

THE ASMSU

September 10, 2009 • Vol. 104, Issue 02

exponent



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again!

Coming Soon, The new and improved ASMSU Exponent Website!

[LOTS OF FRESHMEN 5] [MY SUMMER VACATION 10] [ASK SHERLOCK 19]

LETTERS

Most Montanans agree that we need to take timely steps toward cleaner, domestic energy sources to ensure a healthy environment and economy. Now that Sens. Jon Tester and Max Baucus are back in Washington, they'll have a chance to put a Montana brand on pending climate change legislation.

A key feature of the bill is cap and trade, which is a mandatory limit, or "cap," on CO₂ emissions combined with the right to emit up to the cap, or "trade" that right to a third-party. The CO₂ emission cap is set in Washington, and the compliance costs will be determined by the vagaries of something like the stock market combined with the speculative development of new technologies. The goal is to put a high price on CO₂ emissions, from inexpensive fossil fuels like coal, oil and natural gas in order to reduce their use. The hope is that undiscovered energy technologies will develop faster than costs to consumers rise.

Cap and trade won't affect all Americans the same way: Montana ranks fourth in transportation energy costs and seventh in energy consumption per capita. We rank 49th in take home pay.

Montana's energy-dependent economy and modest incomes mean cap and trade is likely to eliminate more high-paying jobs than it creates. Consider California's experience with environmental mandates: From 1995 to 2007, manufacturing jobs decreased by 253,100 while green jobs grew by only 13,000. Longer, colder winters and longer distances to transport cattle, grains and manufactured goods to markets means higher energy costs and more job losses for Montanans.

The legislation expressly acknowledges there will be "adversely affected" workers in energy-intensive industries. In Montana, that includes 7,501 mining and 19,903 manufacturing jobs, earning an annual average of \$72,406 and \$40,639 respectively in 2008. "Adversely affected" workers are eligible for "a climate change adjustment allowance" in an amount "not to exceed the average" wage for all workers in the state.

Because jobs in energy-intensive industries pay significantly more than the state average of \$33,303 annually, this is up to a 54 percent pay cut for affected workers.

According to the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, workers who are able to find a green job can expect to be paid an average annual salary of \$40,140. The annual salary is likely to be lower since the definition of green jobs includes many of the higher paid workers making the mining, oil and gas industries cleaner who could lose their jobs under cap and trade. Substituting numerous high-paying jobs for fewer, lower-paying green jobs is a high price to pay for Montana's workers and families.

Rising domestic energy costs are also likely to shift energy-intensive manufacturing to low-cost countries. According to experts, goods produced in China emit 14 percent more CO₂ than if those goods are produced in America. China is now the world's largest emitter of CO₂ and has categorically rejected emission caps. Under cap and trade, Montana will export high-paying jobs and import CO₂ emissions: It's a lose-lose for workers and the environment.

To create a win-win, the cap and trade portions of the bill should be replaced with incentives for entrepreneurial solutions.

Specifically:

- Replace costly subsidies for politically favored technologies with preferential tax treatment for increased research and development spending on both proven and experimental energy sources. Entrepreneurs, not Washington politicians are more likely to discover cost-effective solutions for cleaner energy.

- Improve patent protection for new energy technology discoveries to improve the cost/benefit ratio of entrepreneurial risk-taking.

- Limit frivolous lawsuits that obstruct both proven and experimental domestic American energy development to lower energy costs.

We have a long tradition of sending representatives to Washington who stand up for hard-working Montanans. We're confident that Sens. Baucus and Tester will do the right thing for Montana's unique environment and economy.

Jason Priest is the executive director of the Montana Growth Network and John Prinkki is the chairman of the Carbon County Board of Commissioners.

HEY YOU! YEAH YOU...

More than ants love a discarded popsicle on a sidewalk, the

ASMSU Exponent LOVES feedback! Please send your rants, raves, and heartfelt expressions of your undying love to:

letters@exponent.montana.edu

masthead

THIS ISSUE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

MANAGEMENT

ADVISOR
Bill Wilke

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Brandon French

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Claire Nelson

ART DEPARTMENT
ART DIRECTOR
Bruce Muhlbardt

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Todd Schilling, Andreas Welch

ADVERTISING & BUSINESS
AD SALES MANAGER
Jake Lewendal

AD SALES REPRESENTATIVES
James Rota, Ashley Lewis,
Catherine Boberg

BUSINESS MANAGER
Shardae Johnson

EDITORIAL

NEWS EDITOR
Eric Dietrich

STATIC EDITOR
Lisa Lundgren

DISTRACTIONS EDITOR
Ben Miller

ATHLETICS EDITOR
Erica Killham

OUTDOORS EDITOR
Daniel Cassidy

COPY EDITOR
Jill Scarson

CONTRIBUTORS

Lexie Lamothe, Rachel Kester, Ashley Wheeler, Daniel Barta, Brent Zuncun, Nick Howard, Trudi Mingus, Elizabeth Browning, Kyle Reynolds, Nathan Carroll, Joe Thiel

THE ASMSU EXPONENT

Strand Union Building Room 366
Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone: (406) 994-2224
editor@exponent.montana.edu

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September 10, 2009 • Vol. 104, Issue 02

"It is only when we forget all our learning that we begin to know."

-- Henry David Thoreau

NEWS 4 STUDENT ACTIVITIES IN 25 WORDS

RACHEL KESTER has some information on several of the groups found on campus. Who knows, after reading this article, you may just want to join one.

RENNE LIBRARY SEES GREEN

One computer, four screens. Sounds like an eco-friendly solution to me. ELIZABETH BROWNING has the low down on all the green transitions being made in the library.

5 LARGE FRESHMAN CLASS STRAINS RESIDENCE HALL CAPACITY

Is it just me, or does it seem like the MSU campus is a little crowded this year? No, I don't think it's just me. Actually, I know it's not just me. JOE THIEL has the full story.

DISTRACTIONS 6 ROCKFORD'S MANDATORY RENOVATION

While the coffee may not have changed, Rockford Coffee's look has. Read more to find out why the renovation was an extremely necessary renovation. BEN MILLER has the whole story.

7 JASON MRAZ: WE SING, WE DANCE, WE STEAL THINGS

So what if the name of the album doesn't make any sense to you. It doesn't make sense to anybody. Anyway, that's beside the point. LEXIE LAMOTHE gives her take on Jason Mraz's latest album.

REC[REACTION] 12 MY TAKE

ERICA KILLHAM reflects on all of the professional football players who refuse to stay with one team for more than a week. Yes, we know that technically refers to all of them.

14 BACK TO SCHOOL BOOKS

Tired of all that traditional academic reading you've been assigned. Don't worry; we've got you covered. DANIEL CASSIDY has a list of books that will definitely improve your Bozeman experience.

STATIC 19 ASK TIME TRAVELING SHERLOCK

That's right, NATHAN CARROLL is back, channeling the infinite wisdom of Sherlock Holmes. This time, the two join together to reflect on the Bozeman bar scene. Should be interesting.

ABOUT THE artist

Harmony Wolfe

Harmony is a recent graduate of Hollins University in Roanoke, VA. Her performative installations have been experienced at Dickinson College and the American Dance Festival in Durham, NC. She has curated performative exhibitions at Hollins University and the Water Heater of Roanoke, VA. She has received grants from the Hobbie Trust Fund and Corporation for Corporeal Culture. She now lives and works in Bozeman, MT.

Harmony's series of work exhibiting in the Exit Gallery attempts a visual articulation between verbal and pictorial languages through a symbolic projection onto multiple media. It structures biological and cultural representations, both human and plant-based, through object based forms.

ABOUT THE exit gallery

"Symbolic Coordinates," a conceptual installation by Harmony Wolfe, will be showing in the Exit Gallery September 8-18. There will be a public artist reception Wednesday, September 16 from 5-7pm. The Exit Gallery is located in SUB 212 and is open Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

The Exit Gallery is accepting applications for exhibits during the Fall 2009 semester. If interested, please email Stacey Ray. Applications are due December 15, 2009.

Stacey Ray
ASMSU Arts and Exhibits
406.994.1828
exhibits@montana.edu



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.

TO CONTACT US:

The ASMSU Exponent office is located on the MSU campus:

305 Strand Union Building
Bozeman, MT 59717

Phone: (406) 994-2224

Fax: (406) 994-2253

Email:

editor@exponent.montana.edu

Web: exponent.montana.edu

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The 2008-2009 academic year marks **The Exponent's** 113th year of publication.



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Do your part! Please share this publication with friends and recycle when you've fully exhausted the ASMSU Exponent.

NEWS

Student Activities in 25 Words

COMPILED BY
Rachel Kester
ASMSU Exponent

We all know that MSU has numerous student clubs and organizations, but we don't always know where to find them. So, in the name of helping spread the word, we decided to ask a few clubs and organizations that meet on campus to summarize what they are all about. For more information, you can check out the Student Activities Office across from the AskUs Desk in the SUB, or visit its website at www.montana.edu/wwwstuac/clubs.php. Enjoy!

Montana State Queer-Straight Alliance

Promoting awareness and tolerance of sexual orientation/gender identity diversity. Related issues are discussed through weekly forum meetings, and

special events. Contact: Maria Brown, qsa-msu+owner@googlegroups.com.

Student United Way

The Student United Way is introducing the 10,000 Hours Show (10K) this year, the goal being to generate 10,000 hours of volunteer service as a student body. Individually, students who volunteer 10 hours or more receive a ticket to an exclusive concert held for volunteers. Contact: Ted, 10000hours@montana.edu.

MSU Cycling Club

Road, Mountain, Cyclocross and more,

Guys and Gals, welcome aboard!

Recreation and Racing are reasons enough,

But join MSU Cycling and get deals on sweet stuff.

Contact: Scott, scott.lipp@gmail.com

Fencing Club

You can send somebody email,

Or text them 'til your bored.

But to get your point to stick,

Why not stab them with a sword?

Contact: Michael Holland, www.bozeman-fencing.org.

NECO

NECO is a student driven grassroots organization dedicated to connecting resources between MSU and the greater Montana community, emphasizing environmental, social, and economic sustainability. Contact: Blake Bjornson, president@bozoneco.com.

College Republicans

College Republicans provides a forum for conservative-minded students to discuss their beliefs and ideals and works to get Republican candidates

elected on the local, state, and national level. Contact: Jeff Marty, jeffmarty@gmail.com.

The Word: An English Society

A student organization that supports the literary community through lecture series and writing workshops hosted by Montana State University English Department, faculty and local authors. Contact: Jill Scarson, msutheword@gmail.com

Read This: MSU's Literature and Arts Publication

Published each semester by students and alumni, with support from President Gamble, each issue contains literature and art from MSU students, the Bozeman community, and around the world. Contact: Kate Bedouin, msureadthis@gmail.com



Renne Library Sees Green

WORDS BY
Elizabeth Browning
ASMSU Exponent

The "going green" movement has hit more than just the recycle bins this year. This semester, Renne Library is using technology to help save energy, time, and space by introducing a new "multiseat terminal", or a "four-header computer", to the basement next to the DVD/Video section.

The multiseat terminal is one computer hooked up to four monitor stations, which not only allows four people to work on independent projects at the same time, but also uses the full power potential of one computer, so the speed

and efficiency will not be affected.

Another feature is that each of the monitors have ports installed for headphones and jump drives allowing students to save projects or watch YouTube videos. The multiseat terminals also have z-drives installed.

While the concept of a multiseat terminal isn't exactly new to the technological world, (mainframes from the 1970s had one dock with several terminals attached), it is new to the academic institution scene. Usually one would see multiseat terminals in internet cafés or public libraries; however, Montana State is one of the only universities to use one of these systems in its research library.

Ben Hager, a library systems administrator, commented on the reasons

behind the project: "Because the computers are in high demand, especially during times like registration or midterms, we wanted to bring in more stations, but also try to keep the energy and costs down."

Using just one computer to power four stations uses about half the power of four independent computers. The costs of the project are also low, because the staff only had to pay for one computer -- the monitors were all old library ones from storage. The library cycles through computers every four years, so all of the leftover monitors will be reused for the multiseat terminals.

