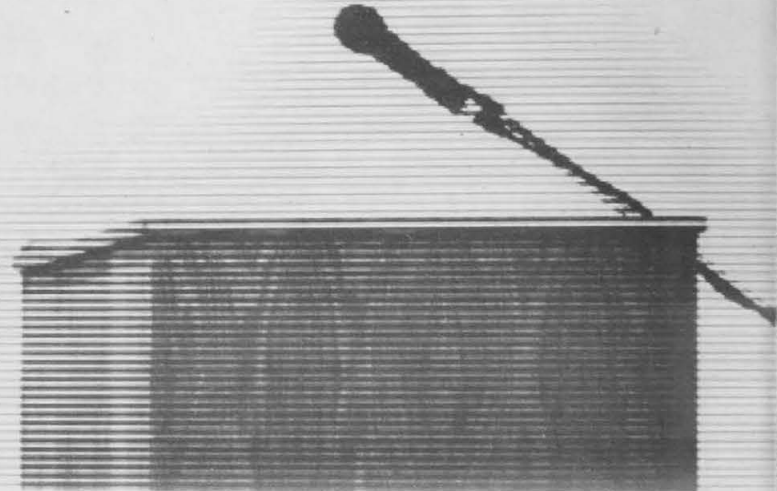
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NEWS

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COMPILED BY
Brandon French
 ASMSU Exponent

Friday, June 19

"Ethics East and West: The Challenge and Promise of Dialogue"

A free public lecture on cross-cultural dialogue between Western philosophy and Confucian philosophy will be given at 6 p.m. at the Bozeman Public Library's Community Room. "Ethics East and West: The Challenge and Promise of Dialogue" will include three brief presentations followed by discussion. Professor Howard Curzer of Texas Tech University will give a talk, "Philosophical Dialog with China? Shut Up and Eat Your Rice!" Professor Andrew Terjesen of Rhodes College's talk is "Adam Smith + Confucius = Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics?" Professor Benjamin Huff of Randolph Macon College will speak on "China and the Environment: Western Pressures and Eastern Principles." Refreshments will follow. The lecture is sponsored by Humanities Montana and Montana State University's Department of Political Science. For more information, contact Sara Rushing at (406) 994-5165.

Saturday, June 27

Gold Panning Class

A gold panning class will be held at the Museum of the Rockies from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The Museum has partnered with Earth's Treasures to teach the basics of panning for gold through demonstration, instruction and hands on activities. In a 90-minute class, an instructor will teach what to look for while

prospecting for gold and discuss various methods of mining gold, from simple to complex. With the registration of this class, participants will receive a gold panning kit complete with a gold panning instructional book, sucking tweezers, holding vile, plus a bag of sand guaranteed to contain some gold. Participants will pan for gold during the class and take some home. Children over 12 years old are welcome to attend with an adult. The cost is \$20 for museum members and \$25 for non-members. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required at (406) 994-5282. For more information on events at the Museum of the Rockies visit museumoftherockies.org.

Wednesday, September 9
 Convocation 2009

"The Soloist: A Lost Dream, an Unlikely Friendship and the Redemption of Power of Music," by Los Angeles Times columnist Steve Lopez has been selected as the Montana State University's 2009 Freshmen Convocation book. Lopez will speak at the MSU Convocation, set for 7:30 p.m. at MSU's Brick Breeden Field house. The event is free and open to the public. The book's selection means that it will be required summer reading for MSU's 2,400 incoming freshmen and will be discussed in classes and venues throughout the MSU campus next fall. Lopez is an award-winning journalist who has written for Time, Sports Illustrated, Life, Entertainment Weekly, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The San Jose Mercury News and The Oakland Tribune.

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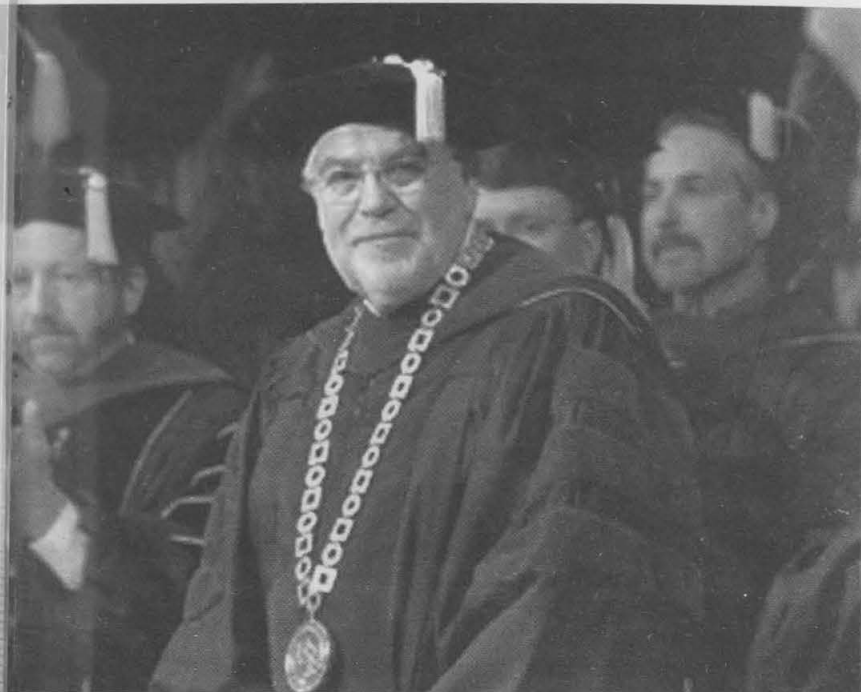
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The search for MSU's 12th president

WORDS BY
Nancy Gray
ASMSU Exponent

On March 23, Montana State University President Geoffrey Gamble announced his retirement. In an email to students, faculty and friends of the university, he cited, among other reasons, his wife Patricia's struggle with breast cancer, his mother's ailing health and the birth of a grandchild for his decision to retire. Gamble, who assumed office in December 2000, said he would be spending time with family, traveling and exploring Montana.

He also said he was planning on teaching classes in the future and that "[I] have already had one of my course syllabi accepted." His email also included a thank you to the MSU community. "For the past 25 years," he said, "I've pursued my career as an administrator. It has been a tremendous experience and through people like you it has enriched my life in ways I could never have imagined."

The announcement prompted students, faculty and staff to wonder if this will affect the direction in which MSU is heading and what changes the new president will bring. Although no one was named as possible contenders for the position, Gamble suggested that the new president would not alter the success and upward motion of the school.

"Credit for the success of MSU belongs not to the president, but to you, the students, faculty, staff, alumni and our many friends," he said. "It has always been so and will continue to be. A change in presidents will not alter that."

He said he did not foresee a change in leadership affecting plans for the ongoing capital campaign, which he sug-

gested was key in bringing assistance to students, attracting and maintaining the best possible faculty and continuing to fund facilities.

On April 29, Clay Christian, vice-president of the Montana Board of Regents, announced that the firm Academic Search Inc. was selected to conduct the search for Gamble's replacement. The Washington, D.C.-based firm has spent the past 30 years filling senior executive positions, and in fact, the firm was also charged with the selection process that brought Gamble to MSU over eight years ago.

After a competitive bidding process, it was determined that the company would be paid \$75,000, plus expenses, for its services. Prior to taking this contract with MSU, Academic Search Inc. recently worked with Florida State University, the University of North Dakota, the University of Arizona, the University of Utah, the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the University of Georgia. According to a MSU press release, the firm will "organize the search; prepare recommendations of institutional needs; recruit a candidate pool; provide background research and assist the successful candidate's transition into his or her new job."

With Gamble's departure on everyone's minds, we anxiously await to see who Montana State's 12th president will be. The importance of this decision was not lost on Christian who said, "Finding new executives is one of the most important jobs of the Montana Board of Regents. The investment we make in finding the right person now will bear fruit for years, maybe decades, into the future for both MSU and the state."

Is study abroad for you?

WORDS BY
Brandon French
ASMSU Exponent

As the days of summer wind down and students begin thinking about classes again, the Office of International Programs says that students should take a serious look at what they have to offer.

In fact, Montana State University students have the opportunity to study at over 235 locations in 50 different countries around the world. So is this the year for you to study abroad? That depends. Although it's never too early to start thinking about studying abroad, you must have your freshman year under your belt before you can go.

In a world in which the need to understand global cultures is becoming increasingly important, studying abroad seems like an excellent way to get a cultural education along with your major.

Some students worry they won't be able to afford the study abroad program -- an idea that the Office of International Programs insists is simply untrue. Although each program is different, many programs are comparable to what you might be paying to go to school in Boze-

man. Not only that, but financial aid and most scholarships can be applied to your study abroad costs.

The other thing that students fear will prevent them from being able to study abroad is the fact they don't speak a foreign language. However, if you are only fluent in English, you can still participate in the program. The office offers many English-speaking programs, some even in non-English-speaking countries.

And the Office of International Programs says that, in most cases, students can still graduate in the same amount of time when participating in the program. MSU students participating in study abroad can get full credit toward their degrees while spending time in a foreign country.

If you are a freshman now, you have plenty of time to start thinking about your study abroad options or, if you are a veteran Bobcat, then there is no time like the present to get your study abroad plans rolling.

For more information on about MSU's study abroad program, contact the Office of International Programs, located in room 400 of Culbertson Hall, by calling 994-4031.



PHOTO BY ROYCE GORSUCH

Project Iris Garden



COURTESY OF PROJECTIRISGARDEN.COM

In Jill Davis' 221 English Composition class, students study as a thematic for reading and writing social networking strategies, impact and controversies and their implications on Gen Y/echo boomers/the net generation. One text read in class is Malcolm Gladwell's "The Tipping Point," a work that looks at how social, economic, racial, environmental and political epidemics spread throughout a culture.