"We're using the terminal in the basement as a test run to see how well it works and how often people use it; but

eventually, we plan on installing more of these on the upper floors, especially on the third and fourth, because each of those floors have only one computer," said Hager.

The added terminals are not meant to replace any of the computers already running in the library, but are meant to supplement them, giving people who only want to quickly check the library catalogue or their email a place to work for a moment.

"Think of them as express lanes," says Mike Hodges, a computer support specialist. "When things get really hectic around the library, you'll use one of these to get you in and out."

PHOTO BY ERIC DIETRICH

Large freshman class strains residence hall capacity

WORDS BY
Joe Thiel
ASMSU Exponent

Residence Life will house up to 140 more new freshmen this year than last, a daunting task that has stretched MSU's residence halls nearly to capacity, and forced Residence Life to temporarily place some students in overflow housing. This deluge of new freshman has contributed to what Director Tammie Brown describes as "concerning occupancy since June 1st."

As of Aug. 1 there were 120 students without room assignments at MSU, a number that had to be slowly whittled away by filling in double-as-single rooms, assigning students to special living floors they didn't request and placing residents in empty rooms as students cancelled near the start of semester. By the start of classes on Aug. 31, however, only one student remained in overflow housing.

"We couldn't be as attentive to roommate pairings this year," said Brown, cataloging the difficulties inherent in housing so many new students. Although Residence Life was able to keep some student preferences found on roommate questionnaires, others fell by the wayside.

Some students, for instance, may find that they have been put on a themed floor they did not request. Themed floors such as study options, honors floors and major-oriented floors had to be compromised due to lack of space.

Anticipating possible tensions

caused by poor placement, Residence Life opened up room changes a week earlier than normal so students unhappy with their placement could seek a new arrangement.

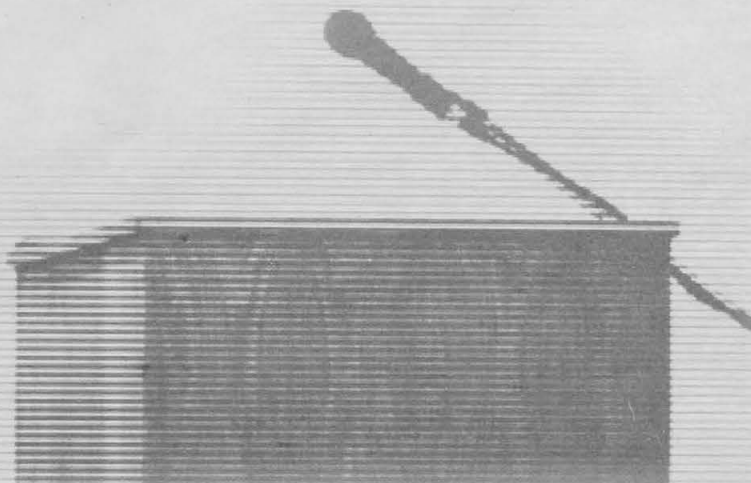
The lackluster economy, Brown theorized, was the main contributor to the surprisingly large freshman class. "Because of the shift in the economy more students are staying local than travelling out of state."

Tom Stump, Director of Auxiliary Services, added that "historically in an economic downturn higher education benefits. People who lose their jobs often go back to get their degree or seek an advanced degree."

Stump, who sits on the enrollment management committee which analyzes MSU's recruitment efforts, said that current numbers for entering freshman did not greatly exceed the college's recruitment goal. Instead, larger numbers of male students in the new freshman class and numerous double-as-a-single room requests complicated placement efforts.

Although MSU is working on a multiple-option, long-term housing plan to upgrade current facilities or add a new residence hall, the college does not plan to increase overall housing capacity. MSU's five-year recruitment plan, according to Stump, shows only small growth in overall enrollment numbers and focuses more on improving student retention and graduate student recruitment rather than increasing the number of new undergrads.

expoBOARD



COMPILED BY
Eric Dietrich
ASMSU Exponent

Thursday, Sept. 10 Irish Megalithic Art Motifs

The School of Art at MSU will host a discussion on "The Symbolic Significance and Hallucinatory Basis for Irish Megalithic Art Motifs," from 5:10-6 p.m. in Cheever 215. The presentation is a view of the recent work of neurophysicist John Miller, a professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience. Miller will discuss his current studies on sensory systems regarding external stimuli in regard to images on Neolithic structures in Ireland. Miller proposes the possibility that hallucinations may be the inspiration behind the archaeological evidence from Neolithic people.

Monday, Sept. 14 Bioneers Conferences

Bring your lunch and enjoy selected lectures from past Bioneers conferences Monday through Thursday from 12-1 p.m. at the Procrastinator Theater. Sponsored by ASMSU Sustainability, NECO and BORN, a different program of sustainability talks will be presented each day. Information will also be available about this year's Northern Rockies Bioneers Conference and the student scholarship program.

Tuesday, Sept. 15 Renewable and Nonrenewable Energy

Renewable and nonrenewable energy will be the subject of the inaugural lecture in the Sustainable Food and Bioenergy Systems Seminar Series, to

be held from 5:10 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Leon Johnson Hall, Room 346. The seminar speaker will be Paul Gannon, a professor in the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. Gannon will discuss current sources of renewable and nonrenewable energy and energy conversion systems.

Wednesday, Sept. 16 Study Abroad Fair

Have you dreamed of studying African history in Ghana, honing your art skills in Italy or learning a language by immersing yourself in another culture? More information about these and other study abroad opportunities at Montana State University will be available at the MSU Study Abroad Fair, set for 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in Ballrooms B and C of the MSU Strand Union Building. To learn more about the MSU International Program study abroad offerings, or about other international activities, call 994-7151 or visit the Office of International Programs' Web site at www.montana.edu/international.

Sack Lunch Seminar

The MSU Women's Center will present a sack lunch seminar "Women of the Iris Garden: Danforth Park Revisited" in SUB 168 at 12 p.m. "Students for Danforth Park" will share the history of the 1929-1930 women's movement to create the Iris Garden (renamed "Danforth Park" in 1972) during the Depression Era and the present day student movement to restore and revitalize a forgotten place on the MSU campus.

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Family Groups**
For families & friends of problem drinkers

DISTRACTIONS



PHOTO BY BRUCE MUHLBRADT

Rockford's Mandatory Renovation

New look, same great coffee!

WORDS BY
Ben Miller
ASMSU Exponent

It was an early July night. The stars were out, the moon beamed above and a drunk driver, dizzy and disoriented, cruised straight across Main Street going south on Seventh Avenue and crashed through the Rockford coffee shop's huge front picture window.

The driver, a woman believed to be from the traveling carnival in town for the week, ran from the scene with minor injuries but was quickly caught a few blocks away.

Unfortunately the Rockford coffee shop didn't get away unscathed. Broken glass was strewn across the entire store; the main counter's front corner was completely destroyed, with the expensive espresso machine teetering on the brink of collapse above the concrete floor.

I was actually lucky enough - or perhaps unlucky since I couldn't get Rockford coffee that morning - to witness the devastation firsthand. Unaware of the accident, I strolled up to Rockford from the south, walked into the open west entrance and my jaw dropped.

With the vehicle already removed, it looked as if the counter had exploded, sending huge splinters of wood in every direction, nearly toppling the espresso machine, shattering the window and leaving an eerie layer of dust lingering in the air. The owner and a couple of employees were inside snapping photos of the carnage. Not wanting to be a nuisance or in the way I quickly said "hi" to the baristas and left, baffled, bummed and without my fix of caffeine.

After dealing with insurance and bids for the renovation, work finally began about a week after the accident. And the gossip started immediately as Rockford's dedicated customers waited patiently for the local's favorite coffee hub to reopen. Everyone was curious to see if anything would be rebuilt differently.

Unannounced, Rockford surprised the corner of Seventh and Main by reopening casually and discreetly. One barista who worked the day Rockford reopened, said it was a day she'll never forget. Not only was it nice to be working again, it was also busy; the tips were great, the customers happy and the vibe better than ever.

The biggest change is the new counter. Opposite of its predecessor, Rock-

ford's new counter has the register at the north end, where orders are placed and paid for first, and then customers wait at the south end for their drinks. This switch drastically improved the flow of customers and business by reducing the line to order drinks and clearing up any confusion for new customers curious about where to order.

The two sitting counters at the north end of the store also received a facelift with new concrete countertops tinted turquoise and finished with a rustic Rockford logo.

The brightest change would have to be the new blue tile on the east wall behind the employee's area. A little abrupt at first but quite refreshing a moment later, the tile adds a tint of style and attitude while also making the entire space appear bigger.

A new cold drink case and a couple pastry cases finish off the new additions on the customer side of the counter. On the other side are a couple hidden additions mainly for the staff, such as new stainless steel countertops, sink and dishwasher placement. And there's more.

A new bakers oven, small but powerful, allows Rockford to make homemade

scones, muffins, and other fluffy goodies. Now, with fresh ground coffee and fresh pastries, what's next?

Sandwiches? Perhaps in due time but with the addition of a new reach-in cooler, complete with cutting board and flip-top, Rockford may soon be not only the best place to get coffee but lunch as well.

Last but not least are two new 8-foot tables made out of three large beams each, and all reclaimed lumber; which is also what the siding on the main counter is built with.

Elegant and functional with clean lines, the woodwork, concrete countertops and tile wall compliment each other superbly and enhance the entire atmosphere.

Rockford continues to display local artwork and photographs - which now seems to be mandatory for every coffee shop in Bozeman - and is still open seven days a week.

So head on down to Seventh and Main for that next morning roast, say "hi" to Ryan and the wonderful Rockford baristas; grab a seat at one of the new tables or counters and enjoy the great view and freshest coffee around with a favorite book or webpage close at hand.

We're All Part of The "Greater Tuna"

Hilarious Live Theater at MSU!!

WORDS BY
Ben Miller
MSU Exponent

From a senile, stingy grandmother who poisons dogs to an animal awareness activist who talks with a lisp, there's sure to be a character in this weekend's play, "Greater Tuna," that will leave you laughing with laughter. And though there are about 15 characters to choose from, there are only two actors.

"Greater Tuna" is a satire about a small, very small, in fact the third smallest town in Texas to be exact: Tuna, Texas.

The two actors, J.R. Cox and Brian McCauley Johnson, begin the show as two radio talk-show hosts who often speak in unison and are always drinking heavily. The actors then take turns disappearing backstage and quickly changing simple - but hilarious - costumes, props and voices to fit the next character. There's the dull weatherman, stuck in a rainstorm; the fat sister who wants to be a cheerleader; the bored sheriff, the local lunatic gun salesman and more.

Only two acts long, the play is "meant to be hurried, a little sloppy on purpose," remarked director Luke Hystad. Using a minimalist stage setup, where the audience is located on three sides with the stage extended into the middle of the theater,

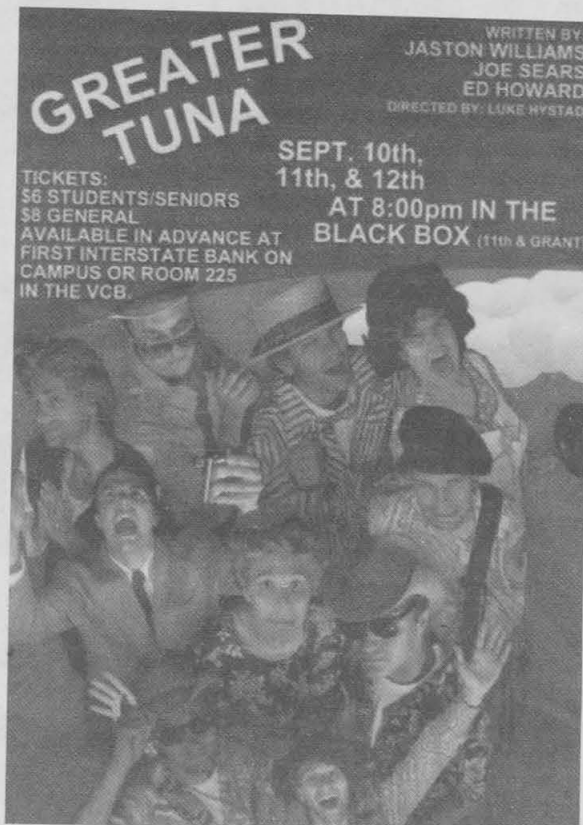
the show becomes very intimate. Sometimes the actors are seated at a table with their back towards certain parts of the audience, an audience only a foot away. At other times the actors are in the middle of the stage, in view of the entire audience.

At first the play does seem a little abstract, almost unusual, but within seconds of the opening lines it becomes apparent that everyone can relate to most, if not all, of the characters in "Greater Tuna."

Hystad, the director, upon learning that practically no one in the Bozeman area had heard of the play, immediately knew he had to bring Tuna, Texas to Bozeman, Montana.

Of all the characters, the actors' favorites include the senile grandmother Pearl Burris and Sheriff Givens, who never has anything to do. Also watch for Petey Fisk, the animal rights activist with a lisp, and Didi, the over-the-top gun-slinging salesman.

When asked what they thought about playing multiple characters with such a small cast, the actors said they "thought it would be a fun challenge." But needless to say it's hard. The actors have different voices for each character but aren't necessarily acting each character for a long time. They constantly have to jump from one role to another and back to the first,



making it difficult to keep everything straight: voices, costumes, lines, emotions and stage movements.

With such a small cast, there isn't

much need for a huge ensemble of stage and technical hands. With two guys on lighting, one on sound, a stage and costume manager, one person in charge of publicity and of course the director and maybe another assistant, the entire crew barely reaches 10 people. But the quality is as good as a full-blown Broadway production. Everyone involved with "Greater Tuna" brings talent and passion to the show.

Rather than hit up the movie theater this weekend, change it up a bit and check out some live theater. "Greater Tuna" will be showing Sept 10, 11 and 12 (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) at Montana State University's own Black Box Theater, located on the corner of 11th Avenue and Grant Street, just south of the duck pond.

Tickets are a great deal at \$6 for students and \$8 for the public. And as for the cost per laugh, it's priceless.



Jason Mraz: We Sing, We Dance, We Steal Things

WORDS BY
Alexie Lamothe
MSU Exponent

A feel-good melody and uplifting lyrics overtake the boom-box speakers and the listener's mind; the jazz-like beat can only create a smile. "Make It Mine," the first track on Jason Mraz's CD, "We Sing We Dance We Steal Things," is a perfect way to start off the latest album.

The head bobbing melody of "I'm Yours" swept radio stations everywhere last summer and became the feel-good song of the year. No matter your taste in music or way of life, the lyrics from "I'm Yours" can speak to almost anyone.

The soulful duet with new sensation Colbie Caillat makes for the perfect love song on the album. "Lucky" is a song of absolute true love that one could only hope to attain at some point in life. The magical love story told through an array of instruments and poignant lyrics

is inspiring. The song title truly fits the meaning of the lyrics.

"Butterfly" has an innocent sounding title, but listen to the lyrics and soon it is obvious that this is definitely a PG-13 song. Mraz camouflages the sexuality of the words with a flirtatious feel. The playful lyrics make this song entertaining and upbeat. It puts a refreshing twist on what other artists would blatantly say.

Any Mraz album wouldn't be complete without some words of wisdom, which are given through a few tracks including "Live High." The message is clear and upfront, telling listeners to take life as it comes and live easy. Similar to "Song for a Friend," on his sophomore album "Mr. A-Z," we hear the way he deems life should be lived.

In our current society, innocence and youth is ironically being lost at a younger age all the time, but with "Love for a Child," Mraz reminds us that growing up should not be taken lightly and hold-

ing on to that innocence should be cherished.

This album is full of inspiring, guiding songs, and Mraz was blessed to have James Morrison accompany him on one of those tracks. "Details in the Fabric" is about holding your head high and taking your own route in life. With the acoustic guitar complimenting the words, there is nothing to hate during this harmonious duet.

"Coyote" has somewhat of a Latin/hip hop beat similar to that of a Rob Thomas song. He compares the nature of a coyote to the nature of a guy in love with a girl. It is somewhat of a bizarre association but Mraz makes it work with the lively instrumentals.

"Only Human" covers the modern infatuation with our planet and saving the earth. It is to some extent odd and doesn't flow like most of his songs; however it is interesting and refreshing.

Mraz has an individual sound when he raps to pop music, and he makes it

work. "The Dynamo of Volition" is his rap song for the album and shows his aptitude for the genre with this song.

The guitar and bongo drum give the sad lyrics to "If It Kills Me" a cheerful essence. The song is about Mraz yearning to be closer with a friend, something that many can relate to. It seems like a mini-movie inside the song. It's easy to visualize what this song might play out like if turned into a script. The soulful strumming of the acoustic guitar hums as the delicate lyrics speak to the listener.

The words seem to address you personally when listening to "A Beautiful Mess." He takes a heart-breaking situation and turns it into a catchy sing along song.

To sing along, you can pick this album up at record stores all around town. For the full experience, Mraz will be at the Brick-Breeden Field House Sept. 23 at 7 p.m.



YOUR THURSDAY TO THURSDAY

COMPILED BY
Ben Miller

09 10

THURSDAY

INTO THE STREETS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT FAIR

When: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Where: Centennial Mall
What: The Into the Streets Community Involvement Fair (ITS) is a simple way for students to find opportunities to get involved at MSU and in the larger community. Non-profits and school representatives come to campus over two days and meet face-to-face with students, faculty and staff. There are ongoing opportunities to serve with these organizations as a volunteer, in an internship position or as a paid work-study student. Free and open to the public.

GOV'T MULE

When: 6 p.m.
Where: Gallatin County Fairgrounds Events Park
What: Hear Gov't Mule at the Gallatin County Fairgrounds Events Park Thursday, Sept. 10, with special guest Carney. Kicking incredible tunes through soulful southern blues and rock melodies, the Mule has seen its share of loss and diversity due to Woody's death in 2000. The band has worked with Flea of Red Hot Chili Peppers fame, as well as funk heavyweight Bootsy Collins. Look forward to an evening of powerful and inspired lyrics floating on the wave of soulful rock that will do more than it can to be remembered and leave its high watermark on your ears. Doors will open at 5 p.m. the day of the concert. Tickets are \$35 at the door.

09 11

FRIDAY

ARTWALK

When: 5 p.m.
Where: Downtown and Emerson Cultural Center
What: The final summer 2009 Downtown Bozeman ArtWalk will take place Friday, Sept. 11 from 6-8 p.m. The galleries feature artists' openings and receptions, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and refreshments. While strolling, enjoy live jazz and rock music played by young musicians from the area. All proceeds from these young musicians' CD sales benefit Hand Me Down Some Silver, a non-profit organization that awards scholarships to students in need for music lessons, musical instruments, and special music projects.

RACES AT THE SPEEDWAY

When: 5:30 p.m.
Where: Gallatin Speedway; 2290 Tubb Road, Belgrade (off the frontage road before the airport)
What: This is the last weekend of pure adrenaline stock car racing for the season at Gallatin Valley's own Speedway. The entire weekend presents the Supnationals with the late models on Friday and the winged sprint cars on Saturday. The gate opens at 5:30 p.m., hot laps take place at 7 p.m., and the real racing action starts at 7:35 p.m. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$8 for teenagers 13-17 and children 12 and under get in free.

09 12

SATURDAY

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HOME GAME

When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Shroyer Gym
What: The Bobcat spikers host UTEP for their ninth game of the season. After getting breakfast to clear the hangover, head over to the Shroyer gym and support your fellow Bobcats!

CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

When: 6 p.m.
Where: Emerson Center for the Arts and Culture
What: The Emerson Center for the Arts & Culture will host its annual gala fundraiser the "Celebration of the Arts - Celebrate Art for All Ages" on Saturday evening, Sept. 12, at 6 p.m. The Emerson Center is a non-profit community art center that serves as a primary resource for the arts, arts education and cultural activities in southwest Montana. The "Celebration of the Arts" is the Emerson's largest fundraiser; proceeds from the evening will fund the Emerson's exhibits and education programs, and the ongoing restoration and maintenance of the historic 1918 building. The festive evening will feature an array of talented quick draw artists, live entertainment, an inspired buffet, silent and live auctions, an open bar and a wide range of cultural talents from Emerson tenants and others around the Bozeman community. For ticket information call the Emerson at 587-9797.

09 13

SUNDAY

MUSIC IN THE MORNING

When: 10 a.m.
Where: Leaf & Bean - North 19th Avenue
What: Original folksinger plays original folk. Indie recording artist Kathawren.

OPEN MIC WITH TEX TUCKER

When: 10 p.m.
Where: Haufbrau
What: Join Bozeman's own Tex Tucker every Sunday to sing and strum away your own tunes at the Haufbrau.

09 14

MONDAY

DESIRE2LEARN OPEN LAB

When: 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Where: Burns Technology Center
What: Drop in and receive one-on-one help in Desire2Learn. Offered free to all faculty by Extended University's Burns Technology Center staff. No pre-registration required, but it is best if you have taken the Desire2Learn Basics course or experimented with Desire2Learn on your own.

BOZONE & MUSIC VILLA OPEN JAM

When: 8 p.m.
Where: Belgrade Lounge
What: Be a part of the fun and round up the gang for a good time, or be brave and come alone to try out some of your new originals. Either way, we know you can't resist an opportunity like this. The Monday night Open Jam has also turned out to be a good spot to meet new musicians and find new players to collaborate with. You never know what your future could have in store. Brought to you by your friends at The Belgrade Lounge, The BoZone & Music Villa.

09 15

TUESDAY

ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND PROSPERITY: CONFRONTING THE DILEMMA

When: 5:10 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Where: Leon Johnson Hall 346
What: This seminar is sponsored by the new sustainable food and bioenergy systems program and features Dr. Paul Gannon, department of chemical and biological engineering. Dr. Gannon will provide an overview of current renewable and non-renewable energy sources and energy conversion systems.

TANGO MONTANA

When: 7 p.m.
Where: Beall Park Art Center
What: 7 p.m. for intermediate lessons, 8 p.m. beginning lessons, and 9 p.m. is open dancing at Beall Park Art Center in Beall Park. \$8 (\$5 students) More info: tangomt@yahoo.com

DONNA SEAMAN

When: 7 p.m.
Where: Bozeman Public Library
What: Critic and editor Donna Seaman will talk about the collaborative effort to publish "Home Ground," a unique dictionary of landscape terms.

09 16

WEDNESDAY

STUDY ABROAD FAIR

When: 10 a.m.
Where: MSU Sub
What: Have you dreamed of studying African history in Ghana, honing your art skills in Italy or learning a language by immersing yourself in another culture? More information about these and other study abroad opportunities at Montana State University will be available at the MSU Study Abroad Fair, set for 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16, in Ballrooms B and C of the MSU Strand Union Building. International students, study abroad advisers and past study abroad students will answer questions, tell stories and give details about the programs that are offered through MSU.