Davis challenged her students to create a "Pay it Forward for MSU" project with the information gleaned from Gladwell's text. Student groups come up with five possible campaign ideas, organizing them around information collected in student surveys about needs on campus.

Students found that "belonging to the campus community" was the number one need for a majority of MSU students. Many felt that MSU lacks in campus community organizing. Other prominent issues students are contending with are stress caused by the enormous amount of construction, lack of open space to hang out in or take their families to when they visit, and finally, a lack of sense that they have a voice on this campus with administration. These were the issues students needed to address in their researched campaigns.

The class voted on project ideas,

Meeting Place: Danforth Park

Meeting Time: Every Thursday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Web site: www.projectirisgarden.com

and the Danforth Park restoration project won by an overwhelming vote. The project addressed all the surveyed students' needs for protecting open space. Providing a place that could reduce stress caused by campus construction and growth, it would address the student concern about lack of beauty on campus and provide a gathering place for students, their parents and families and make the campus much more student-friendly.

In February, Davis' students met with Campus Facilities and began the process of creating an awareness campaign on campus by selling buttons and t-shirts and providing presentations on the history of the park and the vision for restoration to clubs, fraternities, sororities and sustainability groups on campus.

A group of students tackled the archival research in Renne Library with Kim Scott and were amazed at the coincidences they shared with the 1929

creators of the park. Then, like now, there was a tremendous lack of money for beautification projects on campus, overbuilding and expansion was taking place, student's experienced stress from the economic depression, stu-

dents felt there was a lack of community spaces for students to gather, and so then, as now, the students took action. They created a movement that brought students from all disciplines together.

Davis' present-day students studied their plan of action and replicated it today. Over 18 organizations on campus are involved: NECO, Sustainability, ASMSU Student Senate, American Society of Landscape Association, Student Activities, Resident Life, Parent/Families Association, Early Childhood Project, Foundation, The Women's Center, Campus Facilities, LRES (Land Resource Environmental Society), Horticulture Club, IA, Engineers Without

Borders and Mortar Board, to name a few.

Faculty, staff and students from 12 departments are working on the restoration project. It has become a campus-wide movement and the numbers grow daily.

Student-written grant proposals and presentations have been given to Parent/Families Association, Early Childhood Project, ASMSU Student Senate, Bozeman Beautification Board and GEC, and more will be forthcoming. Davis' students said this project, done mostly with over 480 aggregate volunteer hours, has brought so many students from different departments together and given them the sense that they have a voice at the table and can effect positive grassroots change on campus.

But mostly they say this project offered them a way to give back to MSU, to leave a legacy to the college, one they will be very proud of and show their children their work someday.

Upcoming Summer/Fall Events:

- Solstice Day Park Clean-Up - June 20
- Picnic Lunch in Danforth Park for Administrators - July
- Catapalooza - August 26-28
- Showcase display in MSU's Renne Library - Sept.
- No-Garbage BBQ in the Park - Sept.
- Women's Center Sack Lunch Seminar - Sept. 16
- "Off the Wall" Art Swap Fundraiser - Oct.



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DISTRACTIONS



PHOTOS BY ROYCE GORSUCH

Busy in Bozeman

WORDS BY
Ben Miller
ASMSU Exponent

It's almost too easy to get distracted in Bozeman. It doesn't matter whether it is summer or winter, there's guaranteed to be a plethora of activities, concerts and delicious food throughout the Bozeman community. Besides the obvious outdoor activities (hiking, biking, camping, floating, and climbing, just to name a few), there are lots of events happening this summer to help Bozeman's outdoor enthusiasts wind down and relax, with ice-cold refreshments in hand.

Bozeman's Historic Downtown hosts a number of popular, fun, family-friendly events to keep tourists and Bozemanites alike entertained and busy all summer long. Beginning right away this June is Bozeman's series of Art Walks. On the second Friday of every month, from June through September, local art galleries downtown and in the Emerson Cultural Center team up for two hours, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., to share and display new work by local artists. Each gallery will exhibit artist openings and receptions, so appetizers and refreshments will be readily available. There will also

be live music scattered throughout the Art Walk, enriching the entire creative experience.

On Thursday, July 2, at 6:30 p.m., Music on Main kicks off for the summer with The Clintons. For those people who are unfamiliar with Bozeman's downtown live concert series, this summer is a great time to get involved. Every Thursday night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Main Street will be closed from Rouse to Black to host that night's band. From 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., there will be activities for kids and families, and the music starts at 7 p.m. sharp. Local restaurants and food vendors will be dishing up tasty snacks and drinks. Music on Main is a great way to kick-start the weekend. Find friends and great people downtown, enjoy live music, dancing, food, and then make plans to do it all again the next two nights!

Also beginning in July is Lunch on the Lawn in the west field at the Emerson Cultural Center. This weekly Wednesday gathering takes place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 8 through Aug. 19. Featuring live music, lounging in the sun and picnicking, what better way is there to spend a lunch hour? The Emerson is close by with bathrooms and great art,

and this year there will be a farmers market as well as food vendors. Need to save some money? Pack a lunch or pick up a sandwich on the way, but be sure to catch a few tunes out on the lawn at the Emerson Cultural Center.

On Wednesday, Aug. 5, the Bite of Bozeman begins the 32nd annual Sweet Pea festival. The Bite is a food lover's paradise. For one evening, Main Street is closed to traffic and local restaurants set up booths and tables to sell Bite of Bozeman specialty dishes and snacks to the always-hungry Bozeman community. From pizza to pitas to massive turkey legs, there is sure to be something to please everyone's taste buds. Take the evening off to enjoy fun, fast, good food while strolling and enjoying Bozeman's historic downtown.

The weekend after the Bite, the real crafty fun begins. Sweet Pea is a Bozeman tradition, a "celebration of creativity" as the founders described it. For three days in August, Lindley Park, on the east end of Main Street, becomes the epicenter of Bozeman. Food vendors line the paved street down the center of the park. Craft booths and tents weave throughout the trees and sell unique, handcrafted jewelry, clothes, pottery, souvenirs and other

great arts and crafts.

During the day, there are a bunch of great activities for kids such as wood-working and painting classes — canvas as well as face. At least three stages are set up throughout the park where live performances of all types take place the entire weekend. Shakespeare in the Parks performs a number of shows and each evening features great music and dancing long into the night. Although Sweet Pea requires a small donation for an entry button, it is more than worth it, if even only for a day. Besides, the buttons are great collectables.

This is only a small list of the summer events happening in and around the Gallatin Valley. Big Sky also hosts a summer concert series and there is always good music and a great nightlife in Livingston as well. The stockcar races take place at the Gallatin Valley Speedway just east of Belgrade until Sept. 12. This summer, after checking out the MSU campus or the gorgeous mountains around the valley, there is more than enough to keep folks busy in Bozeman. From arts and crafts to food, music and car racing, Bozeman will certainly not disappoint.

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Praise to summer reading

WORDS BY

Ben Miller

ASMSU Exponent

Although most students think of summer as time to get away from the books, summer can also be a fantastic time to catch up on other, much needed, personal reading. The best part: It can be a book of one's choice. As soon as the requirement of "reading for school" is eliminated, a good book can be a guilty pleasure, a treat you want to savor for yourself and eat constantly, neglecting all other chores and necessities. And summer is the perfect time for guilty pleasures: calling into work sick in order to make the float trip, eating the extra large Blizzard since "it was a scorcher" or justifying the last drink, since walking home is a possibility because the weather is so nice. Summer is the perfect time to indulge in any guilty pleasure, especially reading.

Now, I know what you're thinking: What the hell is he talking about? Reading during the summer? Summer is meant for floating, camping and getting outside, not reading. Well, that may seem so; however, people often fail to realize how flexible reading can be.

Reading doesn't have to be such an isolated activity. Taking a book into the mountains, finding a nice spot to sit in the shade and devouring a few dozen pages can be a very soothing, humbling afternoon. Not only does the hike exer-

cise your body, the book exercises your brain. You might even find yourself more alert, more attentive to the gorgeous, green fluttering leaves on the hike down, or the tiny ant dragging the corpse of a beetle home for dinner for its fellow ants.

Reading can take place practically anywhere: at home at the kitchen table, waiting in line at the DMV, lounging on the Bozeman Beach or while you wait for your friend to run into the grocery store to get drinks -- who then gets distracted running into another friend and leaves you in the car for at least 20 minutes. That 20 minutes could be 10, 20, even 30 pages read from that book you've been procrastinating on finishing. Any stint of reading is a productive one. From short newspaper and magazine articles to a 900-page novel, a string of words forming coherent thoughts and ideas can only inspire similar ones in a reader.

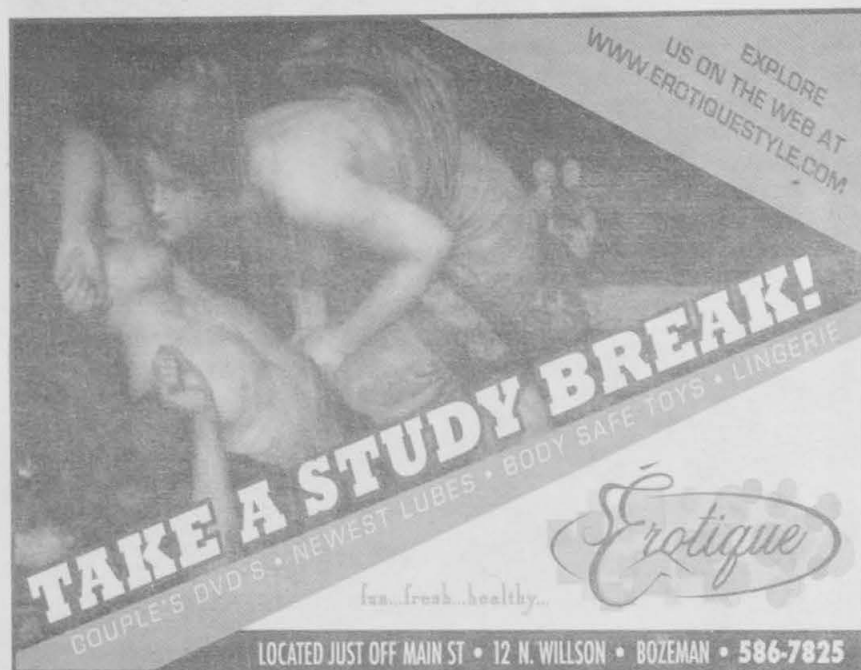
Take this article for instance; if you've read this far you most likely found something you disagreed with, and you hopefully found something you agreed with, too. The mere fact that this measly piece of writing got you thinking, got you questioning and pondering, is a great thing. Imagine what a 900-page book will do.