BEHIND THE LEGEND OF BABY DOE - FREE RECEPTION AND PRESENTATION

When: 5 p.m.
Where: Museum of the Rockies
What: Learn about Wonderlust's fall courses and community of lifelong learners at a free reception. Presentation from 5-6 p.m. followed by wine and cheese from 6-7 p.m. Open to all. Speaker is historian Dale Martin, who will explore the historical significance of silver in the U.S. in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

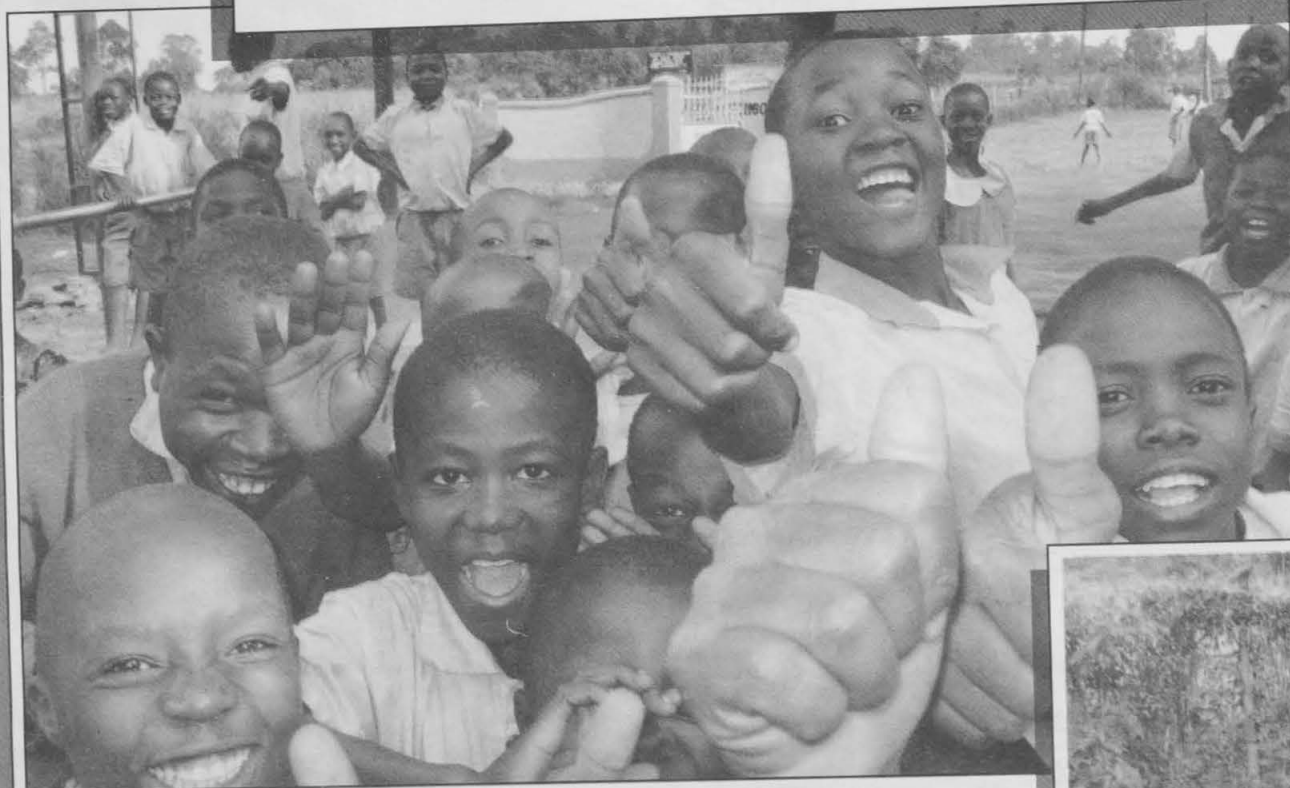
09 17

THURSDAY

THE NEW UP

When: 10 p.m.
Where: Zebra Cocktail Lounge
What: Catch some trippy new wave/pop rock with The New Up, a rock/pop five-piece from San Francisco. The New Up ooze modernity, a gleaming beast running low to the ground, hot eyes locked on a horizon that buzzes with neon disease. There's often a tinny quality to bands that take their cues from post-1985 rock - where the touchstones are say Radiohead over The Beatles, The Police over The Kinks - but this ever-evolving quintet just goes from strength to strength, building new fangled objects from the discarded floppy drives, miles of fiber optic cable and general discontent buried in the landfill around us. However, as apocalyptic as that may sound they have a knack for writing tunes that make us do a strange jig, finding the sinews and meat inside our robot ways, and they've never done so as subtly and successfully as their new EP, "Broken Machine." Tickets \$4

How I Spent my Summer Vacation



The amount of faith placed in anything that can improve their lives—from religion to their children's education to a group of half-educated college students from Montana—is nothing short of astounding.



Four Weeks in Kenya

WORDS BY
Eric Dietrich
ASMSU Exponent

Ask me what I think of when the word Africa comes to mind, and, after this summer, I'll tell you hand-pumps and latrines (poverty and children aside, of course).

Before I continue, I should probably explain myself. As a member of the campus's Engineers Without Borders chapter (EWB-MSU), I had the opportunity to spend a month in Kenya, working to better the quality of water and sanitation available to primary school students in the rural district of Khwisero.

The Kenyan people themselves can only be described as tough. The amount of simple pain and toil they accept as a matter of course is almost impossible for us well-fed, "civilized" Americans to really understand. Even after spending weeks living alongside the community, I certainly don't.

Families often live as far as a few miles from the springs or creeks where they collect water, which is generally contaminated, for drinking, cooking and bathing. I saw children as young as 5 or 6 carrying jerrycans of water on their heads. Latrines are gen-

erally a mud hut over a hole in the ground, and toilet paper is a luxury item.

Illness and death are part of everyday life in Khwisero. When most of my travel team contracted malaria, the local health clinician treated it with the concern an American doctor would give a case of the flu. Several times a week, we'd hear music in the distance from a nighttime funeral, and most of the families I talked with housed an orphaned niece or nephew.

Despite everything, the people of Khwisero exude a sense of optimism more powerful than anything I've seen in the United States. The amount of faith placed in anything that can improve their lives—from religion to their children's education to our group of half-educated college students from Montana—is nothing short of astounding.

EWB-MSU has been working with the Khwisero community for five years now. In that time, we've been able to put in six wells and a handful of composting latrines (which contain sewage to keep it from contaminating groundwater and convert it to

compost). More importantly, we've managed to gain the community's trust.

There aren't too many places in the world, I suspect, where a group of American students can show up and be taken seriously as technical consultants. There are probably even fewer where a group like ours is able to have a real impact -- as a result of our work, over 2,000 schoolchildren are no longer forced to leave their studies to spend several hours a day collecting water.

One afternoon, I talked with a man who, though he lives within a quarter mile of a creek, now travels over four times as far to collect clean water at a well we installed in 2008. I spent another watching in amazement as a group of elders listened intently for two hours to a technical presentation explaining the design of a biogas latrine.

Having the chance to play a role in that was one of the most amazing, life-changing experiences I've ever had. I couldn't help but leave Khwisero hoping I can someday return.

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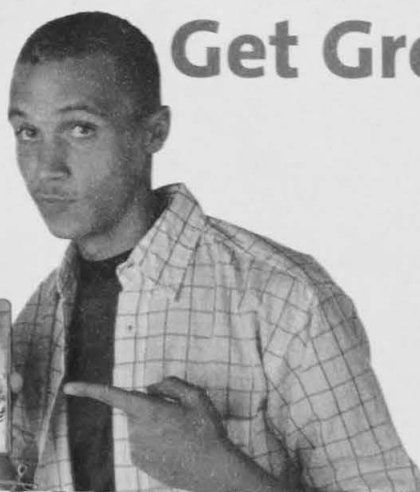


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Digging for Dinosaurs

WORDS BY
Daniel Barta
Special to The Exponent

This summer I had the distinct privilege of serving as a volunteer on the Museum of the Rockies' (MOR) paleontology fieldwork crew, based near Snap Creek, northeast of Jordan, Montana. I am currently a sophomore paleontology major. I worked, lived, and camped in the eastern Montana badlands with the rest of the field crew for three weeks.

All around us were exposures of the Hell Creek Formation, a sequence of sedimentary rocks that chronicle the last two to three million years of the dinosaurs' collective reign over Earth's terrestrial ecosystems. It is the characteristics and evolution of the Hell Creek ecosystem that the Museum of the Rockies' Dr. Jack Horner, his students, and other researchers have spent the past ten years reconstructing.

Having grown up reading dispatches from previous years of the project, it was an honor to be selected as a volunteer. While many of the crew chiefs and volunteers hail from across the United States, others come from such wide-ranging places as Sweden, Italy, and French Polynesia.

Generally we ate breakfast around 7 a.m., packed at least four liters of water and other supplies (heat exhaustion and rattlesnakes are an occupational hazard

when working in the badlands) and then headed out in one of the camp trucks or ATVs to spend the day engaged in one of two activities: prospecting or quarrying.

Prospecting consists of hiking through the hills and gullies, actively eyeing the ground for traces of weathered fossil material. We tried to cover as much ground as possible, hoping for the off chance that we would stumble across a dinosaur worth excavating.

Quarrying is a more self-explanatory but much more delicate operation through which the bones are removed from the ground by way of chisels, awls, brushes, plaster and burlap jackets, and people-and truck-power.

I participated in both prospecting and quarrying, but the majority of my workdays were spent working at a Triceratops (horned dinosaur) quarry. Workdays were lost and rain days were gained following a tremendous storm that tore through camp. There was hail, lightning, and 71 mph wind gusts. Luckily, neither Oz nor North Dakota received any new residents from our camp.

Despite the conditions, the MOR field crew once again succeeded in collecting many fossils whose value to science and public understanding is immeasurable.



Summer Teaching

WORDS BY
Ashley Wheeler
ASMSU Exponent

I got to spend my summer in one of favorite places: the classroom. And, for the first time, I was not the student.

My job was to teach reading to elementary students at Monforton School's summer school program. Monforton School is a kindergarten-through eighth-grade school between Bozeman and Four Corners. My classes included students entering kindergarten, second grade, fourth grade, and fifth grade.

All aspects of the classroom were my responsibility - planning, teaching, management, grading, and communication with parents. In short, a dream come true for an aspiring teacher.

Although it was only a half-day program, I found out how much work it actually takes to be a good teacher. The students' day at school was 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. My day at school ended up being more like 7:45 a.m. to 2 p.m., not including the hours I spent at home each week planning activities, writing lesson plans, and preparing progress reports.

Each class lasted for 45 minutes, so I had to have lessons planned for four dif-

ferent classes at the beginning of the day. There was no chance to slow down once the day had started.

It is said that the work of a teacher is never finished and for the six weeks that I was teaching, that was definitely true. Even if all the paperwork and planning were done, which they usually weren't, the effort it took to best help each of my students was extensive.

I am a student in the secondary English Education program, but I was teaching young children how to read this summer. This job has helped me further my understanding of reading, teaching and the learning process.

What was different about this program was class size. My largest class was six students. My smallest class was one student. I could not ask for a better introduction to teaching than this program's set-up. The small class size helped me focus on learning how to teach and connecting with each student individually.

After all, connecting with students and teaching them according to their individual needs is what teaching is really about.



REC[REATION]

Bobcat football opens home season

Another Gold Rush is upon us!

WORDS BY
Kyle Reynolds
 ASMSU Exponent

The folds of my blue and gold Bobcats jersey have been peeking from my closet all year long, playfully asking me, "When's the next time you're going to wear me, Kyle?" Well jersey, it's almost time for us to climb those bleachers together and watch our Bobcats take the field again.

On Sept. 12, the Dixie State Red Storm come to Bozeman to face off against our Bobcats. After an expected trouncing at the hands of Michigan State, the Bobcats are looking for a good beginning to their "actual" football season. Coach Rob Ash is now in his third year as the head coach of the Bobcats and, how does the phrase go? Third time's a charm?

If we can settle our troubles at the quarterback position, then we've got a chance at winning the Big Sky Conference. Of course there is one team who stands in the way -- we play them every year and this year we've got them at home. I'm sure you've guessed I'm talking about those baby bears, the Grizzlies, our hated rivals.

Man, just typing their name gets me going. I can almost feel the cold November air flowing over the crowd in their blue and gold, but I can't lose myself in my daydreams of a sea of Bobcats

flooding the field as the Grizzlies kneel in defeat just yet. We've got to take this year week by week. Moving on from last week's game against the Spartans, our Bobcats must focus on the Red Storm.

The player with the most to prove this week is Mark Iddins, who needs to cement himself quickly as our quarterback this year for us to move on to more pressing issues, like winning.

In the backfield the Bobcats are hoping to replace Demetrius Crawford, who was a workhorse for us last year. Stepping into the backfield to fill his shoes will be Aaron Mason and CJ Palmer, with Blayde Becksted and Ricky Evans getting some carries here and there as well. These four have a lot to live up to but got off to a good start in spring scrimmages this year.

By far though the most exciting player coming into this season is Dane Fletcher, senior defensive end and also a preseason candidate for FCS defensive player of the year. This Saturday, I expect Fletcher to wreak havoc in the Dixie State backfield, a team we beat 61-7 last time we played them.

So, to you my fellow Bobcats, I say dust those jerseys off, get your face paint out and start practicing your Bobcat growls because football seasons here and it's time to show that we bleed blue and gold.

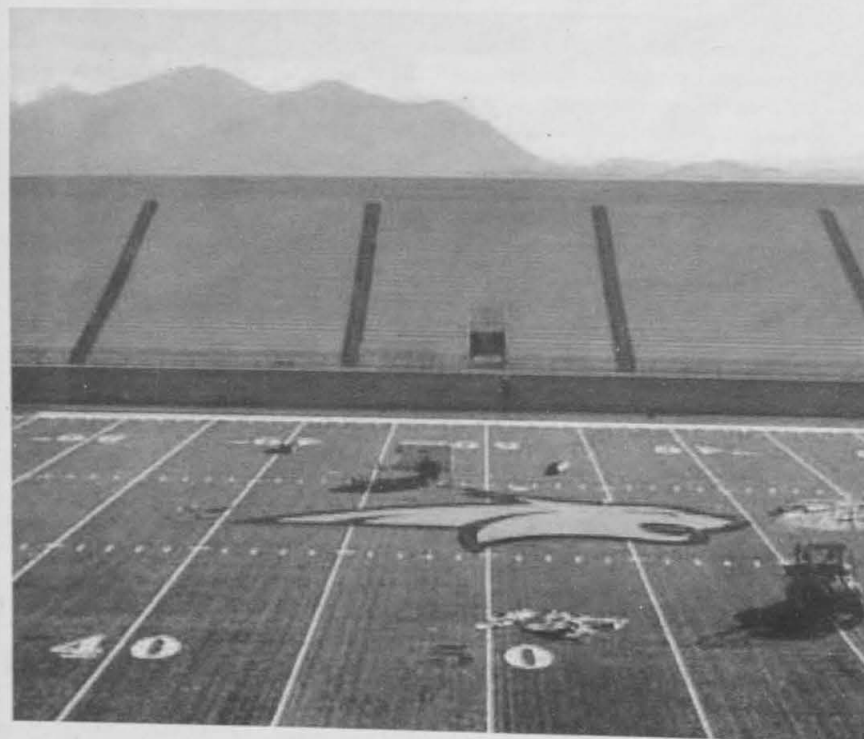


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MY TAKE SPORTS COMMENTARY

by Erica Killham

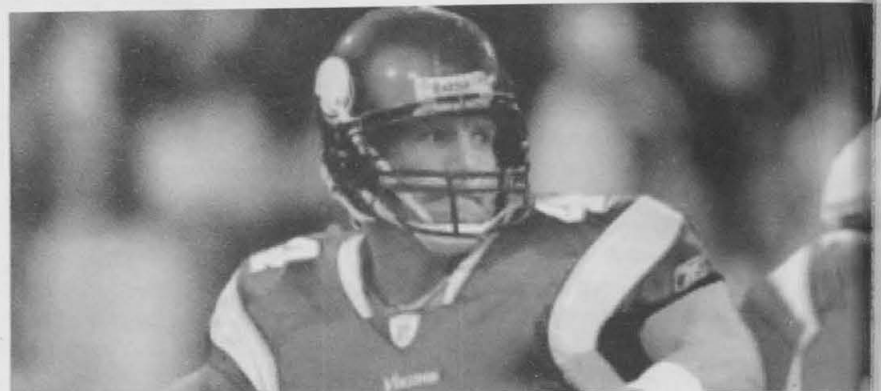


PHOTO COURTESY OF VIKINGSVALHALLA.COM

Is he really playing for them?

In high school, the cross-town rivalry is the biggest game of the year. In college, the stakes get even higher, especially in Montana with the 'Cat-Griz rivalry. If I had asked one of my high school's football players to switch to the cross-town school, he would have laughed in my face. Rivalries and loyalty ran far too deep back then for such nonsense.

A touching story, I know, but where am I going with this? Well, as I tend to ramble on about, I am a huge Green Bay Packers fan and have been my entire life. So, of course I had yet another summer of soul-searching to do at the hands of good old (old being the operative word here) Brett Favre. But, this is not another article about Brett Favre. I'm over him like a bad boyfriend. Instead, his trade to the Minnesota Vikings got me thinking about something that I have always held very dear and taken for granted, which is team loyalty.

I come from a family of Bobcats, and look where I am now. I can't remember a time before my first foam cheesehead. I also endure endless teasing about the Yankees when they lose, but when I'm loyal to my teams, I'm loyal for life. What I took for granted is the idea that players for these teams feel the same loyalty.

So, what role does team loyalty play in the NFL? Does it even have a place there? Frankly, I say no. When there are millions of dollars on the line, these guys just want to play. They don't care what team it's for. Look at Tony Romo; a kid growing up in Wisconsin worships the Packers his whole childhood. When drafted by one of their biggest rivals, the Dallas Cowboys, does he even miss a beat saying yes? Of course not.

These players' dreams come true in the NFL, and teams fall by the wayside. And, really, who can blame them? Even I, a die-hard fan to the death, would feel the same way. Offer me a thousand dollars to cheer for the Griz, and I may consider it. Offer me a million, and you might as well paint me silver and maroon right now. After all, it's just economics, and the NFL

is a multi-billion-dollar industry.

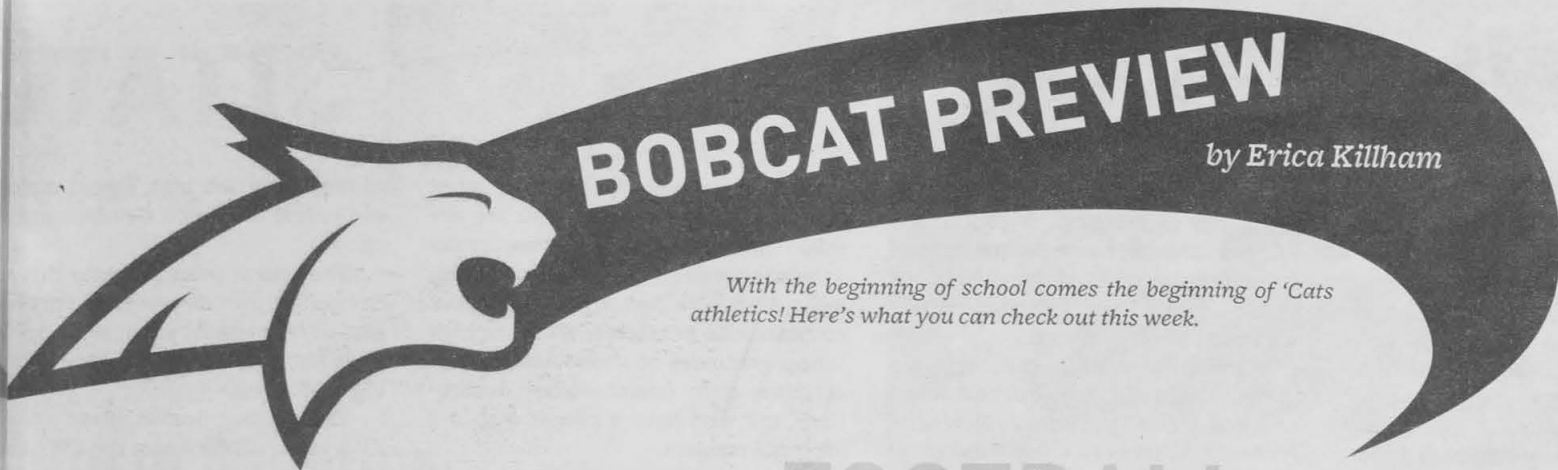
So, that kinda sucks though. But the silver lining in this multi-billion dollar industry is that it is nearly solely fan driven. Fans remain loyal to the team, and, as a result, all the players on the team. Philadelphia Eagles fans are giving Michael Vick a chance to prove that he has changed. Even Buffalo Bills fans have lent their support to Terrell Davis. Well, that is until he wears out. I'll give him until week seven for that one.

Should players be held accountable for their team's image and fans' opinions when considering trades? The Packers organization thought so when they drafted Favre's trade contract, including in it clauses that gave the Packers some incentives should he go to any team outside their division after the Jets, exactly what happened with the Vikings. The reason they said, was just so their players didn't have to play against a former leader, so the fans didn't have to watch him play for a bitter rival team.

That worked out.

However, football players are not born Packers or Vikings or Bills; they are born football players who just want to play for the NFL. No one told Favre to never play for another team than the Packers. We as fans just assumed he would feel that way. I, for one, now know that the loyalty and image we project onto our favorite players is not always accurate and, with the right competition, can be turned upside down at a drop of a hat. And, honestly, I resent that. After all, they are being paid billions of dollars.

Brett can wear his ugly purple jersey for the next two years. He is making big money for it. As for me, I have happily moved on to cheering for Aaron Rodgers. He's younger, cuter, and projected to be one of the best QB's in the NFL this season. After all, while Favre's team loyalty has been a crapshoot from the start, mine is still perfectly intact. Until a billion dollars comes along.



BOBCAT PREVIEW

by Erica Killham

With the beginning of school comes the beginning of 'Cats athletics! Here's what you can check out this week.

GOLF

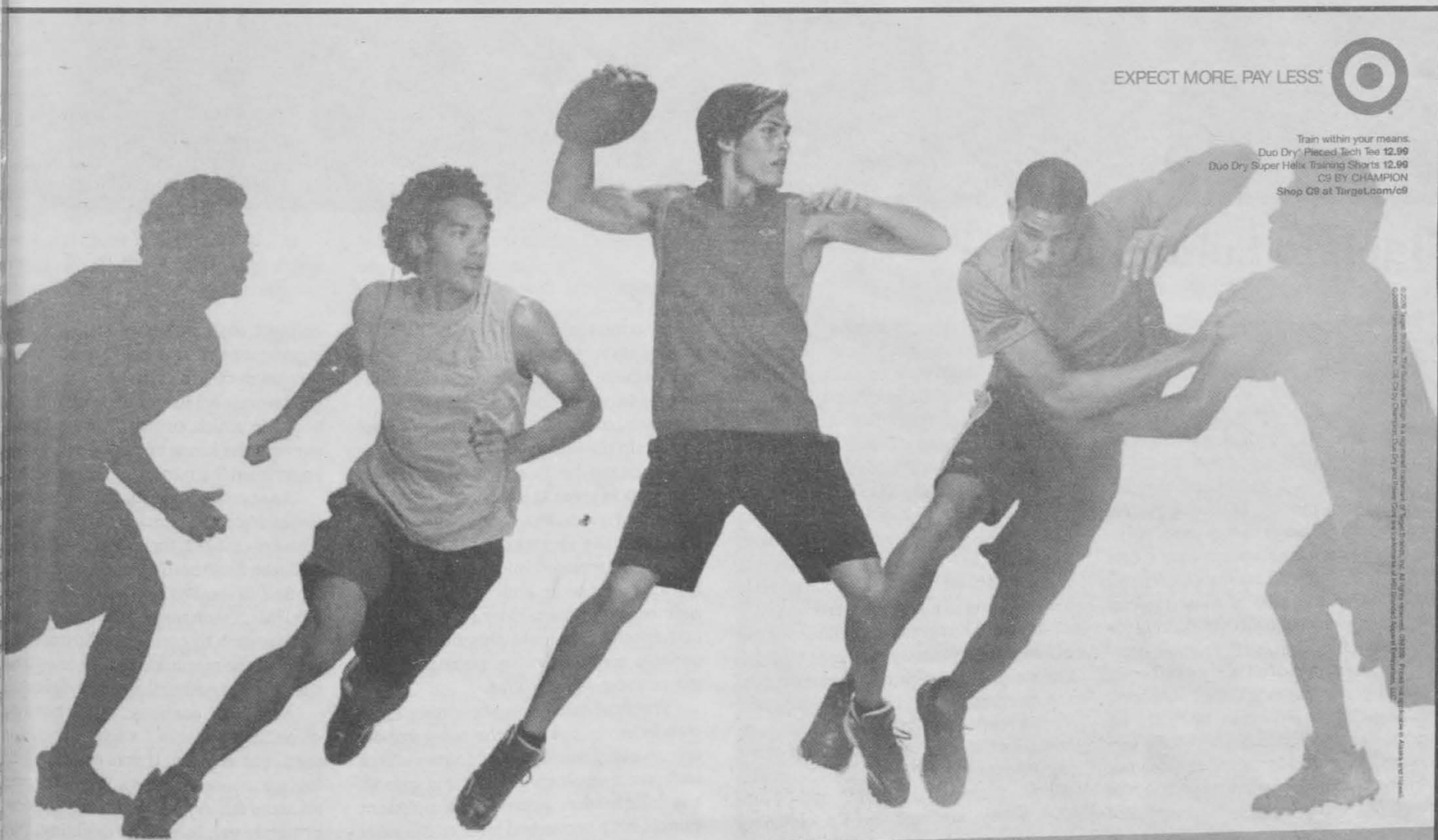
The Montana State golf team will head to the Bulldog/Eagle Invite on Sept. 14.