Speaking of 900-page books (not 1000-page books because they seem a little too daunting, kind of like Wal-Mart pricing stuff \$9.97 rather than \$9.99 or \$10), summer is the best time to challenge yourself, physically and mentally. With so much free time, there's no reason not to pick up a longer book, a book to escape into and forget about the everyday annoyances of being bored.

A longer book is great at providing that alternate reality where limitations are endless. A 900-page book develops the plot and characters to such an extreme depth that they become family, people and places you remember and think about for a long time.

Unfortunately, for many readers a 900-page book is just too long. But that doesn't mean they should give up. There are plenty of excellent, shorter stories and novels that are just as exciting and exhilarating. Tom Robbins writes shorter novels on a wide range of often odd, imaginative topics that simmer on the edge of realistic.

If you're the ambitious reader searching for that next epic read, check out Peter Matthiessen's "Shadow Country." At just over 900 pages, it'll keep a reader busy for quite some time; and as the winner of the most recent National Book Award, it's sure to be entertaining. No matter what book you decide to pick up this summer, you'll be happy you did. It's that simple. Do it; get out and read.



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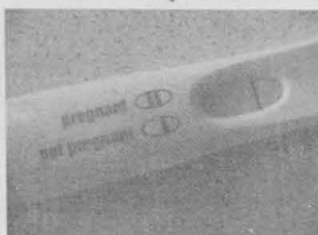
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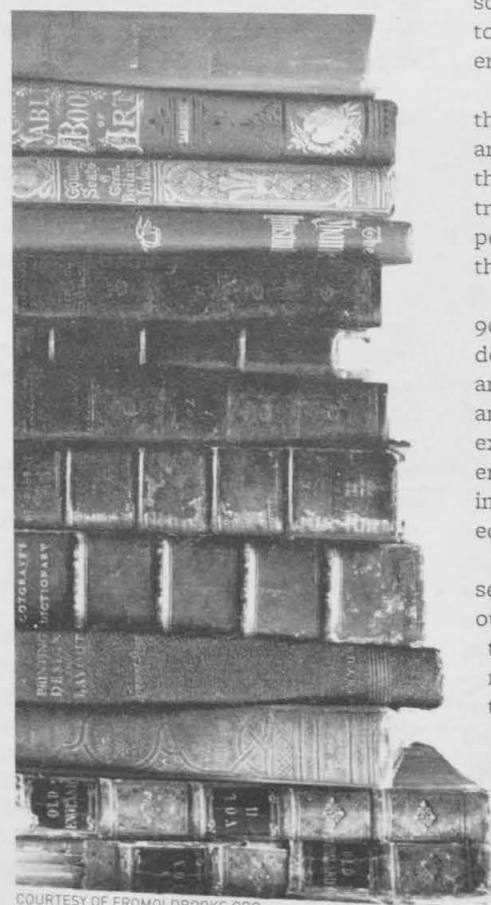
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Sizzling summer must-sees

COMPILED BY
Lacey Gray
ASMSU Exponent

"Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen"

Release Date: June 24

Overview: This much anticipated summer sequel to the first box office hit starring Shia LaBeouf and Megan Fox picks up where the first one left off. In this second installment, Sam Witwicky (LaBeouf) is in danger of being captured by the Decepticons, after he learns of the true origins of the Transformers. Optimus Prime is back to help protect the humans by joining with international forces for an intense battle. Megatron also makes a return, and this time is out for revenge. That combined with the fact that Starscream takes control of the Decepticons, proves that this movie will have some twist and turns that will keep everyone on the edge of their seats.

"My Sister's Keeper"

Release Date: June 26

Overview: Based on the best-selling novel by Jodi Picoult, this story reveals the complex family dynamic that develops when parents Sara and Brian Fitzgerald, played by Cameron Diaz and Jason Patric, discover that their young daughter Kate (Sofia Vassilleva) is diagnosed with leukemia. In the hopes of saving their daughter's life, the parents choose to conceive another child, Anna (Abigail Breslin) who would be an ideal match for a plethora of medical procedures intended to save Kate's life. The story takes a dramatic turn when Anna, at the age of 11, begins to question the role she never chose, and makes a decision that divides the family and jeopardizes Kate's fragile life.

"Public Enemies"

Release Date: July 1

Overview: This star-packed, crime thriller stars Johnny Depp as the Depression-era outlaw John Dillinger. Dillinger's frequent and flawless bank robberies cause him to be the number one target of FBI agent Melvin Purvis, portrayed by Christian Bale. During an era in which America harbors such ill will toward the banking system which plunged them into the Depression, Dillinger's charisma and rebellious ways make him an endearing and fascinating figure, not only to the American public, but to his girlfriend played by Marion Cortillard. As the story unfolds, a cat and mouse game plays out that is sure to keep the audience guessing until the last scene.

"Bruno"

Release Date: July 10

Overview: Sacha Baron Cohen's follow up to "Borat" focuses on a flamboyant Austrian fashion reporter who takes his interviews stateside. If you enjoyed Cohen's earlier work, then "Bruno" will promise to deliver more of the same side-splitting comedy that you have grown to expect from the chameleon comedian. Still, Cohen's brand of comedy isn't for everyone, and audience members should know what awaits them in the theaters.

"Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince"

Release Date: July 15

Overview: The much awaited sixth installment in the Harry Potter series promises to bring more excitement, thrills and an increasingly serious story line. "The Half-Blood Prince" marks Harry's (Daniel Radcliffe) sixth year at Hogwart's School and begins the process of unraveling a mystery that begins in Voldermort's (Ralph Fiennes) youth and reveals secrets of Voldermort's survival. The familiar cast returns, including Harry's friends Ron Weasley (Rupert Grint) and Hermione Granger (Emma Watson) and his mentor Professor Dumbledore (Michael Gambon). This film has been one that diehard fans have been waiting for, and it is sure to be a major hit at the box office this summer.

"The Ugly Truth"

Release Date: July 24

Overview: This romantic comedy heats up the age old battle of the sexes. The film features Katherine Heigl as Abby Richter who is a hopelessly-single morning TV show producer. Richter is in for a rude awakening when her bosses pair her with Mike Chadway (Gerard Butler), a tell-it-like-it-is TV personality who plans to reveal the dirty truth about love. Romantic comedy ensues as Richter butts heads with Chadway and continues her search for love. This movie promises to provide laughs for the men and women in the audience playing off the well known differences that are the spice of life.

"Funny People"

Release Date: July 31

Overview: What could prove to be the perfect blend of comedy and drama, "Funny People" pairs comedic pros Adam Sandler and Seth Rogen in a film ironically enough, about stand-up comedians. George Simmons (Sandler), a veteran in the world of stand-up comedy, learns that he is terminally ill. Fate crosses his path with a virtually unknown stand-up hopeful, Ira Wright (Rogen), and a relationship forms which mixes moments of both comedy genius and heart-touching drama.

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The BEST of Bozeman

Exponent Staff Picks

We asked members of the Exponent staff to tell us where their favorite places were in Bozeman. The staff divulges the best places to eat, drink, and be merry – be sure not to miss out!



Coffee

1. The Daily Coffee Bar
1013 West College St.
(406) 585-8612
2. International Coffee Traders
920 West Main St.
(406) 586-3246
3. The Homepage
242 East Main St.
(406) 582-9388

Breakfast

1. Main Street Over Easy
9 East Main St # E
(406) 587-3205
2. Soby's
321 East Main St.
(406) 587-8857
3. Pita Pit

- 245 East Main St.
(406) 586-7482
4. Perkins
2505 West Main St.
(406) 587-9323

Bar

1. Bacchus Pub
105 West Main St.
(406) 586-1314
2. Mixers
515 West Aspen St.
(406) 587-1652
3. Montana Ale Works
611 East Main St.
(406) 587-7700
4. Plonk
29 East Main St.
(406) 587-2170
5. Spectators

- 19 Tai Lane
(406) 587-2156

Cheap Meal

1. Pickle Barrel
809 West College St.
(406) 587-2411
2. La Tinga
12 East Main St.
3. La Parilla
1533 West Babcock St.
(406) 582-9511
4. Pita Pit
245 East Main St.
(406) 586-7482

Outdoors Store

1. Northern Lights
1716 West Babcock St.
1-866-586-2225

2. Helly Hansen
30 West Main St.
(406) 586-6503
3. Summit Bike & Ski
26 South Grand Ave.
(406) 587-1064
4. Bob Ward's
3011 Max Ave.
(406) 586-4381

Place to Eat on Campus

1. Avogadro's
2nd Floor of the Strand Union Building

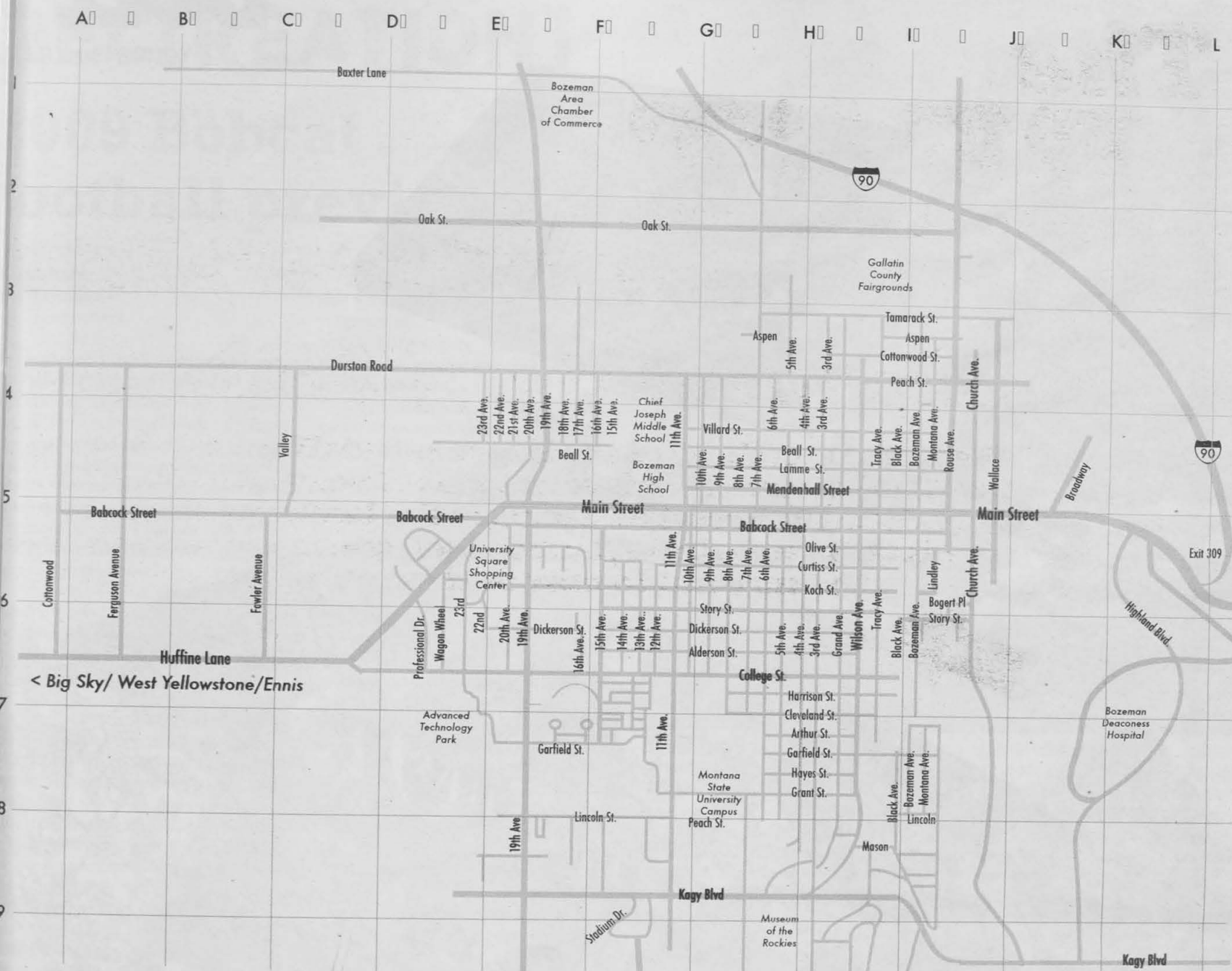
Dinner

1. Montana Ale Works
611 East Main St.
(406) 587-7700



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- 2. The Mint Bar and Café**
27 East Main St., Belgrade MT
(406) 388-1100
- 3. Ted's Montana Grill**
105 West Main St.
(406) 582-8600
- 4. Santa Fe Reds**
1235 North 7th Ave
(406) 587-5838

Mexican

- 1. La Parilla**
1533 West Babcock St.
(406) 582-9511
- 2. La Tinga**
12 East Main St.
- 3. Santa Fe Reds**
1235 North 7th Ave
(406) 587-5838

Italian

- 1. Fresco Café**
200 North 7th Ave
(406) 586-6826
- 2. Damasco's Restaurant**
90 West Madison Ave, Belgrade MT
(406) 388-2724
- 3. Johnny Carino's**
2159 Burke St.
(406) 556-1332

Burger

- 1. The Garage**
451 East Main St.
(406) 585-8558
- 2. Ted's Montana Grill**
105 West Main St.
(406) 582-8600

- 3. Burger Bob's**
39 West Main St.
(406) 585-0080

Pizza

- 1. Tarantino's Pizzeria**
321 East Main St.
(406) 587-0285
- 2. Colombo's Pizza & Pasta**
1003 West College St.
(406) 587-5544
- 3. Rosa's Pizza**
123 West Kagy Blvd
(406) 586-8808

Place to Dance

- 1. Mixers**
515 West Aspen St.
(406) 587-1652

- 2. Zebra Cocktail Lounge**
321 East Main St.
(406) 858-8851
- 3. The SOB Barn**
MSU Campus (on Friday nights)

Place to Listen to Music

- 1. Cactus Records**
29 West Main St.
(406) 587-0245
- 2. Music On Main**
Main Street Bozeman
See pg. 7 for more information on this event.
- 3. Mixers**
515 West Aspen St.
(406) 587-1652

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2009 Bobcat Football preview

WORDS BY
Mike Reynolds
ASMSU Exponent

Alright, so I don't know about you, but I already have two dates marked on my calendar: Sept. 5 and Sept. 12. Sept. 5 is the Bobcat football team's opening game on the road against a very impressive Michigan State team. Last year, our Bobcats went out and played a very good game against an extremely talented Minnesota Golden Gophers and, while we lost the game, our Bobcats played a game to be proud of.

This year, we will all grab a comfy seat with some good friends and good brew and cheer our Bobcats on against an even better Michigan State team. Then, Sept. 12 will mark our home opener against Dixie State! If you're not excited about this game, you might as well transfer to Missoula! The Dixie State Rebels are coming up from Utah to do battle with our Fighting Bobcats, and I'm hoping we have the stands filled with blue and gold to welcome the Rebels to the Gallatin Valley.

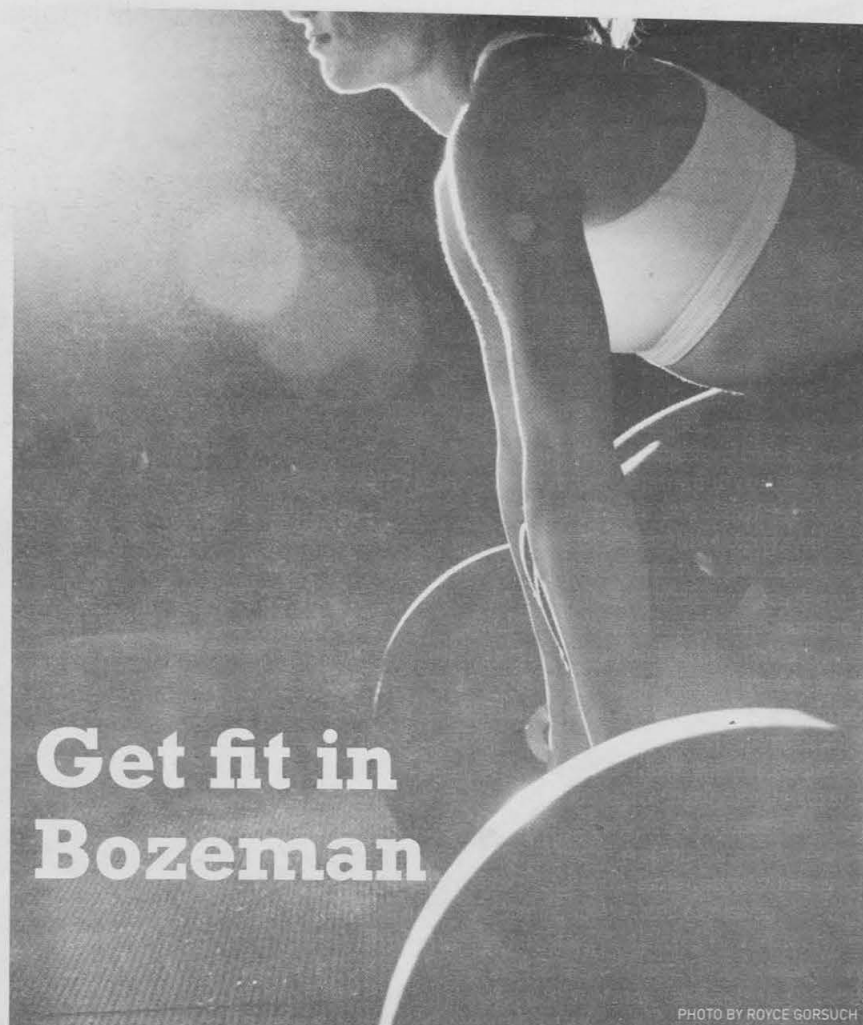
Mark Iddins will be stepping in as the starting quarterback for the upcoming season. Hopefully the senior can help the Bobcats put last year's quarterback woes away and lead what's shaping up to be an impressive offensive attack. With Demetrius Crawford graduating this last year, the Bobcats are looking for someone to step up in the backfield. Throughout spring scrimmages, it has looked like CJ Palmer, a freshman out of Spring, Texas, and Blayde Becksted, a sophomore from Wellington, Colo., are going to be taking over the bulk of the carries for the backfield and they have been playing at an exciting level.

The most exciting offensive prospect this spring has to be kicker Jason Cunningham who has been nearly perfect and will provide the team with a solid foundation, always knowing he's there to make his kicks.