FOOTBALL

The Bobcats will open their home season on Saturday, Sept. 12, against Dixie State at 1:05 p.m. This is the third annual Gold Rush game, so wear your Gold Rush shirts and come open the football season at Bobcat Stadium!

VOLLEYBALL

The Lady 'Cats continue their season on Sept. 11 against Coppin State at 4:30 p.m., Sept. 12 against Bradley at 7 p.m., and Sept. 13 against UTEP at 10:30 a.m.



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ENERGY SPENT WISELY.
SWEAT THE MIDTERMS. NOT THE WORKOUT GEAR.

Student Hunters Save

WORDS BY
Daniel Cassidy
ASMSU Exponent

College students are always hunting for things. You hunt for books at the library, you hunt for a place to live every year, and on the weekends you hunt for the cheapest beer in town.

Now Montana's government is encouraging you, the student, to hunt even more. With the passing of Senate Bill 185, enacted by the Montana Legislature, non-resident students are now able to hunt at a greatly reduced price.

The new bill is important because it allows a select number of hunters from other states to hunt for a reasonable rate

while getting an education and spending money in Montana. It also allows students who choose to pursue an education outside of Montana the chance to hunt with friends and family while spending time in Montana.

Hunting licenses for regular non-residents to hunt big game can cost hunters up to \$1,500 for a season. Now non-resident students can enjoy these same privileges for a total of \$80, a savings that may mean some students will not to have hunt for a second job.

The big-game combination license incorporates conservation, fishing, upland game bird, deer and elk licenses for \$70. The additional \$10 covers a hunting access enhancement fee.

Students eligible for the discounted license are non-residents who are enrolled full-time, taking 12 or more credits at postsecondary institutions in Montana. Also included are non-resident students who are former Montana high school graduates now enrolled full-time at out-of-state postsecondary institutions and who have a parent that is a Montana resident.

Beginning Sept. 14, the licenses will be available, though students must present a valid student identification card and a current enrollment verification form showing full-time status.

Students attending school outside of Montana must provide a parent's Montana FWP ALS number and a copy

of their Montana high school diploma or General Education Development degree.

The final stipulation states that students must provide proof that they have passed hunter education, an important class for students who are new to hunting in Montana.

To get your license, show up at a FWP regional office or at the FWP headquarters in Helena with the above-mentioned documentation and enjoy a safe and happy hunting season.

Students seeking more information on this license and on hunting in Montana, can call (406) 444-2950, or just visit the hunting section of Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks homepage: fwp.mt.gov.

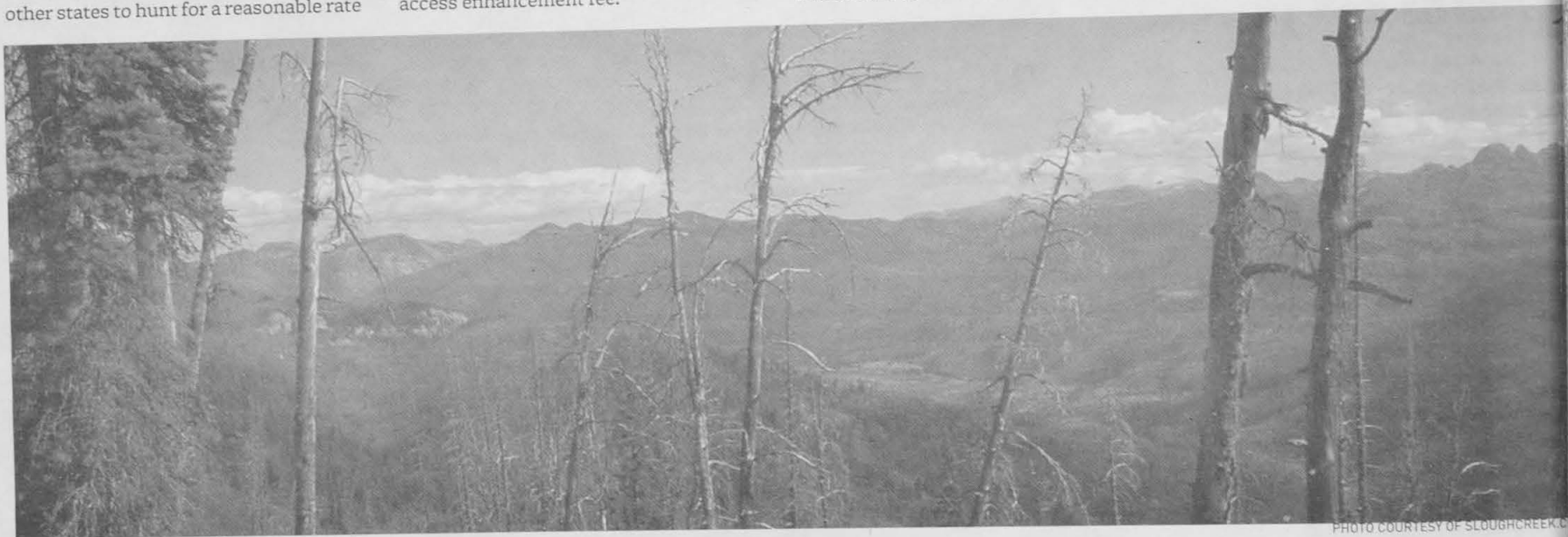


PHOTO COURTESY OF SLOUGH CREEK

Back to School Books

WORDS BY
Daniel Cassidy
ASMSU Exponent

As yet another school year begins, students flock to the bookstore to purchase the required texts for class. Big books, little books, workbooks, they all cost an insane amount of money even if you are lucky enough to buy used. Forking up the cash isn't always easy when some books see little use throughout the semester. In the case of most majors, the books aren't even all that exciting for how much they cost.

The worst part of all is, the textbooks distract you from doing things outdoors, which is what Bozeman is really all about. Take notice that, the books you need to get outside in Bozeman, are not the books professors require you buy for class. You won't find these books stacked neatly according to section number in the back of the MSU bookstore. You will happen to find these books, well used, on the shelves of many outdoor enthusiasts living here in Bozeman.

These books are required reading for

locals as well as students new to Bozeman, so if you happen to be an incoming freshman, make sure to pay special attention, and pick these titles up.

For starters, there is a classic book around town, aptly titled, "Day Hikes Around Bozeman Montana." This is a great guide to nearly all of the surrounding biking trails within proximity to the Gallatin Valley. Written by Robert Stone, this book is now in its third edition, which has been thoroughly revised after several years of gaining experience.

This book is great at spelling out the hikes simply. The maps are concise without supplying too much information. All the pertinent information is provided to the reader, driving and hiking directions included. Areas covered include the Bridger Mountains, the Gallatin and Madison Ranges, Gallatin Canyon, Paradise Valley, and Spanish Peaks. There are even trails to enjoy right in Bozeman, that are great for running.

The next culturally significant book you should own is called, "Montana Singletrek: The Mountain Biker's Guide to Montana." This book is jam packed with

information that is tremendously useful to mountain biking enthusiasts in Montana. Unlike the first book mentioned, this guide covers the entire great state of Montana, offering 50 of Montana's best mountain bike rides.

Produced by Beartooth Publishing, this book is great at explaining all of the aspects of a ride, from the complete distances to the elevation changes. Rides are clearly mapped out for you, including alternate routes and options. Clearly defined ride times, rider ability levels, and special tips make this first edition entirely comprehensive, perfect for beginners and experts alike.

The final book you absolutely must own is in my opinion, the most important to being outdoors in Montana. This isn't just a small guidebook that gets all the information packed in a poignant punch, it's a proverbial bible to the skier and mountaineer. Once winter comes around, the masterpiece comes out to play.

"Select Peaks of Greater Yellowstone: A Mountaineering History and Guide," is the definitive guide for us to

connect with the mountains. The true significance of this book is not the extensive detail, the ripe historical facts, the impressive use of photography. The scope in which author Thomas Turian surveys the range of data sets this book apart from the rest.

As the title suggests, a broad range of peaks from the greater Yellowstone region are covered, including the Madison, Gallatin, Beartooth, Absaroka, Wind River, Salt River, Snake River and, last but not least, Teton ranges. This book broadens its reach by connecting historical aspects of the mountain ranges to enhance the outdoor enthusiasts experience.

Some of these books might not apply directly to you, but I suggest you check them out anyway. If you get bored biking, try mountain biking. When the snow starts to fall, try winter mountaineering or better yet, backcountry skiing. What seals the deal is the low cost these books are available for, an instant value you won't want to sell back at the end of the semester.

STATIC

Reform Skeptics

WORDS BY
Mark Howard
MSU Exponent

See if this sounds familiar. A fresh political outsider, coming off of an election in which he won by roughly two electoral votes to his opponent's one, makes one of his first projects the reform of a health care system considered severely broken by many in his party. By all accounts, he should be enormously successful.

But then something odd happens. Turns out the nation that elected this president elected him because they thought he was a centrist, someone who transcended partisan politics and was willing to compromise and get things done. This, though, is radical, a reform they never supported.

Stumped? The year is 1994, the President is Bill Clinton, and then, like now, healthcare reform is a sinking stone around the neck of a party so recently silent.

Despite President Obama's perceived mandate for change, the poll numbers are staggeringly against the currently presented healthcare plans. An Aug. 12. Gallup poll shows that only 35 percent of respondents would encourage their congressional representatives to vote for a September healthcare bill, and that only 10 percent approve of the job the president is doing, compared to 49 percent who oppose.

Rasmussen polls are similarly grim. Of those polled, only 22 percent think their member of Congress understands the bill. Devastatingly, only 19 percent think the healthcare system is poor, 68 percent consider their healthcare to be good or excellent and only 20 percent of seniors think their care would improve. These numbers are hardly a mandate for reform.

General opinion affirms there is something wrong, although maybe not seriously wrong, with the American healthcare system. Democrats in Con-

gress crow that they are the only ones presenting ideas, and that Republicans have become the "Party of No." There isn't anything wrong with being the "Party of No," but it isn't a strictly accurate label. The Republicans have put forth a number of ideas, as far ranging as an emphasis on employee-based insurance plans to eliminating barriers which prevent interstate insurance shopping. Eight reforms are detailed in an op-ed by Whole Foods CEO John Mackey, as well as details of Whole Food's innovative coverage approach.

The answer to health care is simple. Americans, as the polls show, are pleased with their current health care, and aren't interested in changing what works. There are problems, certainly, but they do not compare to the problems plaguing Canada and the United Kingdom. Canada's top doctor, for instance, recently admitted that the Canadian system was in shambles.