On the other side of the ball, the Bobcats defense will be asking a lot of sophomore middle linebacker Clay Bignell to try to fill the shoes of graduated senior and first team All Conference middle linebacker Bobby Daly. Throughout the spring, Bignell has been playing exceptionally and has really been a shining star on the Bobcats defense. Coming from last year when our defense dominated at times, hopefully we can continue that trend and come out strong on the defensive side of the ball.

With just a few months until football season gets under way, the excitement is getting to be a little too much! I can't wait to be standing in the freezing cold cheering our Fighting Bobcats on against teams like South Dakota, Idaho State and, most importantly, the Montana Grizzlies! Every other year we get to welcome the Grizzlies onto our home field, and hopefully send them home dejected with a loss. If our Fighting Bobcats can pull out a win this year against our hated rivals, then we all know that the season is a success.

All-in-all, the Bobcats are looking great going into the fall and I believe all of us Bobcat fans have a year to look forward to. With some new faces on both sides of the ball to lead us this year, the future looks bright, and come Nov. 21, when the Grizzlies step onto our home field, we should be sending them home with a special parting gift: a loss at the hands of their rivals, the Fighting Bobcats!



Get fit in Bozeman

PHOTO BY ROYCE GORSUCH

WORDS BY
Erica Killham
ASMSU Exponent

Summer is here, and Bozeman is one of the best places in Montana to be active. While there are many great hiking and biking destinations in the area, there is also a large and varied selection of gyms that offer day passes or summer passes for people in town for orientation or maybe the entire summer. Whether you're into yoga, high-intensity training, or anything in between, there is a gym in Bozeman to suit your needs.

Gold's Gym

Gold's Gym has a little bit for everyone in terms of services. It has a large selection of free weights and cardio machines, as well as daily classes, including aerobics, yoga, pilates and spinning, among others. It's one of the most affordable day passes in Bozeman at only \$7. If you wind up liking it, memberships are around \$40 a month.

The Ridge

The Ridge is another diverse gym in Bozeman. The newly renovated complex offers over 80 cardio machines and a huge variety of weights and other machines. It also has a gymnasium, aquatics center, racquetball and handball courts, tanning, a spa and a juice and coffee bar. The new complex still offers a variety of daily classes, such as Zumba, lifting and spinning. The cost of a daily pass is \$15; if you like The Ridge and want a full-time membership, memberships can be formed around your fitness needs.

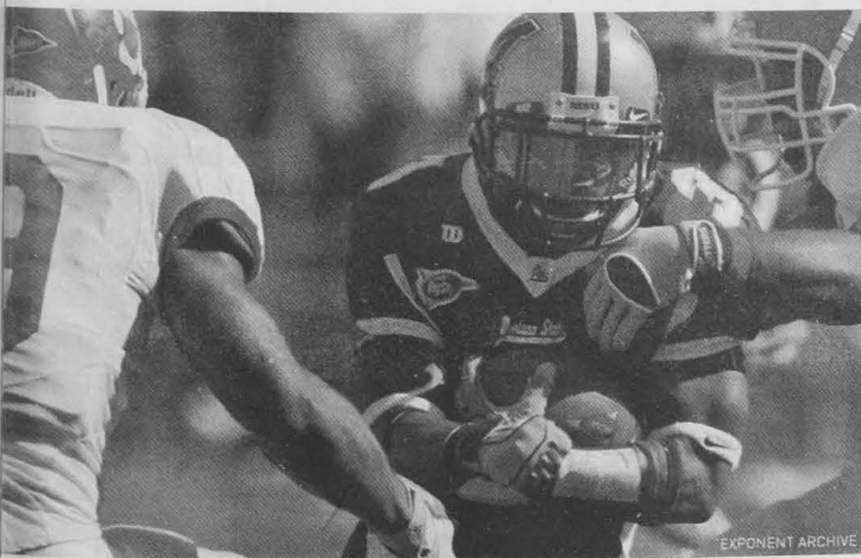
Jazzercise

If you're looking to spice up your fitness routine and add some classic '80s flair, Jazzercise Bozeman is where you need to be. Jazzercise has grown a lot since its roots, however. Classes now include a variety of dance, aerobics and lifting to ensure a total body workout. Classes vary in length, and there are many classes everyday to accommodate anyone's schedule. The cost to take one class is \$10, and a monthly pass for unlimited classes would be around \$35.

MSU

The most convenient and most affordable gym for students would obviously be the newly reopened Hosaeus Recreation Sports & Fitness Center. After opening its renovated center in January 2008, it has offered a variety of fitness opportunities to students, faculty and members of the community. Memberships are free to students during the year and only \$75 for a summer pass. If you're here for orientation and want to see what will be available to you when you start school, day passes are only \$7.

This is only a small selection of gyms and fitness centers in Bozeman. With general gyms like these and more focused gyms like the Bozeman Yoga Center and Crossfit 4800, there is something for everyone. Bozeman may be an awesome place for outdoor fitness, but when weather doesn't permit, head inside for a great summer workout.



EXPONENT ARCHIVE

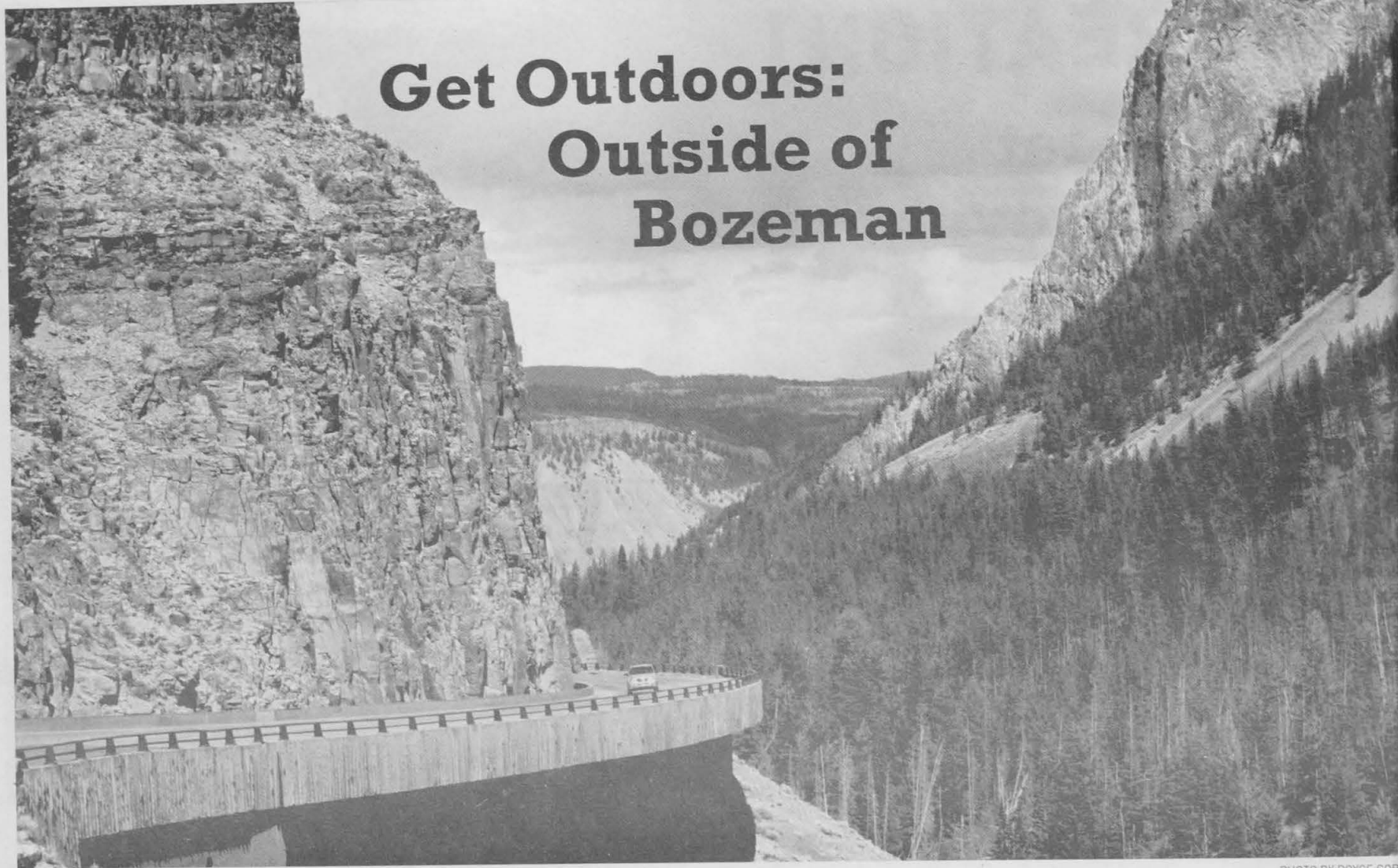


PHOTO BY ROYCE GORS

Get Outdoors: Outside of Bozeman

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU WANT TO GET OUT OF TOWN!

WORDS BY
Daniel Cassidy
ASMSU Exponent

This summer there will be plenty of change in Bozeman. Graduates will move on and the incoming freshman class will move in. But one thing will remain the same: Bozemanites will continue to thrive on adventuring outdoors during the amazing Montana summer.

While Bozeman continues to offer many diverse opportunities to the outdoor enthusiast, summer makes way for the opportunity for further exploration of this great state. Either you have been stuck in Bozeman for a while and are looking for a change, or maybe you just want to check out the rest of the state first before you settle into a rapid succession of classes this fall?

Either way, I have compiled a list of three worthwhile road-trip adventures aimed at, not only getting you outdoors, but also getting you outside Bozeman this summer. Some of these trips can be taken as shorter, one-day ventures or lengthier, weekend getaways.

These trips are designed to show you different sections of the state, not heavily influenced by Bozeman. Getting to these locations is often a process, leading travelers through interesting towns and landscapes, which result in the travel portion being just as important as the destination.