Likewise, a recent story from the United Kingdom reveals that non-terminal patients have been mistakenly left to die, deprived of the help that would keep them alive long enough to recover. These aren't isolated incidents. Nationalized healthcare systems have begun to float on the innovations of free systems.

It is becoming staggeringly obvious from polling and protesting that healthcare reform of the kind suggested by the Democrats is unpopular. History and international example shows it to be equally obvious that the government cannot fix the healthcare problem. The late Daniel Patrick Moynihan, longtime Democratic senator from New York, is quoted thus: "Somehow liberals have been unable to acquire from birth what conservatives seem to be endowed with at birth: namely, a healthy skepticism of the powers of government to do good."

Hopefully skepticism, as it did in 1994, can triumph over the encroachment of government and preserve a healthcare system that, even with its flaws, is the greatest in the world.

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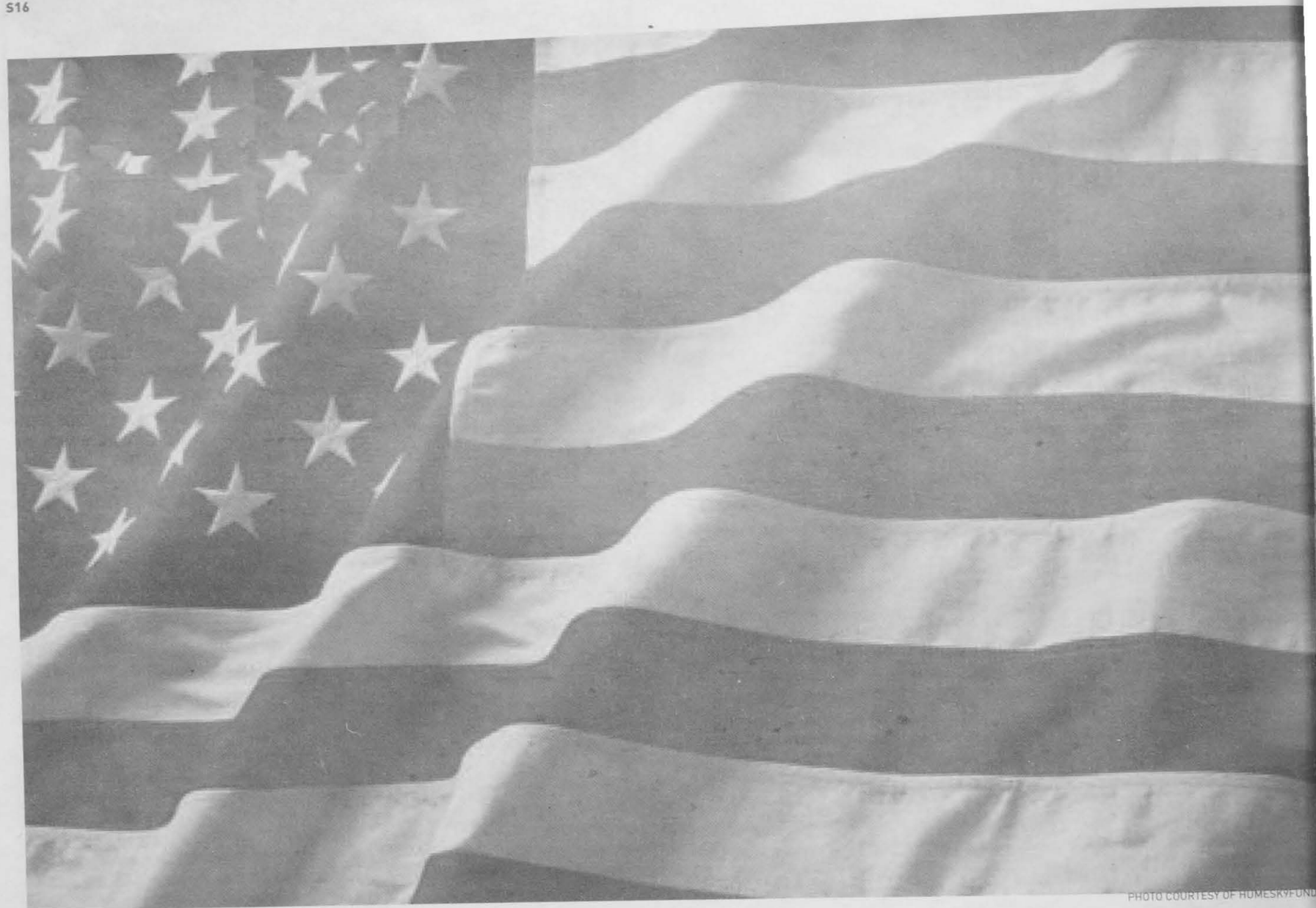


PHOTO COURTESY OF HOMESKYFUND

Anyone Who Trades Liberty for Security Deserves Neither

WORDS BY
Trudi Mingus
 ASMSU Exponent

I would like to consider myself a fairly even-keeled person when it comes to policy. I'm certainly not fanatical by any stretch of the word. I believe in positive, and sometimes radical, change and preservation of some foundational tradition. Something big has been moving into our society, just as requested. We have finally gotten what we want: change. We also are rejecting the change almost as strongly as we have paraded, gathered, thought, talked and picketed about. Valiantly, to our rescue has arrived a new idea for the American boldly on his armored white stallion, gleaming bald eagle crest embedded in chest plate.

We have had a look at our greatest desire and stand starkly afraid of the change which we fought so forcefully to bring to our treasure chest of American Ideals. For those of you who are not from the Montana area, you may not know

how resistant your new community is to the new wave our government has been riding. There is, perhaps, something to the reservations we have with the less-than subtle movement in White House. While change is always a wonderful growth to experience in anyone's life, including the life of a nation, the alteration of a foundation is not necessarily the best route to take.

I don't believe there is any functioning human in the United States who thinks our government should remain stagnant and allow no adaptation to our ever-developing world and the time we are in. However, the problem is that we have two conflicting ideas among our representatives, each faction radical and incapable of functioning without some part of the other. If our country does not change, we will not succeed. If our country does not retain its basic foundation, we will not function globally, let alone in union with each other.

Now is an opportune time, with a new administration in place, to achieve great things. The problem is that we, as

a group of people, do not know exactly what we want, because when it comes down to the nitty-gritty of it all, we do not really want the government in control of things like our finances, education, children -- or healthcare, etc. This may be because we are afraid of change, although I find that most people can admit that change is a necessity, if gone about in the correct format.

We are a unique and very surprisingly successful country in the history of the world and, as such, a retention of that which makes us exactly what we represent must be considered heavily. Our history makes us what we are, and we should fix the bad things -- the wrongs we see -- by fighting for human rights and allowing our government to touch only what they need. We, the people of the United States, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religious belief, etc., are endowed with certain unalienable rights.

If we allow our government to work with us on matters of civil liberties and progressive thinking while also allowing

it to remain out of our finances and personal lives, we may actually have what our government was originally pushed for. The problem with a traditional view comes from no growing or breaking room. The problem with a progressive view is that it leaves no room for the old, presenting its new and modern neo-European (not American) ideals to a people who are not yet ready for such drastic measure.

Keeping the federal government out of our bank accounts and "unalienable" rights as declared in 1776 (as a radical independence from the tyrannical rule of an English government, unsuited for new and free land) is essential; however, the unfortunate twist of conservatism leaves us no choice but to accept social norms. We should ask not what our country can do for us, but what we can do for our country, for in that moment we the people will retain part power what is rightfully ours instead of lazily handing it to representative and presidential administrations.

Tale of Two Sin Cities

WORDS BY
Ant Zundel
ASMSU Exponent

The evenings were the best of times; mornings could seem like the worst times.

This August, I took a few weeks off from my job to sample two of the cities most notorious for their sheer rauchery: the annual motorcycle rally in Sturgis, S.D., and fabulous Las Vegas, NV.

I got to have my cake and eat it too, and for anyone whose summer limits them to only one of these kinds of trips, here's a comparison of two of the best cities in the nation to let loose next summer.

The rally is renowned for its licentiousness: Public nudity and public intoxication are givens in this gathering of bikers that swells the ranks of the small town of Sturgis from 6,000 people to over half a million.

During the rally, Main Street closes to cars and is lined with row upon row

of motorcycles, while thousands more bikes snake their way in between the others with deafening roars. The Buffalo Chip, the most famous of the many campgrounds, has approximately 25,000 people camp there every year -- excluding the tens of thousands of people who come solely for the big-name bands (like Aerosmith this year) and leave after the concert.

As far as partying goes, Sturgis has some of the biggest bars around, each overflowing with alcohol and, of course, more strippers than you can shake a stick at. The actual town has a strict open-container law and enough police to rabidly enforce it.

Outside the city limits, though, is another story. The Chip remains, thankfully free of policemen, so public nudity, public intoxication, and open containers run rampant. And did I mention that you would probably have to be 12 to be carded? Even inside Sturgis, getting into some of the bars isn't terribly difficult, although most of them are supposedly checking ID's.

ID checking in Vegas is another story

completely. Anyone hoping to hit up the adult nightlife here had better either be 21 or have a masterfully crafted fake. There are some good bars and, of course, some strippers, but nothing approaching the sheer magnitude that Sturgis offers.

The most annoying aspect of Vegas was the ludicrous number of people handing out stripper cards on the sidewalk. The "workers" proffered almost everyone cards of topless women by snapping the card at them with a persistent clacking sound. I don't feel too bold in presuming that many of the cards blurred the distinction between "entertainment" and prostitution. If you miss the Pokémon craze of your youth, relive it this weekend -- you could spend weeks trying to "catch 'em all."

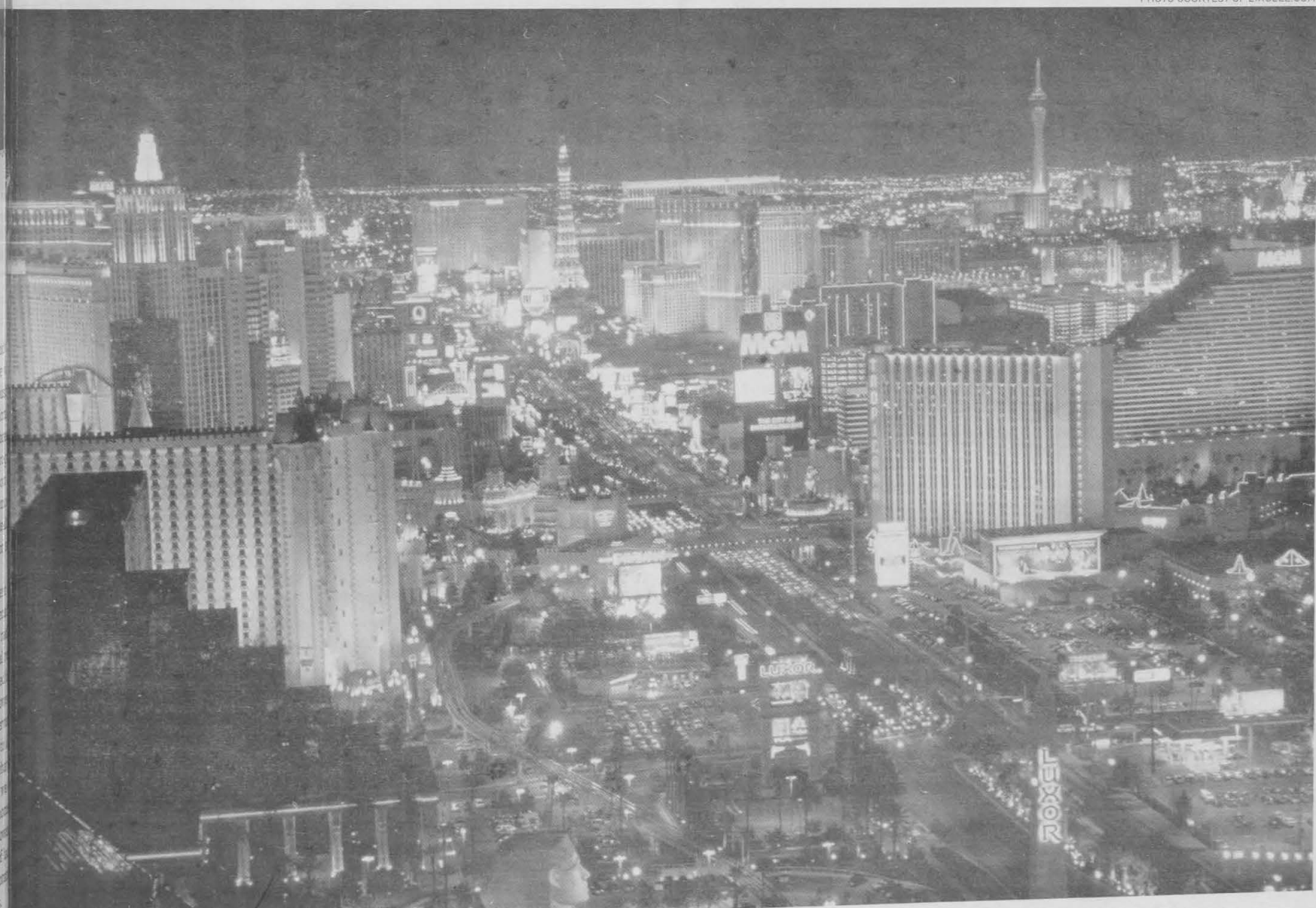
The Vegas residents were also openly hostile to tourists -- running wayward pedestrians off the road and honking with a ferocity scarcely seen. While 90 percent of Sturgis residents leave during the rally, most people in attendance are friendly and down to earth (even if -- or perhaps, because -- they're mildly buzzed.)