1. The first trip also brings you the farthest away from town, a five and a half hour drive north to the town of Whitefish. A small, tight-knit community, Whitefish offers the same outdoor-minded vibe and amenities as we have come to love about Bozeman, but with an even greater ease of access to less tracked wilderness.

The town sits next to a ski resort that shares the same name, as well as the entrance to the second most famous national park in the vicinity. Glacier National Park is a huge draw for people looking for easy access to some of America's most amazing natural wilderness, as well as people looking to get totally lost in some incredible backcountry trail systems. With over 700 mountain lakes and 26 glaciers, there is no end to the exploration at hand.

Whitefish sits deep in the Flathead Valley, at the northern portion of Flathead Lake, the largest freshwater lake west of the Mississippi River. Flathead Lake is a dream for water sport recreationists and fishermen alike. The lake is surrounded by several remarkable mountain ranges, which offer ample opportunities to heat up before the lake cools you down.

2. The next stop is the most popular national park in the region: Yellowstone. The park is a major attraction that cannot be missed if visiting the area. While most of the park is in Wyoming, its close proximity to Montana State University is a major draw for visiting friends and family. Whether you only have one day or one week, make sure this park is moved to the top of your list.

Yellowstone encompasses just over 2.2 million acres of wilderness and is the world's first national park. Larger than Rhode Island and Delaware combined, it would take years to truly experience the park in all its glory.

Yellowstone is a cultural and geological hotbed, literally. The park is an active volcano and has over 2,000 earthquakes a year. Culturally speaking, visitors will be glad to know there are over 1,000 documented archeological sites and 1,106 historic structures.

Whether you make the trip to fish the many lakes and rivers, hike the 950 miles of backcountry trails, or ride through historical sites on horseback, the short 90-mile jaunt to the park's West Yellowstone entrance is well worth it.

3. A little closer to Bozeman is another well-traveled stretch of road that follows the Lower Madison River west out of town. Roughly 50 miles from town sits Ennis Lake, the lake that separates the Lower Madison

from the Upper Madison. These sections of river are famed for fishing, and the lower section offers recreational relaxation via inner tube transportation.

On a sweltering Montana day, grab tire tubes and friends and float the river at a leisurely pace, a soothing way to soak up some otherwise missed sections of wilderness, as well as the evening sunrays. Make sure to bring food and drinks, some music and plenty of sunscreen. A super-soaker wouldn't hurt either.

Past the town of Ennis, you'll find the small town of Virginia City about 65 miles from Bozeman. Virginia City is known as a ghost town, with hundreds of structures left abandoned since before the 1900s. Virginia City is essentially an open-air museum, offering the public a glimpse at what the west looked like long before students of MSU were around.

Complete with plaques and historical information, the "ghost town" of Virginia City seems to indicate a double meaning. Ripe with reports of sightings of supernatural occurrences, one can only imagine the dense history of the area. Among the town's most notable residents: Calamity Jane.

Five day hikes around Bozeman

WORDS BY
Daniel Cassidy
ASMSU Exponent

Bozeman is the perfect place to be outdoors in the summertime. Within a short distance from town, there are plenty of outdoor activities to keep you busy all day long. These hikes will get you past the notorious "M" and onto bigger and better trails.

The first hike is in the Bridger Range, to the east. Most people only make it as far as the "M" but if you keep going, Sacagawea Peak is a better alternative. The hike takes about three hours, and is four miles round trip. The top of Sacagawea Peak is 9,665 feet, the tallest in the Bridger Range. From the peak you can see views of the Tobacco Root Mountains and the Crazy Mountains. Add on an extra mile to the trip and check out Fairy Lake located right next to the trailhead. Just head out Bridger Canyon Drive and look for Fairy Lake Road on your left after about 20 miles.

Next up is one of my favorite day hikes to the south. Beehive Basin is a great place to really get on top of things, climbing to nearly 9,200 feet in the Spanish Peaks. This trail is full of alpine meadows and plenty of creek crossings. At the end of the two-mile jaunt, there is a lake that remains unnamed. For most people, this hike takes more than three hours roundtrip. Head south on highway 191 towards Big Sky. In between Big Sky Resort and Moonlight, there is a turn off for Beehive Basin on the right. On a hot day, be sure to stop on the Gallatin to jump off the green bridge on the way home.

Once the snow starts to melt and these hikes become more and more accessible, people tend to head up into Hyalite Canyon. Hyalite offers plenty of day hikes for all ages and abilities. Some of the more crowded features are the waterfalls to the back of the reservoir, which are worth the short walk. My favorite quick hike in the area leads you from the reservoir parking lot, up the Blackmore Trail to Blackmore Lake. The views of this alpine lake are intense and worth the short trip. The hike takes about two hours and covers at least three miles of ground, giving you an elevation range of

about 500 feet.

Another nice area that is close to town is Bear Canyon. Head out I-90 East and take the first exit after you leave Bozeman. The trailhead is only 3.5 miles up Bear Canyon Road. There are two hikes here that are about the same: Bear Canyon Trail is about 4.5 miles over the course of 2.5 hours, and New World Gulch is the same, though you gain 1,000 feet of elevation instead of only 400. To make things interesting, you can go about 2.5 miles further and discover Mystic Lake. These trails are great for short hikes in bad weather due to more tree cover and less exposure.

The last hike is one I have wanted to do for a while now. It is located down in Paradise Valley on the way to Gardiner, near the north entrance to Yellowstone National Park. Take Highway 89 about 35 miles south to the Tom Miner Basin turnoff. After another 10 miles, you should reach the Tom Miner campground. The trail is about 4.5 miles roundtrip. It takes you over Buffalo Horn Pass, with an elevation gain of nearly 1,500 feet. This hike is diverse due to a nearby petrified forest and access to Yellowstone National Park, as well as the Gallatin River if you care to explore further.

With all of these hikes so close to the Bozeman area, living in Montana certainly makes it easy to get outdoors.

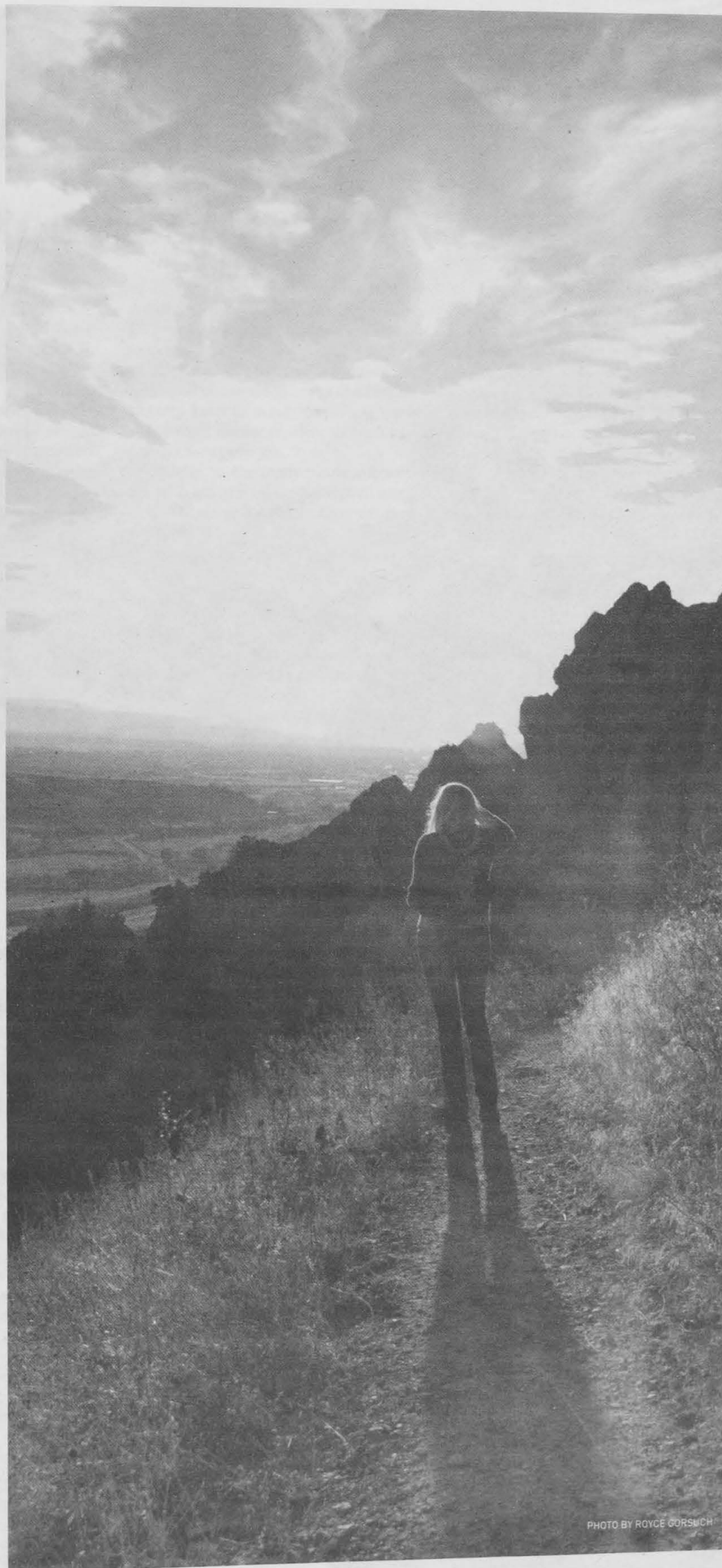


PHOTO BY ROYCE GORSUCH

STATIC



PHOTO BY ROYCE GORSUCH

Montana

WORDS BY
Brent Zundel
ASMSU Exponent

Montana is a special place. It's not every state where waving to strangers on a dirt road is obligatory and dogs have a reserved spot in the front of a pickup truck. Also unique are our college dormitories -- with their special places for students to store their guns -- and the hidden pride many of our residents hold that the Unabomber hid here.