Therein lies the biggest difference I found between the two cities of sin: the openness. In Vegas, there was a feeling of reservation. You could go out to a bar and on your way back to your hotel, pick up one of the stripper's cards, call the number and take her back to your private hotel room.

At Sturgis however, everyone lets it all hang out (often too literally). You can watch two strippers clad in thongs, leather chaps and pasties -- a rather common look -- butter themselves up at the Progressive Insurance booth, follow them to their bar, meet some new friends, end up at the Aerosmith concert, dance the night away at one of the bars at the Chip, spend the night in your new friends' tent, and return to camp at the crack of noon the next day. Or so I've heard.

Both places are worthy destinations for adventure-seeking college students. Vegas is great if you want wildly varying themes at the bars, but for a truly roaring good time, there's nowhere like Sturgis.

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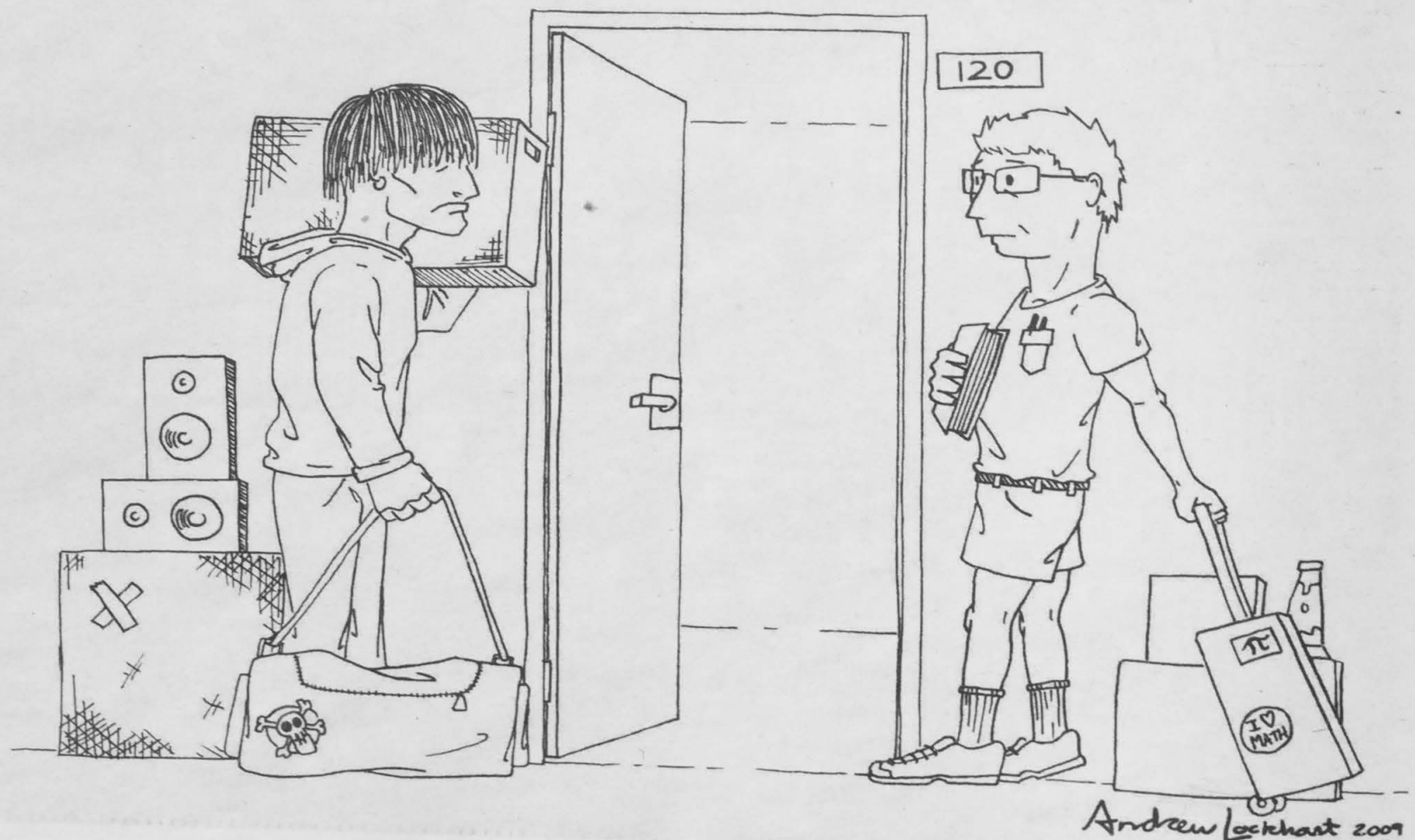
Sudoku

						1		4
2					6			
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SEE SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S PAPER!

Reslife's roommate compatibility survey at work...





WORDS BY
ete Carroll
MSU Exponent

Q: Dear Sherlock, I am a few days away from my 21st birthday and was hoping you could give me some insight into the 'Bozeman Bar Scene' - Cara D.

A: Oh, my dear lass. Normally I employ my pipe on youngsters who ask me such silly questions. You ask about the Bozeman Bar Scene? Pssh! I have no time for such frivolous non-adventures. Perhaps a tale from my exploits in the past can be of some assistance.

During the year 2310, I travel (oh, ha, traveled -- wink to time-traveling subscribers) to Nepal. You see, I had been lured upon by one Mr. Abud, the owner of a bicycle shop in Central Nepal, to solve the mysterious disappearance of his young apprentice, the tiger called Herman.

Oh, do forgive me. It should be noted that by the year 2090 scientists began documenting the rapid evolution of some mammals caused by global warming. After the 2280 Law for Equal Rights among Mammals passed, most tigers, platypuses, and whales are valued as integral members of society.

Mr. Abud assured me that Herman was no exception. In fact, the clerks spoke fondly of Herman's kindness, his predilection for whale jokes, and his huge clumsy paws; all but one. Mr. Abud's son, Lif, who was a rather slight and oily lad, did not hesitate to inform me of Herman's shortcomings.

"That blasted tail," Lif would proclaim while cigarette smoke bellowed out of his mouth, "rather unnecessary. It's not it, always hitting customers in the face, knocking over merchandise. One day, I jest you not, Herman, with two like helmets on his feet and a load of wires round his waist, ran into a group of

children screaming, 'tiger martian, tiger martian.' Why my father would leave the shop to that feline is beyond me."

Ha, well I don't need to tell my dear readers that "in a jiffy" Lif Abud was charged with first-degree tiger slaughter and on his way to jail.

Now, my dear Cara, pay close attention because this part concerns you.

The platypus police officer and myself flanked Lif on either side, leading him to prison, when suddenly a tiger jumped out from behind a bush. Equipped with one beer can and a large stick, the tiger staggered towards us.

The tiger said, "I am the ghost (hiccup) of Herman, come to seek my vengeance (hiccup), I mean revenge." Lif screamed like one of those right dandy fops and jumped straight into my arms. The tiger ripped him from my grasp and started whacking his knees with the stick. As the murderer begged for mercy, the tiger lunged forward and knocked Lif unconscious.

Well the platypus and I were rather shocked to say the least. It wasn't until Watson took off that ridiculous tiger mask that we realized just how drunk my dear English friend was. "What's the point of solving crimes Holmes if you can't punish the criminals, eh?"

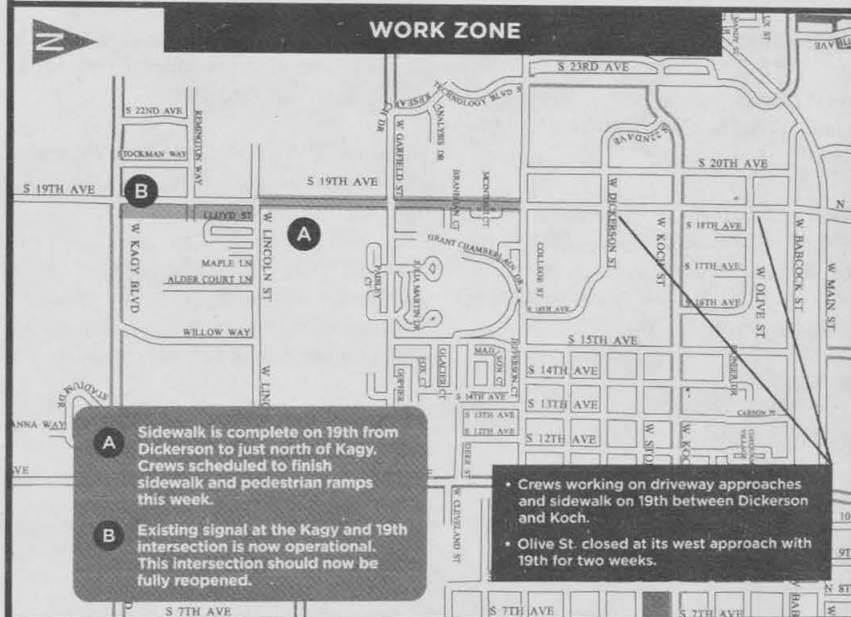
Ah, what a glorious night the three of us had. Watson continued to wear the tiger costume throughout the night. At around 1:30 a.m Watson, possessed by strong liquor, ran wild through the streets of Nepal. Oh, the platypus and I tried to catch him, but our efforts were fruitless. To this day no one knows exactly what happened to Watson, we only know that he returned with tiger scratches all about his back.

I hope this helps Cara. I feel that if you insert a little Patagonia advertising and some skiing references into the story, you have a fairly accurate portrayal of the typical Bozeman night in a bar.



BOZEMAN SOUTH 19TH AVENUE CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES

Traffic control will be in effect during a project to widen S. 19th Ave. between Babcock and Kagy. Work will continue through the fall of 2009, as weather permits. Be alert for the changing traffic patterns throughout the work zone.



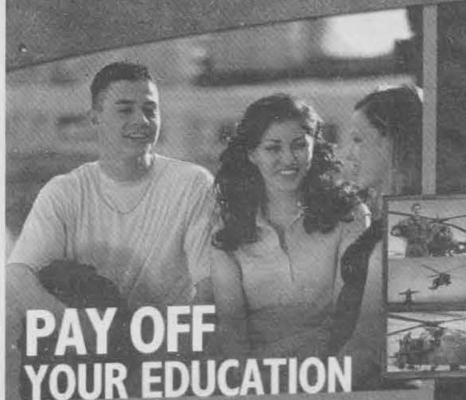
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