As anyone who has lived here for a while knows, Montana is a land of contrasts. The western third of the state is characterized by rugged mountain ranges punctuated with deep valleys; the middle third is broken up by island mountain ranges; and the eastern third is a tableland prairie.

The denizens of Montana are shaped to a considerable extent by our landscape. And, much like the contrasts of the land, we too display a fascinating refusal to be pigeonholed -- an equally fascinating contradiction.

We idolize wild places, and many of us take pride in the fact that our state is "The Last Best Place," untainted, as it

were, by the industry that has tamed so many other states. Despite this popular ideal, roughly 85 percent of us live in one of the seven biggest cities in the state (Billings, Missoula, Great Falls, Butte, Bozeman, Helena, and Kalispell, in descending order).

Today's Montana is filled primarily with people who love the outdoors, but also expect many of the conveniences of modern life -- not the elusive, bearded, mountain-dwelling lumberjacks so many outsiders think exclusively populate our state.

Since the time of the earliest explorers, Montanans have prided themselves on being self-reliant. The first citizens of our state -- the trappers, explorers and even early settlers -- had to fend and provide for themselves. If they didn't, they died. And while we can now run to Albertson's for meat if we don't hunt everything we eat ourselves, this mentality has never died.

The people of the state continue to display this state of mind in various ways: We prefer a relatively small government. We don't like it when the government interferes with our private citizens (the recent ban on red-light cameras in the state on the grounds of personal privacy

is one of numerous examples).

Furthermore, we're not afraid to assert our independence. Our state Legislature recently considered a resolution that would allow all of the powers currently vested in the federal government to revert back to the state if it determined that the U.S. government was infringing upon either the rights of the state or its people. This would give the state the power to consider its "Compact with the United States" breached -- and, ostensibly, to secede. The resolution failed by one lone vote.

If that's not telling the government to stay out of our business, I don't know what is. Remember: We're also the state that had "Reasonable and Prudent" as a speed limit and a drinking age of 18 -- until the federal government threatened to take away our highway funding.

Finally, there is little we Montanans hold dearer than the concept of a "native" Montanan. We often show this in our desire to keep out-of-staters (especially Californians) out.

Despite this, Montana is a melting pot, of sorts. I posit that we have had seven waves of immigrants so far. In chronological order, they are: American Indians, trappers and explorers, miners,

cattlemen, farmers, oil men, and what I like to call "Californians" -- a generic term for out-of-staters.

Each of these groups had their own ideas of what Montana was -- and to each one it was something different. Because of their diverse views, each group has influenced the state dynamics in vastly different ways. Montana has been, at different points in its history, a home, a fresh start at life, an untamed adventure in the wild, a gold mine -- literally and figuratively -- and a haven for thousands of nerve-shaken, over-civilized tourists seeking a wild refuge.

Most importantly of all, Montana is what we each perceive it to be. To each successive generation, it represents something different -- some different ideal or concept. For generations, we have truly been one of the last best places. Every aspect of our state is unique including our vast wild areas, our way of life, our citizens and, of course, our dirt road waves. And I now ask you: What is your Montana? Perhaps more importantly: What will your future Montana be?

AGREE TO DISAGREE

Pirates vs. Ninjas

PIRATES

What do Robert Louis Stevenson's immortal Long John Silver, the foxy Keira Knightley and the timeless Jimmy Buffet all have in common?

They're all pirates. And, as anyone should realize, pirates are far superior to ninjas.

First off, let's start with the obvious: Motivation. Ninjas, as we all know, are merely hired assassins. They don't even kill for what they believe in -- just whatever the man with the most money believes in. Conversely, pirates sail the seven seas because of what they believe, not what their emperor ordered them to believe.

This brings about the next point: Pirates, much like Americans, love freedom; their ships are a physical embodiment of this. Ninjas do not love freedom and instead aggressively uphold rigid social hierarchies of the times. Clearly, ninjas are anti-American.

Pirates are also considerably more "natural" than ninjas. While ninjas must adhere to unnatural, self-imposed ethical restrictions, pirates have no such restraints. Using Darwinian principles of survival of the fittest, pirates employ

whatever means necessary -- such as guns, cannons, ships and the occasional treachery -- to accomplish their ends.

For any men who think they are ninjas, consider this: Pirates are manlier. Ninjas must sneak around in the dark like cowards. Who would you rather fight -- a short Japanese guy in black spandex or a bearded, angry European with a peg leg and an eye patch?

Likewise, because women are naturally more sociable, they too are more akin to pirates. Ninjas work alone, without ever talking to anyone; pirates are part of a crew that thrives on teamwork. Because of their loquacity, pirates have developed a language ("Avast, ye scurvy dogs!") that is far superior to the native tongue of ninjas: Japanese, a haplessly confused language with three alphabetic systems.

Finally -- and this is perhaps the best thing about being a pirate -- pirates like to have fun; they're not uptight about life. Pirates have rum and wenches. When was the last time you saw a ninja with either rum or wenches? Pirates also get booty. Both kinds.

--Brent Zundel

NINJAS

I am a fan of pirates. I can see the appeal of their flamboyant dress, carefree lifestyle and affinity for rum. However, when it comes to choosing between pirates and ninjas, ninjas are the obvious answer.

First, in terms of a literal battle, the victor would undoubtedly be the ninja. Pirates may be able to overwhelm unsuspecting ships by brute force, but when it comes to challenging those who can fight back, pirates seem to be somewhat lacking. Those Somali pirates who kidnapped that cargo ship captain were taken out by three well-aimed sniper shots. They never saw it coming; it was sneaky, like a ninja. When it comes to the crude tactics of pillaging versus the art form of stealth, stealth always wins.

Second, pirates need weapons. Ninjas are the weapon. While it takes a whole crew of pirates and a ship in order to create havoc, a single ninja can annihilate anyone, anywhere, at anytime.

Third, pirates don't bathe. Ninjas do, because a smelly ninja is not a sneaky ninja. Which one would you rather hug?

Fourth, ninjas get to run around wearing cool black clothing, and they don't have to wear shoes. And let's not forget

the brain ninjas. Ninety-nine point nine percent of argument victories are attributed to them.

For those out there who claim ninjas have died out while pirates are alive and kicking, keep in mind that if we knew about their existence, they wouldn't be doing a very good job.

Finally, to the many pirate supporters who ask the oh-so-unoriginal question, "When was the last time you saw a ninja with rum and wenches?" my response is this: When was the last time you saw a ninja?

--Bronwyn Rolph

PIRATE REBUTTAL

I challenge the idea that a ninja would win in a physical battle. As my prime piece of evidence, I hold up Indiana Jones in "Raiders of the Lost Ark." Indy is confronted by -- essentially -- a ninja. The man flashes his sword and performs a number of technically challenging twirling motions. Annoyed with these antics, Indy pulls out his gun and shoots him dead.

The man in black was expecting to challenge Indy one-on-one, with Indy wielding his whip and him wielding a sword. However, exactly as a pirate would do, Indiana ignored these rules of fair engagement -- which were unfavorable to him -- and, with perhaps a bit of treachery, won the fight. To those who claim he cheated, I ask this: Who's still alive?

Before concluding, I address the farcical last paragraph in the ninja article. Calling the rum-and-wenches question "oh-so-unoriginal" before following it with "When was the last time you saw a ninja?" is the best example I can submit of the pot calling the kettle black. Without fail, whenever a ninja supporter is backed into a corner with the rum-and-wenches conundrum, you can fully expect to be hit with this rhetorical question.

The logic to defeat it is simple: How much fun is life if no one ever sees you? You can never hang out with friends, spend time with your family or be anywhere where there is the slightest chance of being

seen. This is true and utter alienation, and I can think of no worse punishment than this.

We pirates, on the other hand, heartily enjoy a good time with close friends, rum and women -- three of life's necessities. So, if you don't enjoy any of those things, you're probably better off as a ninja anyway. But, when you change your mind, we pirates will be waiting for you, with a bottle of rum in hand just for you.

NINJA REBUTTAL

First off, the life of a pirate is all about hierarchy. A captain, a first mate, the idea of mutiny: It's essentially a dictatorship, another rather anti-American concept.

Second, it seems that the word "natural" has been confused with the psychological concept of the id. Most societies have "naturally" evolved to include codes of ethics and restrictions, suggesting that this lifestyle is more advantageous than the "natural" style of a barbarian, and also suggesting that the ninja lifestyle is more practical.

Third, the assumption that pirates are "manly" Europeans is racist. Piracy continued around Asia long after it died out in Europe, and those "short Japanese" men you refer to were occasionally pirates themselves. And I fail to see how race and size affects the "manliness" factor.

Fourth, women can identify far more with ninjas.

With exceptions, most of us don't care for wenches.

And the brain ninjas: Those are our territory.



How to enjoy summer

WORDS BY
Nathan Carroll
ASMSU Exponent

First of all, if you're reading this, you already have a problem. The only acceptable reason for you to be on campus right now is if you are being chased by a bunch of zombies and are hiding behind an Exponent rack. If this is the case, stop reading this article, grab a shovel and head to the mall. Standard zombie apocalypse protocol.

I suppose you might also be reading this if you're at orientation and thought this paper would be a good way to get a feel for campus. If that's the case, then welcome to MSU; we had a cow in the bell tower of Montana Hall once, blah blah blah, good luck with your freshman year.

Back to the shmucks reading this in the middle of summer: I'm serious, stop. Roll up this piece of paper we're trying to pass off as a newspaper and blow into it like a conch shell. You know what that is? It's you signaling your arrival to summer, like a kilt-wearing Scotsman triumphantly blasting the hills with the horn blats of his presence. But don't get carried away. You are just blowing through a newspaper.

Before you face summer headlong, you will need to prepare yourself. Let's start with the skin. Wear sunscreen. NEXT! Feet; these can be more difficult. Try conditioning them by walking around barefoot for a couple days. When you're able to walk down Greek Way and not feel the broken glass beneath your feet, then you're ready for summer.

Next, how are your abs? Rock hard and tasty? If not, you've got several options. Option 1: Work out crazy hard. Option 2: Work out kind of hard and use a spray-on tan to shade in a six-pack. Option 3: Watch funny YouTube videos so long your abs hurt. I've had 50/50 luck with all of these options, so feel free to experiment. If all else fails, keep a shirt on. This is Montana, so shirtless days are few and far between anyway.

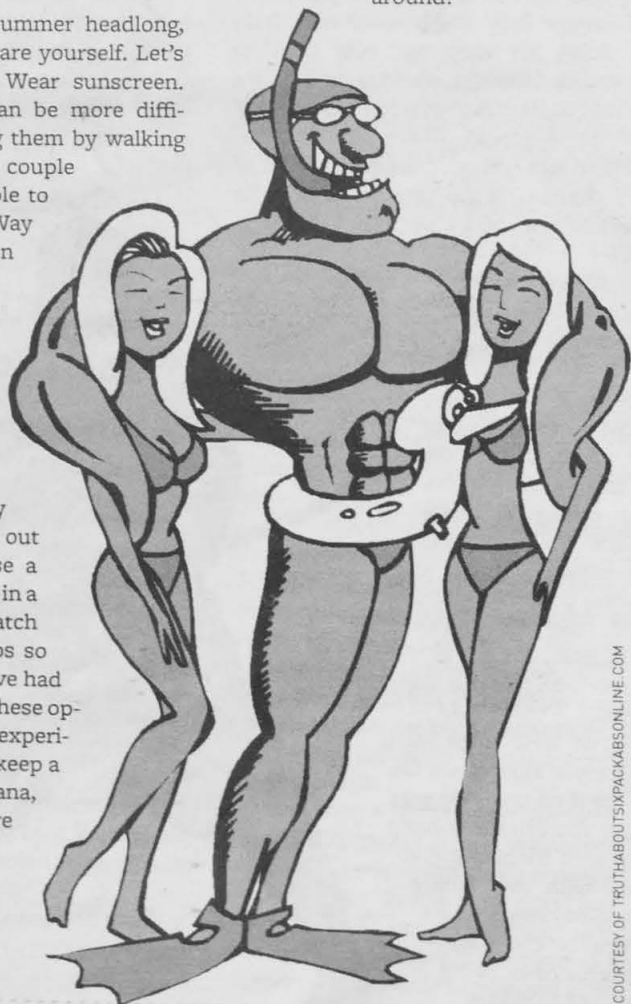
Now you should be ready to Huck Finn it down the

river. But don't think you have to have a summer jam-packed exclusively full of barefoot running through fields catching butterflies. You can also catch fireflies, which offer an added challenge and a good balance to your daytime activities. Beyond that, you have the summer movie season to navigate.

Don't for one second think your calloused feet and washboard abs are wasted at the movie theater either. It's been scientifically proven that people who have summer conditioned feet contract fewer foot-borne diseases at movie theatres. And by scientifically proven, I mean I've never caught a foot-borne disease at a movie theatre.

And don't forget to save your popcorn butter. What's the one thing better than rock-hard abs? Rock-hard abs glistening in the sun. Plus, since smell is strongly linked to memory, there's a chance that passersby will be vaguely reminded of that super hot movie star they saw in that one movie. Brought to you by the buttery goodness of your sun-bathing abs.

So, sorry you're taking summer classes, but try to enjoy summertime in Montana. Think of it this way: Since you've already taken MATH 181 once, how hard can it be the second time around?



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The dog days of summer

Ahh summer...

That time of year when the worldly demands of the academic world are left behind.

Warm, lazy days of sleeping in, ultimate Frisbee and ice cream. All the free time in the world.

Except not.

Summer classes, jobs, freshman orientation. Alarm clocks, commuting and paperwork. Even the Exponent's summer edition.

Just when I thought I was done with Microsoft Word until September... here I am, with another deadline to hit. And another 300 words to mash together into something I can pretend is coherent.

Since you're reading this, I should really put the effort into writing something worth your time. An insight into the impact of the recession on the university's budget perhaps, or maybe even an explanation as to why pirates and ninjas are both inferior to Italian mobsters (it's all in the accent, of course).

But that's not going to happen, I think. The sunshine has managed to suck all motivation towards logical thought right out of me.

I'm going to blame the education system.

You see, as students, we've been conditioned since kindergarten to enjoy lazy summers. Most of us learned that "June," "July" and "August" are synonymous with "not having to think" about the time we figured out how to stand in line for the drinking fountain without shoving.

After 12-plus years of schooling, we're almost like Pavlov's dogs come late spring -- drooling as we wait for Montana Hall to ring in the end of our last final.

Which would be all well and fine if the adult world would conform itself to the pattern. But no -- the world suddenly changes its mind, and demands we be productive.

Oh well. Maybe I should just suck it up and take responsibility for my work ethic. But then again, if I did that, I'd have to start this thing over.

--Eric Dietrich

Inspiration? Try Beyonce

Britain's Got Talent's Susan Boyle. Inspiration? I think not.

But she's unattractive and yet she can sing beautifully! Oh yeah, I forgot there's an inverse relationship between how heavy someone's eyebrow is and how well their vocal cords work. But Susan Boyle's story is one of perseverance and how the common person can be extraordinary. Bull honkey.

First of all, the show is called Britain's Got Talent. Not Britain's got Good Looking Talent, because that just wouldn't be a sustainable show. Susan Boyle isn't special. In fact, I'm willing to bet that she's the norm. Show me a church congregation on Sunday morning and I'll show you 40 to 50 women who can sing beautifully but who I would pay money not to see in a skimpy school-girl outfit on MTV. Well, that might actually be kind of cool, but that's beside the point.

The point is that people like Susan Boyle don't have the handicap of being pretty and therefore have actually learned how to sing. The truly exceptional people are those who are pretty and who can sing well. Why? Because despite the fact that they could have gotten by on their good looks, they decided that they wanted to work hard to be able to sing well anyway.

So please, do not send me anymore "inspirational" YouTube videos with Susan Boyle. Maybe try an inspirational video with Beyonce in it.

--Nathan Carroll

Vacillators

David Lloyd George, a former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, once described an opponent thus: "Like a cushion, he always bore the impress of the last man who sat on him."

As college students, the pressure to conform to the opinions of professors or friends can be significant, but mistaken. College professors, although an authority on their own fields, should not be trusted on matters of politics. Political ideas must be developed individually.

As the importance of college has waned in the last half century, the tendency of professors to aggressively espouse relativism and increasingly opposing beliefs has grown in parallel. Rather than spend the time teaching facts, educators are increasingly willing to repeat opinions, sometimes stated as facts.

This willingness also correlates to

the rise in essentially worthless college majors such as Women's Studies or Art. Women's Studies is a loosely defined field of questionable value, while the pursuit of a career in art should not require a college degree. Without meaningful material to discourse upon, professors are left to fill time with rhetoric and free thought. When the curriculum is established, as it is in the

hard sciences, opinion does not become an issue.

In short, professors should be trusted only so far as the facts that they give match the book. Beyond that, their opinions can carry some weight, but no more than anyone else's and only based on the validity of their commentary, not on some nebulous perception of authority.

Blind submission to authority is one of the biggest academic dangers. Do not accept, question; do not feel, think. Do not completely reverse opinions without critical thought, lest you be labeled a swaying reed without legitimate opinion.

--Nick Howard



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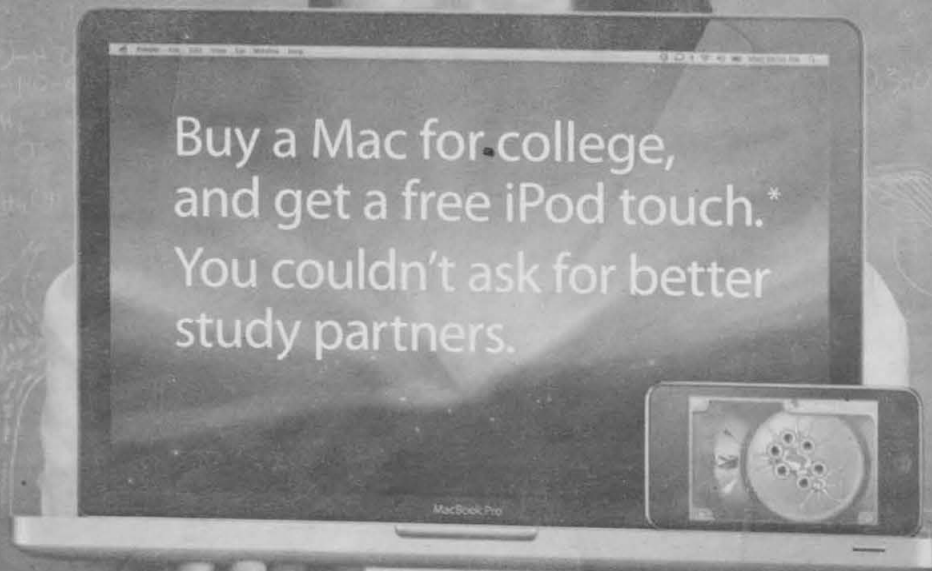
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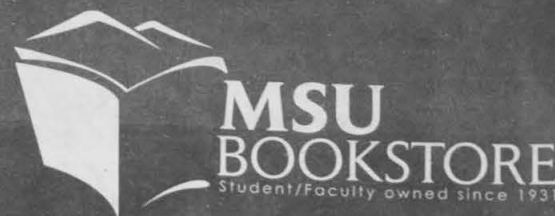
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